

## United States Patent [19]

Chang et al.

### [54] METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETECTING THE PRESENCE OF A REMOTE DEVICE AND PROVIDING POWER THERETO

- [75] Inventors: Wen F. Chang, Saratoga; Fang C. Yu, Fremont, both of Calif.
- [73] Assignee: Clarinet Systems, Inc., San Jose, Calif.
- [21] Appl. No.: **08/872,977**
- [22] Filed: Jun. 11, 1997
- [51] Int. Cl.<sup>6</sup> ...... G06F 1/26

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### US005991885A

### [11] Patent Number: 5,991,885

### [45] **Date of Patent:** Nov. 23, 1999

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Primary Examiner—Glenn A. Auve

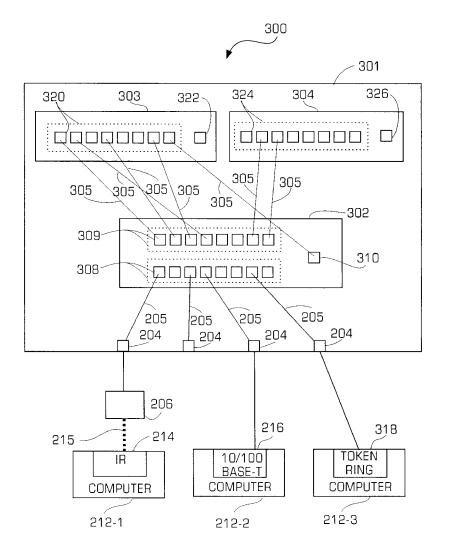
Assistant Examiner—David A. Wiley

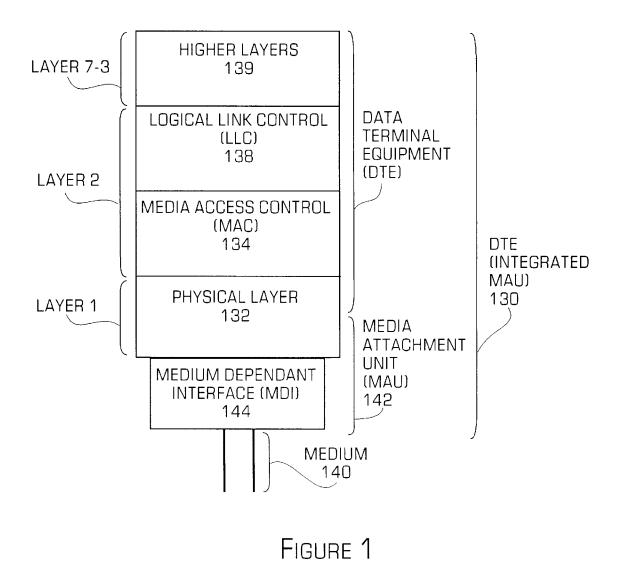
Attorney, Agent, or Firm-Gray, Cary, Ware & Freidenrich

### [57] ABSTRACT

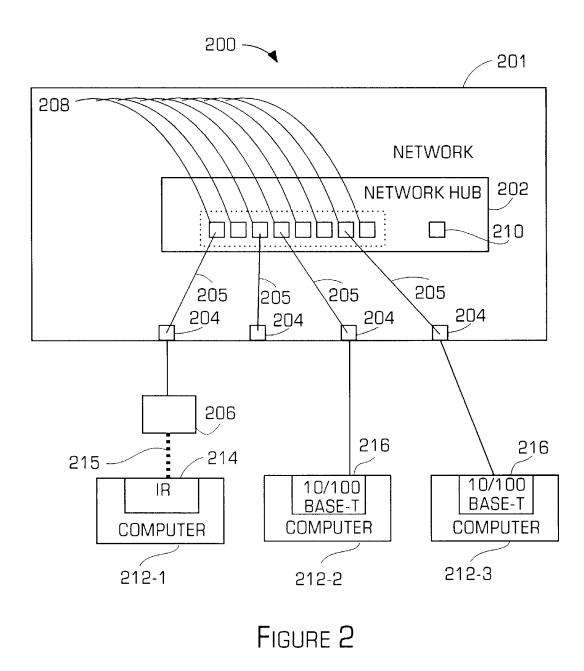
A network system includes a network that detects the presence of a remote terminal connected to a network and determines the functional protocol of the remote terminal. If the remote terminal is an infrared adapter, the network hub provides electrical power to the infrared adapter and continually monitors for the presence of the infrared adapter. Upon removal of the infrared adapter, the network removes electrical power that is applied to a user interface connector that connects to the infrared adapter. If another protocol is detected for the remote terminal, the network hub communicates with the remote terminal in that protocol and converts the data to the protocol of the network.

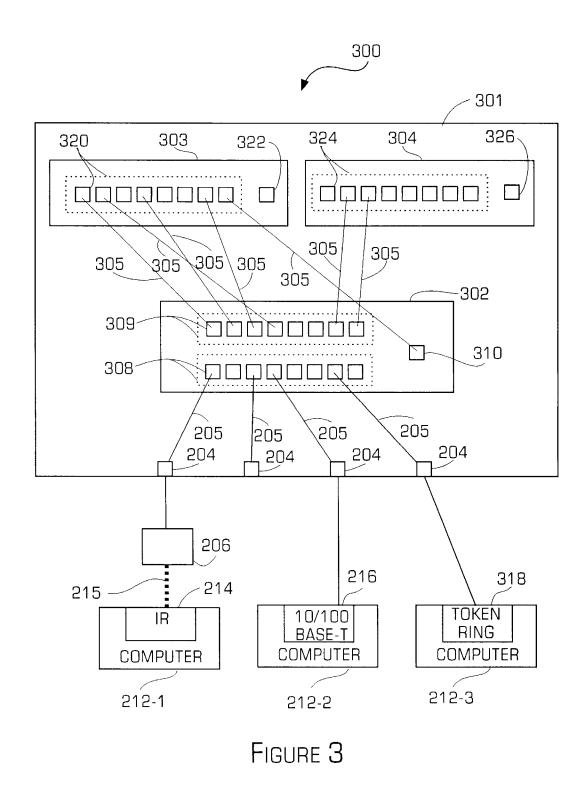
### 18 Claims, 10 Drawing Sheets

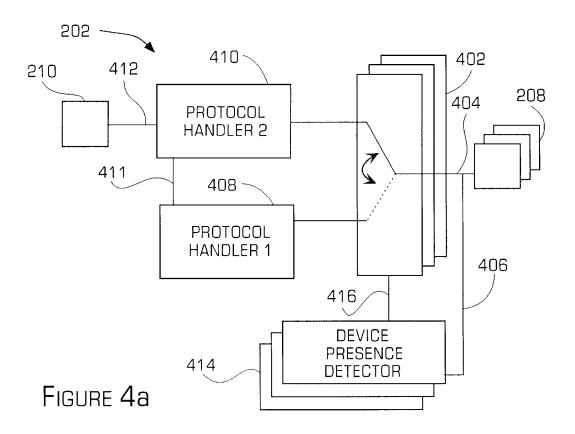


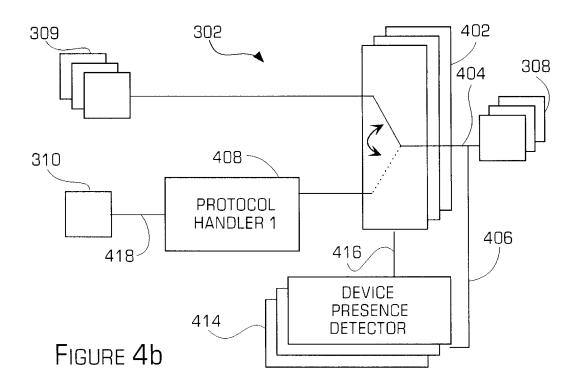


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