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**Burke, II et al.**

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(54) **SYSTEM FOR REGULATING ACCESS TO AND DISTRIBUTING CONTENT IN A NETWORK**

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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 1727 days.

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(51) **Int. Cl.**  
**G06F 15/173** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **709/225**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... **709/225**  
See application file for complete search history.

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*Primary Examiner* — Jeffrey Pwu

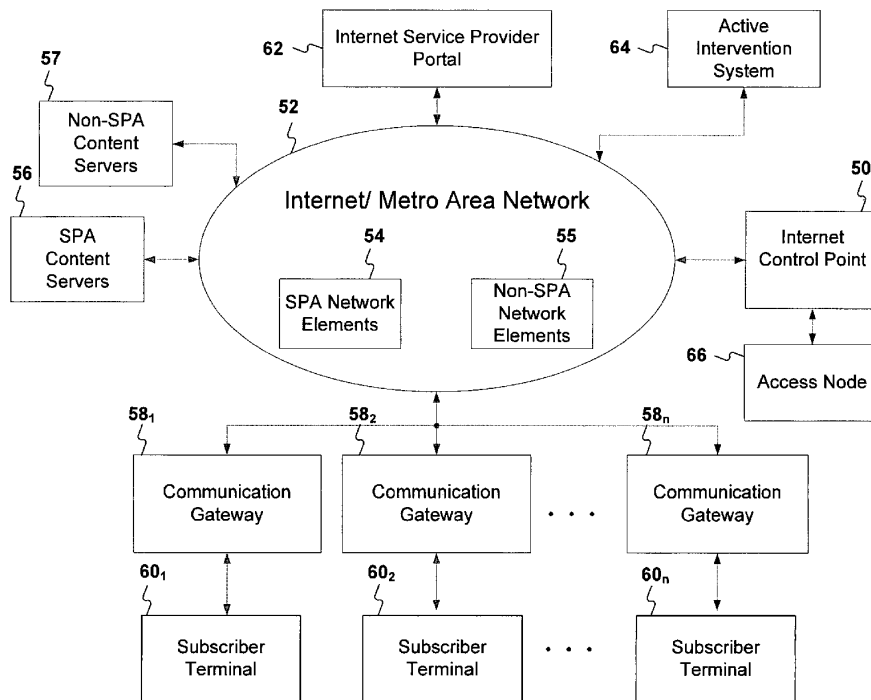
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

There is provided a system for regulating access and managing distribution of content in a network, such as the Internet. The system includes communication gateways, installed at a subscriber site, internet control points, installed remotely, and various network elements installed throughout the network. The communication gateways and network elements operate in conjunction with the internet control points to restrict or allow access to specified Internet sites and to manage efficient distribution of content such as music, video, games, broadband data, real-time audio and voice applications, and software to subscribers.

**50 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets**



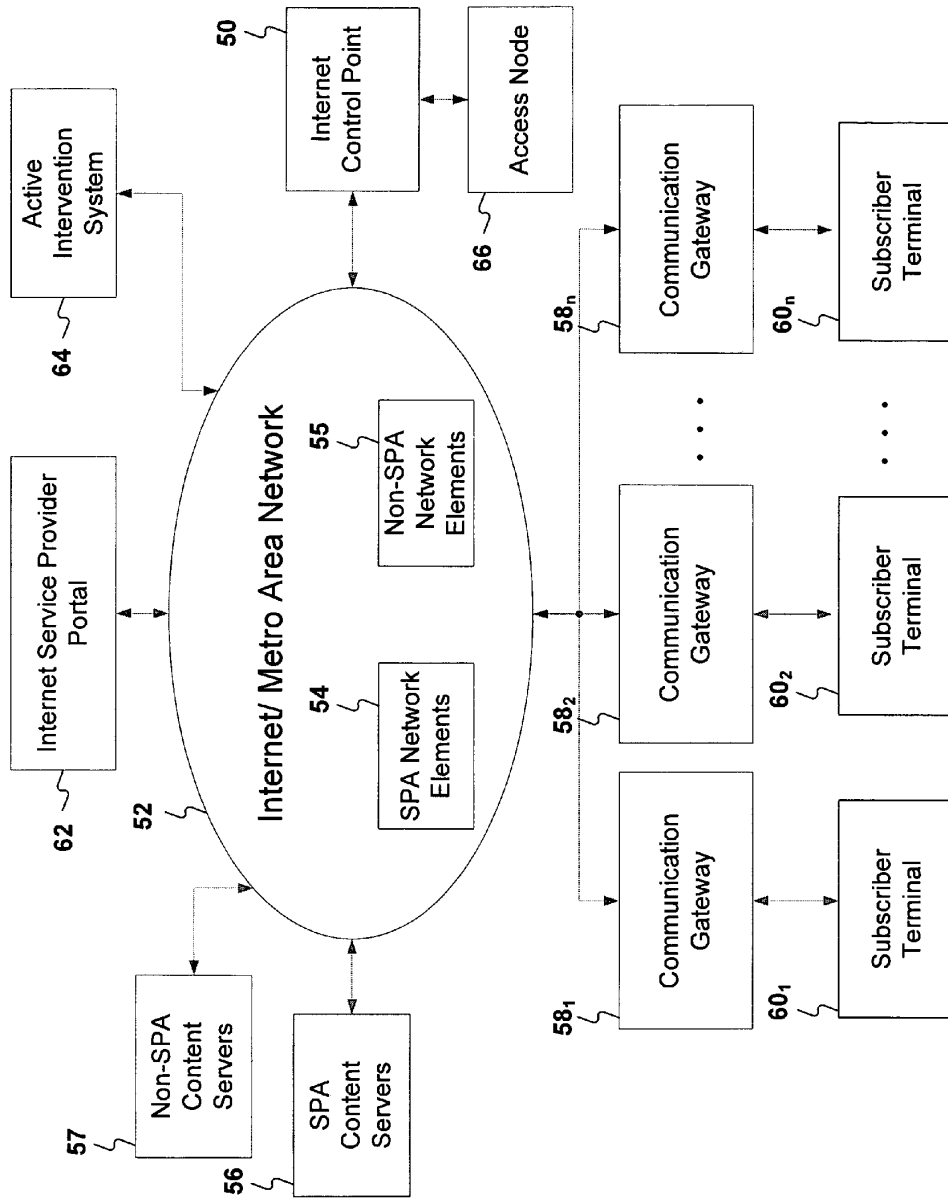


Figure 1

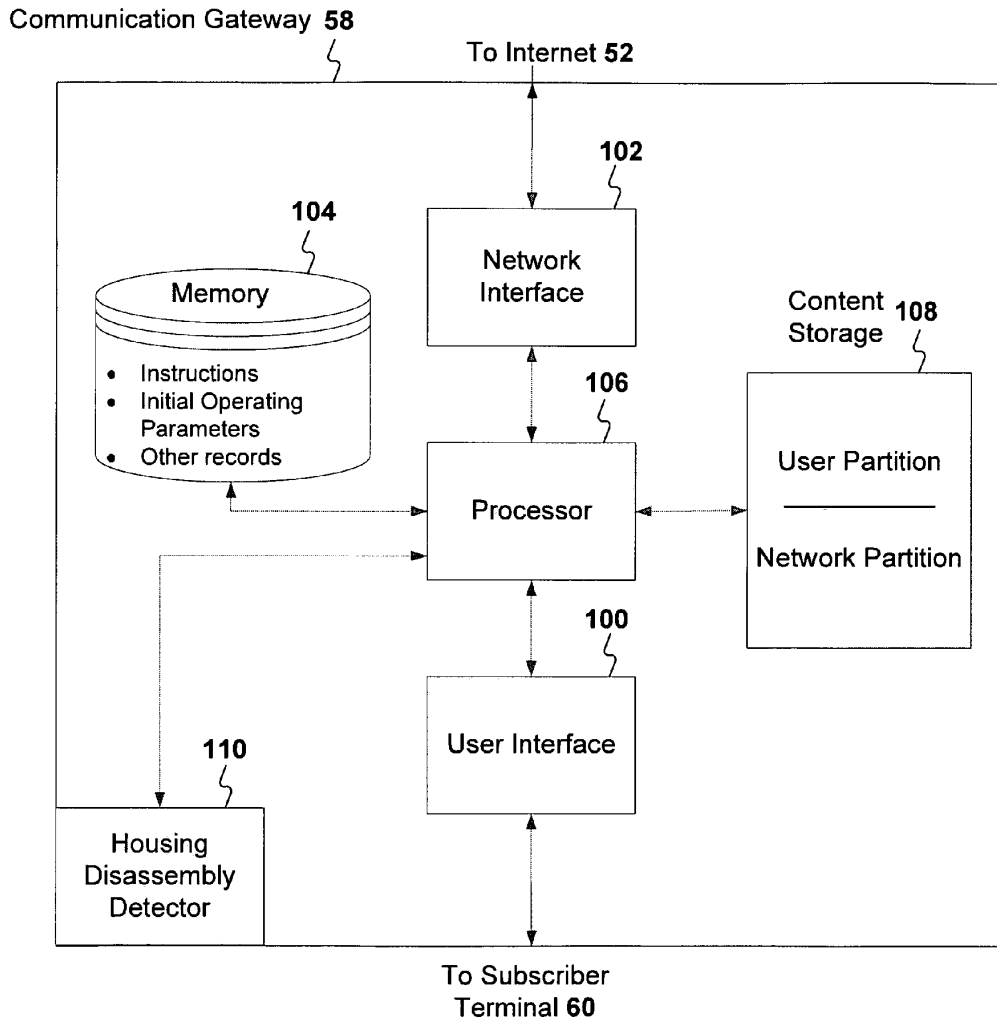


Figure 2

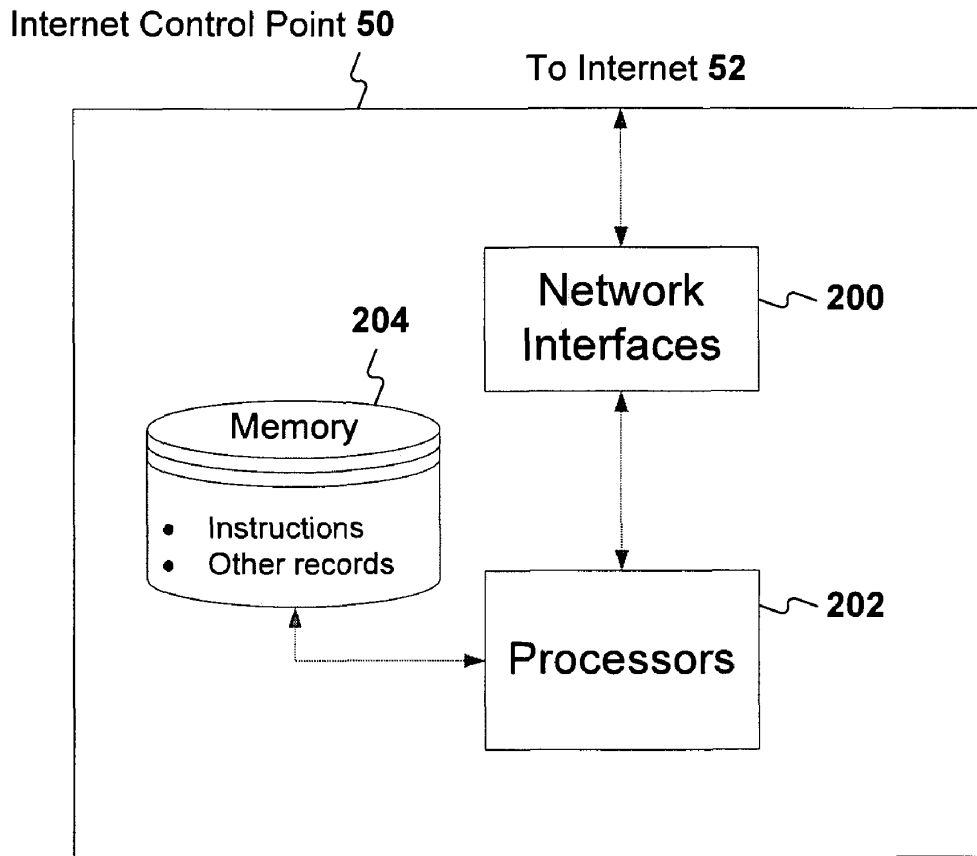


Figure 3

SPA Network Element 54

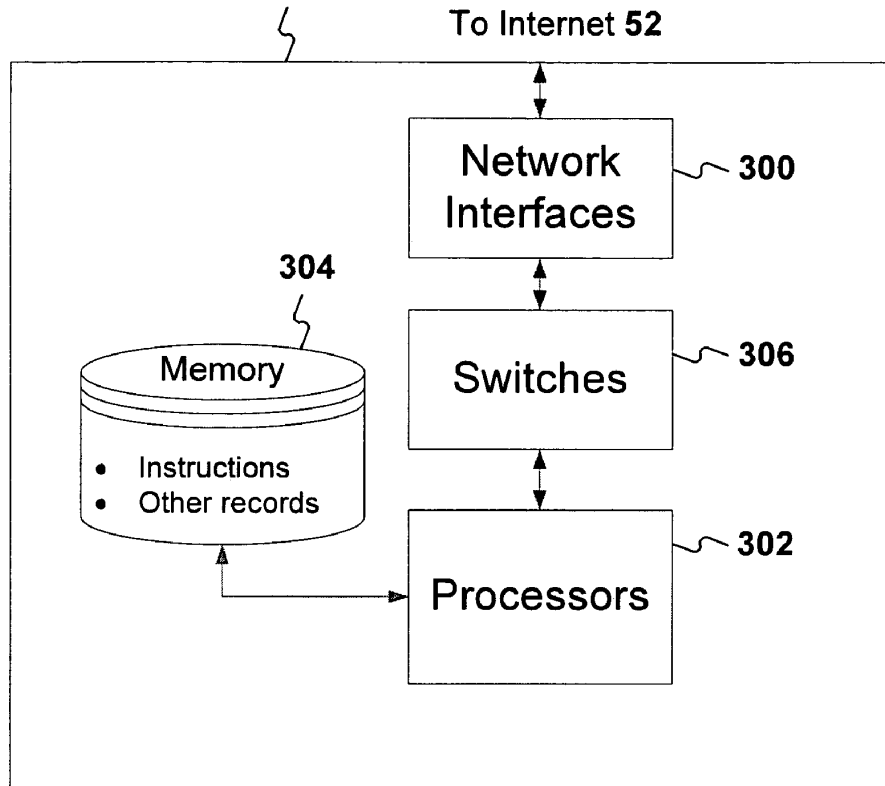


Figure 4

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