

## US005367635A

# United States Patent [19]

Bauer et al.

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[54] NETWORK MANAGEMENT AGENT WITH USER CREATED OBJECTS PROVIDING ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONALITY

[75] Inventors: Neal Bauer, Loveland; Mark A.

Kepke, Ft. Collins, both of Colo.

[73] Assignee: Hewlett-Packard Company, Palo

Alto, Calif.

[21] Appl. No.: 752,152

[22] Filed: Aug. 29, 1991

[51] Int. Cl.<sup>5</sup> ...... G06F 13/00

[56]

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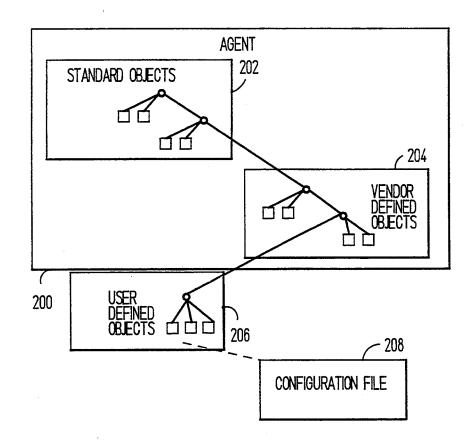
Primary Examiner—Thomas M. Heckler Assistant Examiner—J. Hall Backenstose Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Augustus W. Winfield

#### [57]

## ABSTRACT

A computer network management software agent which includes the ability for users to add new user defined management objects. A user editable text file defines object identifications, object types, and the path and name of associated executable software. A user can then invoke user defined executable software at a managed node by sending a network command and a user defined associated object identifier to the agent in the managed node. Data can be sent between a user and user defined executable software. A timeout feature generates an error if commands are not completed within a user defined time.

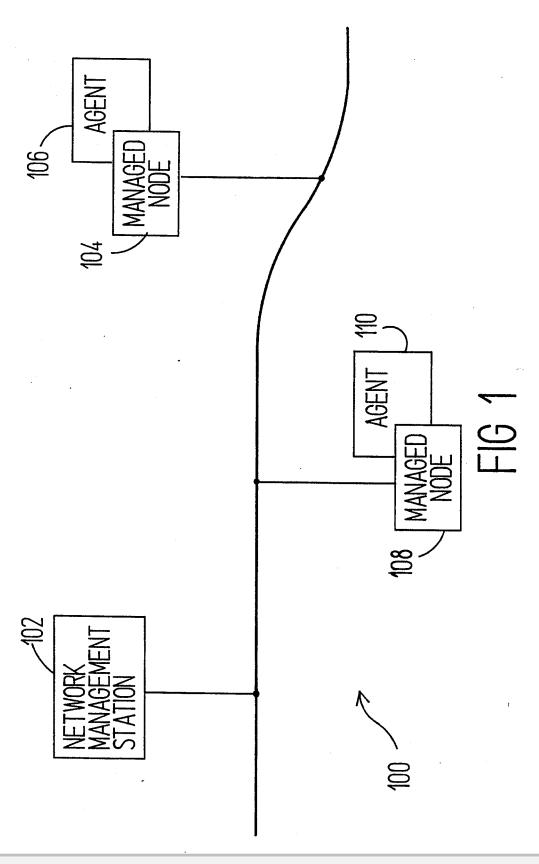
### 1 Claim, 6 Drawing Sheets



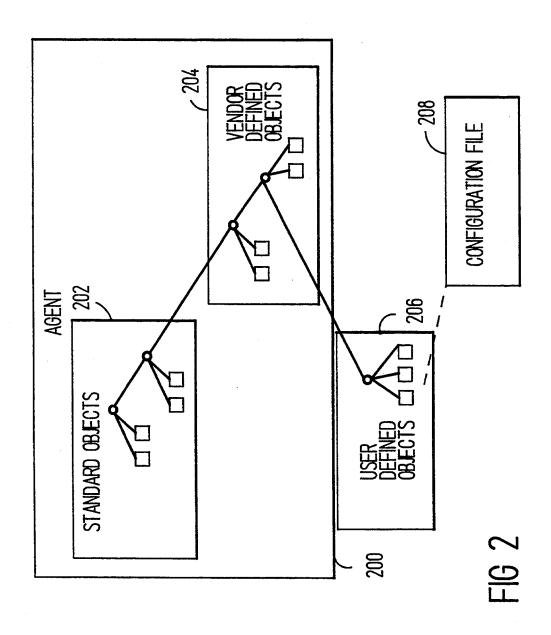


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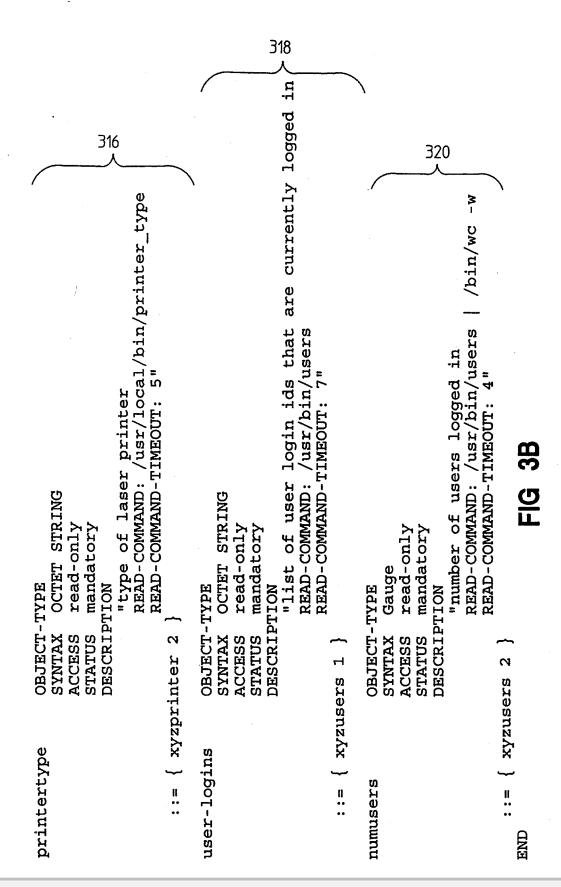


**-1G 3A** 

An example agent configuration file would contain:

```
304
                                                    302
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   status
                       iso(1) org(3) dod(6) internet(1)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   'usr/local/bin/change_printer_
                                                                                                                                                                                                                           'usr/local/bin/printer_status
                                                                                                                                                                                                              "status of the laser printer
                                                              enterprises
                                                                                       company-xyz
                                                                          company-xyz
                                   private 1
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               2
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       READ-COMMAND-TIMEOUT: 10
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                WRITE-COMMAND-TIMEOUT:
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    WRITE-COMMAND:
                                                                                                                                                                                                                           READ-COMMAND:
                                                                                        13
                                                                                                                                                                            read-write
::= BEGIN
                        IDENTIFIER
                                    IDENTIFIER
                                                             IDENTIFIER
                                                                          IDENTIFIER
                                                                                      IDENTIFIER
                                                                                                                                                                                        mandatory
                                                                                                                          INTEGER
                                                                                                                                                   down (2)
                                                                                                             OBJECT-TYPE
                                                                                                                                                                                                    DESCRIPTION
CUSTOMER-XYZ DEFINITIONS
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       310 /
                        OBJECT
                                                             OBJECT
                                                                                      OBJECT
                                                                                                                                                                            ACCESS
                                                                                                                                                                                       STATUS
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             xyzprinter 1
                                    OBJECT
                                                                         OBJECT
                                                                                                                           SYNTAX
                                                                                                                                                                                                              308
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              314 /
                                                                                                                printerstatus
                                      enterprises
                                                               company-xyz
                                                                          eyzprinter
                                                                                       cyzusers
                        private
```







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