Title: A COMPREHENSIVE MODEL FOR VPLS

Abstract: A VPLS model is implemented in a network-facing provider edge (n-PE) device configured to receive a packet from an access network the packet having a first Virtual Local Area Network (VLAN) tag of a first predetermined bit length The n-PE device mapping the service instance identifier of the first VLAN tag into a second VLAN tag of a second predetermined bit length greater than the first predetermined bit length, the second VLAN tag identifying a Virtual Private LAN Service (VPLS) instance The n-PE device then sends the packet with the second VLAN tag across a service provider (SP) core network via a pseudowire (PW) that functions as a logical link to another PE device.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
   IPC(8) - G06F 15/16 (2007.01)
   USPC - 709/227
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(8) - G06F 15/16 (2007.01)

   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 practicable, search terms used)
   MicroPatent (Databases - USG USA EPA EPB WO JP DEG DEA DET DEU GBA FRA)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
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<td>1-9, 13 and 15-21</td>
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search
05 April 2007

Date of mailing of the international search report
04 SEP 2007

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