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(54) **PLACEMENT OF METADATA ON DATA STORAGE DRIVES IN A FIRST STORAGE ENCLOSURE OF A DATA STORAGE SYSTEM**

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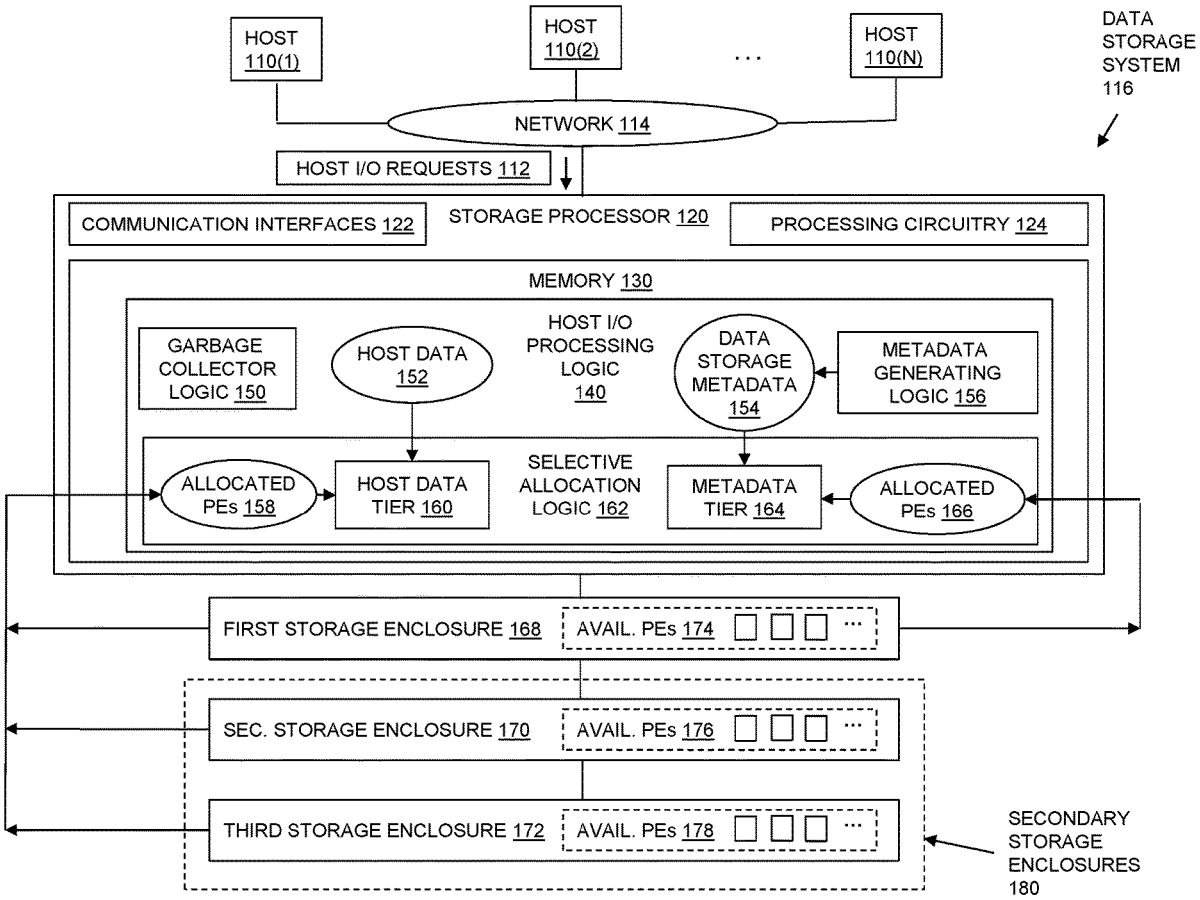
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A data storage system in which data storage space for storing data storage metadata is selectively allocated from non-volatile data storage devices contained in a first storage enclosure. The first storage enclosure is directly connected to at least one storage processor of the data storage system, and the data storage system further includes at least one secondary storage enclosure that is indirectly connected to the storage processor. Data storage metadata is generated within the data storage system, and the data storage metadata generated within the data storage system is stored into the data storage space that was selectively allocated for storing data storage metadata from the non-volatile data storage devices contained in the first storage enclosure.