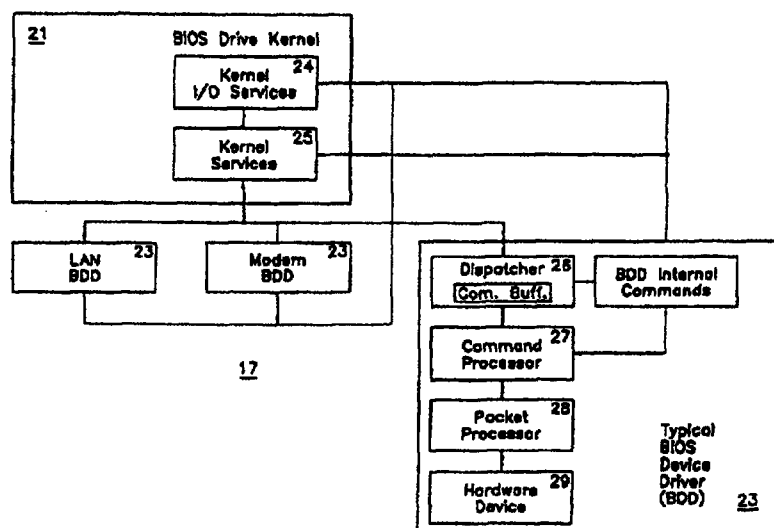




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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/11162 (22) International Filing Date: 27 June 1997 (27.06.97) (30) Priority Data: 08/672,983 1 July 1996 (01.07.96) US (71) Applicant: INTEL CORPORATION [US/US]; 2200 Mission College Boulevard, Santa Clara, CA 95052 (US). (72) Inventors: EDWARDS, David, A.; 8449 Noel Drive, Orangevale, CA 95662 (US). HASBUN, Robert, N.; 4544 Fawn Street, Shingle Springs, CA 95682 (US). (74) Agents: TAYLOR, Edwin, H. et al.; Blakely, Sokoloff, Taylor & Zafman LLP, 7th floor, 12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90025 (US).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AT (Utility model), AU (Petty patent), AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, CZ (Utility model), DE, DE (Utility model), DK, DK (Utility model), EE, EE (Utility model), ES, FI, FI (Utility model), GB, GE, GH, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK (Utility model), SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING IMPROVED DIAGNOSTIC FUNCTIONS IN A COMPUTER SYSTEM



A memory module including a flash EEPROM memory array (17) designed to be joined to a memory bus (16) of a computer (10), BIOS processes including system status test processes stored in the array (17), diagnostic processes stored in the array (17) to provide data indicating malfunctions in the computer (10), accessing processes stored in the array (17) for calling the system status test processes and the diagnostic processes even though the computer fails to boot, and communication processes stored in the array (17) for transferring results produced by the system status test processes and the diagnostic processes for use in servicing the computer (10).