[0025] The application state information may comprise a status entity pair comprising a status entity identifier that identifies the status entry and the version number.

[0026] The method may further comprise comparing, using the second node, the version number received from the first node with a version number of a corresponding status entry stored locally on the second node; and if the versions numbers differ, updating the status entry stored locally on the second node with the status entry stored locally on the first node.

[0027] Updating the status entry may comprise sending from the first node to the second node additional status entries stored locally on the first node that were modified simultaneously with the status entry.

[0028] The first and second nodes may comprise at least part of a group of server nodes in the cluster to which the first node can send the data in a totally ordered manner to all of the server nodes in the group, and sending the data may comprise the first node sending the data to all of the server nodes in the group.

[0029] The data may comprise non-persistent data generated during the runtime of the physical security system.

[0030] The data may also comprise streaming video streamed from another of the server nodes in the server cluster through the first node to the second node.

[0031] According to another aspect, there is provided ~~a system for sharing data in~~ a physical security system~~, the system comprising a plurality of server nodes~~ comprising a first node and a second node, wherein the first node comprises a processor communicatively coupled to a computer readable medium that has encoded thereon statements and instructions to cause the processor to perform a method comprising accessing a node identifier identifying the second node, wherein the first and second nodes comprise at least part of a server cluster and wherein the node identifier comprises

at least part of cluster membership information identifying all and accessible by all the server nodes in the server cluster; and sending the data to the second node.

[0032] According to another aspect, there is provided a non-transitory computer readable medium having encoded thereon statements and instructions to cause a processor to perform a method for sharing data in a physical security system that comprises a plurality of server nodes, the method comprising accessing, using one of the server nodes ("first node"), a node identifier identifying another of the server nodes ("second node"), wherein the first and second nodes comprise at least part of a server cluster and wherein the node identifier comprises at least part of cluster membership information identifying all and accessible by all server nodes in the server cluster; and sending the data from the first node to the second node.

[0033] ~~According to another aspect, there~~ There is ~~provided~~ also disclosed a method for interacting with a unattended display in a physical security system that comprises a plurality of server nodes, the method comprising sending, from one of the server nodes ("second node") communicative with the unattended display to another of the server nodes ("first node") that is communicative with a client display, view state data indicative of a view displayed on the unattended display; and displaying, on the client display, at least a portion of the view displayed on the unattended display. In one ~~aspect~~ example, none of the server nodes is a centralized gateway server; in an alternative ~~aspect~~example, at least one of the server nodes is a centralized gateway server.

[0034] The method may further comprise sending, from the first node to the second node, a message to change the view of the unattended display; and updating the unattended display according to the message sent from the first node to the second node.

[0035] The first and second nodes and at least another of the plurality of server nodes may comprise a server cluster, the first and second nodes may comprise at least part of a group of server nodes in the cluster to which the second node can send the view state data in a totally ordered manner to all other server nodes in the group, and sending

[0042] ~~According to another aspect, there~~ There is ~~provided~~ also disclosed a physical security system, comprising: a client display; a unattended display; and a plurality of server nodes, wherein one of the server nodes ("first node") is communicative with the client display and another of the server nodes ("second node") is communicative with the unattended display, wherein the second node is configured to send to the first node view state data indicative of a view displayed on the second display and the first node is configured to display, on the client display, at least a portion of the view displayed on the second display. In one ~~aspect~~example, none of the server nodes is a centralized gateway server; in an alternative ~~aspect~~example, at least one of the server nodes is a centralized gateway server.

[0043] ~~According to another aspect, there~~ There is ~~provided~~also disclosed a physical security system, comprising: a client having a client display; a unattended display; and a plurality of server nodes, wherein one of the server nodes ("first node") is communicative with the client and another of the server nodes ("second node") is communicative with the unattended display, wherein the second node is configured to send to the first node view state data indicative of a view displayed on the second display and the client and first node are configured to display, on the client display, at least a portion of the view displayed on the second display. In one ~~aspect~~example, none of the server nodes is a centralized gateway server; in an alternative ~~aspect~~example, at least one of the server nodes is a centralized gateway server.

[0044] The unattended display may be directly connected to the second node or indirectly connected to the second node via, for example, an unattended client or workstation.

[0045] ~~According to another aspect, there~~There is ~~provided~~ also disclosed a non-transitory computer readable medium having encoded thereon statements and instructions to cause a processor to perform a method for interacting with a unattended display in a physical security system that comprises a plurality of server nodes, the method comprising sending, from one of the server nodes ("second node") communicative with the unattended display to another of the server nodes ("first node") that is communicative

with a client display, view state data indicative of a view displayed on the unattended display; and displaying, on the client display, at least a portion of the view displayed on the unattended display.

[0046] ~~According to another aspect, there~~ There is ~~provided~~ also disclosed a method for sharing a view ("shared view") using a physical security system that comprises a plurality of server nodes, the method comprising: sending, from a first client to one of the server nodes ("first node"), view state data representative of the shared view as displayed by the first client; sending the view state data from the first node to a second client via another of the server nodes ("second node"); updating a display of the second client using the view state data to show the shared view; in response to a change in the shared view at the second client, sending updated view state data from the second client to the second node, wherein the updated view state data is representative of the shared view as displayed by the second client; sending the updated view state data from the second node to the first client via the first node; and updating the display of the first client to show the shared view using the updated view state data. In one ~~aspect~~example, none of the server nodes is a centralized gateway server; in an alternative ~~aspect~~example, at least one of the nodes is a centralized gateway server.

[0047] The first and second nodes and at least another of the plurality of server nodes may comprise a server cluster, the first and second nodes may comprise at least part of a group of server nodes in the cluster to which the first node can send the view state data in a totally ordered manner to all other server nodes in the group, and sending the view state data may comprise the first node sending the data to all the other server nodes in the group.

[0048] The first and second nodes and at least another of the plurality of server nodes may comprise a server cluster, the first and second nodes may comprise at least part of a group of server nodes in the cluster to which the second node can send the updated view state data in a totally ordered manner to all other server nodes in the group,

and sending the updated view state data may comprise the second node sending the updated view state data to all the other server nodes in the group.

[0049] Prior to showing the shared view on the display of the second client, the method may comprise sending from the first client to the second client via the first and second nodes a notification that the shared view as displayed by the first client is available to be shared with the second client.

[0050] The first and second nodes and at least another of the plurality of server nodes may comprise a server cluster, the first and second nodes may comprise at least part of a group of server nodes in the cluster to which the first node can send the notification in a totally ordered manner to all other server nodes in the group, and sending the notification may comprise the first node sending the notification to all the other server nodes in the group.

[0051] Prior to the first node sending the state data to the second client via the second node, the method may comprise accessing, using the first node, a node identifier identifying the second node, wherein the first and second nodes comprise at least part of a server cluster and wherein the node identifier comprises at least part of cluster membership information identifying all and accessible by all server nodes in the server cluster.

[0052] The cluster membership information may comprise a node identifier uniquely identifying each of the server nodes in the server cluster; and a cluster identifier uniquely identifying the server cluster to which the server nodes belong.

[0053] Each of the server nodes in the server cluster may persistently store its own version of the cluster membership information locally.

[0054] ~~According to another aspect, there~~ There is ~~provided~~ also disclosed a physical security system, comprising a first client having a display; a second client having a display; and a plurality of server nodes, wherein one of the server nodes ("first node") is communicative with the

first display and another of the server nodes ("second node") is communicative with the second display, wherein the first and second clients and the first and second nodes are configured to send, from the first client to the first node, view state data representative of a shared view as displayed on the display of the first client; send the view state data from the first node to the second client via the second node; update the display of the second client using the view state data to show the shared view; in response to a change in the shared view at the second client, sending updated view state data from the second client to the second node, wherein the updated view state data is representative of the shared view as displayed on the display of the second client; send the updated view state data from the second node to the first client via the first node; and update the display of the first client to show the shared view using the updated view state data. In one ~~aspect~~ example, none of the server nodes is a centralized gateway server; in an alternative ~~aspect~~example, at least one of the server nodes is a gateway server.

[0055] ~~According to another aspect, there~~ There is ~~provided~~ also disclosed a non-transitory computer readable medium having encoded thereon statements and instructions to cause a processor to perform a method for sharing a view ("shared view") using a physical security system that comprises a plurality of server nodes, the method comprising sending, from a first client to one of the server nodes ("first node"), view state data representative of the shared view as displayed by the first client; sending the view state data from the first node to a second client via another of the server nodes ("second node"); updating a display of the second client using the view state data to show the shared view; in response to a change in the shared view at the second client, sending updated view state data from the second client to the second node, wherein the updated view state data is representative of the shared view as displayed by the second client; sending the updated view state data from the second node to the first client via the first node; and updating the display of the first client to show the shared view using the updated view state data.

(a) accessing a node identifier identifying the second node, wherein the first and second nodes comprise at least part of a server cluster and wherein the node identifier comprises at least part of cluster membership information identifying all and accessible by all the server nodes in the server cluster; and

(b) sending the data to the second node.

28. A non-transitory computer readable medium having encoded thereon statements and instructions to cause a processor to perform a method for sharing data in a physical security system that comprises a plurality of server nodes, the method comprising:

(a) accessing, using one of the server nodes ("first node"), a node identifier identifying another of the server nodes ("second node"), wherein the first and second nodes comprise at least part of a server cluster and wherein the node identifier comprises at least part of cluster membership information identifying all and accessible by all server nodes in the server cluster; and

(b) sending the data from the first node to the second node.

~~29. A method for interacting with a unattended display in a physical security system that comprises a plurality of server nodes, the method comprising:~~

~~(a) sending, from one of the server nodes ("second node") communicative with the unattended display to another of the server nodes ("first node") that is communicative with a client display, view state data indicative of a view displayed on the unattended display; and~~

~~(b) displaying, on the client display, at least a portion of the view displayed on the unattended display.~~

30. The method of claim 29 wherein none of the server nodes is a centralized gateway server.

31. The method of claim 29 wherein at least one of the server nodes is a centralized gateway server.

32. The method of claim 30 further comprising:

(a) sending, from the first node to the second node, a message to change the view of the unattended display; and

(b) updating the unattended display according to the message sent from the first node to the second node.

33. The method of claim 30 wherein the first and second nodes and at least another of the plurality of server nodes comprise a server cluster, the first and second nodes comprise at least part of a group of server nodes in the cluster to which the second node can send the view state data in a totally ordered manner to all other server nodes in the group, and sending the view state data comprises the second node sending the data to all the other server nodes in the group.

34. The method of claim 32 wherein the first and second nodes and at least another of the plurality of server nodes comprise a server cluster, the first and second nodes comprise at least part of a group of server nodes in the cluster to which the first node can send the message to change the state of the unattended display in a totally ordered manner to all other server nodes in the group, and the first node sends the message to change the state of the unattended display to all the other server nodes in the group.

35. The method of claim 30 further comprising sending from the second node to the first node a notification that the view of the unattended display is available to be controlled.

36. The method of claim 35 wherein sending the notification comprises disseminating the notification to all the server nodes in the server cluster using a gossip protocol that performs data exchanges between pairs of the server nodes in the cluster.

37. The method of claim 30 further comprising prior to sending the state of the unattended display to the controlling display, accessing, using the second node, a node identifier identifying the first node, wherein the first and second nodes comprise at least part of a server cluster and wherein the node identifier comprises at least part of cluster membership information identifying all and accessible by all server nodes in the server cluster.

38. The method of claim 37 wherein the cluster membership information comprises:

(a) a node identifier uniquely identifying each of the server nodes in the server cluster; and

(b) a cluster identifier uniquely identifying the server cluster to which the server nodes belong.

39. The method of claim 38 wherein each of the server nodes in the server cluster persistently stores its own version of the cluster membership information locally.

40. A physical security system, comprising:

(a) a client having a client display;

(b) an unattended display; and

(c) a plurality of server nodes, wherein one of the server nodes ("first node") is communicative with the client and another of the server nodes ("second node") is communicative with the unattended display,

wherein the second node is configured to send to the first node view state data indicative of a view displayed on the unattended display and the first

node and the client are configured to display, on the client display, at least a portion of the view displayed on the unattended display.

41. The system of claim 40 wherein none of the server nodes is a centralized gateway server.

42. The system of claim 40 wherein at least one of the server nodes is a centralized gateway server.

43. A non-transitory computer readable medium having encoded thereon statements and instructions to cause a processor to perform a method for interacting with a unattended display in a physical security system that comprises a plurality of server nodes, the method comprising:

(a) sending, from one of the server nodes ("second node") communicative with the unattended display to another of the server nodes ("first node") that is communicative with a client display, view state data indicative of a view displayed on the unattended display; and

(b) displaying, on the client display, at least a portion of the view displayed on the unattended display.

44. A method for sharing a view ("shared view") using a physical security system that comprises a plurality of server nodes, the method comprising:

(a) sending, from a first client to one of the server nodes ("first node"), view state data representative of the shared view as displayed by the first client;

(b) sending the view state data from the first node to a second client via another of the server nodes ("second node");

(c) updating a display of the second client using the view state data to show the shared view;

(d) in response to a change in the shared view at the second client, sending updated view state data from the second client to the second node, wherein the updated view state data is representative of the shared view as displayed by the second client;

(e) sending the updated view state data from the second node to the first client via the first node; and

(f) updating the display of the first client to show the shared view using the updated view state data.

45. The method of claim 44 wherein none of the server nodes is a centralized gateway server.

46. The method of claim 44 wherein at least one of the nodes is a centralized gateway server.

47. The method of claim 45 wherein the first and second nodes and at least another of the plurality of server nodes comprise a server cluster, the first and second nodes comprise at least part of a group of server nodes in the cluster to which the first node can send the view state data in a totally ordered manner to all other server nodes in the group, and sending the view state data comprises the first node sending the data to all the other server nodes in the group.

48. The method of claim 45 wherein the first and second nodes and at least another of the plurality of server nodes comprise a server cluster, the first and second nodes comprise at least part of a group of server nodes in the cluster to which the second node can send the updated view state data in a totally ordered manner to all other server nodes in the group, and sending the updated view state data comprises the second node sending the updated view state data to all the other server nodes in the group.

49. The method of claim 45 further comprising, prior to showing the shared view on the display of the second client, sending from the first client to the second client via the first and second nodes a notification that the shared view as displayed by the first client is available to be shared with the second client.

50. The method of claim 49 wherein the first and second nodes and at least another of the plurality of server nodes comprise a server cluster, the first and second nodes comprise at least part of a group of server nodes in the cluster to which the first node can send the notification in a totally ordered manner to all other server nodes in the group, and sending the notification comprises the first node sending the notification to all the other server nodes in the group.

51. The method of claim 45 further comprising prior to the first node sending the state data to the second client via the second node, accessing, using the first node, a node identifier identifying the second node, wherein the first and second nodes comprise at least part of a server cluster and wherein the node identifier comprises at least part of cluster membership information identifying all and accessible by all server nodes in the server cluster.

52. The method of claim 51 wherein the cluster membership information comprises:

(a) a node identifier uniquely identifying each of the server nodes in the server cluster; and

(b) a cluster identifier uniquely identifying the server cluster to which the server nodes belong.

53. The method of claim 52 wherein each of the server nodes in the server cluster persistently stores its own version of the cluster membership information locally.

54. A physical security system, comprising:

(a) a first client having a display;

(b) a second client having a display; and

(c) a plurality of server nodes, wherein one of the server nodes ("first node") is communicative with the first display and another of the server nodes ("second node") is communicative with the second display,

wherein the first and second clients and the first and second nodes are configured to:

(i) send, from the first client to the first node, view state data representative of a shared view as displayed on the display of the first client;

(ii) send the view state data from the first node to the second client via the second node;

(iii) update the display of the second client using the view state data to show the shared view;

(iv) in response to a change in the shared view at the second client, sending updated view state data from the second client to the second node, wherein the updated view state data is representative of the shared view as displayed on the display of the second client;

(v) send the updated view state data from the second node to the first client via the first node; and

(vi) update the display of the first client to show the shared view using the updated view state data.

55. The system of claim 54 wherein none of the server nodes is a centralized gateway server.

56. The system of claim 54 wherein at least one of the server nodes is a centralized gateway server.

57. A non-transitory computer readable medium having encoded thereon statements and instructions to cause a processor to perform a method for sharing a view ("shared view") using a physical security system that comprises a plurality of server nodes, the method comprising:

(a) sending, from a first client to one of the server nodes ("first node"), view state data representative of the shared view as displayed by the first client;

(b) sending the view state data from the first node to a second client via another of the server nodes ("second node");

(c) updating a display of the second client using the view state data to show the shared view;

(d) in response to a change in the shared view at the second client, sending updated view state data from the second client to the second node, wherein the updated view state data is representative of the shared view as displayed by the second client;

(e) sending the updated view state data from the second node to the first client via the first node; and

(f) updating the display of the first client to show the shared view using the updated view state data.