



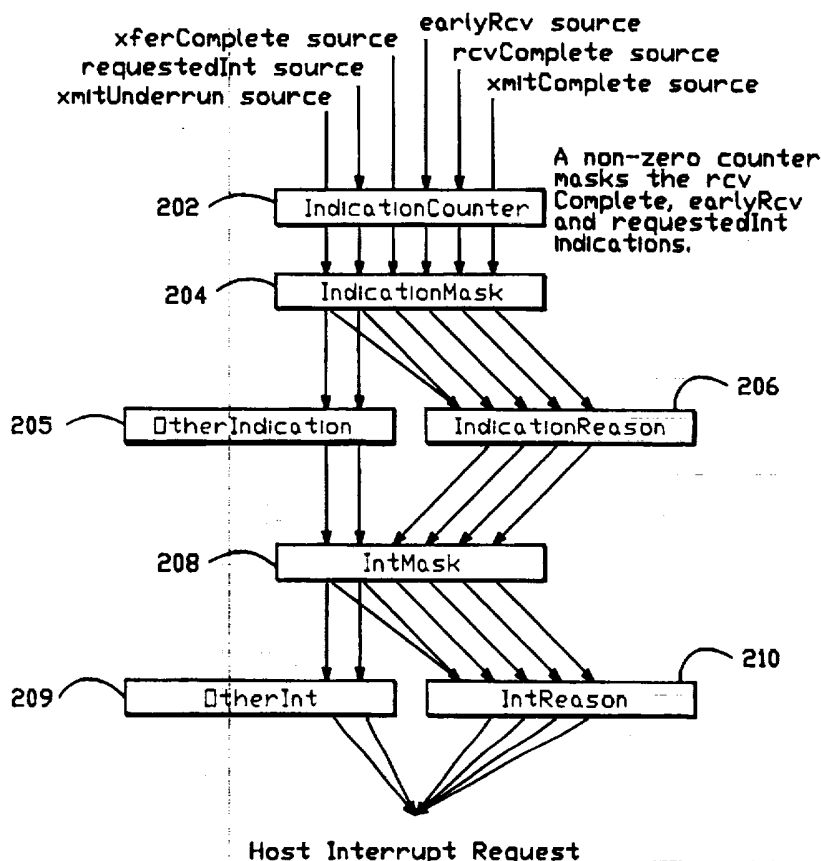
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁵ : G06F 13/24		A3	(11) International Publication Number: WO 94/18627
			(43) International Publication Date: 18 August 1994 (18.08.94)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US93/12652		(81) Designated States: AU, CA, JP, KR, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).	
(22) International Filing Date: 28 December 1993 (28.12.93)			
(30) Priority Data: 08/012,561 2 February 1993 (02.02.93) US		Published With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.	
(71) Applicant: 3COM CORPORATION [US/US]; 5400 Bayfront Plaza, P.O. Box 58145, Santa Clara, CA 95052-8145 (US).		(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 29 September 1994 (29.09.94)	
(72) Inventors: EMERY, Acott, Andrew; 1318 Foxworthy Avenue, San Jose, CA 95118 (US). PETERSEN, Brian; 731 Vera Cruz Avenue, Los Altos, CA 94022 (US). SHERER, W., Paul; 1054 Gardenia Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94086 (US).			
(74) Agent: HAYNES, Mark, A.; P.O. Box 371436, Montara, CA 94037 (US).			

(54) Title: NETWORK ADAPTER WITH HOST INTERRUPT AND INDICATION MANAGEMENT

(57) Abstract

Indication and interrupt signals generated by a network adapter (3) representing asynchronous events are managed by a host system (1). The network adapter (3) comprises a first mask logic (10) for selectively disabling the indication signals from being stored in a first memory location (10a-c) by the host writing to a first mask register (10). A second mask logic which is coupled to the first memory location (10a-c) also selectively disables the indication signals from being stored in the second memory location (10a-c) creating two levels of status information. The indication signals may also be disabled from being stored in the second memory location (10a-c) responsive to the host writing to a second mask register. The first memory location (10a-c) may be read from the host (1) in order to determine whether a network event occurred during an interrupt service routine, while interrupt means (10) generates an interrupt signal to the host (1) responsive to the value in the second memory location (10a-c). A third level of control is provided by an internal counter which allows for automatic enabling and/or disabling of a plurality of indications and interrupts with and without explicit commands in the host driver subroutines.



FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AT	Austria	GB	United Kingdom	MR	Mauritania
AU	Australia	GE	Georgia	MW	Malawi
BB	Barbados	GN	Guinea	NE	Niger
BE	Belgium	GR	Greece	NL	Netherlands
BF	Burkina Faso	HU	Hungary	NO	Norway
BG	Bulgaria	IE	Ireland	NZ	New Zealand
BJ	Benin	IT	Italy	PL	Poland
BR	Brazil	JP	Japan	PT	Portugal
BY	Belarus	KE	Kenya	RO	Romania
CA	Canada	KG	Kyrgyzstan	RU	Russian Federation
CF	Central African Republic	KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	SD	Sudan
CG	Congo	KR	Republic of Korea	SE	Sweden
CH	Switzerland	KZ	Kazakhstan	SI	Slovenia
CI	Côte d'Ivoire	LI	Liechtenstein	SK	Slovakia
CM	Cameroon	LK	Sri Lanka	SN	Senegal
CN	China	LU	Luxembourg	TD	Chad
CS	Czechoslovakia	LV	Latvia	TG	Togo
CZ	Czech Republic	MC	Monaco	TJ	Tajikistan
DE	Germany	MD	Republic of Moldova	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
DK	Denmark	MG	Madagascar	UA	Ukraine
ES	Spain	ML	Mali	US	United States of America
FI	Finland	MN	Mongolia	UZ	Uzbekistan
FR	France			VN	Viet Nam
GA	Gabon				

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

I. national application No.
PCT/US93/12652

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(5) :G06F 13/24

US CL :395/275

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. : 395/275

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
NONE

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US,A, 4,878,752 (Akashi) 11 July 1989, cols 3-9	1-21
Y	UA,A, 4,987,535 (Takayama) 22 January 1991, entire document	1-21
Y	US,A, 4,349,872 (Fukasawa et al.) 14 September 1982, figs 2-3	1-21

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be part of particular relevance

"E" earlier document published on or after the international filing date

"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)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"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

"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 documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"A" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 JULY 1994

Date of mailing of the international search report

01 AUG 1994

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Box PCT
Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

CHRISTOPHER B SHIN

Telephone No. (703) 305-9600