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(54) **PLATFORM INDEPENDENT ON DEMAND NETWORK MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

In an example method, a network administrative device receives an indication that a multicast data flow is experiencing traffic loss. The administrative device transmits instructions to a last hop to begin monitoring incoming traffic, if the last hop is receiving expected traffic, the last hop sends it location to the administrative device. If the last hop is not receiving expected traffic, it sends instruction to a next upstream device to start monitoring incoming traffic. Based on receiving a message indicating the location of the last hop, the administrative device determines a network fault is occurring at a location of the last hop. Based on receiving a message indicating a location of an upstream device, the administrative device determines a network fault is occurring at the location of the upstream device.