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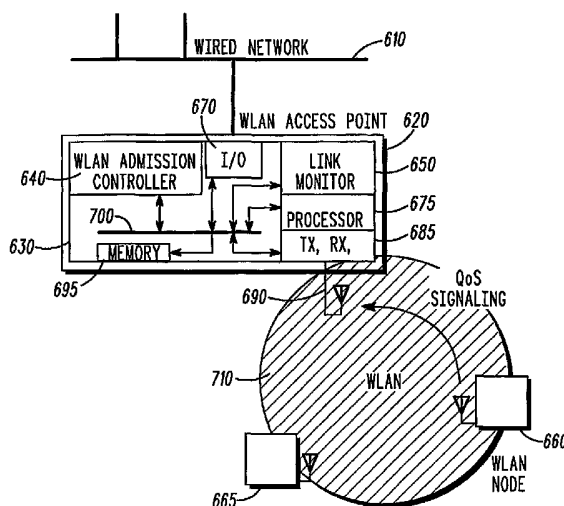
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(54) Title: ADMITTING DATA FLOWS TO A MULTIPLE ACCESS NETWORK



(57) Abstract: A method, a network access point and a communication system are disclosed for admitting data flows corresponding to new service requests to a multiple access network. The method includes the steps of receiving a service request having Quality of Service (QoS) requirements from a network node (410), calculating the effective bandwidth required by a data flow corresponding to the service request based on an average packet size of the data flow (420), determining the maximum capacity of the network (430), and admitting the data flow corresponding to the service request (445) if the network has sufficient capacity to accommodate the effective bandwidth required by the data flow. The average packet size of a data flow corresponding to the service request can be determined from the service request for calculating the effective bandwidth required by the data flow. The maximum capacity of the network can be determined based on the number of transmitting nodes in the network. If the transmission rate of the service request is less than the maximum transmission rate of the network, the effective bandwidth required by the new data flow can be adjusted.

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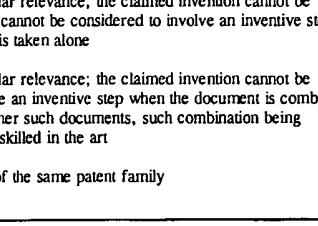
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*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.

PCT/US04/13891

<p><b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b>                  IPC(7) : H04Q 007/20                  US CL : 455/452.2,454,452.1,452.2,450; 370/229,230,231,232,233                  According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC</p>																	
<p><b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b></p> <p>Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)                  U.S. : 455/452.2,454,452.1,452.2,450; 370/229,230,231,232,233</p> <p>Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched</p> <p>Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)                  EAST</p>																	
<p><b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category *</th> <th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th> <th>Relevant to claim No.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>US 6216006 B1 (SCHLEFIELD), 10 April 2001, col. 2, line 64 to col.3, line 8</td> <td>1-5,8-12 and 11-20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>US 6574195 B2 (ROBERTS), 03 June 2003, see entire document</td> <td>1-20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>US 2004/006223 A1 (WYATT), 01 April 2004, see entire document</td> <td>1-20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>US 6459682 B1 (ELLESSION et al), 01 October 2002, see entire document</td> <td>1-20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	X	US 6216006 B1 (SCHLEFIELD), 10 April 2001, col. 2, line 64 to col.3, line 8	1-5,8-12 and 11-20	A	US 6574195 B2 (ROBERTS), 03 June 2003, see entire document	1-20	A	US 2004/006223 A1 (WYATT), 01 April 2004, see entire document	1-20	A	US 6459682 B1 (ELLESSION et al), 01 October 2002, see entire document	1-20
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<p><input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.      <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.</p>																	
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<p>Name and mailing address of the ISA/US                  Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US                  Commissioner for Patents                  P.O. Box 1450                  Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450                  Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230</p>		<p>Authorized officer                    KENNETH A. WIEDER                  Telephone No. 703 305-7608</p>															