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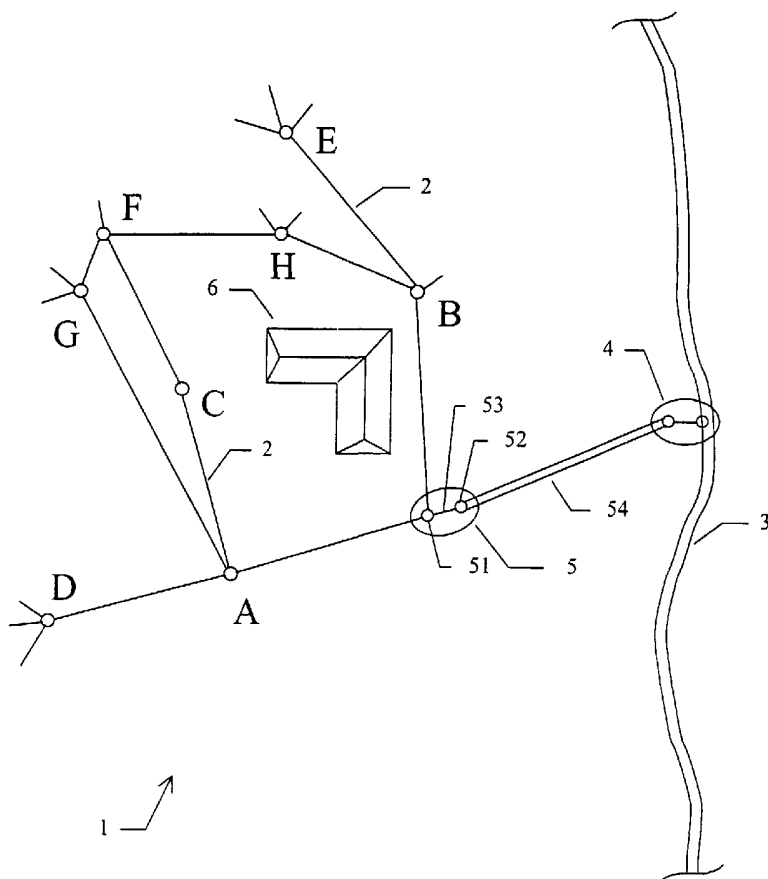
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- (72) Inventor: **ADES, Stephen**; 49 Fen End, Over, Cambridge CB4 5NE (GB).
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/GB01/04503
- (74) Agent: **FLINT, Adam**; W.H. Beck, Greener & Co., 7 Stone Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3SZ (GB).
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- (71) Applicant: **RADIANT NETWORKS PLC** [GB/GB];
The Mansion, Chesterford Park, Little Chesterford, Essex CB10 1XL (GB).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: COMMUNICATIONS MESHES



(57) Abstract: Methods are disclosed for forming a network (1) of nodes (A-H) from a plurality of nodes (A-H) and a plurality of potential transmission links (2) between respective nodes (A-H). Methods are also disclosed for adapting an initial mesh communications network configuration. Methods are also disclosed such that at least some of the changes to the initial mesh communications network configuration that are required as part of the adaptation to the final mesh communications network configuration form a group of changes such that all of the changes within the group can occur substantially simultaneously.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB 01/04503

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 H04L12/56 H04L12/28

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)

IPC 7 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, PAJ, IBM-TDB, INSPEC, COMPENDEX

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 949 760 A (STEVENS JAMES A ET AL) 7 September 1999 (1999-09-07) column 2, line 9 -column 3, line 55 ---	1-47
A	WO 98 27694 A (RADIANT NETWORKS PLC) 25 June 1998 (1998-06-25) page 19, line 5 - line 24 page 25, line 6 - line 32 figure 5 -----	1-47

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



Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

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

"E" earlier document but 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.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

30 July 2002

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Ströbeck, A

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/GB 01/04503

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-47

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-47

A method of forming a mesh network.

2. Claims: 48, 49

A method of adding capacity for peak transmission rates.

3. Claims: 50-72

A method of adapting a mesh network.

4. Claims: 73, 74

A method of concatenating timeslots.

5. Claims: 75-77

A method of updating routing tables.

6. Claims: 78-84

A method of testing a proposed network configuration.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No
PCT/GB 01/04503

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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