

(12) United States Patent Malik et al.

(54) INSTANT MESSAGING ARCHITECTURE AND SYSTEM FOR INTEROPERABILITY AND PRESENCE MANAGEMENT

(75) Inventors: Dale Malik, Atlanta, GA (US); Matt

Peterson, Atlanta, GA (US)

Assignee: BellSouth Intellectual Property

Corporation, Wilmington, DE (US)

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(58) Field of Classification Search 709/204, 709/206, 217, 230, 246, 205 See application file for complete search history.

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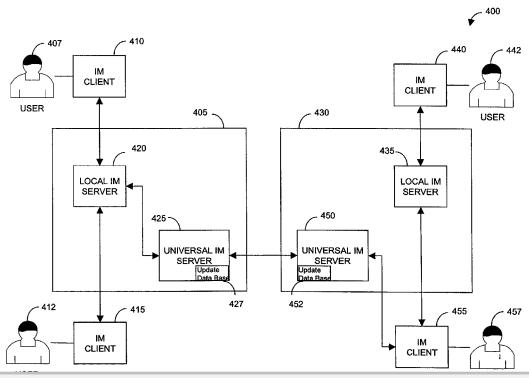
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Primary Examiner—Rupal Dharia Assistant Examiner—Brian J. Gillis (74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Thomas, Kayden, Horstemeyer & Risley LLP

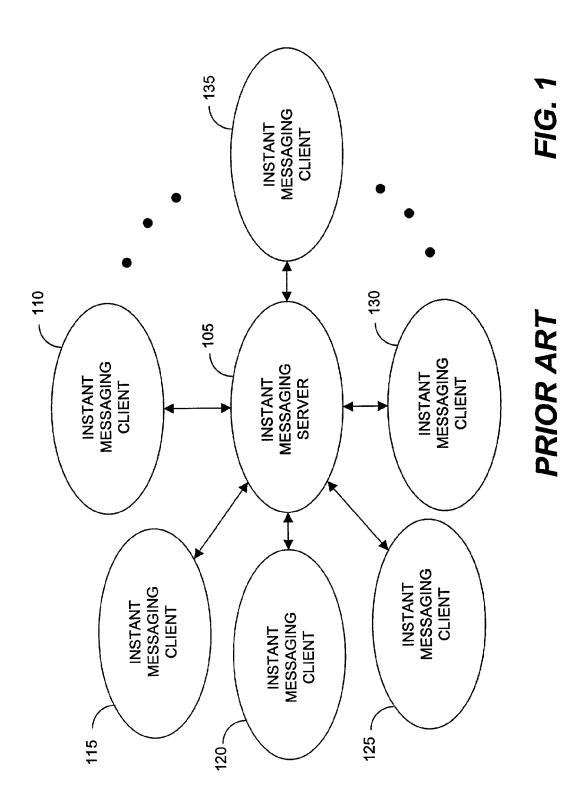
(57)**ABSTRACT**

A computer network system establishes an instant messaging (IM) session between a first user registered with a first ISP (ISP) and at least one user registered with a second ISP when the two ISPs operate using different IM protocols. The ISPs each contain a Local IM server connected to each registered user. Each ISP also contains a Universal IM server that is connected to the distributed network. The Universal IM server includes a database that stores routing information and Presence information for each user registered with the second ISPs and facilitates communications between the first and second user using a universal format, such as XML.

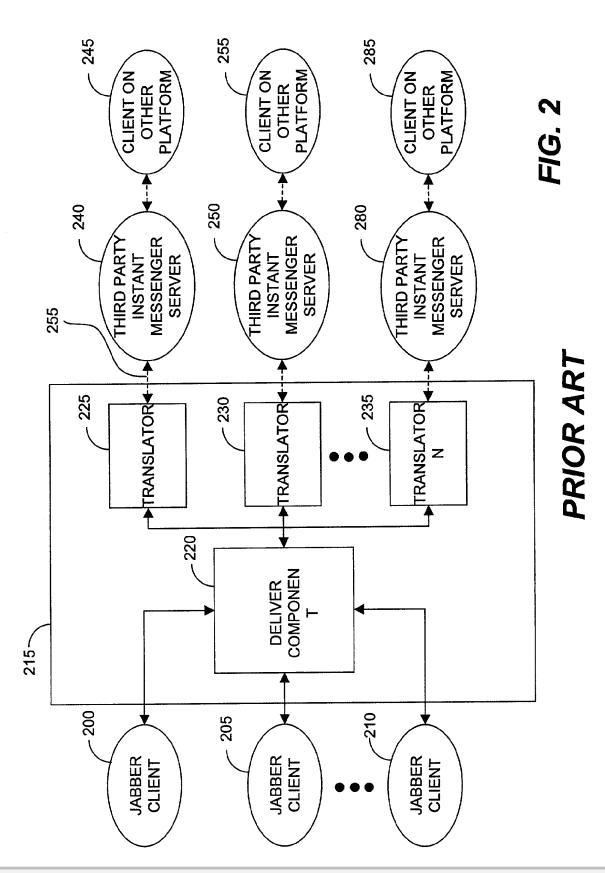
28 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets



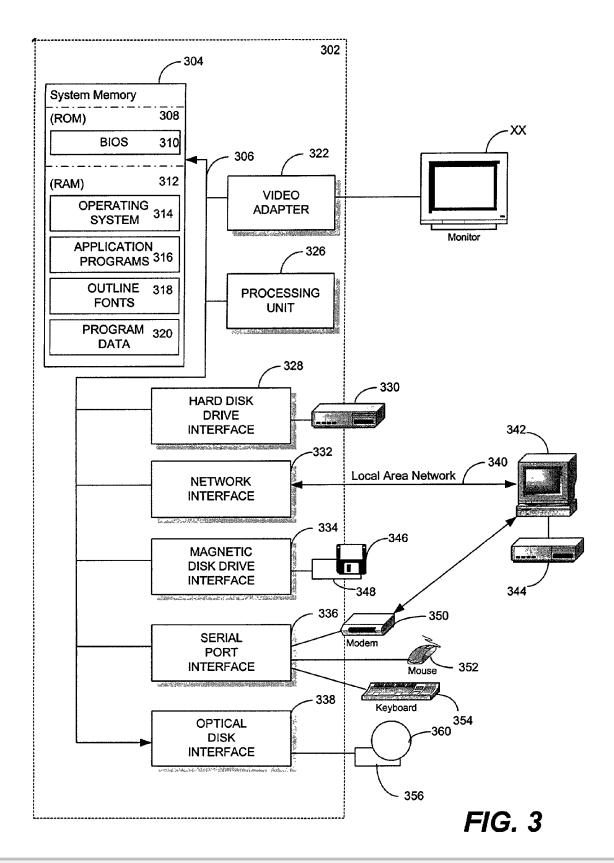




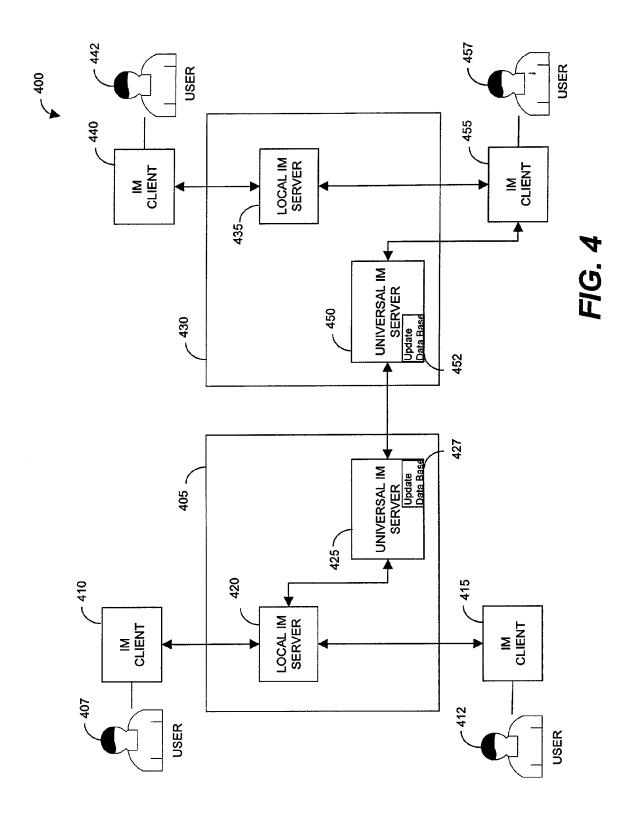












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