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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

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I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: BOX PROVISIONAL PATENT APPLICATION, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By: Janice Knier
Name: Janice Knier

REQUEST FOR PROVISIONAL APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(c)

BOX PROVISIONAL PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

This is a request for filing a Provisional application for patent under 37 CFR § 1.53(c) entitled METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR DISTRIBUTING INFORMATION by the following inventor:

Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name	First Given Name	Second Given Name
	ENGSTROM	ERIC	
Residence & Citizenship	City	State or Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
	KIRKLAND	WASHINGTON	USA
Post Office Address	Post Office Address	City	State & Zip Code/Country
	12415 HOLMES POINT DRIVE NE	KIRKLAND	WASHINGTON 98033/ USA

- ☒ Enclosed is the Provisional application for patent as follows: 7 pages of specification.
- ☒ Small entity status is claimed pursuant to 37 CFR 1.27.
- ☒ Payment of Provisional filing fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16(k) :
☒ PAYMENT OF THE FILING FEE IS BEING DEFERRED.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees as set forth in 37 CFR §§ 1.16 to 1.18 which may be required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Account No. 13-2725.
- ☒ Address all future communications to the **Attention of John W. Branch** (may only be completed by attorney or agent of record) at the address below.

6. ☒ A return postcard is enclosed.

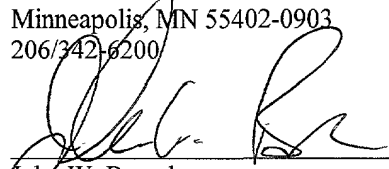
Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
206/342-6200



Date:

5/11/01


John W. Branch
Reg. No. 41,633
JWB/jk

206-342-6200

A-1

Invention Disclosure

Inventor(s): Eric Engstrom

Date:

Patent matter number:

Working Title

Thumbs Up – Thumbs Down

Background

People like to give opinions. They also like to see what others think, particularly their friends.

Invention

A cell phone includes two buttons that are used for voting. On the Gitwit phone, these two buttons are the side buttons which can also be used for morse code. In one embodiment, the operation of this invention is:

- User evaluates a target item.
- Depending on mode, either the phone “knows” what the target is, or the user must indicate the item.
- The user’s vote, together with the id of the target item (if not already known) is sent to a central database.
- Personal preferences are saved to a particular database (may be the central database), and used in a variety of ways.
- Results are aggregated, and the aggregated data is used in a number of ways.
- Incentives can be given for voting (coupons, etc.)

Ways of indicating the item being voted on.

1. If listening to a song, the current song is the target of the vote.
2. User can scan the bar code of an item, using a bar code reader built into the phone. The item ID and vote are transmitted.
3. Another party may send a question to users, via a web site or instant messaging. Votes may be sent to a web site and/or a particular database.
4. At a concert, the current song playing may be the target of the vote.
5. When watching TV, vote on the show. When using the phone as a TV remote control, the phone knows the channel watched and the time. In another embodiment, the user can manually enter the channel that is watched or scan a bar code associated with the watched TV show. User can see aggregated votes on the show they are watching, as the show progresses. Users can change their votes as the show progresses.

In some of these cases, the information on what the target is must be sent to a particular database. E.g. In the concert example, user votes may be sent by short message service (SMS) or telephone phone call to a central server that tracks current songs and sends this data to the database. User votes are also sent. Also, in this example, the server may send the title and ID of a song to users

Inventor _____ Date _____

Witness. I have read and understand this invention.

_____ Date _____

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in the audience, for display on the phone. In other events, a coordinator could present questions to users, with the questions transmitted to the database.

Uses for individual data

1. Phone can indicate to user when a favored song/artist is playing. Favored song can be based on personal vote, or votes of others who have similar tastes.
2. Indicate when favored TV shows will be on that evening. Similar to songs, but requires input of TV schedule. Single button sends command to PC/TV to record the show.

Aggregating data

Use Bayes theorem to measure the values of user opinions, and weight accordingly.

Some specific uses:

1. User can get graphs of other people's opinions on a product. This can include data of all others, others with similar tastes, or just friends. e.g. After scanning an item in a store, get instant graph of voting by others.
2. Another example is for songs. User is listening to a song, votes on it, and sees opinions of others regarding the song. At a concert, the results may be updated during the playing of the song, as more people vote.
3. When a popular song is being played on a radio station, the user can be notified and asked whether to tune to the station.
4. Users can also see data for multiple items. E.g. For a set of favorite radio stations, user sees a chart of votes for currently playing songs on each station. User can then click to tune to that station. User can also select an option to automatically tune to, or be notified of, a station when a song with a very high approval rating.
5. Standing outside a multiplex movie theater, user can get a chart with ratings for each movie playing in the theater, or for selected movies. Theater can give a coupon for users who vote after seeing a movie there.
6. Users can vote for a business, while they are inside or right outside. GPS is used to identify the business. While standing outside a business, they can see the results of votes for the business. Users can also enter short comments, which get send to a Gitwit server. When outside the business, they can scroll through the comments of others.

Key elements to claim

1. Voting on an item using keys on a cell phone; immediately viewing results of aggregated votes.
2. Using Bayes theorem to measure the value of votes.
3. Voting on a song playing on the radio. Receiving real-time data on song popularity.
4. Receiving a notification when a popular song is being played on the radio.
5. Voting on a song playing live.
6. Identifying the voting target by using a bar code reader.
7. Identifying the voting target using GPS. Receiving comments by others based on location, as determined by GPS.

Inventor _____ Date _____

Witness. I have read and understand this invention.

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B-1

Invention Disclosure

Inventor(s): Eric Engstrom

Date:

Working Title

Recording Songs from Radio Stations

Background

Invention

Phone has a radio tuner and the ability to record from a radio station. Songs are saved in the phone memory in MP3 format.

Titles of playing song are received and displayed on the phone LCD screen. If subtitle signals are sent, the lyrics are also displayed. The station identifier is also displayed.

If the user is listening to a "live" radio song and receives a phone call, the phone automatically begins recording the song when the user begins the call. When the user hangs up, the phone begins playing the song from where the user left off.

The phone has a second radio tuner. The second tuner scans favorite radio stations in the background. The user specifies a list of desired songs or artists. When the tuner finds the song playing, it automatically records it. When finished, it notifies the user that a new song has been received. Songs are identified by title/artist data transmitted by the radio station.

Enhancements

If the station sends a signal when a song is done, the recorder can stop automatically when it receives the signal.

Instead of a second radio tuner doing the scanning, a central server in each geographic area can scan radio stations (or have one tuner tuned to each station) for songs. A server maintains the desired song list for each user. Each time a new song starts, a check is made to find all users that are interested in the song. The server sends a signal to the users' phones, telling it the radio station to tune to. The phone automatically records the song.

The central server receives, from each radio station, a playlist for the day. The server follows the playlist and updates it based on each song that plays (e.g. identifies skipped songs or changes to the schedule).

Radio stations transmit data telling what song is coming soon, and approximate time. The tuner can use this info to more easily find desired songs.

If the user is not using the first tuner, both tuners can be used for finding and downloading songs. Both tuners can scan for songs, and download desired songs concurrently. Alternatively, one

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tuner scans for songs. When found, it is used to record the song, and the second tuner begins scanning, so that only one tuner is scanning at a time. Another alternative is that one tuner scans for songs. When one is found, the second tuner is set to the correct frequency and begins recording. The first tuner continues scanning for another possible song. In one embodiment, the user is not listening to the radio, so both tuners are free. Also, the phone's processor coordinates the actions of both tuners, so they do not scan the same stations.

Witness. I have read and understand this invention.

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Company Confidential

Ex.1007

C

Invention Disclosure

Inventor(s): Eric Engstrom
Date:

Working Titles

Transferring links to radio/TV/phone calls
Command button activated by a received link

Background

Invention

1) User1 is listening to a radio station. He initiates a command that sends an instant message to user2. The message can be sent by SMS or another packet protocol. User2 sees a message to the effect of "I'm listening to a cool song on the radio. Do you want to hear it?" The message also contains data on what the radio station is. This data is tied to the "*" button on the phone. If user2 presses the "*" button, the tuner on her radio is automatically tuned to the same radio station that user1 is listening to.

2) User1 is watching TV. He initiates a command similar to #1, but referring to a TV show. User2 is watching TV. Her phone includes an IR remote control. She points the phone to the TV, presses the "*" button, and the phone changes the TV channel to the one that user1 is watching. Note that if user2 is watching TV on her phone, then this works more like #1. If user2 is sitting at her PC, and receives the message on the PC, then the TV tuner is changed to the correct station. If the station is received via streaming video, it works in a similar manner.

3) User1 sends an instant message to user2, inviting user2 to call him. The message includes user1's phone number. User2 presses the "*" button, which calls user1.

Inventor _____ Date _____

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D

Invention Disclosure

Inventor(s): Eric Engstrom

Date:

Working Title

Method of serving ads to a wireless phone

Background

Invention

Phone has a radio tuner and the ability to record from a radio station. Songs are saved in the phone memory in compressed audio format.

Phone receives short ads, promos, station identification via RDS band and stores them in memory. Ads can be any combination of audio, text or images to be shown on the display, visualizer patterns/sequences to be shown via LEDs, and text/images to be displayed on moving LEDs. When a user listens to songs that she has earlier recorded, ads, etc. are interspersed with the songs. Non-audio ads/promos can be displayed concurrently with the songs.

Ads can be targeted for each user based on personalization information.

Radio station promos are valuable to the radio stations. Third party ads that the radio station may normally play on the radio provide value to the station, since the phone becomes an additional outlet for their ads. This value is provided in consideration for the radio station cooperating in providing play lists, etc.

Inventor _____ Date _____

Witness. I have read and understand this invention.

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E

Invention Disclosure

Inventor(s): Eric Engstrom

Date:

Working Title

Presence Aggregation

Background

Kids like to know what their friends are doing.

Invention

Invention keeps track, by individual and by aggregation, what friends are doing. It tracks such things as:

- What radio station user is listening to.

- What web site user is viewing.

- What TV station user is watching.

- If friend(s) are at the mall.

Except for the last disclosed embodiment, GPS may not be required. TV station is known if friend is using phone as a remote control (or if phone has a TV).

User can see what an individual is doing, or what aggregate of friends are doing, or what aggregate of all phone users within a geographic region (e.g. City/town/cell). With the smaller groups, data is received by central server(s) and forward to phone individually. The phone records and aggregates. For larger groups, the server aggregates and sends aggregate numbers. When individual info is involved, friends must opt in. With larger aggregation, privacy is not an issue.

This can be combined with the single button link, so that when user sees that many people are listening to a radio station, user presses "*" button and tuner changes to that station. Similar for TV stations or web sites.

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Witness. I have read and understand this invention.

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