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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **SLING MEDIA INC.** [US/US]; 1051 East Hillsdale Boulevard, Suite 500, Foster City, California 94404 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **LUCAS, Brian** [US/US]; 1330 Bush Street, Apt. 9A, San Francisco, California 94109 (US). **ASNIS, Ilya** [RU/US]; 1842 Lencar Way, San Jose, California 95124 (US).

(74) Agent: **CARLSON, Brett A.**; Ingrassia Fisher & Lorenz, P.C., 7010 East Cochise Road, Scottsdale, Arizona 85253-1406 (US).

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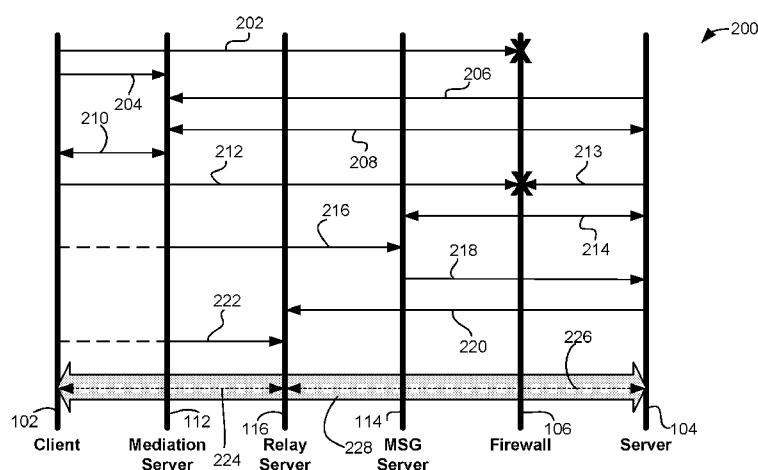


FIG. 2

(57) Abstract: Systems and methods are described for establishing a connection between a client and a server that are each communicating via a network. The methods and techniques may be used, for example, to establish a media streaming connection between a media player and a placeshifting device when a firewall or other impediment to direct network connections exists. A relay server receives connection requests from the client and from the server via the network. In response to receiving the requests, a first connection is established between the relay server and the client and a second connection between the relay server and the server. Data received by the relay server on each of the first and second connections is relayed to the other of the first and second connections to thereby establish the connection between the client and the server via the relay server.