

CORRECTED VERSION

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date
12 March 2009 (12.03.2009)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2009/033168 A8(51) International Patent Classification:
H04J 3/14 (2006.01)(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2008/075618(22) International Filing Date:
8 September 2008 (08.09.2008)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/970,476 6 September 2007 (06.09.2007) US
12/205,791 5 September 2008 (05.09.2008) US(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **HARRIS STRATEX NETWORKS OPERATING CORPORATION** [US/US]; 637 Davis Drive, Morrisville, NC 27560 (US).

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,

AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

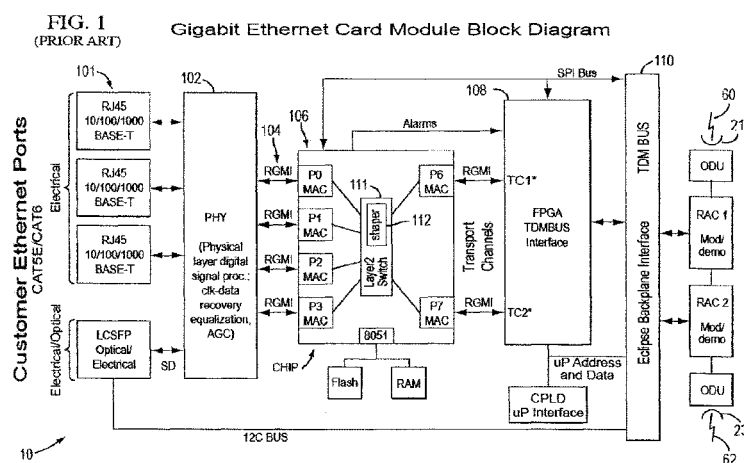
— with international search report (Art. 21(3))

(48) Date of publication of this corrected version:

18 February 2010

(15) Information about Correction:
see Notice of 18 February 2010

(54) Title: RESILIENT DATA COMMUNICATIONS WITH PHYSICAL LAYER LINK AGGREGATION, EXTENDED FAILURE DETECTION AND LOAD BALANCING



(57) Abstract: Rapid channel failure detection and recovery in wireless communication networks is needed in order to meet, among other things, carrier class Ethernet channel standards. Thus, resilient wireless packet communications is provided using a physical layer link aggregation protocol with a hardware-assisted rapid channel failure detection algorithm and load balancing, preferably in combination. This functionality may be implemented in a Gigabit Ethernet data access card with an engine configured accordingly. In networks with various topologies, these features may be provided in combination with their existing protocols.