PCT WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6 : G06F 17/60 — A1

(11) International Publication Number: WO 00/33229

(43) International Publication Date: 8 June 2000 (08.06.00)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/28763

(22) International Filing Date: 3 December 1999 (03.12.99)

(30) Priority Data:
60/111,008 4 December 1998 (04.12.98) US
09/394,004 10 September 1999 (10.09.99) US

(63) Related by Continuation (CON) or Continuation-in-Part (CIP) to Earlier Application
US 09/394,004 (CON)
Filed on 9 October 1999 (09.10.99)

(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: APOGEE NETWORKS, INC. [US/US]; 365 West Passaic Street, Rochelle Park, NJ 07662–3017 (US).

(72) Inventors; and
(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: HERNANDEZ, Milton, B. [DM/US]; 1D Colonial Ct., River Edge, NJ 07661 (US). KUSNETSOV, Dmitry [US/US]; 514 86th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11209 (US). TAPIA, Pablo, E. [US/US]; 297 Warwick Avenue, Maywood, NJ 07666 (US).

(74) Agents: WALPERT, Gary, A. et al.; Fish & Richardson P.C., 225 Franklin Street, Boston, MA 02110–2804 (US).

(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published
With international search report.

(54) Title: ACCOUNTING AND BILLING BASED ON NETWORK USE

(57) Abstract

A method and system determining billing information for use of a network (10). For a data transmission path (12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22) between a pair of nodes locations (A, B, C, D) the price for the transmission depends, inter alia, on the amount of data transported and the price of using a combination of one or more of the paths (12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22) of the network (10). The method collects traffic data (32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 40, 42) for data sent over one or more paths (12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22) of network (10). Creates a virtual path (9), which is a combination of one or more paths (12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22) of network (10), selects a determined price for the virtual path (9) used to transport data between node locations (A, B, C, D). Then determines the cost of transporting the data between node locations (A, B, C, D) based on amount of traffic and the determined price. The determined cost of transporting data between node locations (A, B, C, D) is then apportioned among the users of the network that transported the data.

