United States Patent [19]

Jones et al.

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[54] **AUTOMATIC MEDIA SWITCHING APPARATUS AND METHOD**

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[73] Assignee: **Motorola, Inc.**, Schaumburg, Ill.

[*] Notice: This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2).

[21] Appl. No.: **08/827,014**

[22] Filed: **Mar. 25, 1997**

[51] **Int. Cl.^{7}** **H04M 11/00**
[52] **U.S. Cl.** **370/401**; 370/445; 370/463
[58] **Field of Search** 370/401, 402, 370/522, 463, 445, 338; 455/556, 557

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Primary Examiner—Chi H. Pham
Assistant Examiner—Frank Duong
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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A media switching apparatus automatically switches a user device between wired and wireless service mediums of communications networks. The switching apparatus includes a protocol stack having a network layer, a logical link control, a first set of lower layers specific to a wired service medium and a second set of lower layers specific to a wireless service medium. A selector is responsive to the availability of a wired service medium for selecting the first set of lower layers and is further responsive to the non-availability of a wired service medium and the availability of a wireless service medium for selecting the second set of lower layers.

24 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets
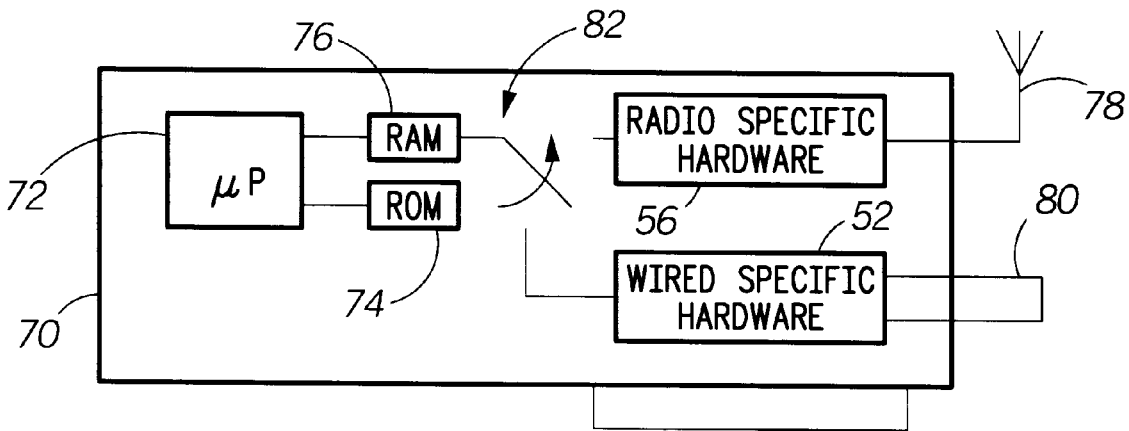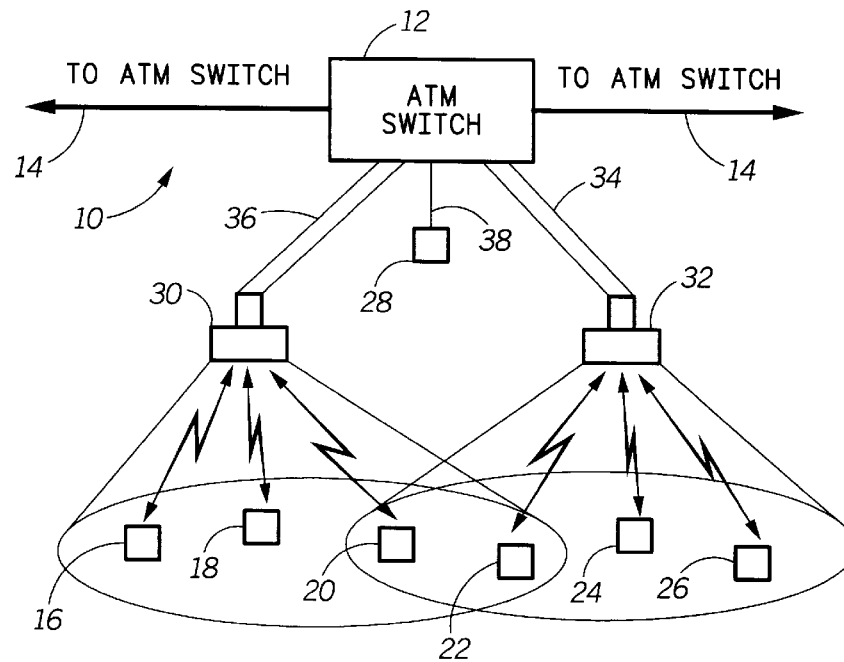
FIG. 1
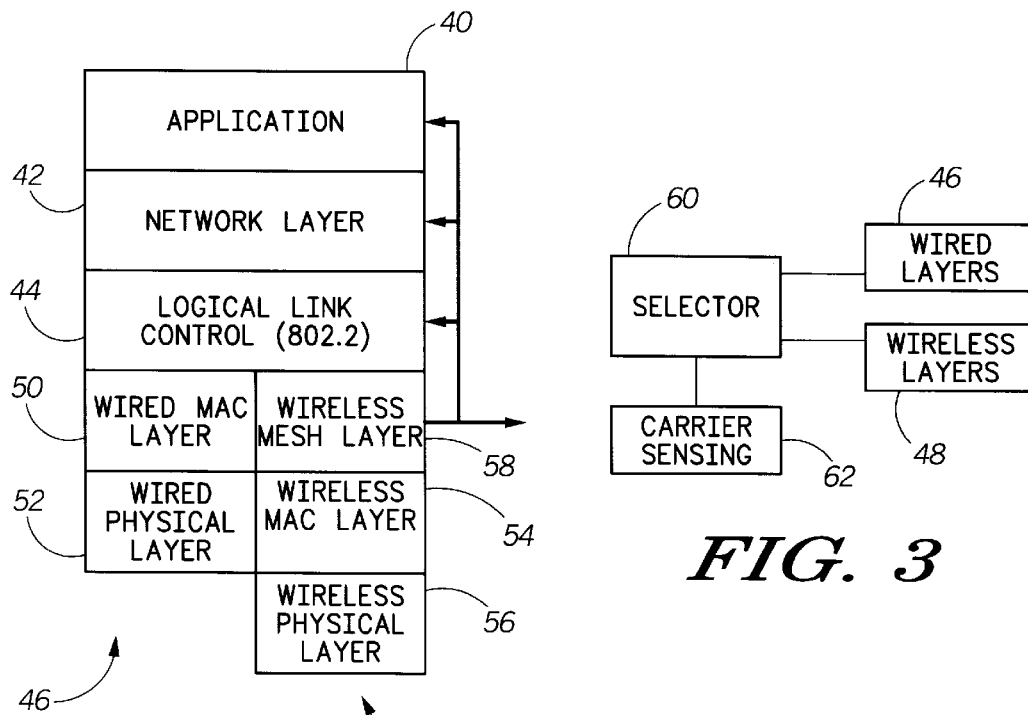
FIG. 2

FIG. 3
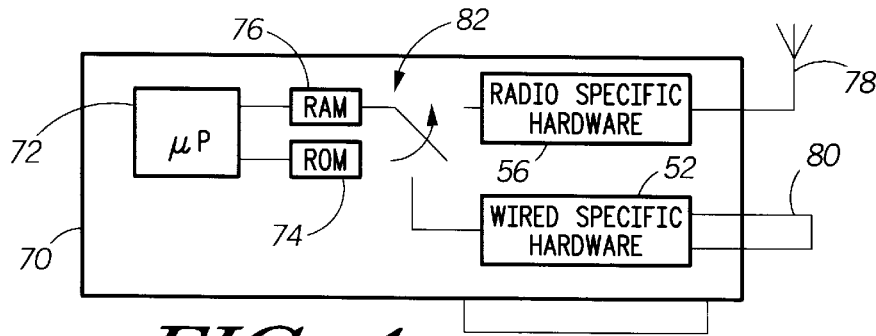
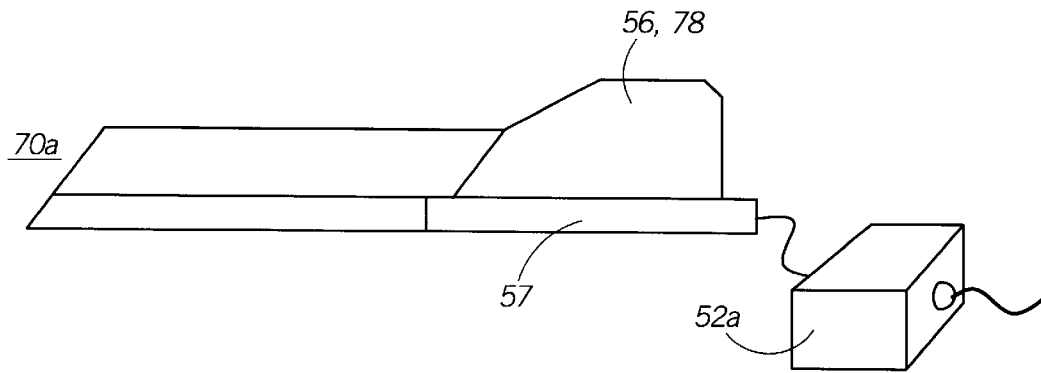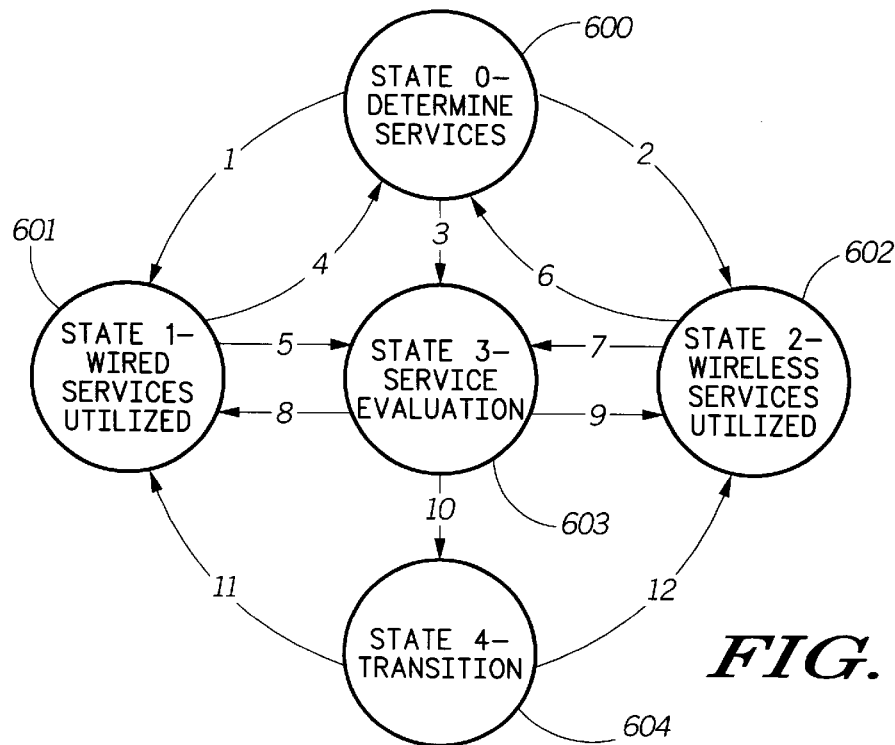*FIG. 4*

FIG. 5

FIG. 6

FIG. 7

FIG. 8

DOCKET ALARM
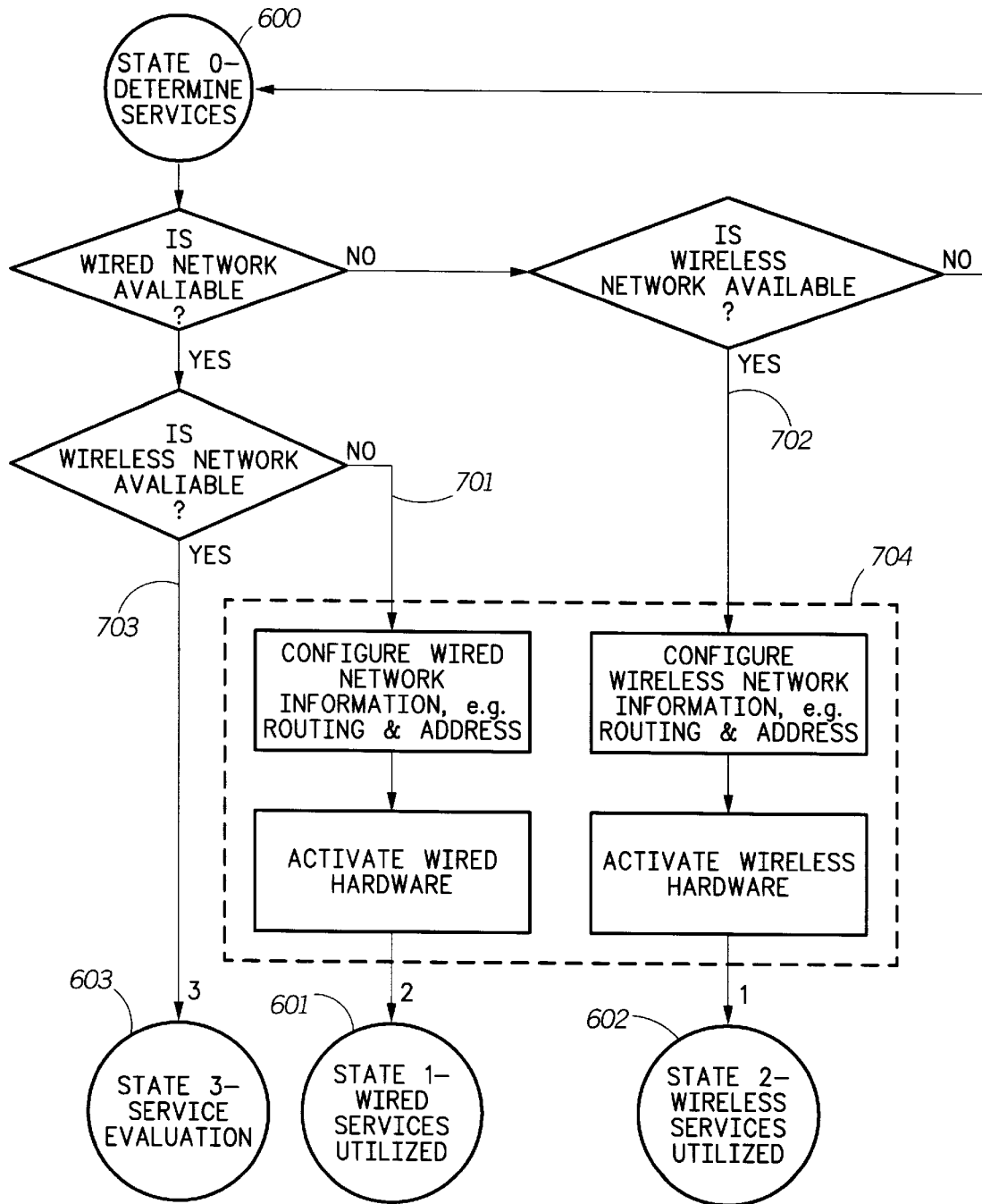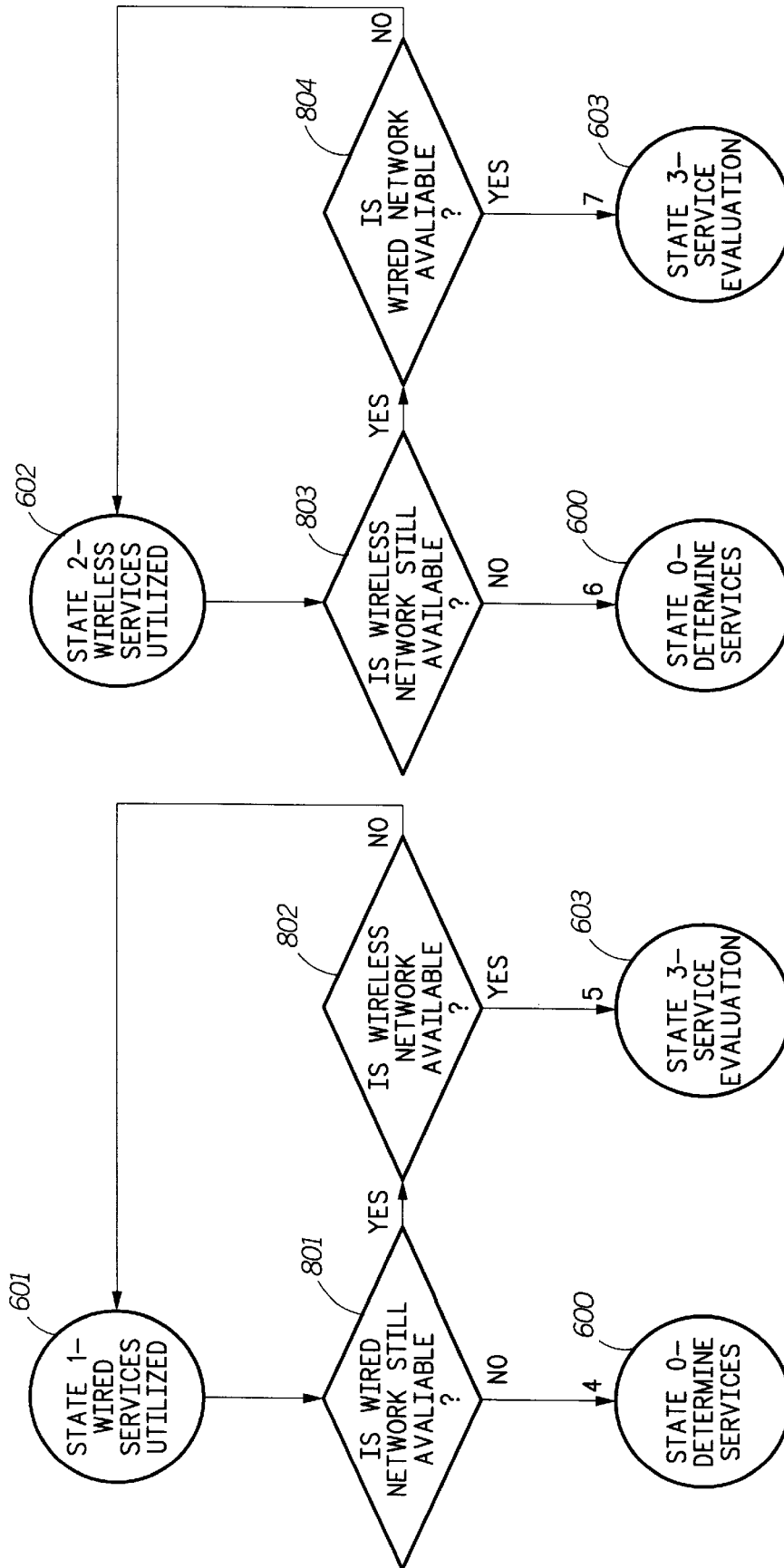
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