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- 1 3. The method of Claim 2 wherein each said bit mask
includes a reserved bit for said error indication and
wherein said step of transferring said error indication
includes
- 5 setting, by said second software entity, said
reserved bit in a bit mask containing said indications
of features supported by said second software entity.
4. The method of Claim 2 further comprising
- 10 including, in said first software entity, a
hardcoded list of said bit masks containing said
indications of features supported by said first software
entity, and
- including, in said second software entity, a
- 15 hardcoded list of said bit masks containing said
indications of features supported by said second software
entity.
5. The method of Claim 4 wherein said features
- 20 supported by said first software entity comprise required
features of said first software entity and said features
supported by said second software entity comprise required
features of said second software entity.
- 25 6. The method of Claim 5 wherein one of said first
and second software entities supports an optional feature,
said method further comprising
- including in said hardcoded list associated with
said one software entity an indication of said optional
- 30 feature and an indication that said optional feature
is optional.
7. The method of Claim 6 wherein said hardcoded
- 35 lists include indications that said required features
are required.