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(12) **United States Patent**  
**Jewett et al.**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 8,271,606 B2**  
(45) **Date of Patent:** **\*Sep. 18, 2012**

(54) **NETWORK-BASED STORAGE SYSTEM  
CAPABLE OF ALLOCATING STORAGE  
PARTITIONS TO HOSTS**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... 709/214; 709/215; 711/114

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... 709/223-231,  
709/212-217, 239; 711/114

See application file for complete search history.

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(73) Assignee: **Summit Data Systems LLC**, Frisco, TX (US)

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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 401 days.

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This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

(Continued)

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*Assistant Examiner* — Sargon Nano

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Greenblum & Bernstein, P.L.C.

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**Related U.S. Application Data**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

(60) Division of application No. 11/683,944, filed on Mar. 8, 2007, now Pat. No. 7,428,581, which is a continuation of application No. 09/927,894, filed on Aug. 10, 2001, now Pat. No. 7,392,291.

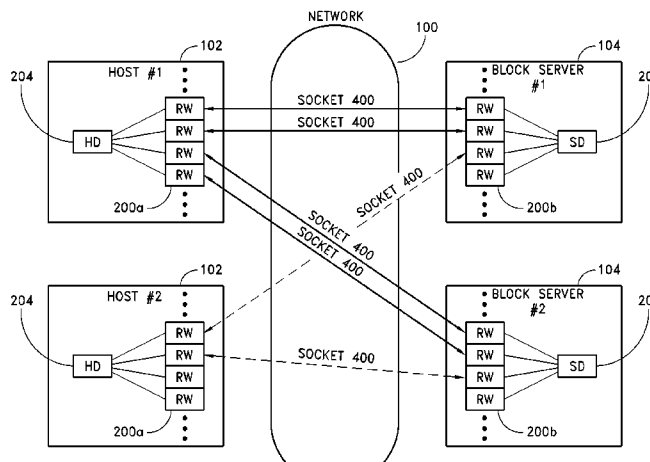
A network-based storage system comprises one or more block-level storage servers that connect to, and provide disk storage for, one or more host computers. In one embodiment, the system is capable of subdividing the storage space of an array of disk drives into multiple storage partitions, and allocating the partitions to host computers on a network. A storage partition allocated to a particular host computer may appear as local disk drive storage to user-level processes running on the host computer.

(60) Provisional application No. 60/244,664, filed on Aug. 11, 2000.

(51) **Int. Cl.**  
**G06F 15/167**  
**G06F 13/00**

(2006.01)  
(2006.01)

**16 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets**



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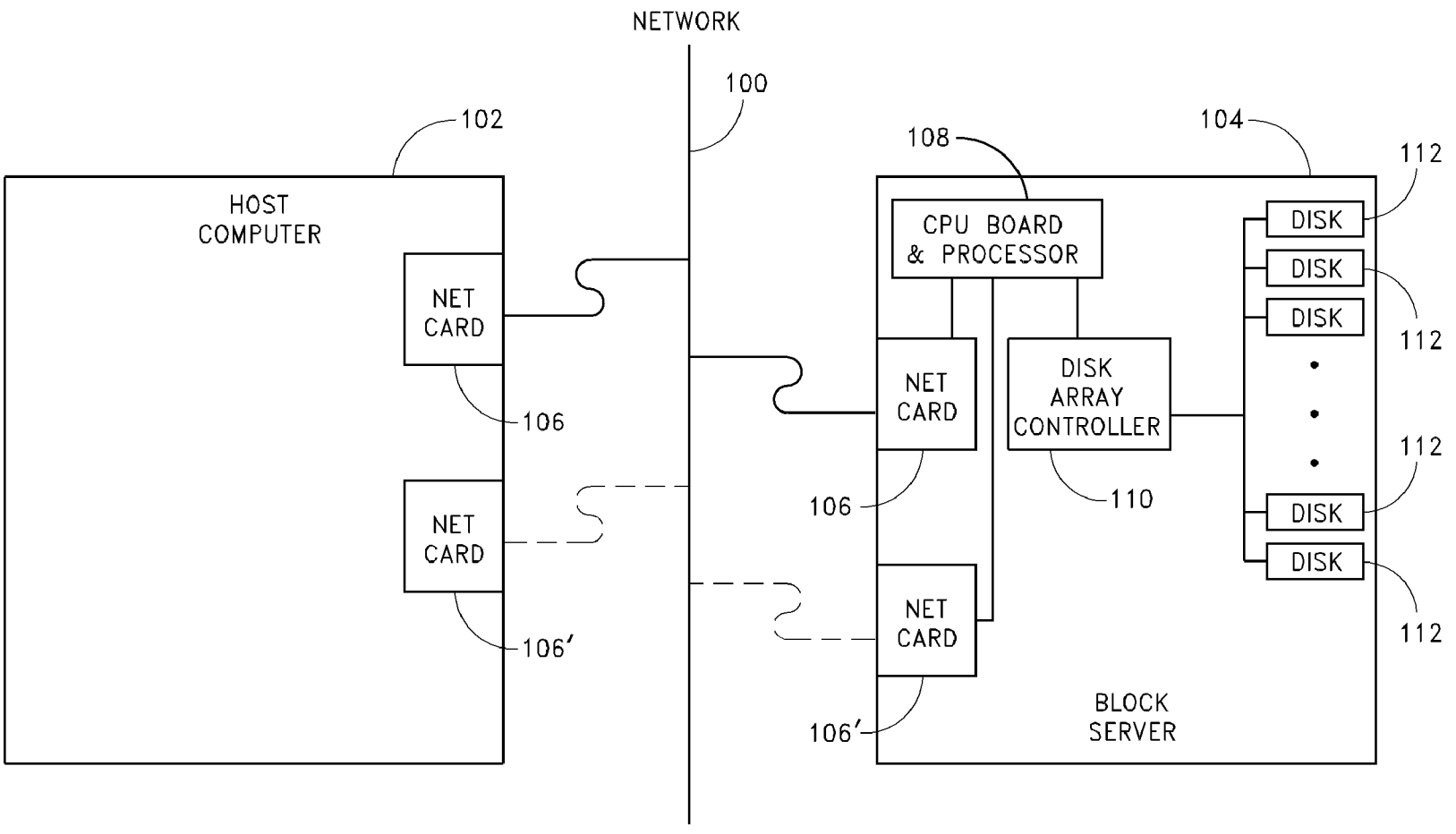


FIG. 1

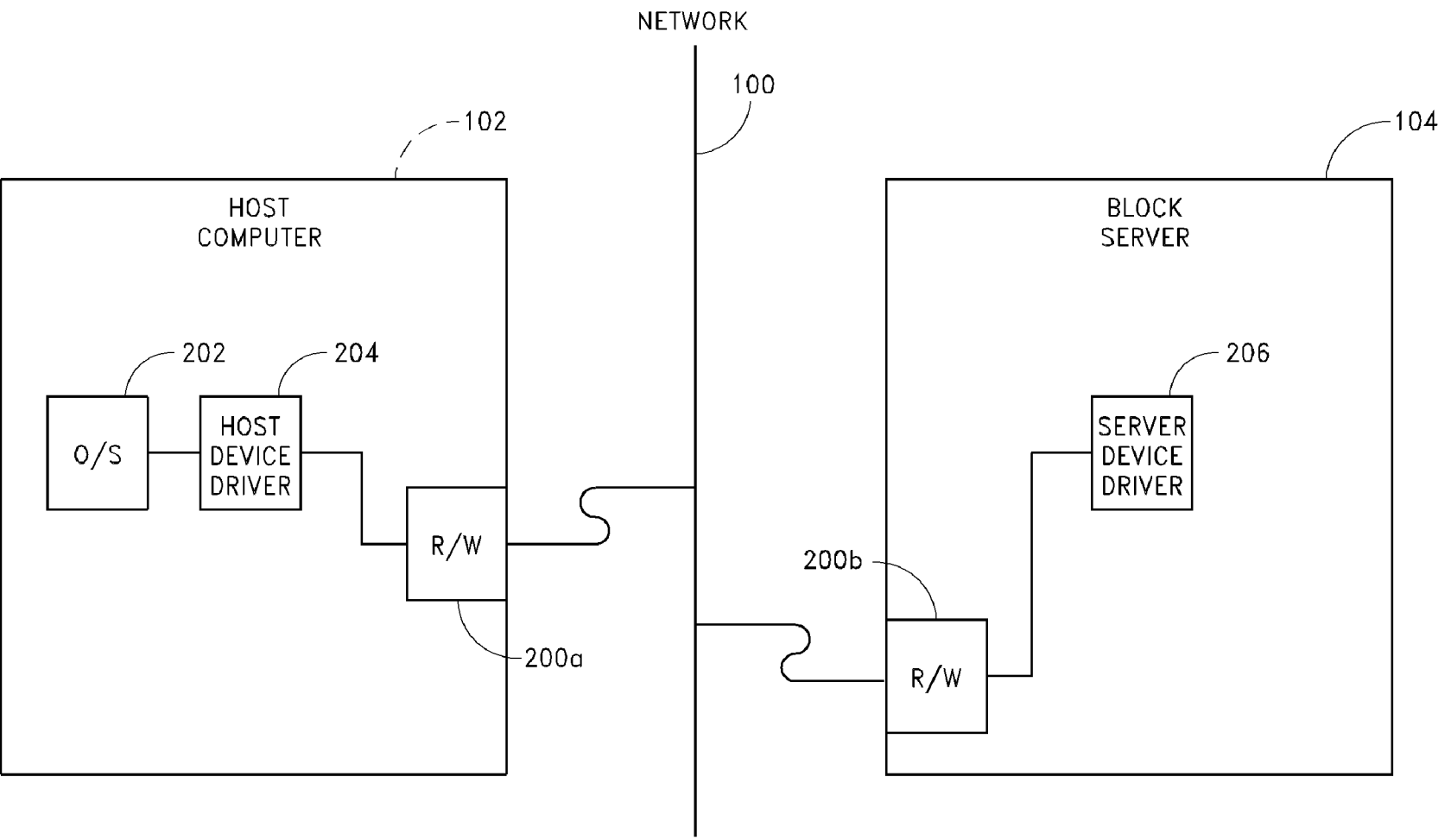


FIG. 2

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