9904206-1
IPO5

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International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6 : G06F 3/06 | A1

(11) International Publication Number: **WO 99/38067**

(43) International Publication Date: 29 July 1999 (29.07.99)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/01282

(22) International Filing Date: 20 January 1999 (20.01.99)

(30) Priority Data:
09/009,945 21 January 1998 (21.01.98) US

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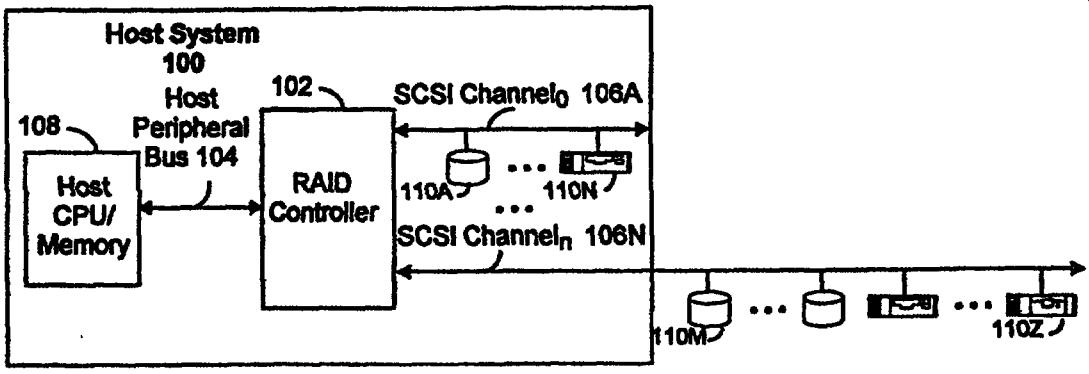
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(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, 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.
Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: AN APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR AUTOMATIC CONFIGURATION OF A RAID CONTROLLER



(57) Abstract

The present invention pertains to an apparatus and method for automatically configuring disk drives connected to a RAID controller. The automatic configuration mechanism is able to generate a full configuration of the disk drives connected to a RAID controller both at system initialization or bootup and at runtime. The mechanism uses a robust criteria to configure the disk drives which allows the drives to be configured in accordance with one or more RAID levels and which considers any existing configurations. The automatic configuration mechanism is advantageous since it eliminates user interaction, time, and knowledge often required to configure disk drives connected to a RAID controller.