



US006230194B1

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

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 6,230,194 B1**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **May 8, 2001**

(54) **UPGRADING A SECURE NETWORK INTERFACE**
(75) Inventors: **Jean-Marc Frailong**, Palo Alto;
Charles A. Price, San Jose; **Joseph John Tardo**, Palo Alto, all of CA (US)

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(73) Assignee: **Freigate Corporation**, Sunnyvale, CA (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 0 days.

Primary Examiner—Saleh Najjar

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Blakely, Sokoloff, Taylor & Zafman

(21) Appl. No.: **08/897,214**

(22) Filed: **Jul. 14, 1997**

(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **G06F 15/177**

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

(58) **Field of Search** **709/221, 222, 709/220**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

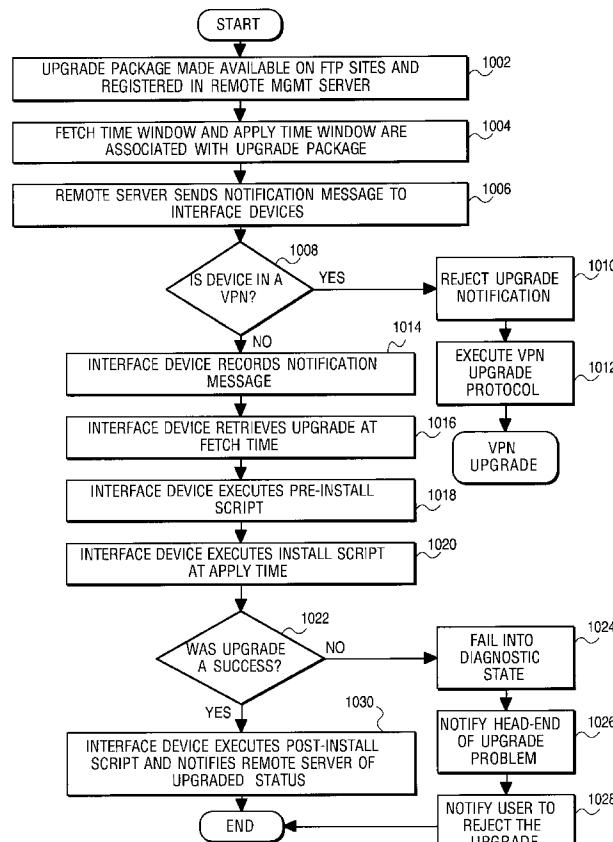
The present invention discloses a system for upgrading the software contents of a network interface device connecting a client computer system to an external network. The network interface device is configured for the client system by automated procedures and protocols initiated from a remote server. Software programs within the network interface device provide transparent communication between the client computer system and services available on the external network. Similar software programs and a configuration database within the network interface device provide transparent communication between the client computer system and the remote server.

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19 Claims, 15 Drawing Sheets



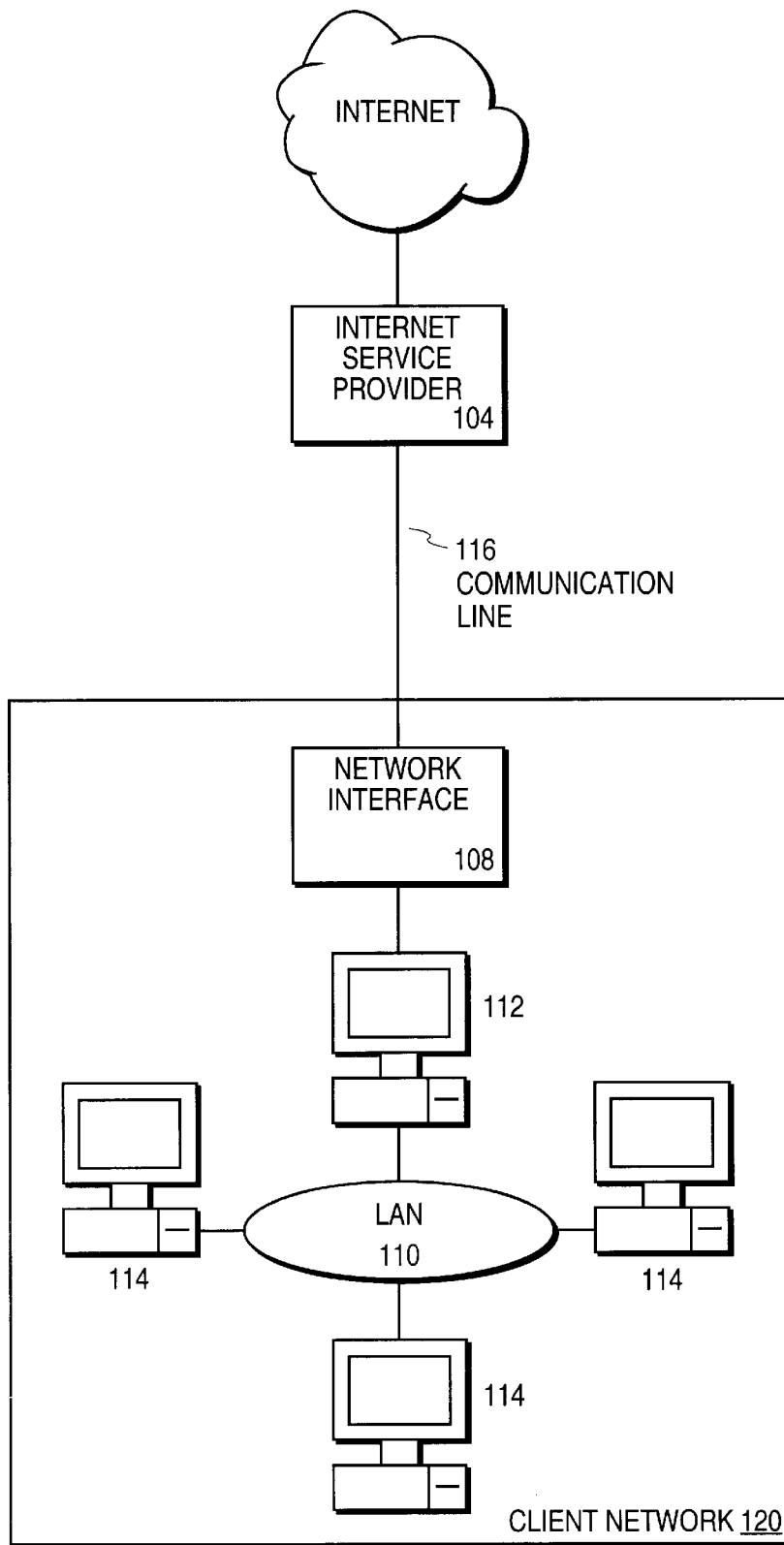


FIG. 1 (PRIOR ART)

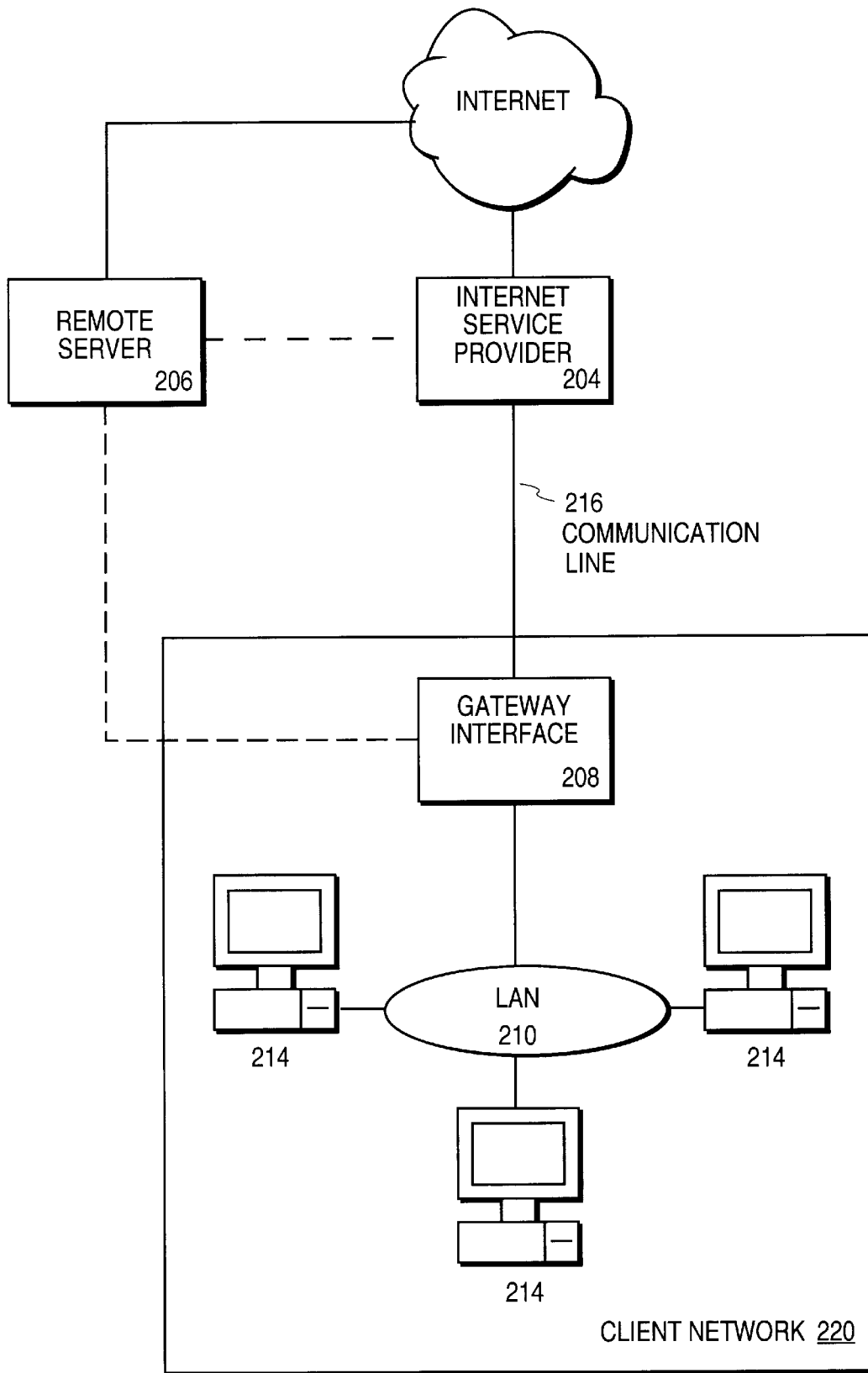


FIG. 2

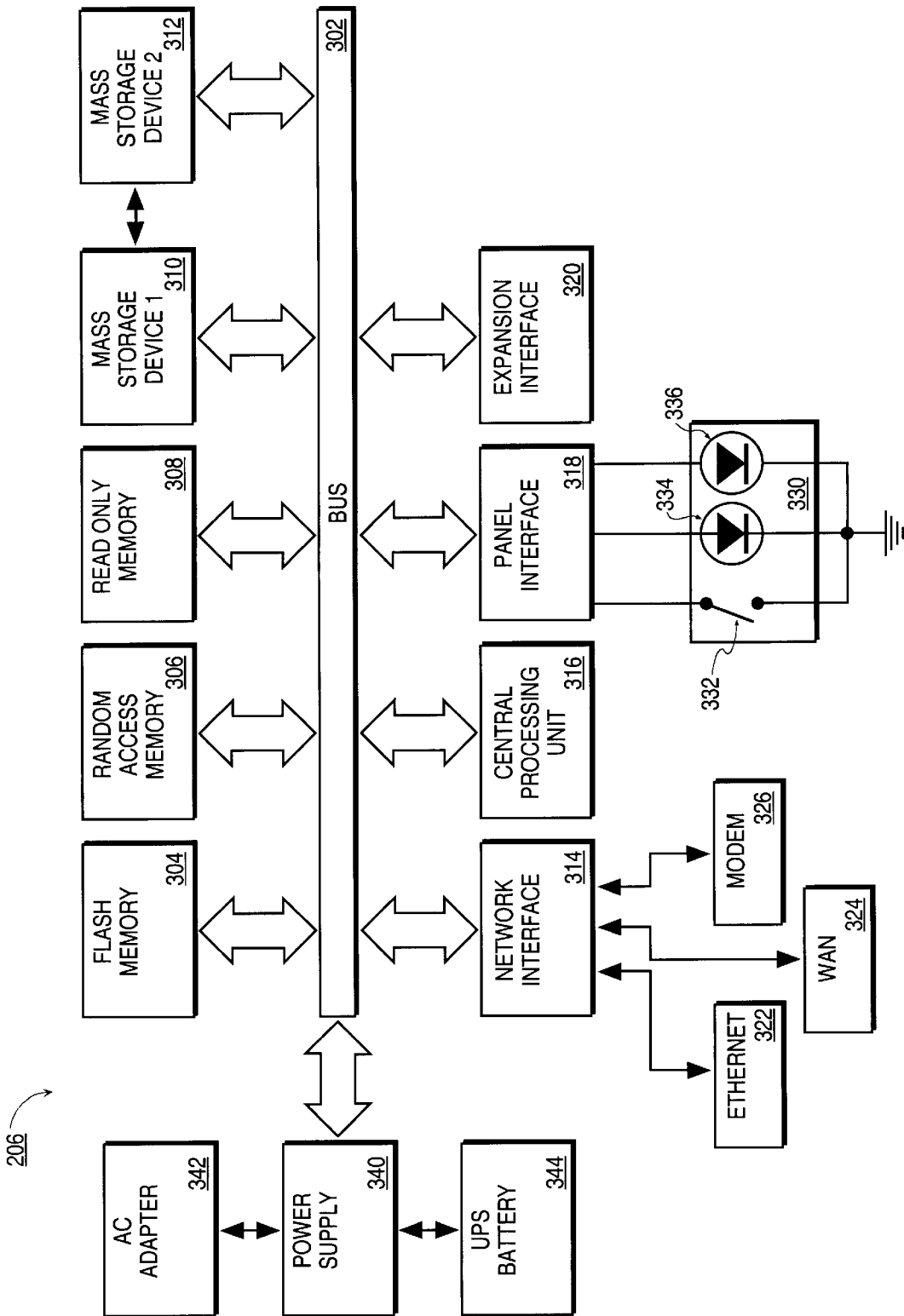


FIG. 3

400 →

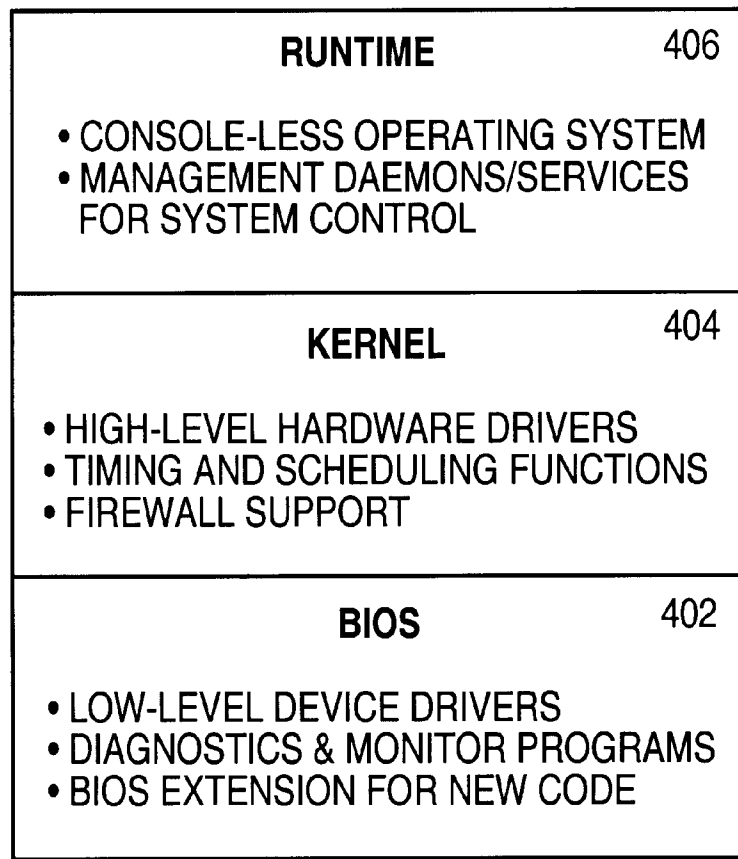


FIG. 4

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