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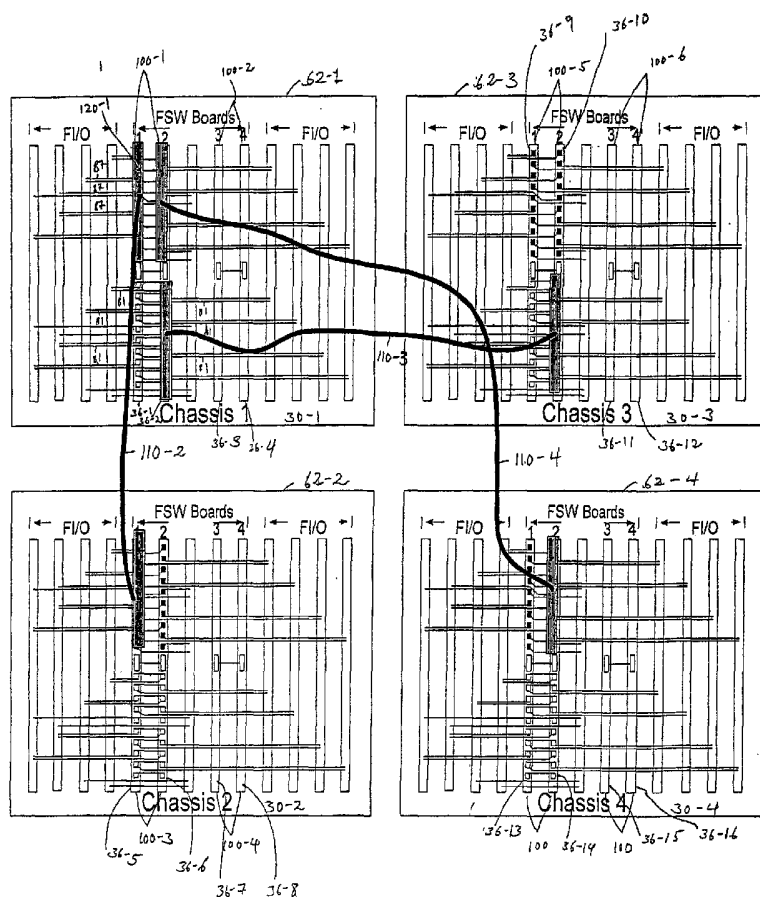
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- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US01/24524 (74) Agent: **SHEEHAN, Kenneth, J.**; Pepper Hamilton, LLP, 600 Fourteen Street, N.W., Washington D.C. 20005-2004 (US).
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- (71) Applicant: **INRANGE TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION** [US/US]; 100 Mt. Holly By-Pass, Lumberton, NY 08048-0400 (US).
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(54) Title: FIBRE CHANNEL SWITCH



(57) Abstract: A fibre channel backplane configuration is capable of modular expansion, e.g., from 64 ports to 128 ports or 256 ports by a simple operation. The backplane includes connectors that provide permanent and jumper/vertical connections to support 64 users port switch in a single chassis. For a 128 port switch, two 64 port chassis are used. In the 128 port configuration, the connectors are configured to provide permanent and jumper/vertical connections to make intra-chassis and inter-chassis connections between the fabric switch and fabric input/output boards. Using jumper plugs, the jumper connectors provide vertical connections between the fibre input/output boards and fibre switch boards of two chassis. For a 256 port switch configuration, four 64 port chassis assemblies are used. The connectors are configured to provide each switch with permanent, vertical, horizontal, and diagonal connections to the fibre input/output boards of each of the four chassis.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 H04L12/44 H04L12/56 G06F11/20 G06F13/40

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)

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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, PAJ, INSPEC, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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X	US 5 455 917 A (HOLEMAN JAMES E ET AL) 3 October 1995 (1995-10-03) column 2, line 48 -column 3, line 64; figures 1-3	1, 16
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A	US 5 844 887 A (DORON EITAN ET AL) 1 December 1998 (1998-12-01) page 19, line 35 -page 21, line 30; figures 5,17	1-33
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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A	US 6 067 286 A (BARNETT RICHARD ET AL) 23 May 2000 (2000-05-23) column 1, line 25 - line 39 ----	1-33
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