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(71) Applicant: NETWORK APPLIANCE, INC. [US/US];  
495 East Java Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94089 (US).

(72) Inventors: GRIER, James, R.; 15 Longley Road, Groton,  
MA 01450 (US). RAJAN, Vijayan; 431 Costa Mesa Ter-  
race #A, Sunnyvale, CA 94085-1612 (US). MENEGHINI,  
John; 33 Timbercreek Lane, Billerica, MA 01821 (US).  
LENT, Arthur, F.; 74 Fayette Street #2, Cambridge, MA  
02139 (US).

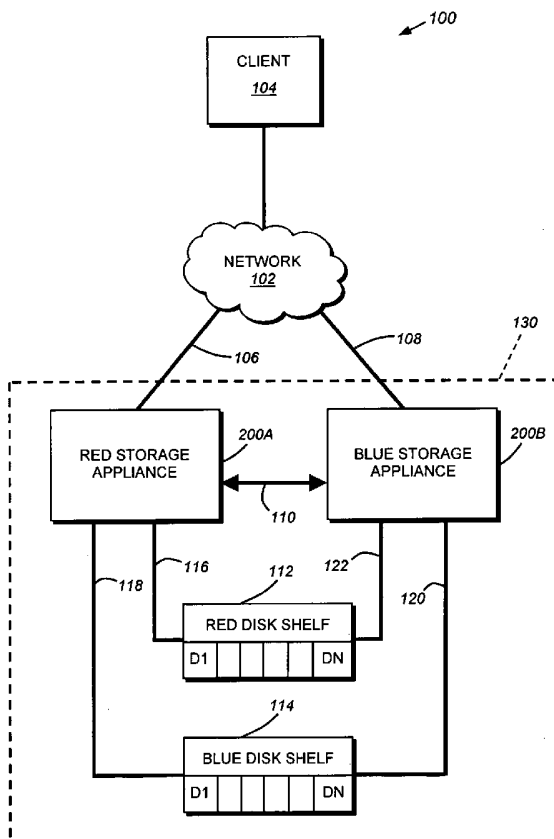
(74) Agents: DREGGER, Duane, H. et al.; Cesari and  
McKenna, LLP, 88 Black Falcon Avenue, Boston, MA  
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(54) Title: SYSTEMS AND METHOD FOR PROXYING DATA ACCESS COMMANDS IN A STORAGE SYSTEM CLUSTER



(57) Abstract: A system and method proxies data access com-  
mands across a cluster interconnect between storage appliances  
and a cluster using a file-level protocol. Each storage appliance  
activates two ports per data access, a local port for data access  
requests directed to clients of the storage appliance and a proxy  
port for data access requests directed to the partner storage ap-  
pliance. Clients utilizing multi-pathing software may send data  
access requests to either the local port of the storage appliance  
or the proxy port of the storage appliance. The system and  
method improves high availability, especially during a loss of  
connectivity due to non-storage appliance hardware failure.

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 2005/029251 A (NEOPATH NETWORKS, INC; IYENGAR, ANAND; WONG, THOMAS, K; TSIRIGOTIS, PA) 31 March 2005 (2005-03-31) figures 1,2,6,7a-7f paragraph [0010] paragraph [0021] - paragraph [0030] paragraph [0034] - paragraph [0036] paragraph [0045] - paragraph [0048] ----- -/--	1-37

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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,  
 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer  
  
 ANDLAUER, J

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G(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X A	US 2004/205143 A1 (UEMURA TETSUYA) 14 October 2004 (2004-10-14)  figures 1,2b,3 paragraph [0020] - paragraph [0029] paragraph [0047] - paragraph [0053] paragraph [0063] - paragraph [0069] paragraph [0076] - paragraph [0093]	1, 15, 18, 23, 33, 34 2-14, 16, 17, 19-22, 24-32, 35-37
A	US 2004/139145 A1 (BAR-OR GIGY ET AL) 15 July 2004 (2004-07-15) figures 8-10, 10a, 11a, 11b paragraph [0004] - paragraph [0014] paragraph [0028] paragraph [0062] - paragraph [0077]	1-37

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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US 2004205143	A1	14-10-2004	JP 2004240803 A	26-08-2004
US 2004139145	A1	15-07-2004	NONE	