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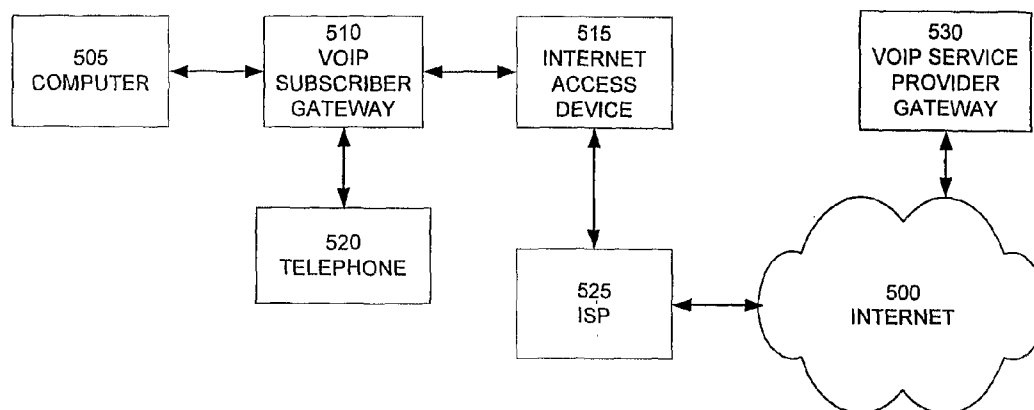
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(54) Title: A SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SHARING AN IP ADDRESS



(57) Abstract: Means for sharing an IP address between a first and a second network device, the first device having an assigned IP address and the second network device having one or more port numbers reserved for use solely by the second network device. The second network device is connected serially between the first network device and an Internet access device. The second network device creates packets using the IP address and one of the one or more reserved port numbers and sends the packets to the Internet access device.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US05/29324

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: **G06F 15/16**(2006.01),**15/173**(2006.01),**15/177**(2006.01);**H04L 12/26**(2006.01),**12/28**(2006.01),**12/54**(2006.01),**12/56**(2006.01)

USPC: Please See Continuation Sheet

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. : Please See Continuation Sheet

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.
X	US 6,449,251 B1 (AWADALLAH et al.) 10 September 2002 (10.09.2002), column 1, lines 53-56; column 3, lines 33-35, 38-56; column 4, lines 30-33; column 5, lines 26-52; column 8, lines 16-18; Figure 1.	1-12
A	US 6,091,732 A (ALEXANDER, JR. et al.) 18 July 2000 (18.07.2000), all	1-12
A, E	US 6,947, 417 B2 (LAURSEN et al.) 20 September 2005 (20.09.2005), all	1-12
A	US 6,760,324 B1 (SCOTT et al.) 06 Jul 2004 (06.07.2004), all	1-12

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
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"I"	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)	"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
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 1:

370/229, 230.1, 230, 231, 235, 389, 392, 395.21, 396, 399, 401, 412, 413, 420, 428, 429; 709/220, 221, 223, 224, 231, 232

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