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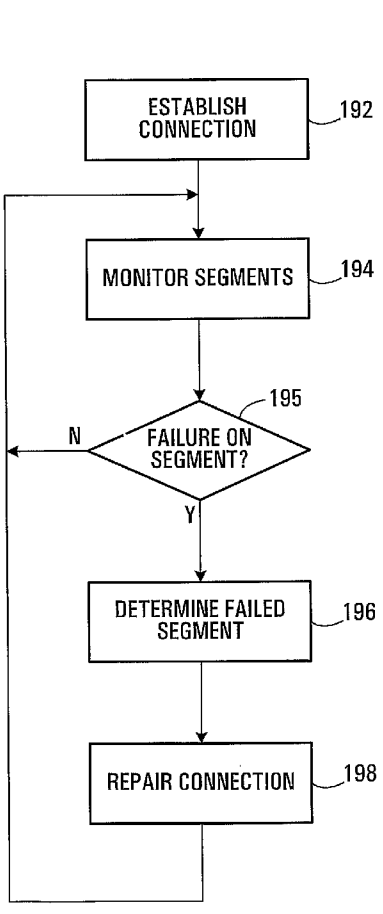
(54) Title: COMMUNICATION NETWORK CONNECTION FAILURE PROTECTION



(57) Abstract: Communication network connection failure protection methods and systems are disclosed. Control information is communicated in a communication network, and causes network elements of the communication network to establish connection monitoring for respective segments of the network connection. Connection monitoring information which is communicated on the segments allows failures such as loss of continuity to be detected and reported. Responsive to an indication of a failure on a segment, the segment on which the failure occurred is identified, and the network connection can be rerouted around that segment.

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— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. H04L12/24 H04L12/26

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

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, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 1 246 396 A (ALCATEL CANADA INC [CA]) 2 October 2002 (2002-10-02) abstract paragraph [0001] - paragraph [0019] paragraph [0022] - paragraph [0025] paragraph [0032] - paragraph [0040]	1-5, 7-13, 16-18, 21-23
Y	figures 1-3	6,14,15, 19,20, 24,25

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[X] Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

[X] See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
22 August 2007	30/08/2007

Name and mailing address of the ISA/	Authorized officer
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International application No
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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	CAVENDISH, D. ET AL.: "OAM in MPLS-based networks" IEEE, [Online] October 2004 (2004-10), pages 91-99, XP002447607 Retrieved from the Internet: URL:http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/iel5/35/29548/01341266.pdf> abstract page 91, column 1, line 20 - page 93, column 1, line 35 page 95, column 1, line 20 - page 96, column 2, line 5 page 97, column 1, line 35 - column 2, line 32 page 98, column 1, line 20 - column 2, line 15	6,14,15, 19,20, 24,25
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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