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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **PIRUS NETWORKS** [US/US]; 43 Nagog Park, Acton, MA 01720-3425 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **GROSNER, George** [US/US]; 49 Warren Street, Westboro, MA 01581 (US).
WOOD, Douglas [US/US]; 15 Honeysuckle Road, Westford, MA 01886 (US).

(74) Agent: **JACOBS, David**; Lucash, Gesmer & Updegrave, LLP, 40 Broad Street, Boston, MA 02109 (US).

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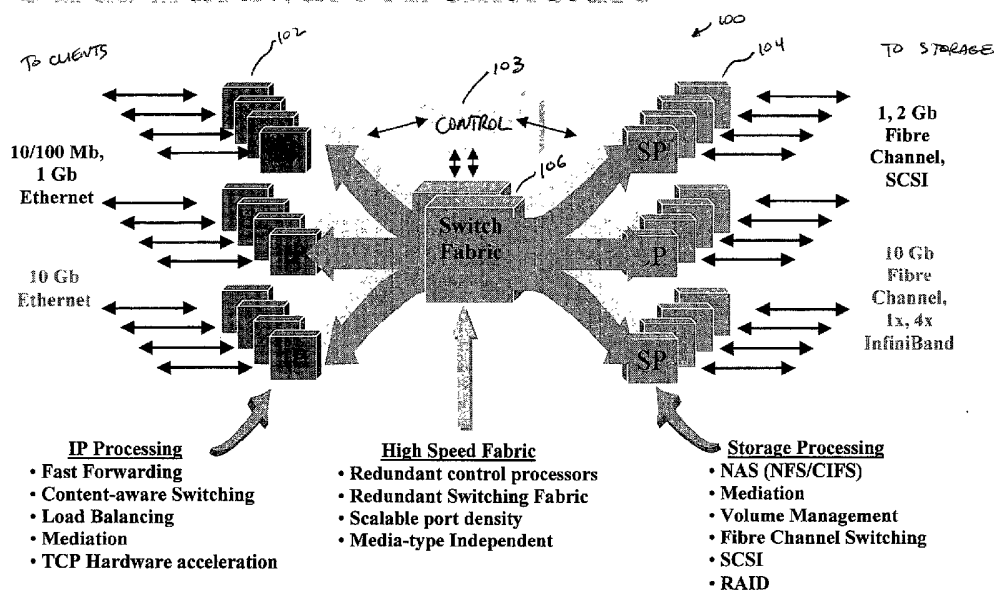
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(54) Title: SWITCHING SYSTEM

Pirus Hardware Architecture



(57) Abstract: Disclosed are improved methods, devices and systems for storage management in digital networks (Figure 1).

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US01/45771**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC(7) : G06F 11/00; 13/00, 13/40

US CL : 710/2, 100, 101, 126, 128, 129; 714/24

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. : 710/2, 100, 101, 126, 128, 129; 714/24

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)

WEST 2.1

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X,Y	US 6,041,381 A (HOESE) 21 MARCH 2000, Abstract, col. 2, lines 44-col. 5, lines 1-46, Figs. 1-6	1-14
X,Y	US 5,941,972 A (HOESE ET AL.) 24 August 1999, Abstract, col. 2, lines 60 - col.8, lines 1-65, Figs. 1-5	1-14
X,Y	US 5,938,776 A (SICOLA ET AL.) 17 August 1999, Abstract, col. 2, lines 59 - col. 9, lines 1-65, Figs. 1-6	1-14



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:		"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
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
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"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

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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

TAMMARA PEYTON

Telephone No. (703) 305-9717