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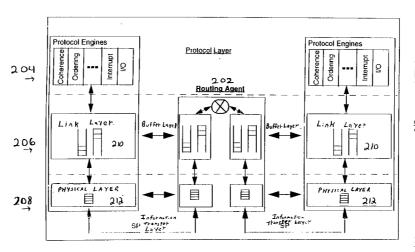
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(54) Title: A METHOD AND AN APPARATUS FOR A RE-CONFIGURABLE PROCESSOR

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(57) Abstract: The invention generally relates to a method, apparatus, and system to change one or more communication pathways in a processor without changing a physical component layout in the processor. For example, in an embodiment, the invention generally relates to a routing agent to change one or more communication pathways in a processor without changing the physical component layout in the processor. In an embodiment, the invention generally relates to the following method. The method comprises sending a control signal to one or more components within a processor to change one or more communication pathways in the processor without changing the physical component layout in the processor. In an embodiment, the invention generally relates to a method of changing the bandwidth between a processor and a device exterior to the processor without changing the physical component layout in the processor.



VO 02/048862 A3

# WO 02/048862 A3

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

nal Application No

PCT/US 01/43638 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G06F9/00 G06F G06F15/16 G06F15/173 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) IPC 7 G06F 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 practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, INSPEC, IBM-TDB, COMPENDEX C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. US 6 151 689 A (CODDINGTON JOHN DEANE ET 1,13,22 χ AL) 21 November 2000 (2000-11-21) 2-12, abstract Α 14 - 2123-31 figures 1A,1B 1,13,22 EP 0 373 299 A (PIXAR) X 20 June 1990 (1990-06-20) 2-12, Α abstract 14 - 2123 - 31figure 2 1 - 31US 5 959 995 A (HELLAND PATRICK J ET AL) Α 28 September 1999 (1999-09-28) abstract figures 1,3,4 -/--X Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Special categories of cited documents: \*T\* later document published after the international filling date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention 'A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone 'L° document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled other means document published prior to the international filing date but '&' document member of the same patent family later than the priority date claimed Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 26/08/2003 14 August 2003 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,

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