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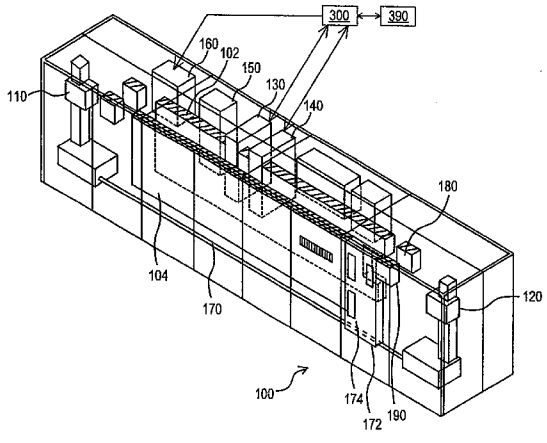
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(54) Title: MAINTAINING INFORMATION IN ONE OR MORE VIRTUAL VOLUME AGGREGATES COMPRISING A PLURALITY OF VIRTUAL VOLUMES



(57) Abstract: Information is maintained in one or more virtual volume aggregates comprising a plurality of virtual volumes. A plurality of virtual volumes is maintained in a first information storage medium, and forms one or more virtual volume aggregates, where each of the of virtual volumes is assigned to one of the virtual volume aggregates. The method further provides a plurality of second information storage media. The method then identifies the least recently used virtual volume, and writes the virtual volume aggregate comprising that least recently used virtual volume to one or more second information storage media. Thereafter, the method determines if space is required on said first information storage medium. If space is required on said first information storage medium, the method selects the virtual volume aggregate comprising the least recently used virtual volume and removes from said first information storage medium each virtual volume in that selected virtual volume aggregate that has been written to one or more second information storage media.

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