

ABSTRACT**APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR SCHEDULING ONE OR MORE DATA
ACQUISITION REQUESTS**

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An apparatus for scheduling a prioritised data acquisition request of a plant asset management system comprises an execution module configured to schedule the prioritised data acquisition request in dependence of a condition of a network over which the plant asset management system communicates with a field device. A second

10 apparatus schedules data acquisition requests in time slots by determining whether a number of the data acquisition requests is greater than a quota for a first time slot. Requests are scheduled in the first time slot up to the level of the quota. The remaining requests are scheduled for execution in a second time slot. A third apparatus comprises a scheduler module which determines a least-occupied time slot for scheduling a data

15 acquisition request for execution therein.

Figure 2.



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