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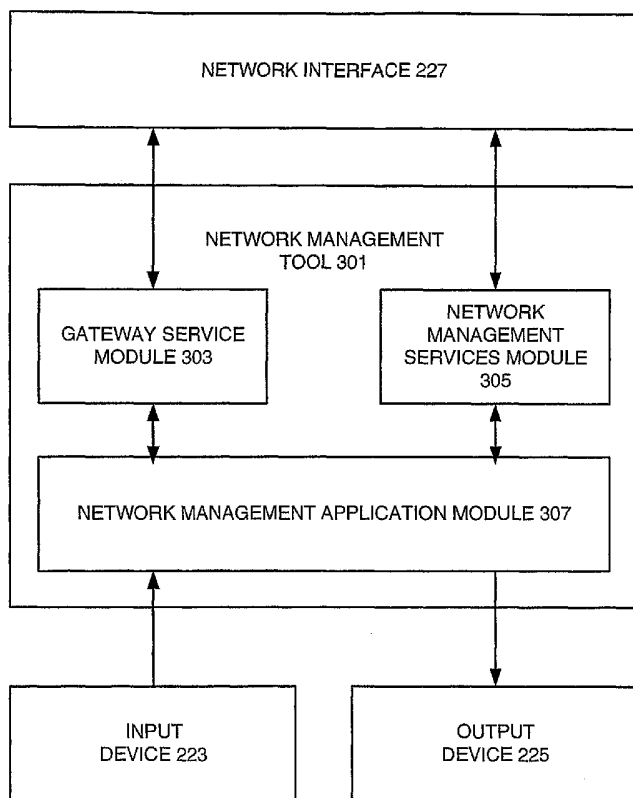
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(54) Title: NETWORK MANAGEMENT



(57) Abstract: A tool (301) for managing a computer network includes a gateway service module (303) that identifies a gateway for a network and a network information service module (305). The network information service module identifies devices in the network, determines at least one property for each of the identified devices, and creates a network information data structure for storing device properties. A communication agent service module transmits at least one determined device property to other agent service modules associated with the network, receives at least one device property from another agent service module associated with the network, and provides the received at least one property device to the network information service module. A method of monitoring a computer network is also provided. The method includes identifying devices in a network, determining at least one property for each of the identified devices, receiving at least one determined device property from another device the network, and creating a network information data structure for storing the determined device properties.

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International application No.

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC: **H04L 12/28**

USPC: 370/254

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
 U.S. : 370/254, 338, 395.53

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
 EAST

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X --- Y	US 2004/0008727 A1 (SEE et al) 15 January 2004 (15.01.2004), see entire document.	1-3, 23-34, 36, 38-41, 77, 83-84, 86-88 ----- 8-10, 35, 37, 76
X --- Y	US 2002/0019866 A1 (LINZY) 14 February 2002 (14.02.2002), see entire document.	42-46, 51, 64-65 ----- 8-10, 35
X	US 2004/0176075 A1 (SCHWARZ et al) 09 September 2004 (09.09.2004), see entire document.	78, 85
X	US 2004/0139231 A1 (NEWMAN et al) 15 July 2004 (15.07.2004), see entire document.	81-82
Y	US 2003/0161336 A1 (PREGUICA et al) 28 August 2003 (28.08.2003), see entire document.	37

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.       See patent family annex.

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## C. (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2004/0196843 A1 (ZININ) 07 October 2004 (07.10.2004), see entire document.	76