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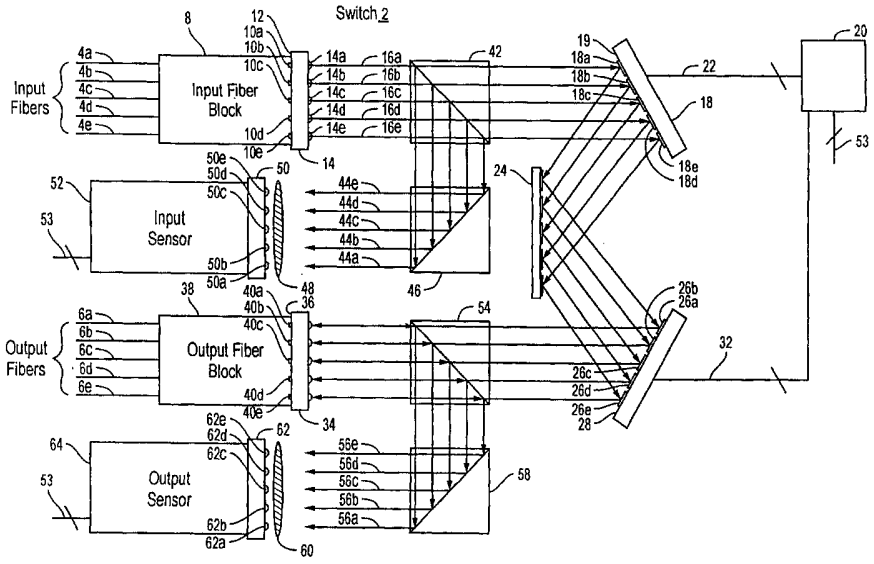
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(54) Title: ALIGNMENT OF AN OPTICAL FIBER SWITCH



(57) Abstract: An optical fiber switch in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention includes a first plurality of ports (10a-10e), a second plurality of ports (40a-40e), a first plurality of mirrors (18a-18e) disposed on a first surface, and a second plurality of mirrors (26a-26e) disposed on a second surface. Each one of the first plurality of mirrors is individually controllable to direct light output from a corresponding one of the first plurality of ports to any one of the second plurality of mirrors. Each one of the second plurality of mirrors is individually controllable to direct to a corresponding one of the second plurality of ports light incident on it from any one of the first plurality of mirrors. Advantageously, optical fiber switches in accordance with embodiments of the present invention may couple more than a thousand input ports to more than a thousand output ports with an insertion loss of less than about 3 decibels.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G02B6/35 H04Q11/00

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G02B H04Q

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, INSPEC, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 01 24384 A (ASTARTE FIBER NETWORKS INC) 5 April 2001 (2001-04-05) page 1, line 13-18 page 2, line 3-6 page 2, line 18-24 page 3, line 21-26 page 10, line 7-17 page 11, line 4-6 page 16, line 26 -page 17, line 5; figure 10 page 25, line 26 -page 28, line 2; figures 30,51-53 page 32, line 1 -page 34, line 15; figure 34	11-37
A	--- -/--	1

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

[X] Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
27 March 2003	16/04/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer
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	Riblet, P

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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.
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Information on patent family members

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