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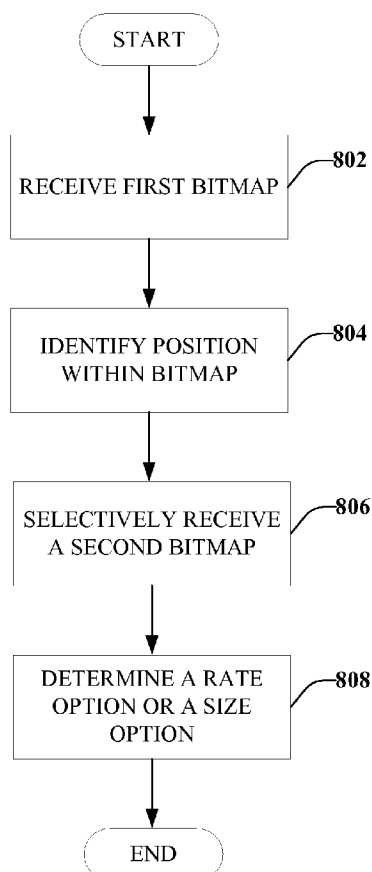
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(54) Title: BITMAPS FOR GROUP RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



(57) Abstract: Group resource management is provided utilizing assignment of resources in a persistent manner, which involves assigning a channel and resources to a user device for a specified interval while allowing users within the group to be multiplexed dynamically. A first bitmap is created that is a function of the number of users in the group and the number of channels assigned to that group. A second bitmap is created that has a number of bits equal to a number of "on" bits contained in the first bitmap. The second bitmap can assign a rate option or a size option, which is a function of a profile of a group member that corresponds to the bit. The rate option and size option can be indicated in each x-bit position in the second bitmap Both broadcast and multicast are supported.

WO 2008/033860 A3



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