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(12) **United States Patent**  
**Nurmann**

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(54) **METHOD OF ESTABLISHING AN INTERNET PROTOCOL NETWORK UTILIZING IP GATEWAY THAT FUNCTIONS AS EITHER OR BOTH DHCP CLIENT AND DHCP SERVER**

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(73) Assignee: **ELSA AG, Aachen (DE)**

(\* ) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **09/425,863**

(22) Filed: **Oct. 23, 1999**

(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Oct. 26, 1998 (DE) ..... 198 49 170

(51) **Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup>** ..... **G06F 15/177**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **709/220; 709/221; 709/222; 709/223; 709/224; 709/225**

(58) **Field of Search** ..... **709/220 225**

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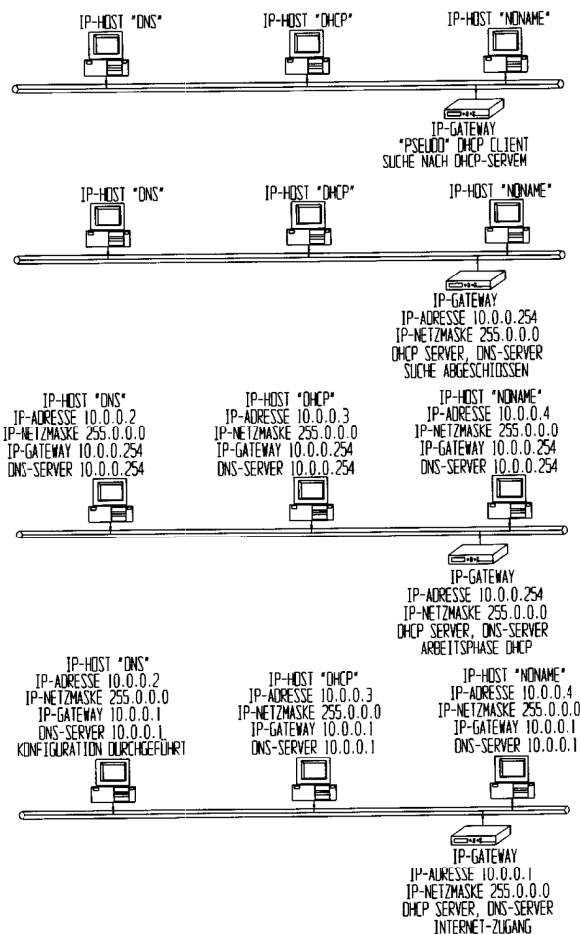
*Primary Examiner*—Nabil El-Hady

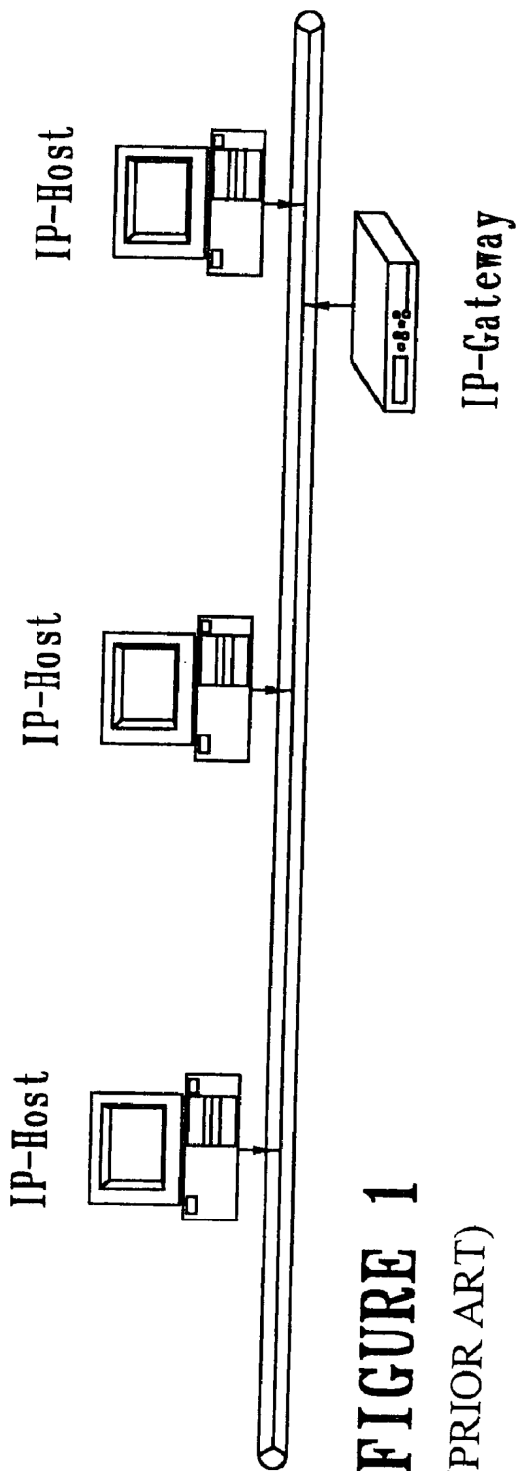
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Christopher Whewell

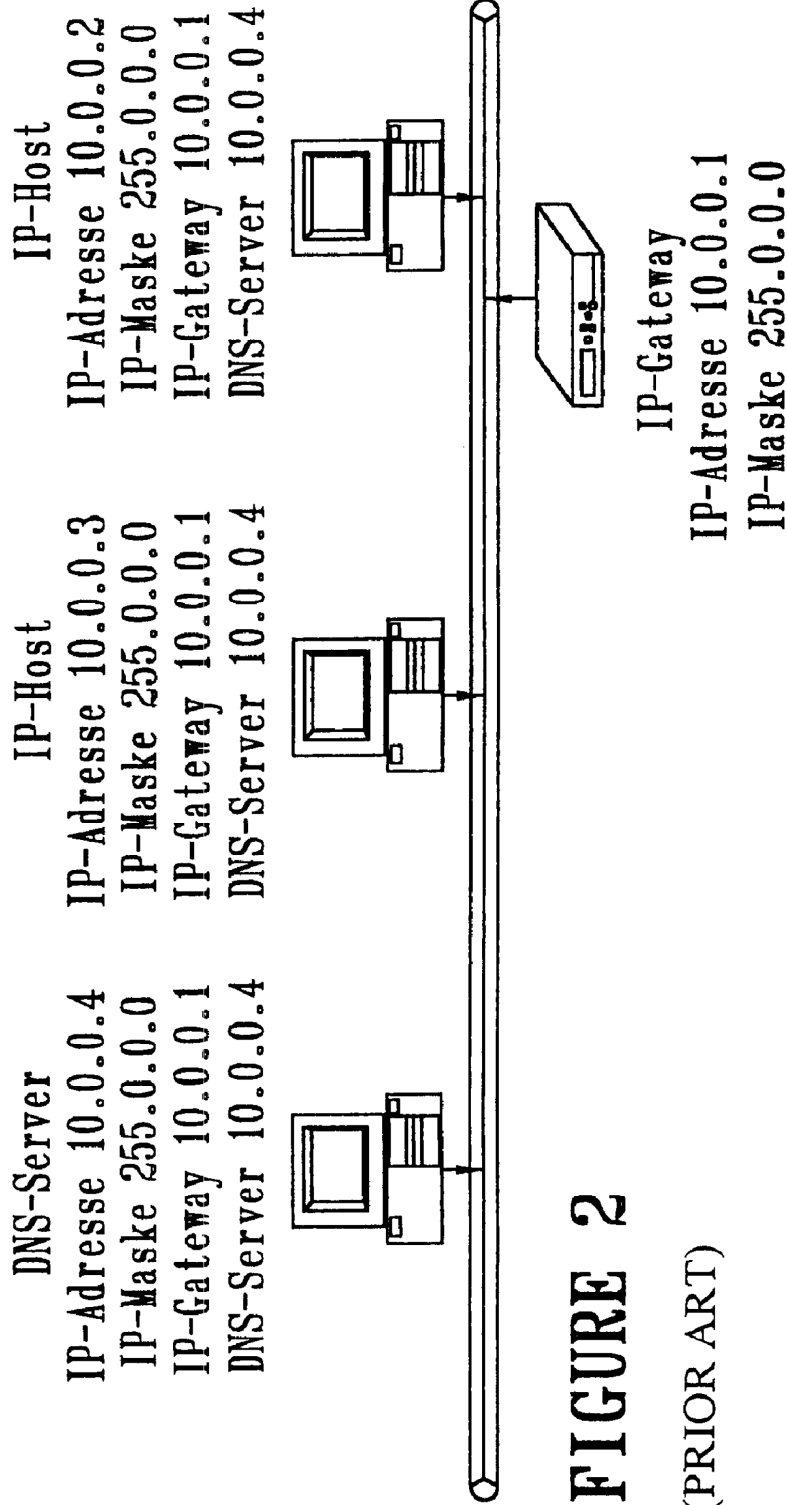
(57) **ABSTRACT**

This invention relates to a method of establishing an Internet Protocol network with several IP hosts and with an IP gateway for connecting the IP network to the Internet. The invention provides a method which no longer requires the knowledge of address mechanisms of the Internet protocol previously necessary for a successful establishment and thus prevents disturbances of errors during the establishment of an Internet Protocol network.

**12 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets**

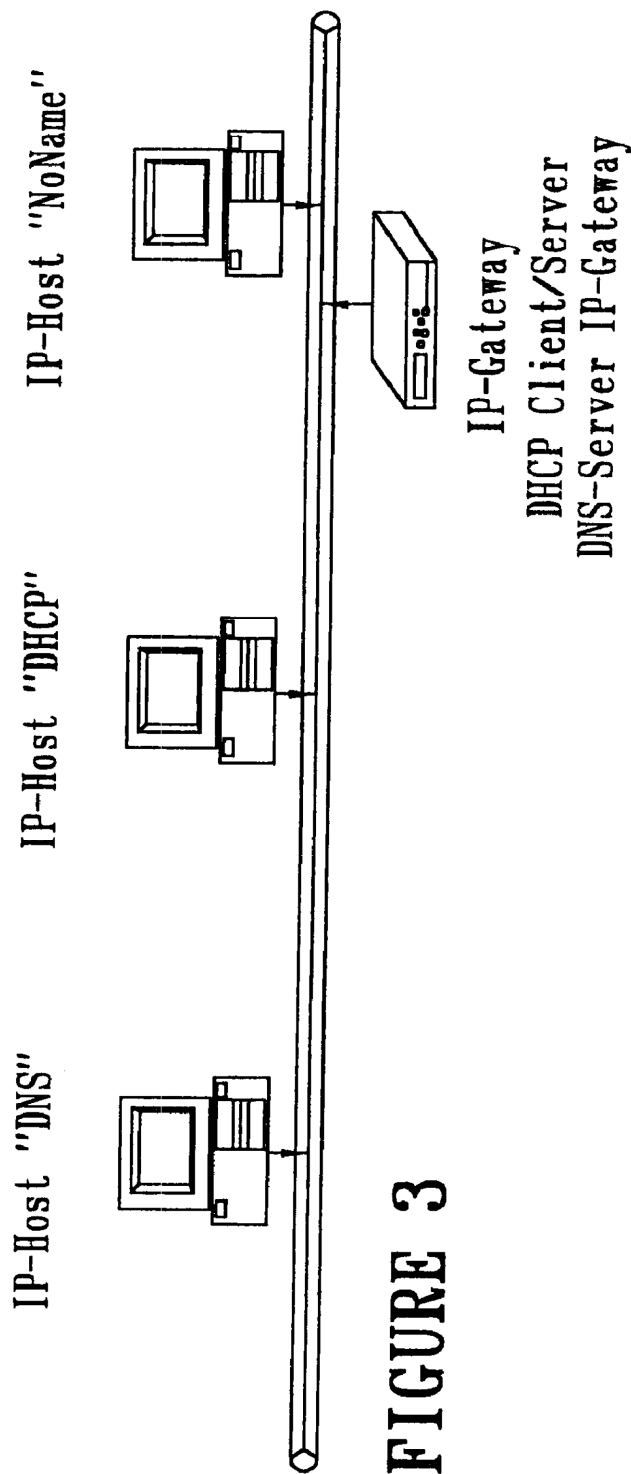






**FIGURE 2**

(PRIOR ART)



**FIGURE 3**

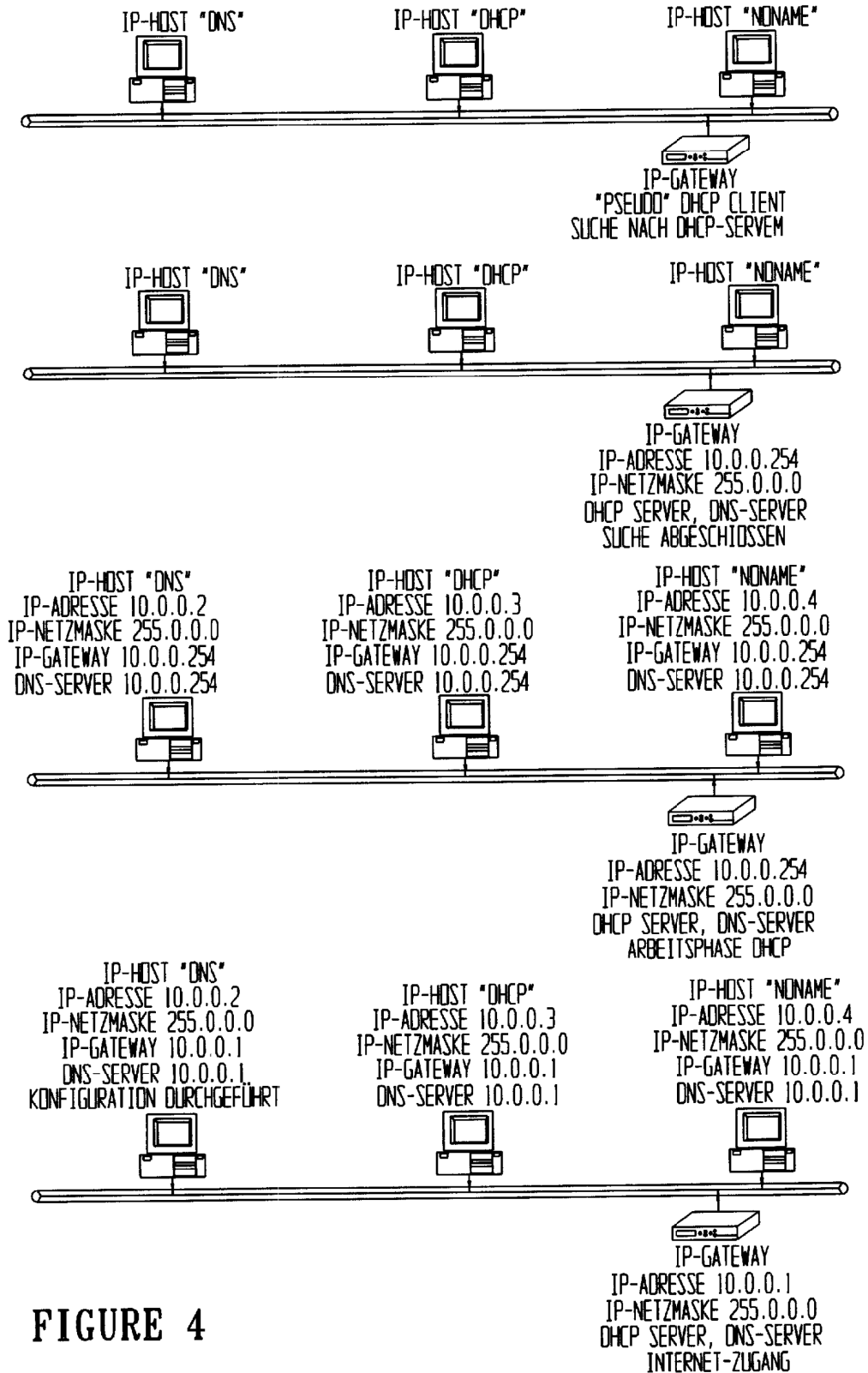


FIGURE 4

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