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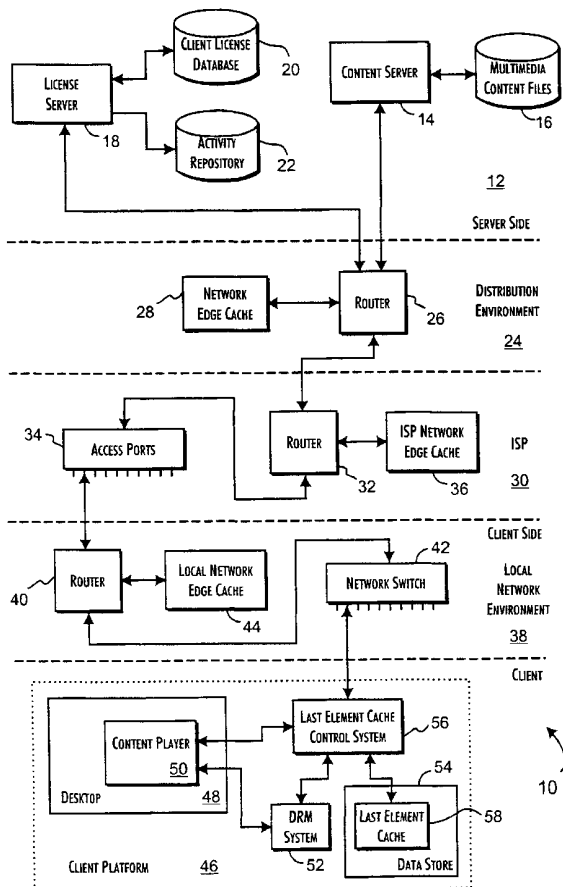
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: CLIENT-SIDE LAST-ELEMENT CACHE NETWORK ARCHITECTURE



(57) Abstract: A distributed network data management system implementing centralized management control over the transfer of data files from data servers to remote client computer systems, where the data file transfer are performed in response to requests issued by the remote client computer systems. The distributed network data management system includes a control server system (68) having a control file store coupleable through a communications network to a client computer system (46). The control server system (68) can provide a predetermined control files (64) to the client computer system in response to a request provided by the client computer system (46) autonomously determined by the client computer system (46) based on a prior provided control file. The control file includes an identification of data file and a set of data servers from which the data files can be requested for transfer to the client computer system (46).



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G01D 1/16, G06F 7/00, 17/00, 17/30

U.S. CL. : 709/219, 213,203,707/202,102,10

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)

U.S. : 709/219, 213,203,707/202,102,10

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)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,838,916 A (DOMENIKOS et al) 17 November 1998, abstract, col. 7, line 22-col. 21, line 68.	1-31
Y,P	US 6,253,234 B1 (HUNT et al) 26 June 2001, col. 3, line 54-col. 9, line 68.	1-31
Y	US 5,852,717 A (BHIDE et al) 22 December 1998, col. 4, line 29-col. 11, line 68.	1-31
Y,E	US 6,321,234 B1 (DEBRUNNER) 20 November 2001, col. 4, line 25-col. 16, line 68.	1-31
Y	US 5,864,854 A (BOYLE) 26 January 1999, col. 2, line 37-col. 7, line 68.	1-31

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"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
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
"E" earlier document published on or after the international filing date	"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
"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)	"Z" document member of the same patent family
"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	

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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.
Y,P	US 6,167,405 A (ROSENSTEEL, JR. et al.) 26 December 2000, col. 4, line 30-col. 15, line 21.	1-31