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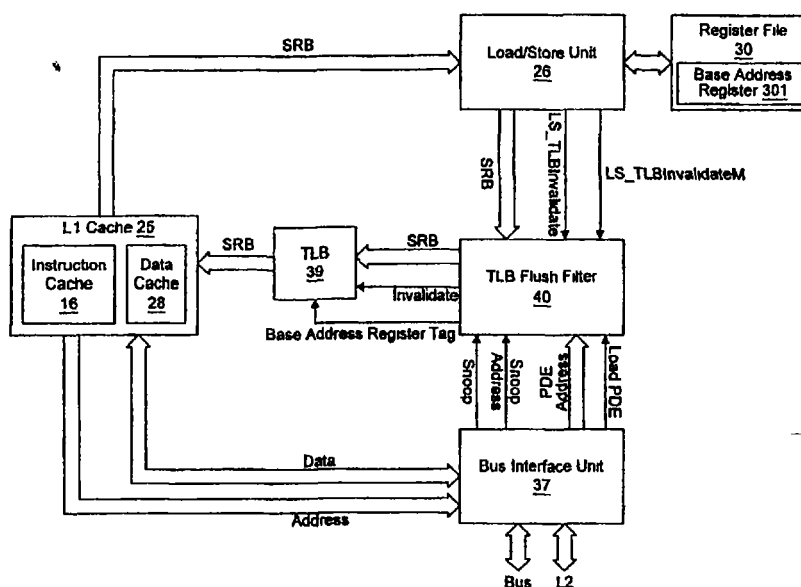
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- (71) Applicant: **ADVANCED MICRO DEVICES, INC.**
[US/US]; One AMD Place, Mail Stop 68, Sunnyvale, CA 94088-3453 (US).
- (72) Inventors: **ZURASKI, Gerald, D., Jr.**; 8009 Mead Parke Cove, Austin, TX 78726 (US). **CLARK, Michael, T.**; 6137 Mordred Lane, Austin, TX 78739 (US). *For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: **A TRANSLATION LOOKASIDE BUFFER FLUSH FILTER**



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(57) Abstract: A translation lookaside buffer (TLB) flush filter (40). In one embodiment, a central processing unit (10) includes a TLB (39) for storing recent address translations. A TLB flush filter (40) monitors blocks of memory from which address translations have been loaded and cached in the TLB (39). The TLB flush filter (40) is configured to detect if any of the underlying address translations in memory have changed. If no changes have occurred, the TLB flush filter (40) may then prevent a flush of the TLB (39) following the next context switch. If changes have occurred to the underlying address translations, the TLB flush filter (40) may then allow a flush of the TLB (39) following a context switch.