

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SOFTWARE FEATURES
SYNCHRONIZATION BETWEEN SOFTWARE SYSTEMS

1 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The invention relates to software systems particularly with respect to coordination of software
5 feature installation in separate software systems.

2. Description of the Prior Art

Computer systems normally include plural separate software systems exemplified by the System Software (including the Operating System (OS), System Libraries
10 and Utility programs), Application software (including OEM as well as user), and for some Medium to Large Scale systems, Special Purpose Processor (SPP) microcode. An example of an SPP would be the Task Control Unit (TCU) and I/O Unit (IOU) which are part of the I/O Module (IOM)
15 on some of the A-Series and ClearPath systems manufactured by Unisys Corporation of Blue Bell, Pennsylvania (e.g. A18, NX4800).

The IOU is a logical component of the IOM responsible for managing I/O requests sent by OS software.
20 The TCU is the logical component of the IOM responsible for managing task switching and events. In such computer systems there is generally a problem with respect to the release and/or installation of such software systems (e.g., OS software and SPP microcode).

25 The IOU is a logical component of the IOM responsible for managing I/O requests sent by OS software. The TCU is the logical component of the IOM responsible for managing task switching events. In such computer systems there is generally a problem with respect to
30 the release and/or installation of such software systems (e.g., OS software and SPP microcode).

Normally, the release and/or installation of OS software and SPP microcode can occur independently.