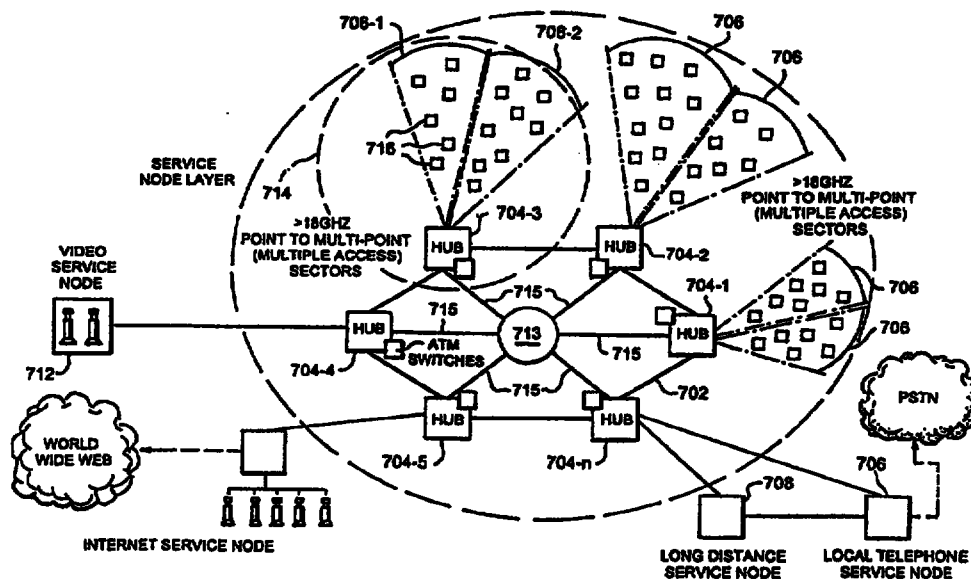




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(54) Title: METROPOLITAN WIDE AREA NETWORK



(57) Abstract

A wide area communication network includes at least two hub sites which are interconnected by a communication backbone. Each hub site provides millimeter microwave wireless coverage in at least one sector. At least two remote sites reside in each sector and are coupled to a corresponding hub site via a point to multi point broadband millimeter microwave wireless system. The network preferably includes at least one service node which is accessible to the remote sites via the hub sites and backbone.