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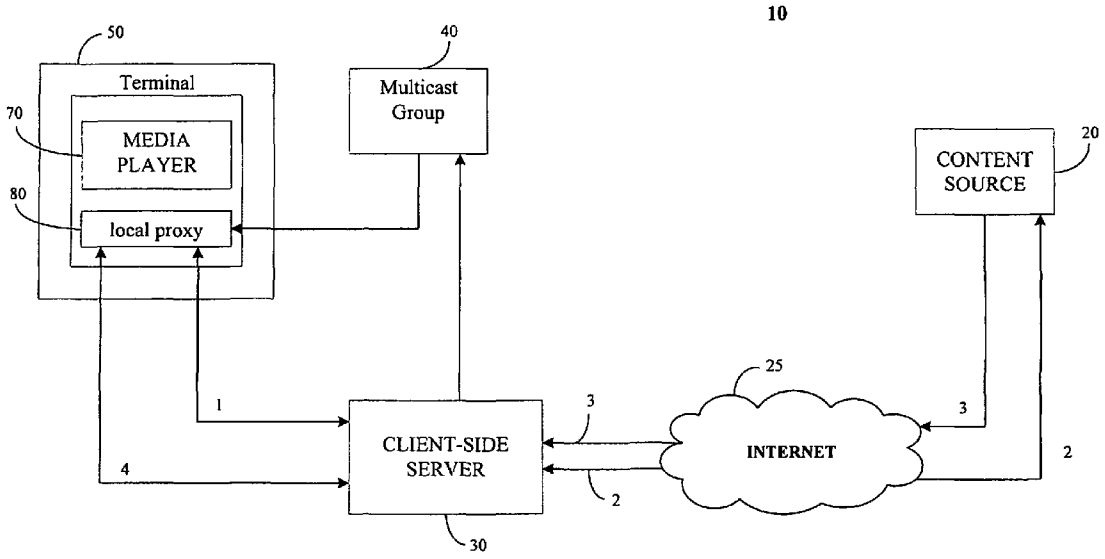
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(54) Title: NETWORK ARCHITECTURE FOR DATA TRANSMISSION




(57) Abstract: A content distribution network with client side multicasting properties that operates with a reduced bandwidth is provided. The requested content, such as multimedia content, is provided in a format suitable for transmission over existing unicast communication links and is then changed to a multicast format for local distribution. This allows an application provider to transmit a single unicast stream of content to a client-side media server in a local area network (LAN) and then distribute it to multiple interested users within the LAN using a multicasting transmission format. This significantly reduces bandwidth requirements by providing a single unicast transmission to a LAN rather than supply each user within the LAN with a dedicated content stream.

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