

Abstract of the Invention

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METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING A SELECTIVELY
ISOLATED EQUIPMENT AREA NETWORK FOR MACHINE ELEMENTS
WITH DATA COMMUNICATION THEREBETWEEN AND WITH
REMOTE SITES

An equipment area network is provided for a plurality of pieces of industrial equipment by connecting to each a controller, a Web server connected to or integral with the PLC, and a router connected between the PLC and a LAN or WAN, the router serving to both selectively isolate the PLC from the LAN or WAN, and to route traffic therebetween that may include Web traffic.

Fig. 2