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- (71) **Applicant:** **LANDIS+GYR TECHNOLOGY, INC.**
[US/US]; 30000 Mill Creek Avenue, Suite 100, Alpharetta,
Georgia 30022 (US).
- (72) **Inventors:** **VALL, Peter**; 14727 Inglewood Dr, Baxter,
Minnesota 56425 (US). **NANDAKUMAR, SathishKu-**
mar; 1312 Preakness Dr, Alpharetta, Georgia 30022 (US).
- (74) **Agent:** **HARRIS, Christopher P.** et al.; 950 Main Avenue,
Suite 710, Cleveland, Ohio 44113 (US).
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(54) **Title:** METHOD OF EFFICIENTLY ROUTING MULTICAST TRAFFIC

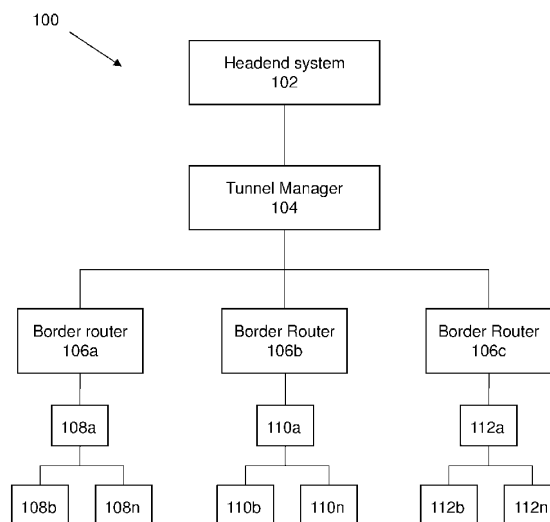


Fig. 1

(57) **Abstract:** A method of routing Internet Protocol version 6, IPV6, multicast traffic in a utility metering system. The method comprises creating tunnels between each of a plurality of devices of the utility metering system on a first network and at least one device of the utility metering system on a second network to allow two way communication therebetween, wherein each of the plurality of devices on the first network facilitate communication to at least one multicast group; generating and assigning a unique network prefix to each of the plurality of devices on the first network; prepending to each unique network prefix, a multicast prefix, to generate a unique device multicast prefix for each of the plurality of devices on the first network comprising only the unique network prefix and the multicast prefix and not a group ID identifying the at least one multicast group; populating a multicast routing table using the unique device multicast prefixes of each of the plurality of devices on the first network to allow communication routes between

[Continued on next page]

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- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

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each of the plurality of devices on the first network and the at least one device on the second network to be established; and using the multicast routing table to route multicast traffic from the at least one device on the second network a relevant one of the plurality of devices on the first network.