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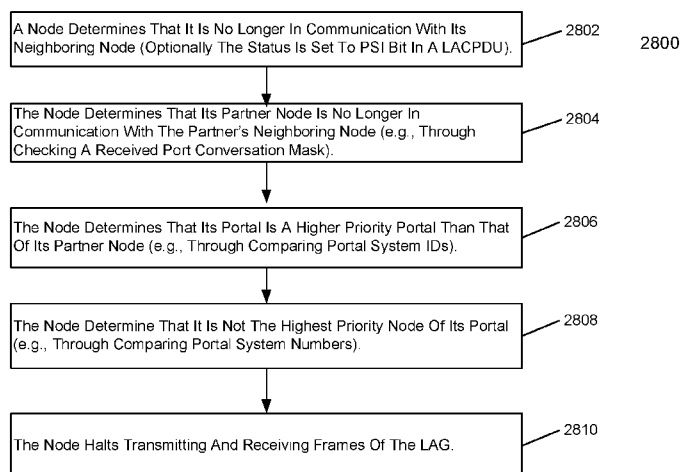
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(54) Title: A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR SUPPORTING DISTRIBUTED RELAY CONTROL PROTOCOL (DRCP) OPERATIONS UPON COMMUNICATION FAILURE



(57) Abstract: A method supporting a distributed resilient network interconnect (DRNI) in a link aggregation group upon communication failure at a network device is disclosed. The method starts with determining that the network device no longer communicates with its neighbor network device. The network device then determines that its partner network device no longer communicates with the partner network device's neighbor network device. The network device determines that the first portal that the network device belongs to has a higher portal priority than the second portal that the partner network device belongs to, wherein each portal is assigned a portal priority, and it determines that the network device has a lower network device priority than the neighbor network device, wherein each network device is assigned a network device priority. Then the network device halts transmitting and receiving frames of the link aggregation group at the network device.

FIG. 28

**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*
- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

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