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(54) Title: OPTICAL CONNECTION ARRANGEMENTS

(57) Abstract: An optical connection arrangement is provided in an optical path to facilitate changing optical add/drop multiplexer (OADM) and other optical component modules while optical traffic is present on the optical path, with minimal interruption to such traffic. The connection arrangement has a plurality of optical ports to each of which an optical component can be coupled, and one or more optical switches which can be controlled to selectively include in the optical path or bypass each optical port. Such connection arrangements can be coupled in series and/or in parallel for convenient modular add/drop configurations and for opposite directions of transmission of optical traffic on respective optical paths.
### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

<table>
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<th>IPC</th>
<th>H04Q11/00</th>
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(51) International Patent Classification:

| IPC | H04Q 11/00, H04J 14/02 |

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 | 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

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

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<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
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<td>US 5 986 783 A (MCADAMS LARRY R ET AL) 16 November 1999 (1999-11-16) column 3, line 26 – line 44 column 10, line 44 – column 11, line 7 column 14, line 23 – line 25 column 15, line 50 – line 62 figures 12,14</td>
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<td>US 5 825 517 A (BALA KRISHNA ET AL) 20 October 1998 (1998-10-20) column 9, line 20 – line 34 figure 9</td>
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**Patent family members are listed in annex.**

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**Date of the actual completion of the international search**

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**Date of mailing of the international search report**

21/05/2003

**Name and mailing address of the ISA**

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