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[Continued on next page]

(54) **Title:** PROVIDING A WITNESS SERVICE

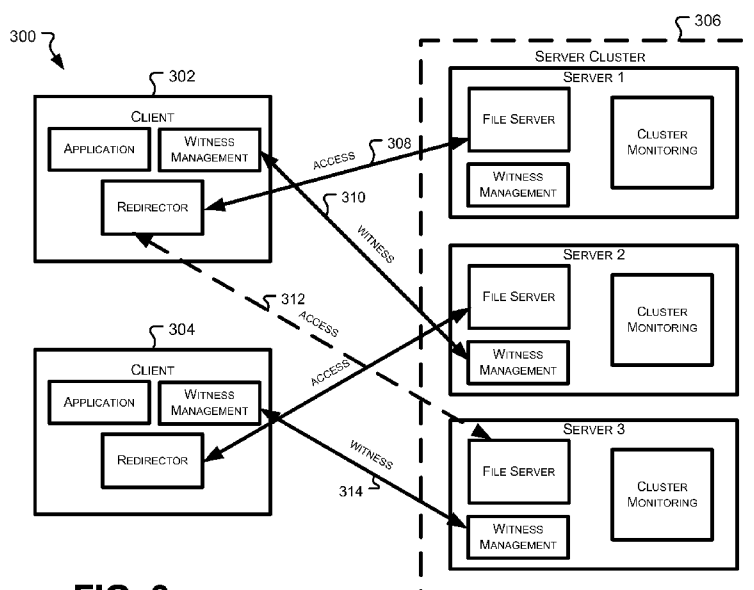


FIG. 3

(57) **Abstract:** Described are embodiments directed at providing a witness service that sends notifications with a resource state to clients. Embodiments provide a protocol that includes various messages for registering and receiving notifications regarding the state of a resource. The protocol may include a message for requesting node information from a first node in a cluster. The node information identifies nodes in the cluster that provide a witness service, which monitors a resource. The protocol includes a message that is used to register with the witness service for notifications regarding a state, or state change, of a network or cluster resource. The protocol also includes messages for sending notifications with state information of the resource.

**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*
- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER***H04L 12/16(2006.01)i, H04L 29/06(2006.01)i***

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)

H04L 12/16; H04L 1/22; H04J 1/16; G06F 17/30

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

Korean utility models and applications for utility models

Japanese utility models and applications for utility models

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

eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords:resource,monitor,notification

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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A	US 2006-0212453 A1 (MARC M ESHEL et al.) 21 September 2006 See Paragraphs [31]-[33], [40], [44]-[46], [53], [54], [56], [61], [64], [66], [84]-[86]; Figures 1,3,5B; Claims 1-3,9,18,19	1-10
A	US 2003-0028817 A1 (SHIGERU SUZUYAMA et al.) 06 February 2003 See Paragraphs [29], [30], [46][49], [125], [127], [169], [141]-[143], [146], [148], [151]; Figures 1,2A,6; Claims 1,2,5,6	1-10
A	US 2007-0124348 A1 (GEORGE H CLABORN et al.) 31 May 2007 See Paragraphs [27], [56]-[65], [70]-[78]; Figures 3,5; Claims 1,6	1-10
A	US 2006-0221815 A1 (TSUYOSHI MATSUMOTO) 05 October 2006 See Paragraphs [52], [55], [58], [65], [66], [91]; Figures 2,4,6; Claim 1	1-10



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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