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- (54) **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR LAYER 2 MULTICAST TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT**
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- (*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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(58) **Field of Classification Search** **370/395.53, 370/390, 432, 389, 229, 386, 400, 252, 238; 725/148; 709/238, 226, 224**

See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

One embodiment pertains to a switching device which is configured to provide multicast traffic management in a layer 2 network without layer 3 devices A specific embodiment relates to a method of implementing IGMP multicasting in a layer 2 network. IGMP packets are snooped by multiple switches in the layer 2 network. IGMP query messages are generated by each of the multiple switches. IGMP join report messages are forwarded by each of the multiple switches to all ports on which a querier is present. Other embodiments are also disclosed.

14 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets