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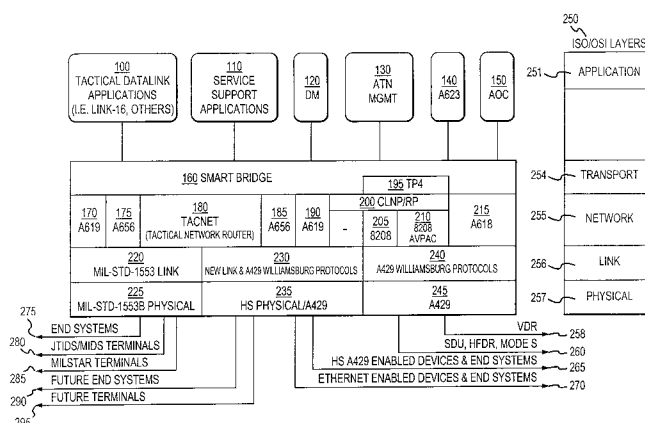
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(54) Title: SMARTBRIDGE FOR TACTICAL NETWORK ROUTING APPLICATIONS



(57) **Abstract:** An intelligent communications capability (160) that enhances legacy military tactical datalink systems by creating an interface between disparate civil (258 through 270) and military (275 through 295) communications and end systems onboard military aircraft, ground vehicles, and ground-based communications infrastructures. This capability performs various information management tasks to interface with avionics systems, ground vehicle computer systems, and ground-based infrastructure computer systems. The invention enhances message processing through automation in areas such as data collection (395 through 430), incoming message handling (475 through 495), outgoing message construction (475 through 495), communications network management (310 through 335 and 445 through 465), and message priority management and routing (345 through 385). The invention also incorporates learning techniques to improve the overall efficiency of integrated military missions, operations, and maintenance in areas such as intelligent consolidation of datalink information (475 through 495), intelligent message distribution (310 through 385 and 445 through 465), and adaptive message re-routing (445 through 465) in response to communications network failures. These enhancements will benefit the military by improving mission effectiveness with real-time information integration and management while reducing their support costs.



WO 03/053013 A2