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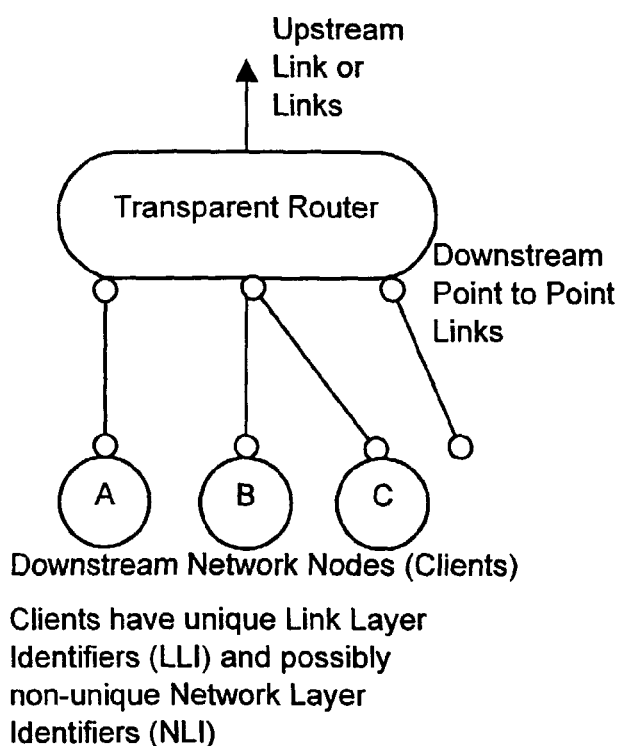
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(54) Title: RECONFIGURABLE COMPUTER NETWORKS



(57) Abstract: A computer network is configured to allow addition, deletion and movement of networked objects within the network, which includes a configurable router and a plurality of networked objects, each located at a network node in the network. Configuration of the network includes the steps of: a) providing a point-to-point link between the configurable router and each network node; b) assigning a point-to-point link identifier to each of the point-to-point links; c) obtaining for each networked object a link layer identifier; d) receiving at the configurable router communications from the networked objects, the source of each communication being determinable by reference to an identifier pair consisting of a point-to-point link identifier and a link layer identifier associated with the communication; e) receiving at the configurable router communications intended for individual networked objects, the destination for each communication being determinable by reference to an identifier pair consisting of a point-to-point link identifier and a link layer identifier obtained by translating a network address associated with the communications; and f) detecting the addition or deletion of a networked object from the network, or the movement of a networked object from one point-to-point link to another by detecting at the configurable router discrepancies between identifier pairs associated with current communications and identifier pairs associated with previous communications, and/or by detecting non-receipt of communications.