

(12) **United States Patent**
Broadhurst

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 6,560,634 B1**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **May 6, 2003**

(54) **METHOD OF DETERMINING UNAVAILABILITY OF AN INTERNET DOMAIN NAME**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 1 day.

(21) Appl. No.: **09/133,836**

(22) Filed: **Aug. 13, 1998**

Related U.S. Application Data

(60) Provisional application No. 60/055,787, filed on Aug. 15, 1997.

(51) **Int. Cl.⁷** **G06F 15/16**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **709/203; 709/217; 709/219**

(58) **Field of Search** **709/217, 224, 709/223, 219, 245, 227, 249, 203; 707/104, 500, 505**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Methods, systems, and articles of manufacture consistent with the present invention provide an improved query server that overcomes the shortcomings of existing domain name searching techniques by performing a multitude of searches simultaneously, transparent to the user. Specifically, the improved query server searches for existing domain name records in various domains and then displays the results in a formatted manner, thus eliminating the need for a user to perform individual searches.

17 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets

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TOP 50 COUNTRIES RANKED BY ANNUAL GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

ENTER NAME:

ENTER YOUR NAME IN THE TEXT BOX (WITHOUT EXTENSIONS). FOR EXAMPLE, ENTER "yourname" NOT "www.yourname.com". CLICK ON THE "SEARCH" BUTTON TO SEARCH THE TOP 50 COUNTRIES RANKED BY ANNUAL GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT.

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. USA | 18. IRAN | 35. SWITZERLAND |
| 2. JAPAN | 19. TURKEY | 36. AUSTRIA |
| 3. CHINA | 20. NETHERLANDS | 37. HONG KONG |
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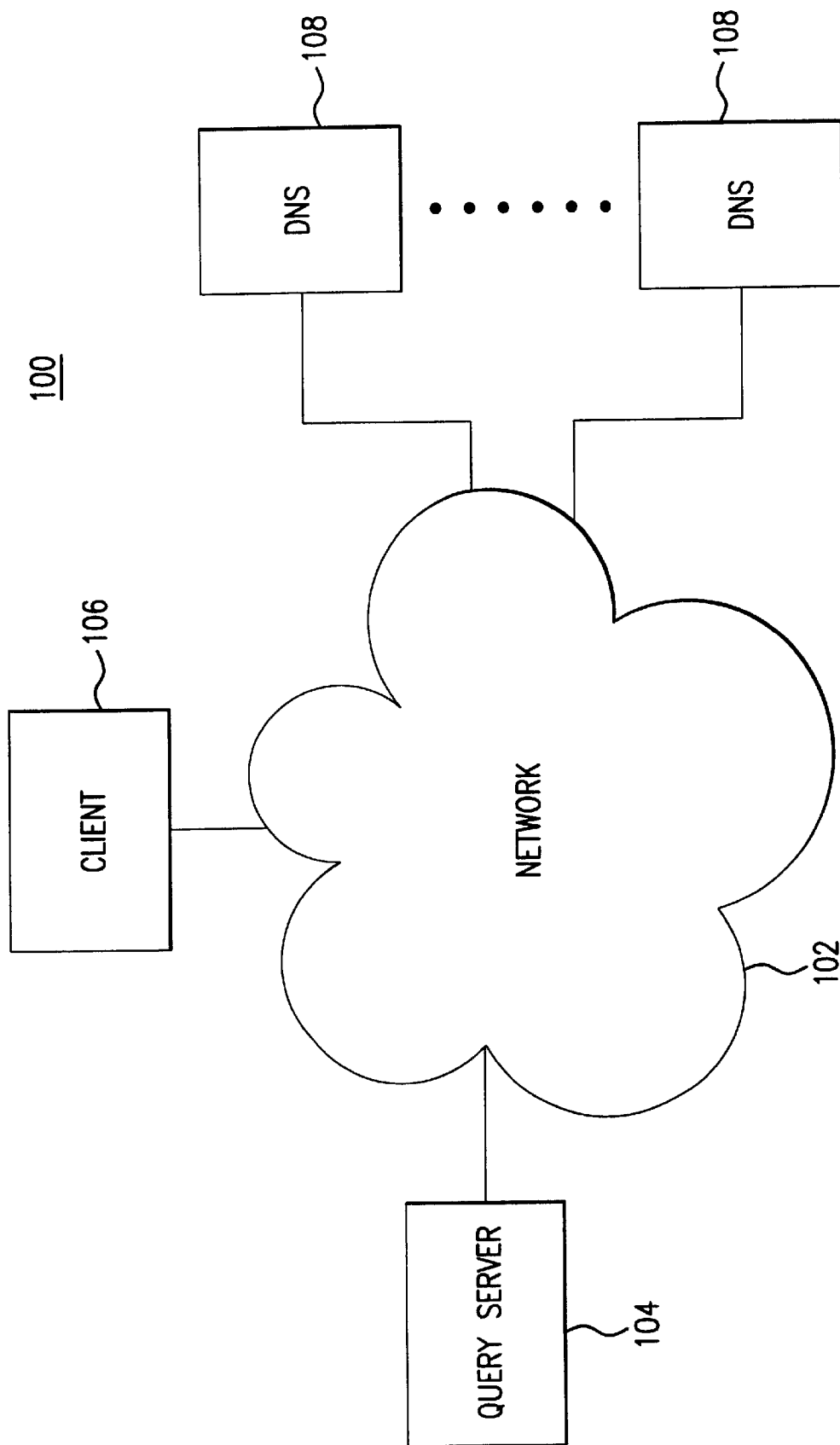


FIG.1

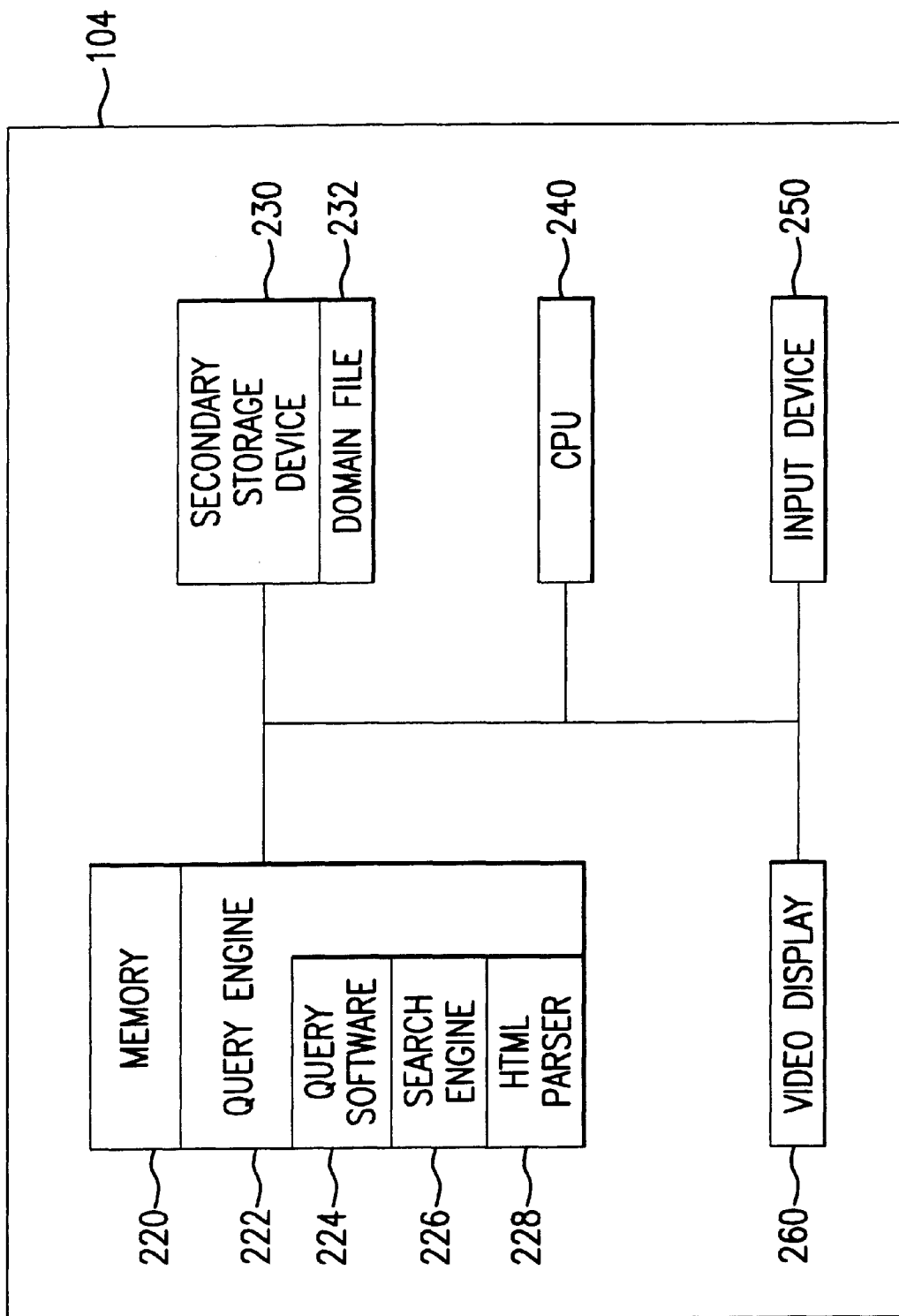


FIG.2

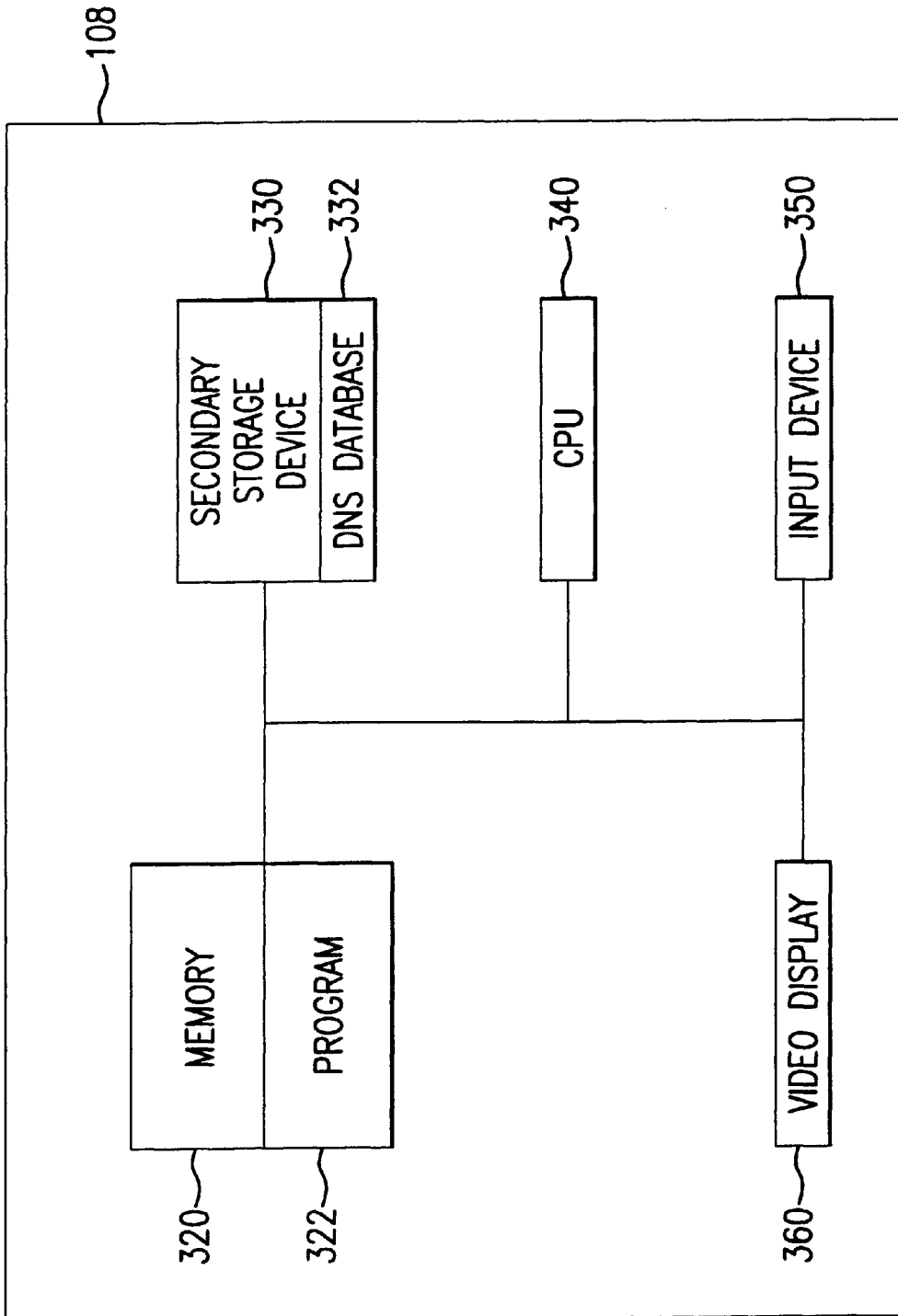


FIG. 3

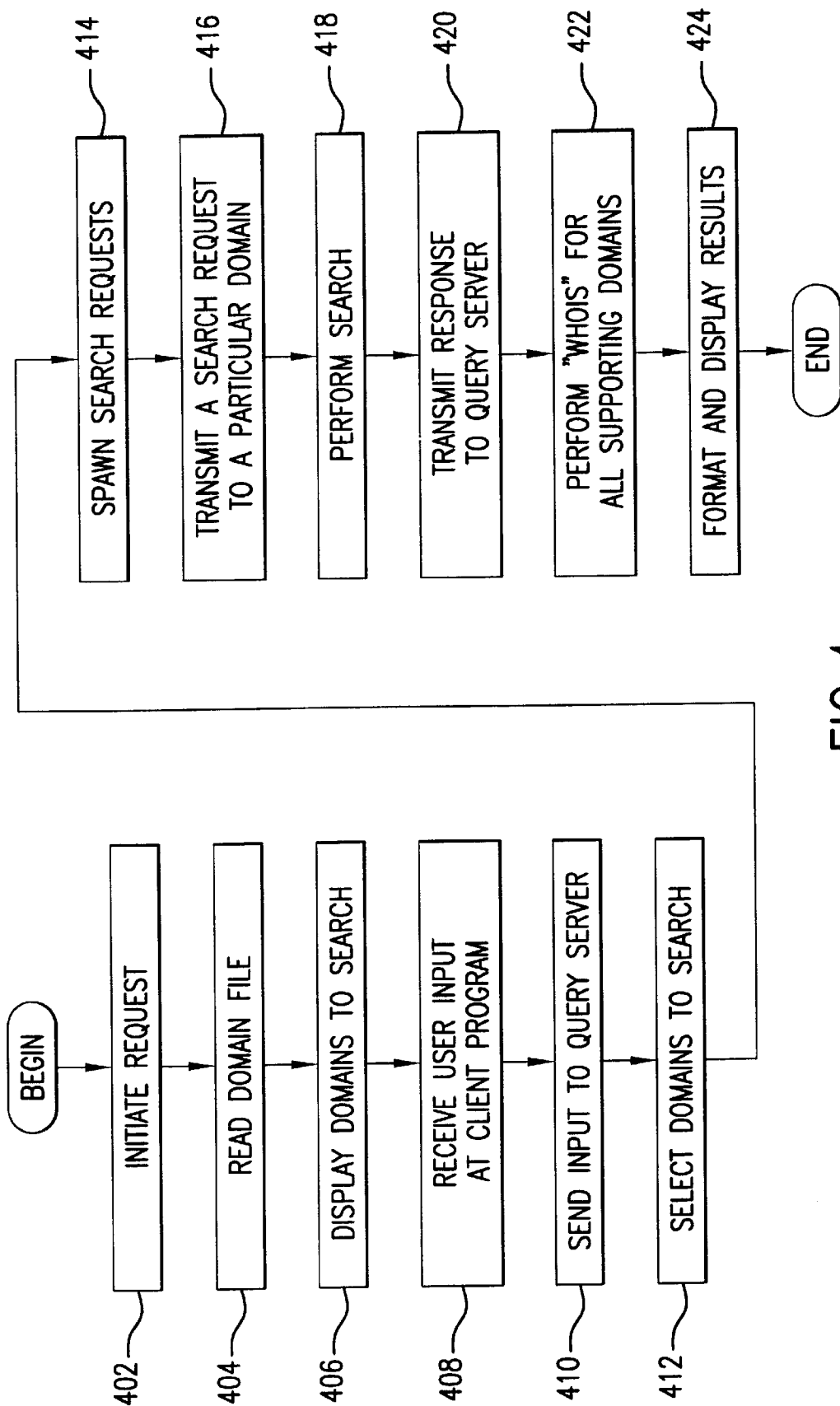


FIG. 4

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