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(54) Title: COMMUNICATION CIRCUIT HAVING NETWORK CONNECTION DETECTION CAPABILITY

(57) Abstract

Methods and apparatus for providing network communications capability to a computer system in accordance with standard communication line protocols are described, including interface circuits (70, 80, 90, 100, 110) which sense various characteristics of the communication lines (22, 24, 26, 28, 30) to control or provide signals (72, 82, 92, 102, 112) to control power to line drivers and/or other substantial power consuming circuitry to conserve power when communication line conditions indicate powering such circuits is not useful. Various embodiments are disclosed.

