

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
14 March 2002 (14.03.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 02/021736 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **H04B 10/213**,
H04L 12/437

(74) Agent: **BRUCKNER, John, J.**; Gray Cary Ware &
Freidenrich LLP, 1221 S. MoPac Expressway, Suite 400,
Austin, TX 78746-6875 (US).

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US01/26692

(22) International Filing Date: 24 August 2001 (24.08.2001)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
09/658,420 8 September 2000 (08.09.2000) US

(63) Related by continuation (CON) or continuation-in-part
(CIP) to earlier application:
US 09/658,420 (CON)
Filed on 8 September 2000 (08.09.2000)

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **AURORA
NETWORKS, INC.** [US/US]; 4151 Burton Drive, Santa
Clara, CA 95054 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **SUCHARCZUK,
Guy** [US/US]; 765 Mahogany Lane, Sunnyvale, CA 94086
(US). **WOLODKOWICZ, Wanda** [CA/US]; 2221 Lenox
Place, Santa Clara, CA 95054 (US). **PRADZYNSKI,
Krzysztof** [CA/US]; 2221 Lenox Place, Santa Clara, CA
95054 (US).

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU,
CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, 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, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW,
MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI,
SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU,
ZA, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM,
KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, 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, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF,
CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD,
TG).

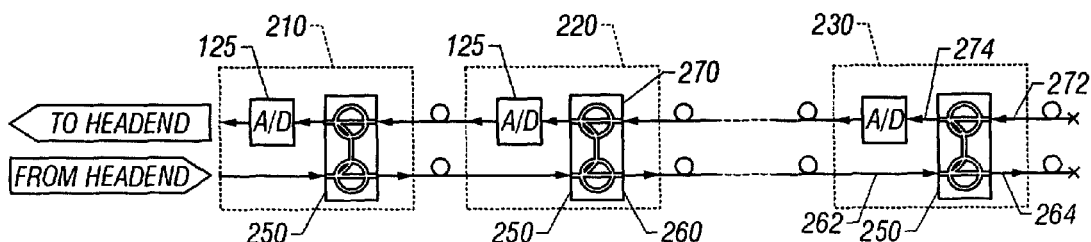
Published:

— with international search report

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
23 January 2003

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: ACTIVE EQUIPMENT PROTECTION METHODS AND APPARATUS



(57) **Abstract:** Systems and methods are described for communications networks. A method, includes deploying a communication link, at least a portion of which is protected against active equipment failure, that includes a splitter-combiner communicatively coupled between a data drop/add device and a headend. The systems and methods provide advantages because a communication network can be protected, at least in-part, against active equipment (e.g., data drop/add device) failure, passive equipment (e.g. optical fiber) failure, and/or equipped for non-intrusive expansion of the network.



WO 02/021736 A3