## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method for connecting a laterally installable card longitudinally through an opening in an external wall of a computer system chassis, while the remaining cards of the computer system remain under power and operational. The system includes a carrier with guides and a first system connector for receiving the card. The carrier also includes a related, second system connector configured for longitudinal mating with a system connector on the chassis. The computer system incorporates light pipes that function as guides for the insertion of the carrier into the chassis, where the light pipes can be illuminated to indicate which card is to be changed. A handle provides for the insertion of the carrier into the chassis, and a locking mechanism on the chassis secures the carrier in an installed position.