

*no covering letter

9704240-2



PCT

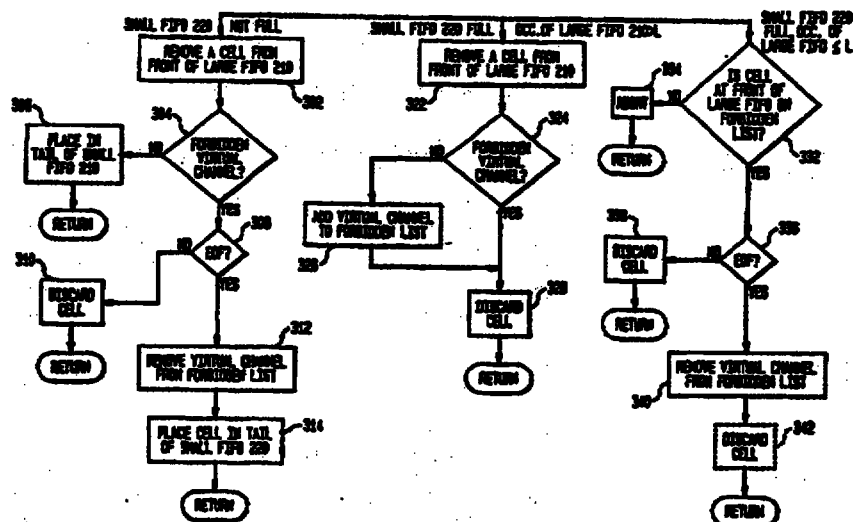
WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6: H04L 12/26		A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 96/29798
			(43) International Publication Date: 26 September 1996 (26.09.96)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US96/03047		(81) Designated States: AU, CA, JP, SG, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).	
(22) International Filing Date: 5 March 1996 (05.03.96)			
(30) Priority Data: 08/407,882 20 March 1995 (20.03.95) US		Published With international search report.	
(71) Applicant: BELL COMMUNICATIONS RESEARCH, INC. [US/US]; 445 South Street, Morristown, NJ 07960-6438 (US).			
(72) Inventors: LAKSHMAN, Tirunell, Viswanathan ; 58 Victoria Drive, Eatontown, NJ 07724 (US). NEUHARDT, Arnold, Leslie ; 574 Clubhouse Drive, Middletown, NJ 07748 (US). OTT, Teunis Jan ; 31 Mountain View Drive, Chester, NJ 07930 (US).			
(74) Agents: YEADON, Loria, B. et al. ; International Coordinator, Room 1G112R, 445 South Street, Morristown, NJ 07960-6438 (US).			

RTMP copy

(54) Title: **DROP FROM FRONT OF BUFFER POLICY IN FEEDBACK NETWORKS**



(57) Abstract

A method for transmitting packets or cells (or both) in a communications network (10) is disclosed. The packets or cells are transmitted along a forward communications path in a network from a source node (h1) via one or more intermediary nodes (r1, x1, r5 and r2) to a destination node (h4). At the intermediary nodes (r1, x1, r5 or r2), the packets or cells are received in a buffer (38 or 42-1 to 42-4). The packets or cells are transmitted along the forward communications path according to a communications schedule. In the presence of congestion at one of the intermediary nodes (x1), an indication of the congestion (302-342) is provided to the destination nodes (h4) of the first packets to be transmitted according to the schedule. An indication of the congestion of the first packets or cells is provided by the destination nodes (h4) of the first packets or cells to the source nodes (h1) of the first packets or cells via a feedback communications path.