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

(71) Applicant *(for MG only)*: **IBM UNITED KINGDOM LIMITED** [GB/GB]; PO Box 41, North Harbour, Portsmouth, Hampshire PO6 3AU (GB).

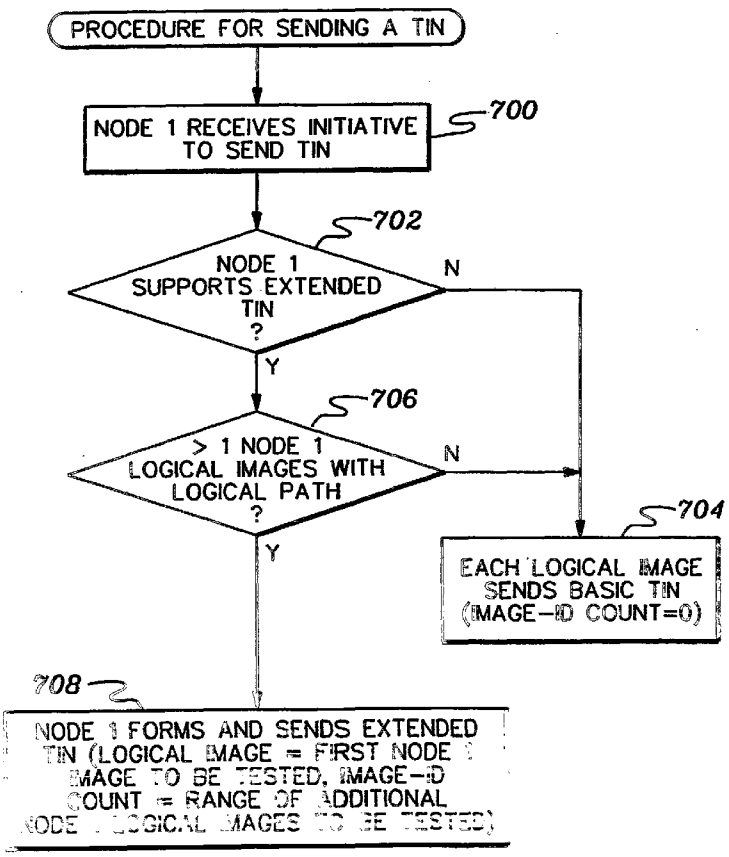
(72) Inventors: **DUGAN, Robert**; 7 Ledgewood Drive, Hyde Park, NY 12538 (US). **FLANAGAN, John**; 15 Slate Hill Drive, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 (US). **FRAZIER, Giles**; 1604 Northumberland Road, Austin, TX 78703 (US). **HATHORN, Roger**; 5850 Placita De La Zurencia, Tucson, AZ 85750 (US). **HUANG, Catherine**; 6 Thornberry Way, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 (US). **MILLER, William**; 48 Ramblewood Drive, Newburgh, NY 12550 (US).

(74) Agent: **MOSS, Robert, Douglas**; IBM United Kingdom Limited, Intellectual Property Law, Hursley Park, Winchester, Hampshire SO21 2JN (GB).

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(54) Title: COMMUNICATING STATE INFORMATION IN A NETWORK



(57) Abstract: State information is communicated in a network to more efficiently utilize network resources. A first node forms a single extended query requesting state information from at least one logical image of a second node. The extended query is a single query requesting state information for multiple logical images of the first node. The requested state information includes the status of logical paths previously established between the multiple logical images of the first node and the at least one logical image of the second node. Upon sending the extended query to the second node, a single extended response can be formed at the second node having the requested state information.

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