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- (71) Applicant: TRACKONOMY SYSTEMS, INC. [US/US];  
2350 Mission College Blvd., Suite 490, Santa Clara, California 95054 (US).
- (72) Inventor: KHOCHÉ, Ajay; Trackonomy Systems, Inc.,  
2350 Mission College Blvd., Suite 490, Santa Clara, California 95054 (US).
- (74) Agent: GARCIA, Edouard; Attorney at Law, 221 Main St  
Ste 1246, Los Altos, California 94023 (US).
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(54) Title: PROGRAMMABLE NETWORK NODE ROLES IN HIERARCHICAL COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

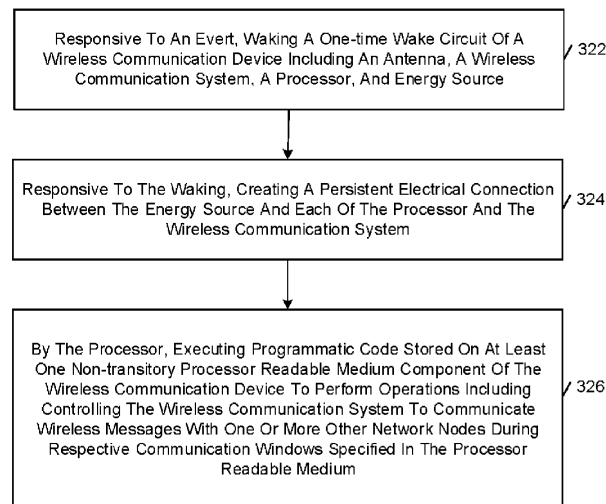


FIG. 7

(57) Abstract: The disclosure features a method of creating a communications network. In this method, a first tape node (424) includes a first type of wireless communication interface and a second type of wireless communication interface having a longer range than the first type of wireless communication interface. A second tape node (428) includes the first type of wireless communication interface that is operable to communicate with the first tape node (424) over a wireless communication connection established between the first type of wireless communication interfaces of the first and second tape node (428)s. Over a wireless communication connection, the first tape node (424) sends programmatic code executable by the first tape node (424) to function as a master tape node with respect to the second tape node (428).

[Continued on next page]

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**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- *as to the identity of the inventor (Rule 4.17(i))*
- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*
- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

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