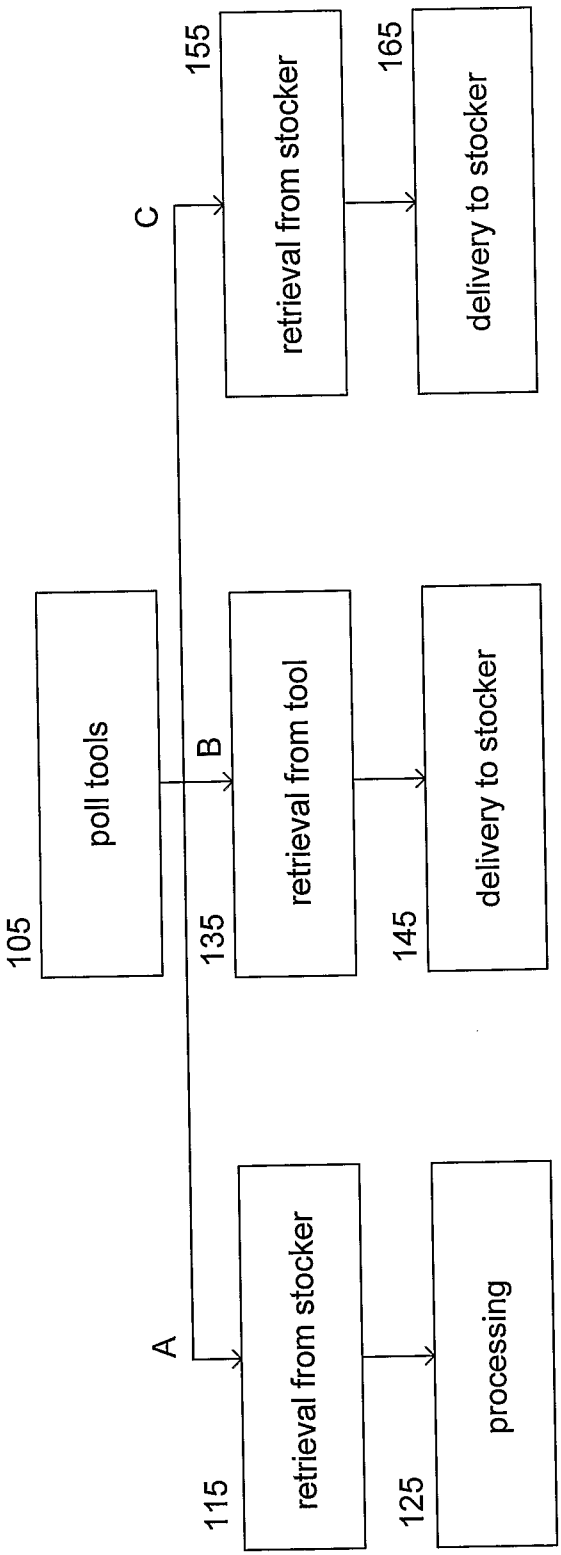


Prior Art

Fig. 1

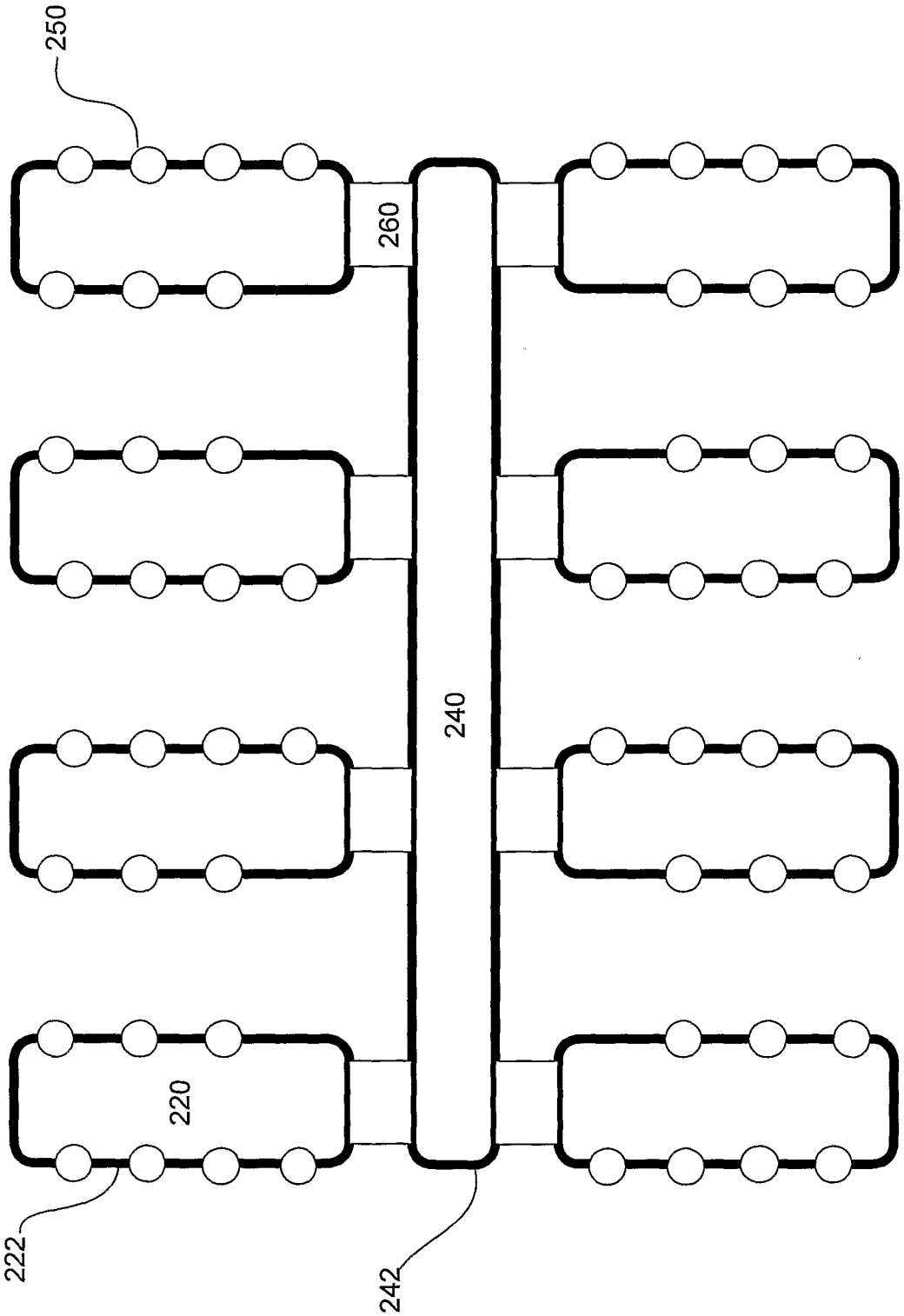


Fig. 2

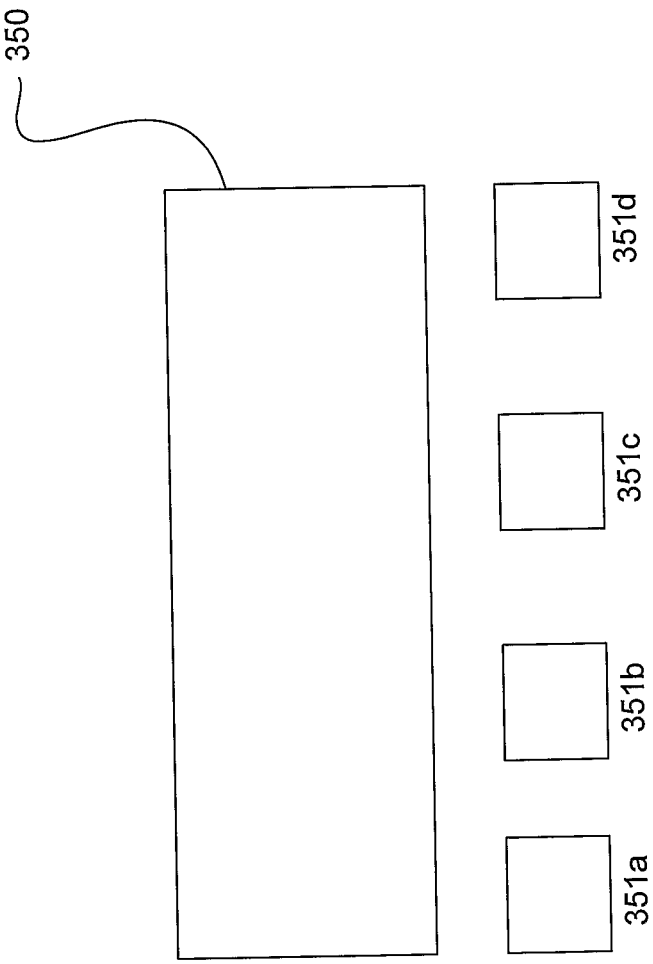


Fig. 3

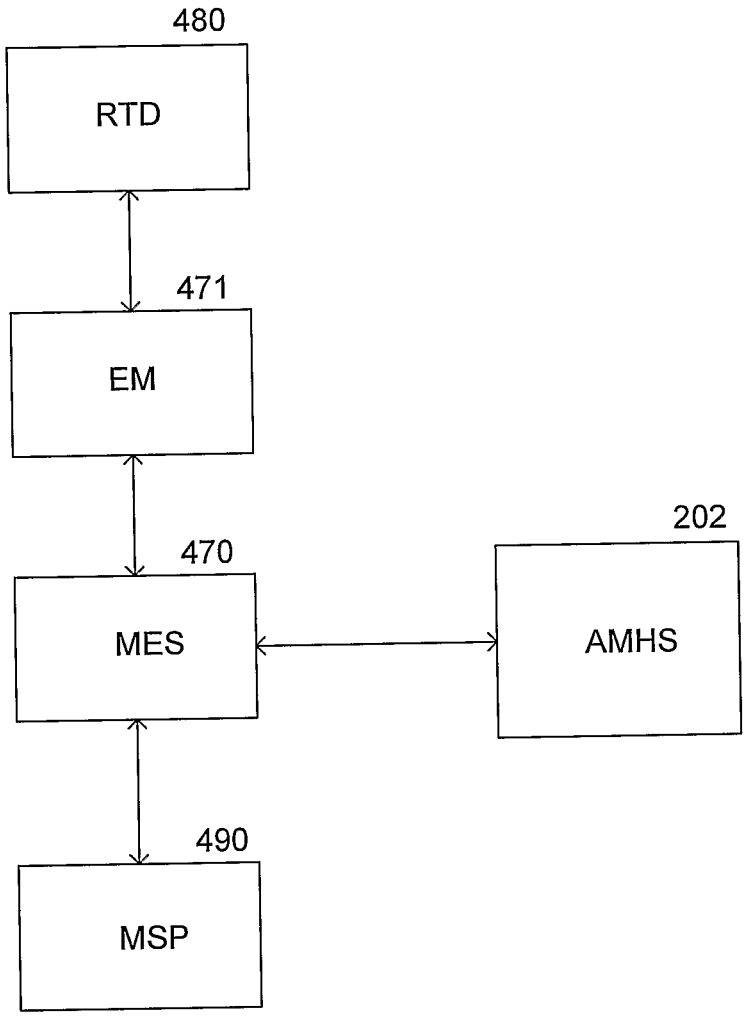


Fig. 4

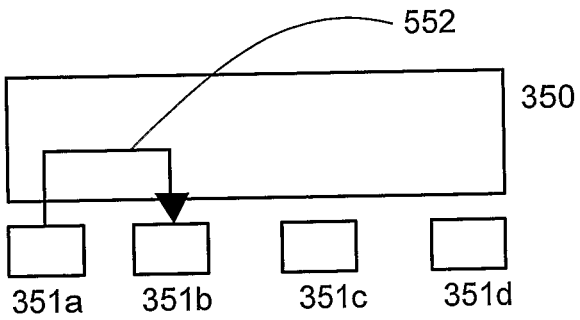


Fig. 5a

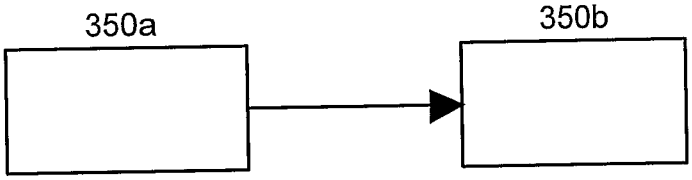


Fig. 5b

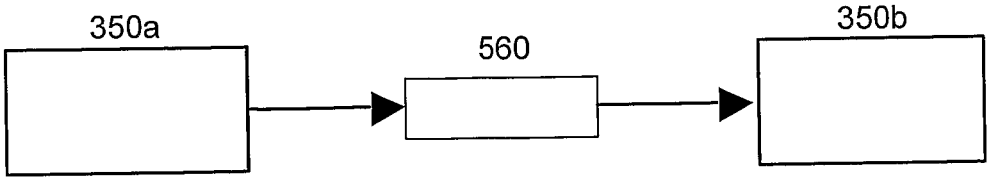


Fig. 5c

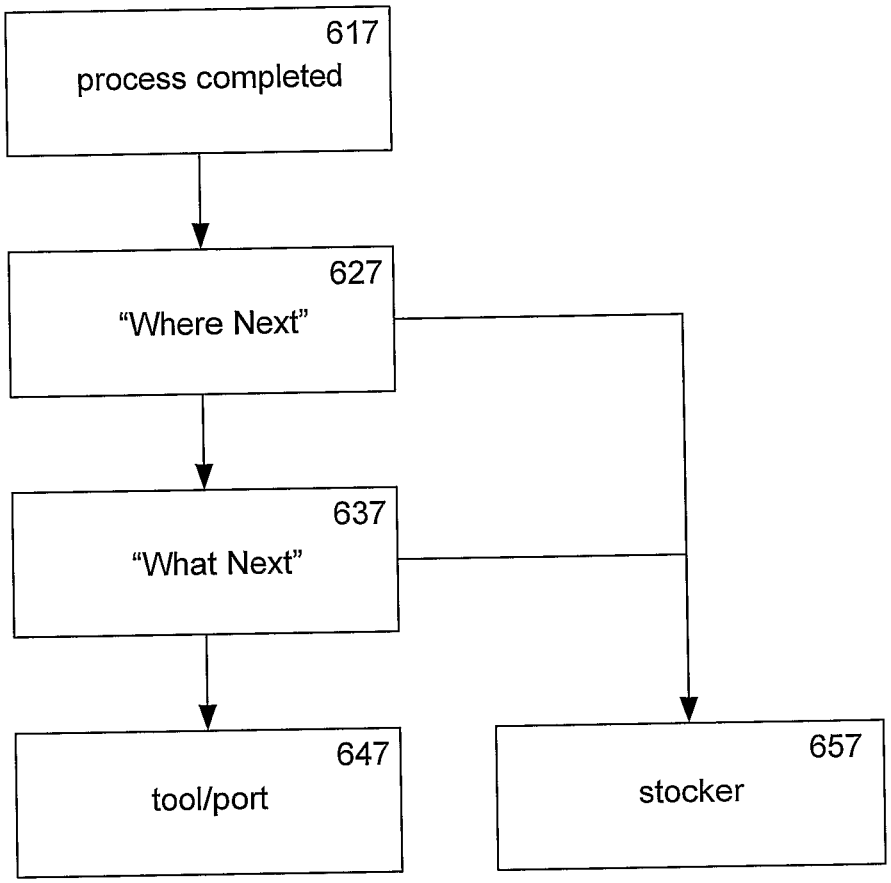
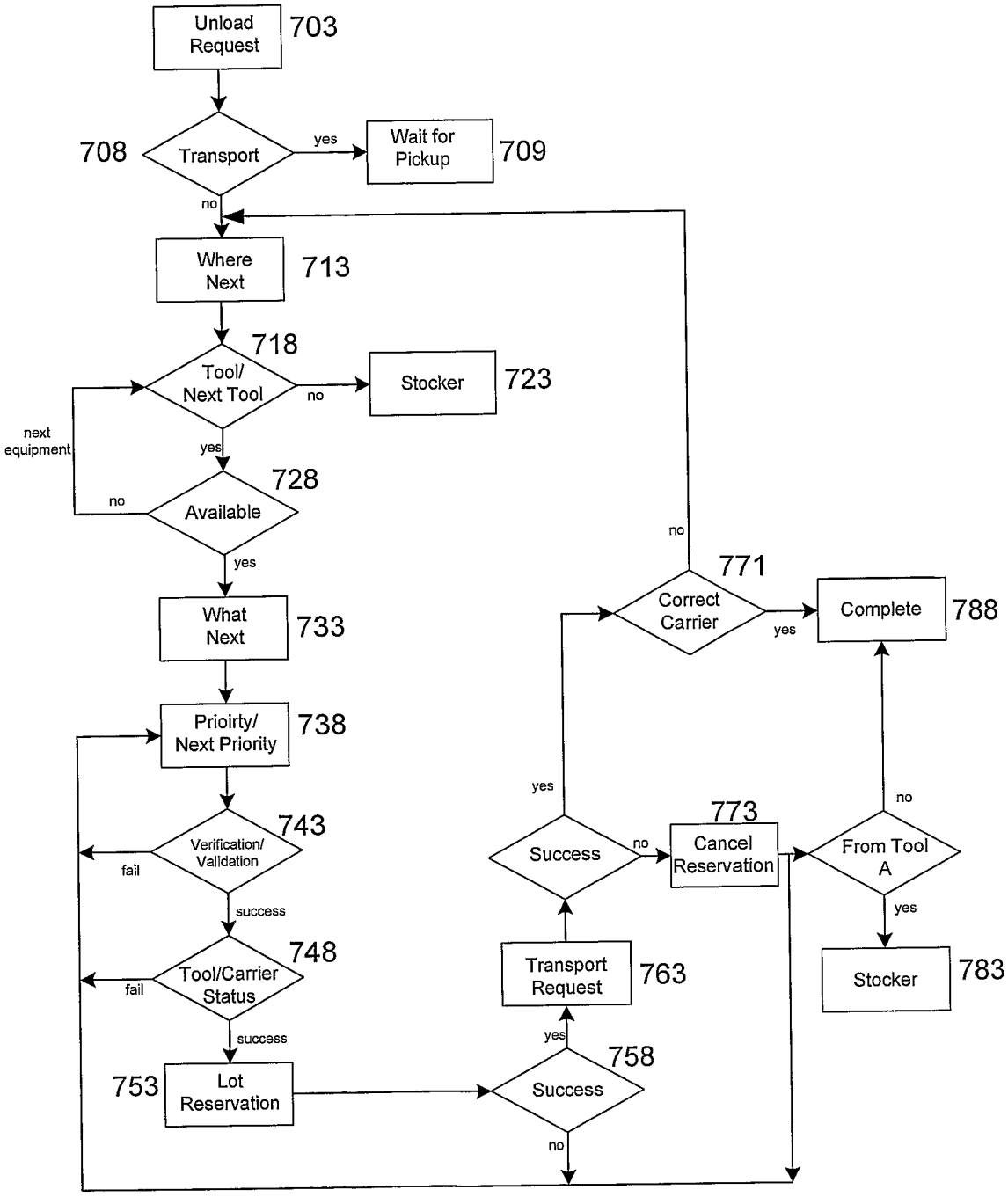

617
process completed
627
"Where Next"
637
"What Next"
647
tool/port
657
stocker

Fig. 6


Unload Request
703
Transport
708
yes
Wait for Pickup
709
no
Where Next
713
718
Tool/ Next Tool
no
Stocker
723
next equipment
yes
728
Available
no
yes
What Next
733
Prioirty/ Next Priority
738
743
Verification/ Validation
fail
success
748
Tool/Carrier Status
fail
success
753
Lot Reservation
758
Success
no
yes
Transport Request
763
yes
Success
no
773
Cancel Reservation
no
771
Correct Carrier
yes
Complete
788
no
From Tool A
yes
Stocker
783

701

Fig. 7

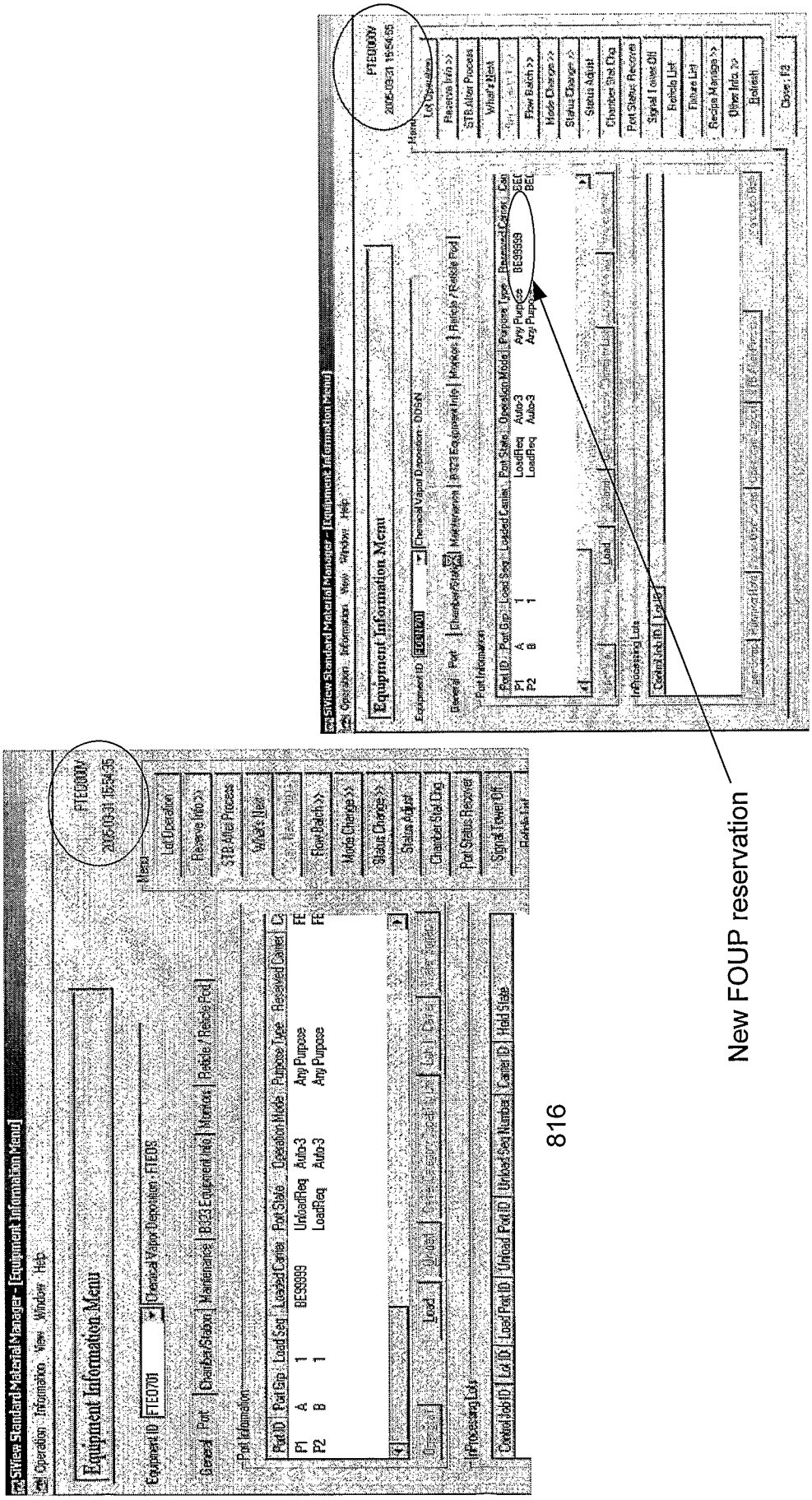


Fig. 8