

07/02/02
2002007953

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
8 March 2001 (08.03.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 01/16763 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G06F 13/00**,
13/38, 15/00, 15/76, 15/173

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/20795

(22) International Filing Date: 24 August 2000 (24.08.2000)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
09/384,692 27 August 1999 (27.08.1999) US

(71) Applicant: **INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION** [US/US]; New Orchard Road, Armonk, NY 10504 (US).

(72) Inventors: **BASS, Brian, Mitchell**; 4021 Sturbridge Drive, Apex, NC 27502 (US). **CALVIGNAC, Jean, Louis**; 112 Spring Hollow Lane, Cary, NC 27511 (US). **GALLO, Anthony, Matteo**; 3308 Corsham Drive, Apex, NC 27502 (US). **HEDDES, Marco, C.**; 4109 Grand Manor Court #308, Raleigh, NC 27612 (US). **RAO, Sridhar**; 5020 Beaverbrook Road, Apartment 204, Raleigh,

NC 27612 (US). **SIEGEL, Michael, Steven**; 10625 Lowery Drive, Raleigh, NC 27613 (US). **YOUNGMAN, Brian, Alan**; 702 Newport Circle, Cary, NC 27511 (US). **VERPLANKEN, Fabrice, Jean**; 9152, route de Cagnes, F-06610 La Gaude (FR).

(74) Agent: **MCCONNELL, Daniel, E.**; International Business Machines Corporation, P.O. Box 12195, D2Y7/B656, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 (US).

(81) Designated States (*national*): CN, JP, KR, SG.

(84) Designated States (*regional*): European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).

Published:

- With international search report.
- Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments.

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.



162162



ACTION

WO 01/16763 A1

(54) Title: NETWORK SWITCH AND COMPONENTS AND METHOD OF OPERATION

(57) Abstract: A network switch apparatus, components for such an apparatus, and methods of operating such an apparatus in which data flow handling and flexibility is enhanced by the cooperation of a control point and a plurality of interface processors formed on a semiconductor substrate. The control point and interface processors together form a network processor capable of cooperating with other elements including an optional switching fabric device in executing instructions directing the flow of data in a network.