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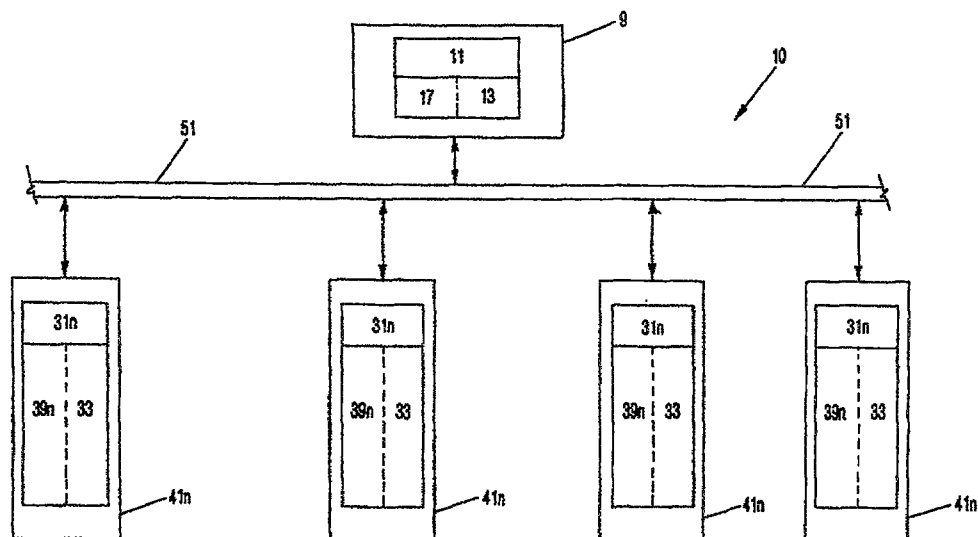
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(54) Title: **COMPUTER SOFTWARE CONTROL AND COMMUNICATION SYSTEM AND METHOD**



(57) Abstract: The present invention is a computer system and method for facilitating communication between a primary software means (13) on a computer (9) and at least one secondary software means loaded on a computer circuit card (41_n) via a communications bus (51). Both the primary software means and the secondary software means have predefined register storage space for storing data, and in particular, for storing data relating to system and fault status, among other things. The primary software means (13) communicates, directs and controls the data between itself and among the various secondary software means by interaction between the predefined registers (12). The primary software means (13) communicates, directs and controls the data through the use of common headers present in the registers (12).