22/07/03
200304321

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

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

162162

(43) International Publication Date
8 August 2002 (08.08.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 02/062033 A3

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: H04L 29/06

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US02/02594

(22) International Filing Date: 29 January 2002 (29.01.2002)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
09/774,429 30 January 2001 (30.01.2001) US

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(81) Designated State *(national)*: SG.

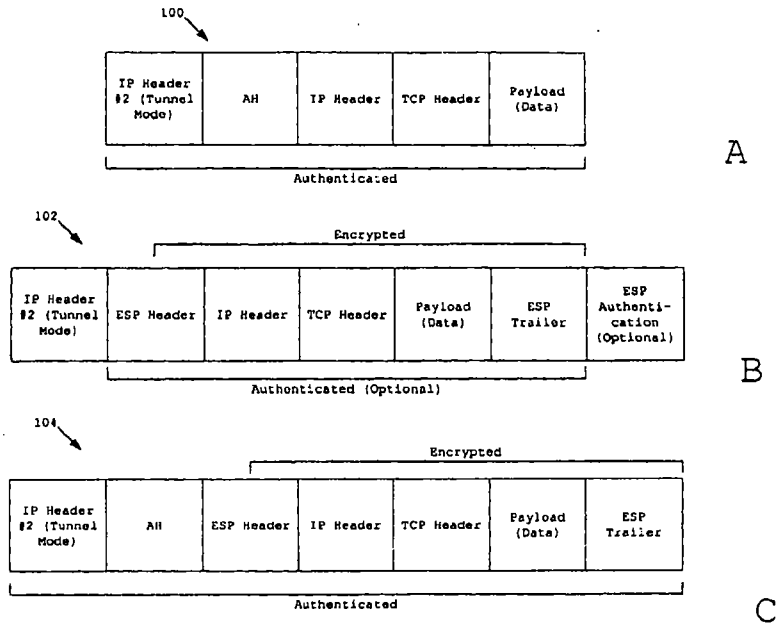
(84) Designated States *(regional)*: European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR).

Published:
— *with international search report*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
27 February 2003

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

(54) Title: PROCESSING INTERNET PROTOCOL SECURITY TRAFFIC



(57) Abstract: Processing Internet Protocol security (IPsec) traffic includes determining at a first location if a classification parameter is available for the IPsec traffic that indicates a route for the IPsec traffic and forwarding the IPsec traffic based on the classification parameter. If a classification parameter is not available, processing IPsec traffic includes decrypting the IPsec traffic at a second location if the IPsec traffic is encrypted and determining the classification parameter for the IPsec traffic at the second location.

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