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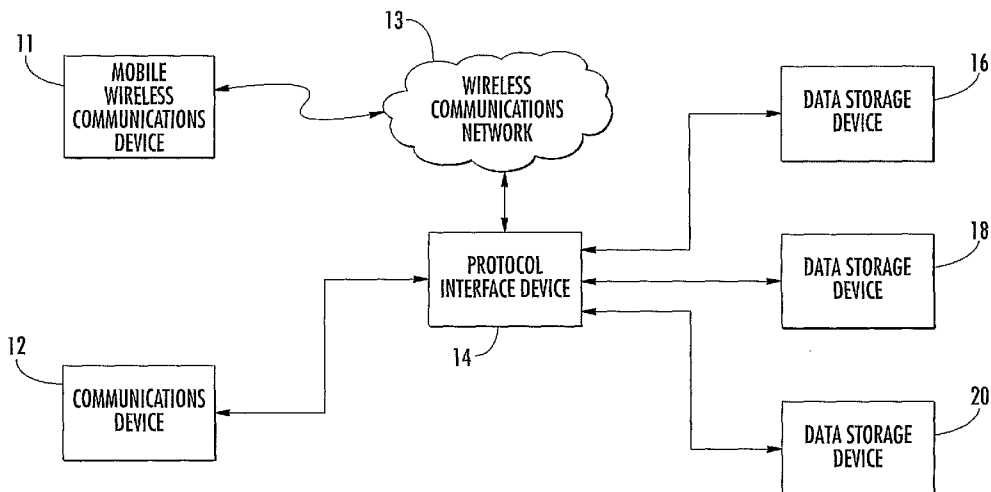
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(54) Title: COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM INCLUDING PROTOCOL INTERFACE DEVICE PROVIDING ENHANCED OPERATING PROTOCOL SELECTION FEATURES AND RELATED METHODS



(57) Abstract: A communications system may include data storage devices each using at least one of a plurality of different operating protocols. Further, at least one of the data storage devices may operate using multiple operating protocols. The system may also include mobile wireless communications devices for accessing the at least one data storage device, and each may use at least one of the plurality of operating protocols. Moreover, the system may further include a protocol interface device. The protocol interface device may include a front-end proxy module for communicating with the plurality of mobile wireless communications devices using respective operating protocols. The protocol interface may also include a protocol engine module for communicating with the data storage devices using respective operating protocols. The protocol engine module may also select a desired operating protocol for communicating with the at least one data storage device from the multiple operating protocols.

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