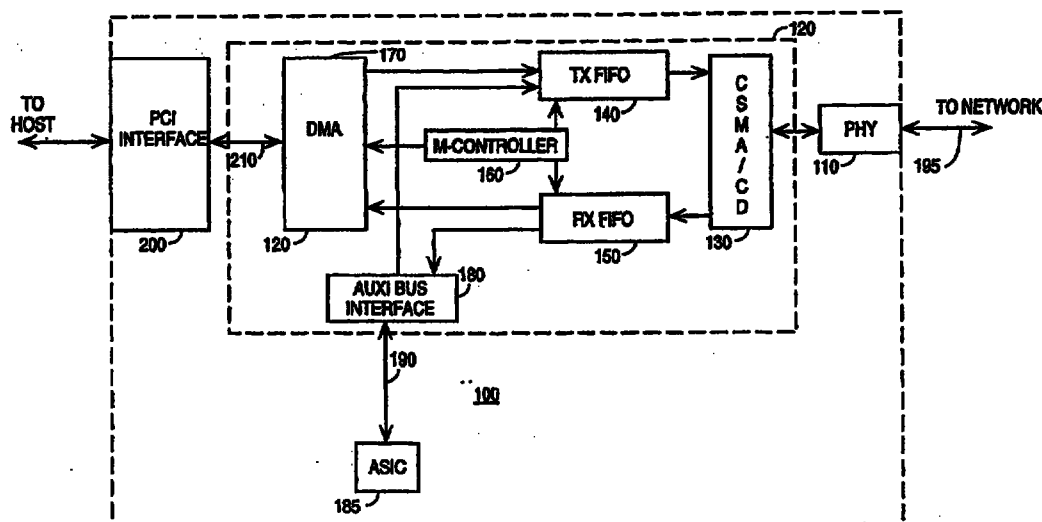




## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

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| <p>(21) International Application Number: <b>PCT/US99/11541</b></p> <p>(22) International Filing Date: <b>25 May 1999 (25.05.99)</b></p> <p>(30) Priority Data:<br/><b>09/136,870</b>      <b>19 August 1998 (19.08.98)</b>      <b>US</b></p> <p>(71) Applicant: <b>INTEL CORPORATION [US/US]; 2200 Mission College Boulevard, Santa Clara, CA 95052 (US).</b></p> <p>(72) Inventors: <b>WILLIAMS, Steven, D.; 2135 N.W. 107th Place, Portland, OR 97229 (US). ZINATY, Amir; David-Assaf Street 2/30, 34760 Haifa (IL). SMITH, Carey, W.; 6129 N. Lovely Street, Portland, OR 97203 (US). PRAT, Gideon; 35 Wellenberg Street, 34990 Haifa (IL).</b></p> <p>(74) Agents: <b>MILLIKEN, Darren, J. et al.; Blakely, Sokoloff, Taylor &amp; Zafman LLP, 7th floor, 12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90025 (US).</b></p> | <p>(81) Designated States: <b>AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</b></p> <p><b>Published</b><br/><i>With international search report.</i></p> |                                                                                                                                  |

(54) Title: NETWORK CONTROLLER



## (57) Abstract

A network controller (100) comprising a media access control (MAC) layer, a physical (PHY) protocol layer (110), a PCI bus interface (200), and an auxiliary bus interface (180). The PCI and auxiliary bus interfaces are coupled in the network so as to transmit and receive from a network link, binary digital signals via the MAC and PHY layers. The MAC layer is adapted to process and direct at least portions of the digital signals to an auxiliary bus interface.