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Transmitted herewith for filing is the Patent Application of: DAMON C. TORRES

For: AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

TYPE OF FILING

This new patent application is for a(n):

[ ] Utility
[ ] Design
[ ] Plant
[ ] Divisional
[ ] Continuation
[X] Continuation-in-part

Benefit of a prior filed application

[X] This is a continuation-in-part of copending application Serial No. 08/922,063 filed on September 2, 1997 claims the benefit of an earlier filed U.S. Patent Application under 35 USC 120.

[ ] Please accord Applicant the benefit of the priority date of_____ to this case pursuant to 35 USC 119. Applicant's claim for priority is based on application_____ filed in____ on that date.

Filing under 37 CFR 1.53 (Utility) or 37 CFR 1.153 (Design)

[ ] This is an application filed pursuant to 37 CFR 1.53 or 37 CFR 1.153, permitting receipt of a filing date upon filing of a specification, at least one claim and necessary drawings.

[X] In the event any parts of this application are incomplete, please treat this as a filing under 37 CFR 1.53 or 37 CFR 1.153.

ENCLOSURES

Minimum requirements under 37 CFR 1.53(b) (Utility) or 37 CFR 1.153 (Design)

[X] 34 pages of specification;

[X] 6 pages of claims;

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.10(a))

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☒ _1_ pages of abstract;
☒ _9_ sheets of informal drawings;
☒ A Declaration, Power of Attorney & Petition or listing of inventors;
and
☒ A postcard for return to us as proof of receipt of the above documents.

plus
☐ An Assignment of the invention to_____and an Assignment cover sheet;
☒ Verified Statement Claiming Small Entity Status (37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b))
☐ Form PTO-1449 (IDS) and copies of the references listed thereon;
☐ A certified copy of _____(country) patent application number (priority document).
☐ A preliminary amendment;
☐ Declaration of Biological Deposit;
☐ Submission of sequence listing, computer readable copy and/or amendment relating thereto for biotechnology invention containing nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence;
☐ An associate power of attorney;
☐ Other.

DECLARATION OR OATH

The enclosed Declaration or Oath has been executed by:
☒ Inventor(s);
☐ Legal representative of the inventors (37 CFR 1.42 or 1.43);
☐ Joint inventor or person showing proprietary interest on behalf of an inventor who refused to sign or who cannot be reached and this is a petition required by 37 CFR 1.47 and the statement required by 37 CFR 1.47 is attached;
☐ Has not been executed and is enclosed for the purposes of identifying the inventors.

INVENTORSHIP STATEMENT

The inventorship for all the claims in this application is:
☒ the same;
☐ not the same and, as an explanation, a statement is/ will be submitted.

LANGUAGE

The application submitted herewith is:
☒ in English;
☐ in not in English and in terms of 37 CFR 1.52(d) a verified translation is
  ☐ attached
  ☐ not attached.

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FEE CALCULATION

The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

	SMALL ENTITY		OR	OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
BASIC FEE Design Patent		$165			$330
BASIC FEE Utility Patent		$395			$790
EXTRA FEES	RATE	FEE		RATE	FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS 33 MINUS 20 =	13	x 11 = $143.00		x 22 = $	
INDEP.CLAIMS 3 MINUS 3 =	0	x 41 = $		x 82 = $	
☐ MULTIPLE DEP.CLAIM		+135 = $		+270 = $	
☐ ASSIGNMENT		+ 40= $			+ 40 = $
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TOTAL	$ 538.00			$ 0	

FEE PAYMENT

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- ☐ Any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16, except Rule 53 filings, which will be paid within the time permitted by PTOL 1533.
- ☐ Assignment Recordal fees.

☐ The filing fee and surcharge under 37 CFR 1.16, patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17 and patent issue fees under 37 CFR 1.18 are intended to be paid by our firm as they arise. As no abandonment is intended by any inadvertent nonpayment of fees, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of such fees as from time to time come due, if not paid prior to due date to our Deposit Account No. 19-2825 .

☐ A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 9/1/98

Robert M. Haroun
Reg. No. 34,345

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

Address:342 Madison Avenue, Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173
Telephone:(212)697-2800
Facsimile:(212)697-3004

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UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION

FOR

AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

Inventor:

Damon C. Torres

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Related Applications

This is a continuation-in-part application of a currently pending application serial no. 08/922,063 filed on September 2, 1997.

Field Of The Invention

This invention relates generally to computer networks, and specifically to a method of sequencing and scheduling web pages, via a suite of software applications.

Background Of The Invention

The worldwide network of computers commonly known as the "Internet" has grown tremendously since the creation of a subset known as the "World Wide Web" (WWW or Web), popularized in 1993. The emergence of the Web, and its accompanying standards enabled users to move beyond traditional on-line data exposure, which required knowledge of protocols and other low-level computer constructs, to a much more filtered and full-featured interface in the form of a "Web Browser." The Web Browser filters out the computer constructs, displaying only pertinent content, such as text, images, animations and sounds, while hiding from the user the computer codes that are used to negotiate access, generate and display this content.

Some of the standards popularized by the web are Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP), Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) and the Uniform Resource Locator (URL). HTTP allows HTML documents, which carry many forms of information, from text and images, to audio and video, to be easily found via a URL from a collection of networks known as the Internet. These networks have public and private files which are accessed via routing tables. The routing tables

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reside on Domain Name Servers (DNS) and are regularly updated.

Two innovations provided by the Browser environment, HTTP and the Internet are: specialized display of data (certain text and graphics) and "Hyperlinks" which appear as "clickable-buttons" or "links" made of text or graphics in the Graphical User Interface (GUI) presented by the Browser. These links contain an address for another location on the Internet. Instead of seeing computer language full of telecommunications protocols and an occasional listing of a graphic file's name, the user sees only human pertinent text and an automatically displayed image within this text. The user is shown graphical or textual links to facilitate navigation instead of having to properly enter complex path names.

This combination of features, coupled with the ease of use that HTML provides as a page publishing format, have proved to be very popular, leading to a mass adoption of this new medium by many constituencies. These include education, most areas of business (publishing, finance, commerce, entertainment, etc.) and government. Given the increasing adoption of the Web, many non-technically oriented users use this new medium to go from page to page, shifting from one computer network to the next simply by making decisions on which links to click. Search engines which index the Web allow these users to quickly locate URLs and their associated links. In addition, content aggregators collect and publish collections of Web pages. In just a few years, the Web has evolved from static pages to pages containing animation, personalized data, commerce-level security and streaming audio and video. A more recent innovation is the "Push Technology" model which is found in the more recently released browsers.

Push technology, pioneered by Pointcast™, has been adopted by Netscape™ and

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Microsoft™, the two browser giants, as the next way to connect viewers with content. As implemented by Pointcast, push technology began in 1996 as a personalized data gathering service. Users select content sources from a list and the Pointcast service automatically provides updated information which is displayed by the user's screen saver in a uniform format. Information providers who send information to users using the Pointcast system must first format their information according to requirements set by Pointcast. Thus, the "pages" of information displayed by the Pointcast screen saver are specially prepared screens. A user of the Pointcast system can access information only from those sources which have prepared information in the Pointcast format.

By collecting user interest profiles, the current "4.x" level browsers can constantly update a specific set of topics, from news, sports and weather, to financial and entertainment content. Thus, push technology enables information to come to the user instead of requiring the user to seek out the information. This not only facilitates a new distribution method for publishers and advertisers, but it also fosters new community models and demographics to go with them. As web browsing has evolved it has changed from a mere novelty, to a relied upon conduit of information flow.

Recently, problems with access to a major on-line service provider produced lawsuits stemming from lack of access to mission-critical information, in both receipt and transmission. As this technology has moved from budding curiosity browsing to true reliance, the blossoming of the technology has yet to show what mature fruit it will provide. Commerce is a large part of the development of the medium as companies like Cisco and Boeing conduct exclusive web-based sales in excess of one billion dollars. In addition, consumer and small

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business oriented vendors such as Dell have sales in excess of $1 million per day via their website. But what other services, beyond a catalog of information and products, will the Internet and its Web offer? The subject invention proposes a next-level of functionality that may provide an insight.

Summary of the Invention

In accordance with one embodiment of the invention, a presentation software is employed in a web browser software. A triggering event, such as a mouse click on a single "link" commences the presentation of a series of resources instead of one resource at a time. This arrangement of resources, is defined as a "show structure" or "structure," which contains a set of nodes. Each node represents a resource such as a web page, an executable file, or a data file stored at a predetermined location and accessed via its corresponding address. This structure allows access to one or several topics of information from several sources in a continuous arrangement. The topics of information include multimedia data such as audio, video, graphics and text that together define a presentation show to a user.

It is noted that in accordance with one embodiment of the invention the nodes that define a show structure or a structure may be arranged as a multidimensional sequence. An array of nodes may be available for a multimedia presentation or show. Each node in the array is accessible from the other nodes in the array. These nodes or a portion of these nodes are selected for presentation. A show structure is defined by one or more paths that are spanned through these nodes.

The information conveyed by displaying the resources arranged may be

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interspersed with advertising and public service announcements (PSAs). The presentation of all resources may be adjusted for different pacing attributes of individual users. While the invention may automate a number of the decisions that a user makes in viewing a plurality of resources, it in no way inhibits the interactivity currently present on the Web. The decision-making process is not inhibited: it is optional, allowing for preprogramming and navigating the arrangement of resources on-the-fly or simply watching a series of pre-edited resources. The present invention serves as an enhancement which refocuses the state of content delivery to a user via a communication medium, such as the Internet, TV/PC hardware and software offerings.

In accordance with another embodiment of the present invention a method of presenting information content is provided, which includes the steps of accessing and providing the information from an arrangement of content sources, or a show structure of nodes. Each node in the structure includes both an address from which the information may be accessed and an indication of the duration for which the content will be presented. For each node, the method locates the content source, accesses the content and presents it for the indicated duration.

According to another aspect of the invention, while the requested information is being presented, the method queues and caches the next resource, then loads the next resource for viewing.

According to yet another aspect of the invention, a method is provided by which structures of content sources may be generated. A user may select and organize content from a variety of sources by several methods including a bookmark list, a list of search results and through the creation of a structure of nodes by a "drag-and-drop" technique.

According to yet another aspect of the invention, a method is provided for

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generating and publishing these structures. When a plurality of nodes are available for presentation, the system determines the order of such presentation based on predetermined set of criteria. Furthermore, a user may specify additional criteria for arranging the order of nodes in order to create a show structure. The method further includes provisions for a filter which customizes a preexisting structure by automatically conforming variable items in the structure to a predefined user profile.

In accordance with another embodiment of the invention, the presentation system and method of displaying resources includes a system for presentation of a user's local computer resources. Therefore, the arrangement of resources may include a show structure wherein each node in the structure represents a resource that exists locally within the user's computer. These resources may be scheduled in accordance with a specifiable arrangement and executed in accordance with the schedule.

In accordance with another embodiment of the invention, the method for creating a show structure may be employed by a variety of user terminals, such as computer PCS, dumb terminals, TV sets and other terminals that are capable of displaying information. Furthermore, for certain applications, the method for creating and displaying content from various resources, in accordance with one embodiment of the invention, may function as an operating system for managing resources for display on the user's terminal.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is a block diagram which illustrates the Internet and the World Wide Web environment in which the invention operates.

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Figure 2A is a block diagram of a hardware system for utilizing the present software invention.

Figure 2B-2F is an illustration of an exemplary node arrangements that define various show structures in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention.

Figure 3 is a flow-chart diagram which is useful for describing a software application which runs on a server and sequences and displays URLs and predefined structure automatically in accordance with timer settings while monitoring the navigation decisions of the user, if any.

Figure 4 is a flow-chart diagram of a client-side software application or Apple, which processes URLs and predefined structures automatically while monitoring the timer settings and navigation decisions of the user.

Figure 5 is a flow-chart diagram which illustrates the process by which initial structures of content are personalized and delivered to the user.

Figure 6 is a flow-chart diagram which illustrates a method of formatting individual resources and collections of resources for use with the resource scheduling and organizing software shown in Figures 3 through 5.

Figure 6A is a graphical depiction of a process for editing a structure of nodes.

Figure 7 is a computer screen diagram of an exemplary user interface for the invention that is useful for describing features of the invention.

Detailed Description

Figure 1 is a simplified block diagram which is useful for describing the

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connectivity of users and content providers on the Internet. Briefly, the Internet includes a large collection of content providers 10 which may be accessed by the users 12. Typically, a user accesses content on a "server" by establishing a data communications connection to the server through the network of computers 14, 16 defined by the Internet. Each server 10 operates a "web site" which includes data files that contain text, images, audio or video content. The web site typically includes a group of linked HTML documents or pages that contain links to the data files. A user 12 may access the content in a file by simply selecting one of these links. The file may be transferred to a cache in the user's computer and presented using the browser or the content may be provided directly by the server 10 to the user 12 as an encoded data stream (e.g. an audio program) which is decoded and played out by the user's computer 12.

Content accessed by the browser may not be in a file on a remote computer but may be generated by the remote computer and transmitted to the user directly. Much of the data that may be accessed by a browser on a remote computer is classified by Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension (MIME) type. One MIME type is an HTML file, another is a JPEG file, a still picture that is encoded according to the standard developed by the Joint Picture Experts Group. Mime types can also be proprietary data. In this instance, the browser may need to be configured with a "plug-in" program in order to decode and present the proprietary data. An example of such a plug-in is the Macromedia™ flash technology which allows streaming animation to be displayed with accompanying audio. For more information on MIME types, see Netscape's User Handbook at http://home.netscape.com/eng/mozilla/1.1/handbook/docs/answers.html, HTTP (HyperText Transfer Protocol) servers use HTML formatting. Netscape software has the built-in capability to read HTML-formatted pages (as well as the GIF, JPEG, and XBM graphic file

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formats). Netscape can interpret many other file formats with the help of external helper applications. To accommodate the file formats requiring helper applications, Netscape keeps a mapping of file formats to helper applications. MIME (Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions) is a standardized method for organizing divergent file formats. The method organizes file formats according to the file's MIME type. When Netscape software retrieves a file from a server, the server provides the MIME type of the file. Netscape uses the MIME type to establish whether the file format can be read by the software's built-in capabilities or, if not, whether a suitable helper application is available to read the file.

For servers that do not provide a MIME type with a file, Netscape interprets the file's extension (a suffix appended to a file name). For example, the .HTML extension in the file name index.html suggests a file in the HTML format. Likewise, a .zip extension suggests a compressed file, an .rtf extension suggests a file in the Rich Text Format, and so on.

The Internet content relating to a show structure, in accordance with one embodiment of the invention, may be implemented as a new MIME type. Thus a show structure may be created by a show originator who intends to present a corresponding arrangement of resources to a user at a specifiable rate. The show structure may be transmitted to a plurality of users via the Internet. Thus, in order to ensure the integrity of a show structure a security arrangement in accordance with one embodiment of the invention is provided as described hereinafter.

Thus, the software that creates the show structure allows the show originator, to encode the identity of its creator. Furthermore, a mechanism is employed to automatically verify that the show structure comprising the show has not been tampered with. In one exemplary

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implementation, this is accomplished by using cryptographic techniques; for example the Digital Signature Initiative (c.f. http://w3c.org/Dsig/Overview.html). The identity of the show originator is thus represented by a digital signature. The security status of the currently selected show structure is then visible at all times to the user. If a user chooses to edit a sequence of a show, the previously attached signature will be discarded and the user will be made aware of it's new unsigned status.

Today it is taken for granted that, to access services, information and entertainment on the Web, a user must make certain choices, position the mouse pointer and click the mouse buttons appropriately to indicate the decisions. For example, in a typical Web access, these selections are made at a rate of approximately once per minute. The result of each mouse click is another page and another set of decisions. Typically, a user is expected to click one of the several dozen links provided on any given page, (see, for example, cnn.com). Alternatively, a user may type in a URL or access a bookmark to visit a favorite search engine. In addition, a user may access a collection of "channels" of "push content" via Netscape Communicator's Netcaster or Microsoft Internet Explorer's Active Desktop and sit back for a few seconds to view an animated presentation of a specific publisher's offerings. The user may even choose a headline of a story presented in Pointcast's screen saver to receive more information about that topic grouping within the application, or to transfer to a relevant website. All of these methods typically require a significant amount of user effort and decision-making to drive the web surfing experience.

Although the users and servers are shown as separate machines in Figure 1, it is well known that a computer being used as a server may host users and may also serve as a conduit

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for connecting a user to a remote server.

Figure 2 is a block diagram which illustrates the basic layout of a typical user's computer, be it a personal computer (PC) or a network computer (NC), as typified by webtv™ or a Java Station™. The computer may also be a dedicated workstation coupled to a local area network or a terminal connected to a mainframe computer which is, in turn, coupled to the Internet or other communication networks. The user requires no special hardware to use this invention. No additional cards with TV tuners are required, but they can be used as an enhancement. This diagram illustrates one possible environment for the invention and should not be interpreted as limiting the invention. It is contemplated that the invention may employ user terminals which may have radically different hardware, including but not limited to hand held devices, public kiosks, dumb terminals, set-top boxes, TV sets, and even "credit card-sized" configurations.

The exemplary system includes a microprocessor 32 a random access memory (RAM) 34, a memory management circuit, a disk drive 36, a floppy disk drive 37, a read only memory (ROM) 33 which includes the basic I/O system (BIOS) for the computer system, a CD ROM drive 42, a modem 50, a digital signal processor 43, a keyboard controller 38, a mouse controller 39, a video controller 40, and an audio controller 41 which are all connected by a system bus 31. A keyboard 22, a mouse 23 and a graphic display monitor 24 are connected to the keyboard controller 38, mouse controller 39, and video controller 40. Stereo speakers 25A and 25B are connected to the audio controller 41. In the exemplary system, the connection to the on-line-service provider 16 (shown in Figure 1) is made through the modem 50 via a telephone line 56.

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As shown in Figure 2, the memory 34 includes an operating system 60, for example, Windows 95™; a browser 62 for example, Netscape Navigator™ 4.0; and a cache memory 63. The hard disk 36 is the main data storage device for the system shown in Figure 1. It includes the software needed to run the browser and libraries of software used by the operating system to control the operation of all of the components that are connected to the system bus 31. The hard disk 36 also includes a disk cache (not shown) for the browser. When data on a remote computer is accessed by the browser, it may be transferred by Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) or File Transfer Protocol (FTP) and stored in this disk cache temporarily.

The component of the invention which is used on the user computer 12 may be, for example, a browser plug in. While, in this example, the user component is a browser plug-in, it is contemplated that it may be an Applet which runs on a virtual computer defined by the browser, it may also be a stand-alone program, which includes the functionality that is typically provided by a browser, or it may be a distributed application. The user component is described below with reference to Figure 4 and is referred to as the program RoboSurf™. The RoboSurf program allows a user to view a show having content that corresponds to a show structure as will be explained in more detail later.

It is noted that in accordance with one embodiment of the invention the nodes that define a show structure or a structure may be arranged as a multidimensional sequence. Fig. 2b illustrates an array 300 of nodes that may be available for a multimedia presentation or show. Each node identifies an available resource and the time the resource may be presented to the user. As illustrated in Fig. 2B nodes 302, 304, 306, 308, 310 and 312 are available for presentation in accordance with an exemplary arrangement. Each node in the array is accessible from the other

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nodes in the array. For a typical show or presentations, an arrangement of these nodes or a portion of these nodes is selected for presentation as described in reference with Figs. 2c through 2f. Thus, a show structure is defined by one or more paths that are spanned through these nodes.

Fig. 2c illustrates a show structure that simultaneously spans multiple paths from the same starting node such as node 310 to each one of the remaining nodes 312, 302, 304, 306 and 308. Thus, a show in accordance with the structure presented in Fig. 2c simultaneously presents the contents identified by nodes 312, 302, 304, 306 and 308, after the content identified by node 310 is presented.

Alternatively, as illustrated in Fig. 2d-1 a show structure can span a path with a length of four beginning at node 308 and traversing to nodes 312, 302 and 306. The state map of this path is illustrated in Fig. 2d-2. Thus, a show in accordance with the structure presented in Fig. 2d-1 first presents the contents identified by node 308, followed by contents identified by nodes 312, 302 and 306.

In a still alternative arrangement, a show structure can be created that also spans multiple paths concurrently, as illustrated in Fig. 2e. For example a first path spans nodes 308, 302, 306 and 310. The second path spans nodes 312, 306, 304 and 310. As illustrated nodes 302, 306 and 310 are spanned simultaneously with nodes 306, 304 and 310. Thus a show in accordance with the structure presented in Fig. 2e first presents the contents identified by node 310, followed by the contents identified by node 312. Thereafter, the show structure presents contents identified in nodes 302, and 306 at the same time that is presents the contents identified in nodes 306 and 304. Finally, the structure presents contents identified in node 310.

Thus, a show structure may include one or more paths that can be presented

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sequentially and/or concurrently. It is noted that a path may include portions that is presented sequentially and other portions that are presented concurrently. Furthermore, one node to many nodes paths and many nodes to one node paths can also define a show structure. Every time that a node is detected the corresponding content of that node is presented to the user's terminal regardless of whether a plurality of nodes have been detected at the same time or separately.

It is noted that the process that creates and/or organizes and manages the arrangement of these nodes and ultimately the corresponding resources, may be implemented as a user specific operating system in accordance with one embodiment of the invention. The operating system then allows the paths to be selected and arranged in accordance with interactive user specifications or in accordance with predefined criteria. Thus, the operating system, among other things, organizes and arranges the available resources as identified by available nodes; allows end users to select and interact with files and applications; and make certain files and or resources available to be shared by all the other resources. For example, during a presentation of a show, certain sound effects and visual effects may be shared by all resources that may have use for such effects. Such an operating system can be employed for many applications described herein in accordance with various embodiments of the invention.

A show structure may be presented on a server that can be accessed by a user who visits a corresponding site on the server. This component on the server is described below with reference to Figure 3, and is referred to as the program Robosites™. Robosites may perform the actual transfer operations to obtain the pages from other web sites.

In addition to RoboSurf and Robosites, the exemplary system includes RoboGuide™, described below with reference to Figure 5, a program that allows several users to

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access a prepared show structure of nodes or links and have it customized to their respective preferences. The system also includes a program referred to as RoboPublisher™, described below with reference to Figure 6, which functions as a publishing software so as to help a publisher to prepare show structures. The entire suite of programs is referred to below as RoboCast.

Referring again to Figure 3 a flow-chart diagram which illustrates the operation of the server-side application, Robosites is explained in more detail. The first two steps in Figure 3 represent activities occurring at a user's computer 12. At step 70, the user starts to access the Internet or other network via a Personal Computer (PC) a Network Computer (NC), Web-Enabled TV Set, or other similar device. At step 72, the user encounters and selects a URL, for example, within a screen saver, an e-mail message, or a website, which is designated as an entry node in a show structure of resources. The URL may be so designated by its association within a list generated by a publisher, by results that are automatically generated by a search engine or because it is the first URL in a show structure of URL's that was manually collected by the user. The server stores a plurality of show structures each structure including nodes that represent a resource on the Internet. Thus, each structure represents a show that is available for the user's preview.

Accessing the resources referred to by the URL initiates a structure of events in the application Robosites which is running on server 10, shown in Figure 1. At step 74, the server parses the request into task sets, initiating the look-up of the resources indicated by the URL. This step gathers the relevant data and custom packages it for the browser 62, shown in Figure 2. As part of its custom packaging application Robosites provides a set of contents that can be displayed on the user's display terminal in the form of a persistent content window. Therefore, a

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small window on the user's screen begins to display contents that is provided by the server, such as advertising or user specific messages. Furthermore, as part of its custom packaging application, Robosites may arrange the location on the screen where the user can view a selected show, and also updates show structures that had been previously used by a user and had been cached in the user's computer.

At step 76, Robosites checks whether the user is intended to receive information in a dynamic arrangement referred to as value added dynamic content. As will be explained in more detail below such value added dynamic content may include additional URL locations or files that are deemed by Robosite system to be of interest to the user, such as advertising material. Such dynamic content is usually based on, among other things, the user's profile. For example, some of the factors relating to a user profile, which are considered include a particular sports team preference; a demographic; or a pre-set profile as specified in the software. This information is used as selection criteria which is sent to a database and, at step 78, a page, conforming to the user's preferences, is retrieved by the server, either locally or from a remotely located database. Thus, this dynamic content may be presented in the persistent content window of the user's display screen or as information and messaging contents selectively interspersed between a show structure.

At step 80, if the resource addressed by the URL does not include dynamic content or if the user is unable to receive dynamic content, a resource having pre-defined content is retrieved, either directly from a Robocast-operated resource, or from a third party with prior authorization to handle such content requests. For example, a resource having a default set of advertising content may be presented to the user.

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At step 82, either the dynamic or pre-defined URL is accessed and the content associated with the URL is retrieved, encoded and delivered to the browser at step 84. The content provided from the location addressed by the URL may be among other formats, include HTML, DHTML or XML documents. The delivered information may contain references for many other data types, including animation, streaming and non-streaming audio and video, Virtual Reality Modeling Language (VRML) Quicktime VR, and front-ends for several flavors of database applications, to name a few.

At step 84 the content retrieved by RoboSites is delivered ty the user's browser for a show presentation. This step is inherent in the operation of browser 62 (shown in Figure 2), accordingly, it is not described in detail. At step 86, a timer is started in response to a message produced by the browser 62 indicating that the retrieved content has been delivered and is ready to be presented. This timer is set from a value provided in the corresponding node in a show structure which indicates an amount of time that the content accessed from the associated URL is to be displayed. It is noted that RoboSites provides an additional code to the content corresponding to the amount of time the content is displayed. For example, for an HTML file, Robosites includes additional tags corresponding to the duration that the HTML document will be displayed by the user's browser.

At step 88, Robosites determines if the user has selected another URL before the timer expires. It is noted that the user may select another URL either manually or via a RoboSurf program that resides on the user's computer. In that event the newly selected URL is based on a node within a show structure that is being executed by the user's RoboSurf program. If another URL has been selected, the program will do one of two things: 1) forward that user away from

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the predetermined course of the show structure that was entered at the beginning of this process and take the user on another course, based on the other URL selected; or 2) skip them forward on the predetermined course that is being played for the user in accordance with the selected structure . This latter scenario is advantageous for a quick reader, or someone who has seen the presented content before, or in the case of content that the viewer chooses to skip (even an advertisement or PSA).

If the user has selected a new URL during the display time allowed by the timer, then, at step 90 Robosites determines whether the next URL relates to a show structure or not. This may be determined simply by the lack of new URL requests. It may also be determined by checking the header information of the new URL, as described below with reference to Table 1. As shown in step 93, the user's decisions are recorded to a database at this point, providing a list of feedback for advertisers and content providers in some cases. If, for example, an advertisement for cat food is displayed, a user may skip over the advertisement or otherwise indicate that cat food advertisements are not interesting. This information is recorded at step 93 and used to direct only advertisements that are of interest to the user.

At step 94 the system requests the next resource in the show structure and returns to step 74 described above. It is noted that in accordance with another embodiment of the invention, it is possible to change the course of events to be displayed to the viewer by substituting next resource request at step 94 with a previous resource request. For example, if the forward going display provides a first URL content relating to weather forecast to a second URL content relating to sports news , the reverse going display provides the sports news before the weather forecast.

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It is also noted that a user may switch to another set of show structure at any time by selecting a desired structure, for example by a Robosurf program employed by the user's computer. The instructions relating to the newly selected path in a structure may be provided via point A as illustrated in Fig. 3. Furthermore, a newly selected path in a structure may also be diverted back to the prior show structure by using the application's "surf" feature (described below with reference to Figure 7). The user's selections are tracked by the user's Robosurf program. Thus, for example when a URL relating to a second show structure is selected, by being clicked for the first time, the system remembers where the user left the initial structure and returns the user to that point in the structure upon the second click of that surf button. Alternatively, the history feature, inherent in most browsers, may be used to return the user to pages that were presented moments before or days before.

If, at step 88, the user does not interact with the system within the allotted time (which is set by the user or publisher), the timer expires at step 92 and that signals the request for another resource, thus enabling the play sequence for automatic surfing.

At step 96, the program requests the next node in the currently playing show structure. While this sequence has been described as a simple display of preprogrammed URLs, it is contemplated that, in more complex forms, this process may stream URLs to the viewer, while monitoring the user's habits (e.g. which sites are skipped and which sites the user views for the full display time) and injecting targeted content, including news, advertising and PSAs into the data stream.

If the URL selected at step 88, before the time-out, is not another show structure, the Robosites process displays the selected content and resets the timer. If no additional content is

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available, a user-specified show structure will be optionally displayed.

Figure 4 is a flow-chart diagram which illustrates the operation of the exemplary user component of the system, referred to as the RoboSurf program, in accordance with one embodiment of the invention. Briefly, this program allows a user to schedule, personalize and play content obtained from Web addresses. Using RoboSurf, a user may access almost any accessible website as a node in a structure. It is noted that while RoboSurf is described as a browser plug-in, it may be an Applet, stand-alone program or distributed application.

The RoboSurf process illustrated by Figure 4 begins at step 110 to access a default list of URLs that may be generated by, for example, one of several sources, such as : 1) RoboCast's web server network that will supply a general listing of available show structures; 2) a pre-selected list generated by the server in response to information obtained about the user from a Profiler program (e.g. structures defined for an Intranet described below with reference to Figure 6); 3) the results of a Search initiated through the RoboCast system or through a non-affiliated search engine; 4) an e-mail message, 5) the contents of a screen saver's play queue; or 6) other delivery methods.

At step 112 the URL is delivered to the browser 62 by one of these methods in a traditional manner. This corresponds to step 84 of Figure 3, described above. Also at step 112, the content is received and/or activated either automatically or programmatically for presentation to the user. Once RoboSurf begins to display the content, it starts a timer, at step 114. This timer has a duration that is determined from the information contained in each node of the current show structure that corresponds to this URL.

At step 116, while the timer is running, RoboSurf monitors the user's actions to

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determine if the user wants to manually override the play sequence by clicking a URL before the time-out. The user may act in several ways to override the play sequence. First, the user may select a node or a link on the displayed resource at step 122. In this instance, if the selected link is itself part of a show structure, the program goes to step 124, and the newly selected show structure replaces the current structure. If the selected link is not part of a show structure, the program goes to step 120 to get the next resource of the initial structure and the timer is reset and play continues at step 112.

Second, the user may click on the Surf button, in the control buttons 7, shown in Figure 7, and then select a link on the displayed resource. By pressing the Surf button, the user temporarily suspends the display of the original show structure, to review contents of pages accessible by hyperlinks presented on a displayed page. When this review is complete, the show structure may be restarted at the point of departure by simply clicking on the Surf button a second time.

At step 118 if the user has not selected any URLs, the time-out occurs and the play sequence resumes at step 120. In the exemplary embodiment of the invention, this step highlights the next item in the schedule window 2 (shown in Figure 7), selects the corresponding URL and branches back to step 112, causing Robosites to deliver the content at the requested URL to the browser 62. It is noted that in accordance with one embodiment of the invention, either RoboSurf or Robosites programs may operate independently without interaction with the other.

Figure 5 is a flow-chart diagram which illustrates the operation of the RoboGuide component of the RoboCast program suite. RoboGuide is a helper application that provides a viewing guide which offers a personalized look at various show structures of content that have

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been cached at the server. RoboGuide interacts with information produced by a Profiler program to modify the cached show structures to eliminate content or add alternate content according to a user's preferences.

RoboGuide program starts at step 150 where the user starts access to the Internet or other network via a Personal Computer (PC) a Network Computer (NC), Web-Enabled TV Set, or other similar device. The user encounters and selects a URL which has been designated as the entry node in a show structure of resources by a publisher. This URL may be encountered, for example, within a screen saver, an e-mail message, or a website.

In accordance with one embodiment of the invention, the server terminal that employs the RoboGuide program stores a plurality of various show structures that may be of interest to the users. These show structures may relate to different topics or subjects that visitors may have access via the server. An example of such a server may be a search engine such as those available by YAHOO ® or EXCITE ® . In accordance with one embodiment of the invention, the RoboGuide program may prepare various show structures based on a user's search specifications. The results of a search may include a plurality of URL locations that contain pertinent information relating to the search topic. In response, the RoboGuide program creates a show structure that includes all or portion of the uncovered URL locations as the result of the search.

At step 152 the RoboGuide program receives a request from a user for a URL location that is provided by the server. At step 154, the program retrieves from its database a show structure corresponding to the user's request. For example, the server may present a show on travel defined by a show structure prepared by the RoboGuide program.

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It is noted that in accordance with one embodiment of the invention, the RoboGuide program may create a customized show structure based on the user's preferences that can be obtained in accordance with various filtering techniques commercially available. The server may already have information on the user, for example, via a profiler program that the user had previously updated via a RoboSites program as described above in reference with Fig. 3. Thus, based on such adaptive filtering technique the RoboGuide program creates a personalized content that can be delivered for each user or groups of users.

At step 155 the program employs a filtering technique to create the customized show structure. An exemplary filtering process may be that which is available from Firefly.net, described below. This filtering is based on rating the resources (e.g. rating a cat food advertisement as inappropriate if the user profile does not indicate that the user has a cat or if the user indicates disinterest in cat food advertisements either explicitly by clicking on an on-screen "button" (not shown) indicating disinterest or implicitly as may be inferred from a pattern of skipping over cat food advertisements when they are presented). The information generated by the Profiler program is fed to the server based on "cookie technology," a common method of maintaining information about a client on the web. The server reads the cookie for preferences and date information then feeds a personalized request to the database which sends a dynamically generated list of URLs to the user.

At step 158, in response to the received show structures, the RoboSurf program residing at the user's terminal parses the data and displays the nodes in the structure in its Schedule window 2 (shown in Figure 7). In response to the user's request a show structure is then presented to the user by either a RoboSurf program as described in reference with Fig. 4 or

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by a RoboSites program as described in reference with Fig. 3.

The following description of an exemplary filtering technique used by Firefly.net was obtained from their Web site at http://www.firefly.net/products/CollaborativeFiltering.html#Summary. Collaborative filtering technology is a powerful technology that can effectively address the problem of information and content overload, especially in highly subjective domains. Collaborative filtering systems use human intelligence instead of machine intelligence to address the limitations of content-based filtering systems. By leveraging human opinions, collaborative filtering systems automate the word of mouth process among users. Automated Collaborative Filtering (ACF) systems automate the word of mouth process on a global scale across hundreds of thousands of users and catalog items. Most ACF systems recommend items using the following three step process:

1. Capture a set of opinions from the user in the form of numerical ratings for items
2. Compute a set of "nearest neighbor users" for the user. These nearest neighbor users are users with opinions most like the given user.
3. Use the nearest neighbors ratings to compute a set of recommendations for the given user.

While standard ACF systems are effective in subjective domains, they suffer from certain limitations that may cause them to make incorrect conclusions in broad domains. This is mainly due to their tendency to ignore information about the items being recommended, even when such information is readily available.

Feature-Guided Automated Collaborative Filtering (FGACF) is Firefly Network Inc.'s powerful technology that combines the benefits of collaborative filtering with those of content-based filtering to overcome the limitations that affect standard ACF systems. FGACF

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utilizes simple feature information about items in a catalog to dynamically partition the space of items on a personalized basis, so as to more effectively apply the ACF algorithm in the appropriate sub-space.

Designers and developers of commercial collaborative filtering systems need to address several challenging issues. The foremost issue in building large scale collaborative filtering systems is the scaleability of the system. The accuracy of the underlying collaborative filtering technology, and the set of functionality offered, are important factors for designers of such systems.

Firefly Network Inc.'s Catalog Navigator product is scalable to handle loads of hundreds of thousands of users, catalog sizes in the half million range, with number of ratings in the millions, and still provide sub-second response times to queries. It has already been successfully deployed in applications on high-traffic sites. In addition, the Catalog Navigator is the only commercial implementation this powerful FGACF technology and offers one of the most comprehensive sets of catalog and community navigation functionality to a customer.
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It is noted that in accordance with another embodiment of the invention, the information presented to the user based on the show structures may be reformatted in accordance with certain default structure characteristics. For example, such reformatting may include the tasks, such as : making Web resources more reader-friendly when using RoboSurf, RoboSites or RoboGuide programs, by utilizing formatting parameters, such as restraining page size to a default screen size and cuing automatic playing of audio upon displaying a new page; providing "Play," "Stop," "Forward," "Reverse," and "Pause" indications to facilitate the user's viewing of

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a show presentation; making pages into parts of a of content; providing information tags relating to the duration that a content is going to be displayed on the user's terminal; and, encoding pages with certain demographic and keyword-based information to aid the filtering operations explained above.

Table 1 shows an exemplary HTML code that may be added in accordance with one embodiment of the invention, to the Web resources or other content that is being reformatted. Note that the HTML of a page can be altered in this way between downloading it from a server and presenting it to the user. This "Tagging" process only requires a few milliseconds and can be done on the fly.

Essentially, this module uses the abilities of a HTML page publishing package like Pagemill from Adobe (www.adobe.com) to add HTML code of the type shown in Table 1.

Table 1

```
<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//IETF//DTD HTML 3.0//EN">
        <html>
        <head>
        <title>RoboGuide 11/3/97</title>
        <META name="author"      content="© 1997 Damon Torres,
Brian Foy">
        <META name="generator"   content="RoboSites
1.0">
        <META name="keywords"    content="news, sports, weather, lifestyles, jane q. public,
nyc weather, san francisco weather, washington d.c. weather, yankees, knicks, non-violent news,
parenting info, content filter 530145x2a, ad filter 398543*kjfd23, psa filter 19284jksd8sfj*659">
        <META name="description" content="Jane Q. Public's personalized news, sports and
weather. Contains preferences for cities, teams, content filters (i.e. sex, violence, language) and
preferences for advertising and public service announcement categories. Wildcard paramaters are
indicated by an asterix (*).">

        <META HTTP-EQUIV="Expires"  content="Tue, 04
Nov 1997 18:45:23 GMT">
```


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```
        <!-- see http://www.sandia.gov/sci_compute/elements.html for details -->
        <LINK rel="previous" href="some url">
<LINK rel="next"    href="some url">
        <LINK rel="toc"     href="url of channel description"><!--
                toc=Table of
    Contents-->
    </head>
    <body>
    <!-- content goes here -->
    </body>
    </html>
```

Figure 6 is a flow chart diagram that is useful for describing the operation of a RoboPublisher program, which is the publishing tool used to create and modify show structures for viewing via RoboGuide, RoboSurf and/or Robosites. The first step represents activities occurring at the user's computer 12. At step 200 the user access the program described in this flowchart. At step 210 the user selects between editing an existing show structure or creating a new one. This can be an existing structure that has been previously made, or a structure that another content provider has published. If the user is creating a new structure, the resources, or nodes of the structure, can be gathered from their local hard drive or server or from a remote server.

At step 212 the user is presented with a dialog box. At step 214 the user is presented with the dialog box options for setting general preferences for all of the resources that will be linked in the structure, such as duration for all resources, duration estimate based on word count, and default " page turn" sound to accompany an automatic resource delivery.

At step 216 the user has chosen to load a previously defined structure, and, at step 218 the computer requests and loads the structure from the local or remote drive. Beginning at step

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220 the user has many options, presented by an interface that will allow the user to choose to "Add, Edit or Cut" a node for the structure they are building. This can be accomplished graphically, as shown for example, in Figures 6A or via a list. In step 222 the user may Add a node from a standard dialog box that enables browsing from all available drives and from a special cache area that RoboSites, RoboSurf and/or Robosites produce. This cache area allows users to collect URLs from the Internet by, for example, browsing, implementing searches, or culling their e-mail for additional show structures. At step 224 the user adds the node at the chosen spot in the structure.

At step 226 the user has the option to commit to changes or cancel and start again. At step 228 the Modify Choice selection gives the user options 230 to edit the parameters of the "next" node (i.e. changing the next node destination or previous node in the structure from, for example, a local news link to a local weather link). The duration choice pertains to how long the node will be displayed before a subsequent node is loaded. This can be done on a per resource basis, since some resources require more time than others. The expiration option allows the publisher to choose a "kill date" for the node, automatically triggering a replacement search, or a skip to next action. This is useful for dated information such as weather.

At step 232 the user has the option to delete a node from the structure. Again, this can be done graphically (as shown in Figure 6A) or via a list. This step leads to step 234 where ~~a~~ the previous structure is linked to the node that succeeds the deleted node . Step 236 allows the user to choose to continue adding, editing and/or cutting by branching back either to step 220 or 238, to save the work and/or export it for a preview or viewing by others. If the user does not choose to save or export, then, at step 244, the program reverts to the last saved version or cancels the

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session. If the user does export then, at step 240 the program writes the changes to the local disk 36 (shown in Figure 2). The RoboSites program may, in turn, write header information to the files to which the user may access locally or even to remote server files. It should be noted that the writing of header information into the HTML documents is an option, providing a convenience for RoboSurf and Robosites programs. The page playing actions can be achieved without this header information present. The publisher completes its work at step 242 where it gives the option to preview for the publisher using RoboCast browser enhancements, or to publish for other RoboCast product users.

Figure 7 is a screen diagram of the interface presented by the RoboSurf program. Item 1 on the screen is an interface to the Profiler program. This program allows a user to specify several profiles for RoboSurf. The user may select from prepared profiles, for individuals or groups for example, "Internet Professional," "Lawyer," "Student," "Family.1" and "Girl: Preschool" and modify these or create a new profile. In the Profiler window, the User field allows a name to be attached to the profile. The Schedule field allows a user to associate the profile with a particular structure, also referred to as a Schedule. In this instance, the structure of URLs being displayed in the Schedule window 2 is named "After Dinner."

The Reviews field allows a user to specify one of several sources for website or show structure reviews. Using the Ratings field, the user can specify limitations on the type of website or structure that will be reviewed using the familiar MPAA rating system. The Censor Level field may be used to control the Web content that the user will see. Different Censor Levels will allow different types of content to be displayed. The RoboSurf program may compare the specified Censor Level to voluntary content ratings obtained from the Web resources or it may interface

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with an existing content monitoring system such as Cyber Patrol to ensure that undesirable content is blocked. The final field in the Profiler window allows a user to specify a Help or Guide function. It is contemplated that both text-oriented and voice synthesized help would be available. For voice-synthesized help, the user may identify a particular voice with a name (e.g. "Chris") as shown in Figure 7.

Item 2 in Figure 7 is the Schedule window. As described above, this window shows the current structure of URLs that is being displayed by RoboSurf. The window contains a brief textual description of each URL and a time in hours and minutes and seconds for which content provided from the URL will be displayed. The URL from which content is currently being displayed is highlighted. Each URL in the schedule list also includes a small box which is marked with an "x" after a URL has been viewed and may be marked with a " " to indicate that the user wants to return to this site.

Item 3 in Figure 7 are controls for volume, channel and speed. The volume control works as would be expected to increase or decrease the level of sound provided. The Channel button allows a viewer to move a pointer up and down in the channel window to select a new channel. As used in this description, a "channel" is a collection of resources, such as web pages, which are linked into a structure by a content provider. The Speed button allows a user to specify the amount of time between the content of resources. The "*" button on each of the volume, channel and speed buttons brings up a separate dialog box in which specific entries may be entered manually.

Item 4 in Figure 7 is the progress bar. This bar displays progress of the system in whatever it has been requested to do. During play mode, this bar displays progress through the

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structure as a percentage of time remaining in the display of the structure. In search mode, the bar may display progress in a search and the preparation of a show structure derived from the search. In gather mode, the bar may display the progress of the gathering operation.

Item 5 in Figure 7 are the programming bars. The Search button allows the user to establish criteria for a search of the Internet for URLs to be included in a show structure. The Pick button lets a user select categories within established information sources in order to make selections within the specified sites. Once Search Crieteria and Pick categories have been established, the Gather button retrieves information from the selected sources according to the user's criteria at a specified time and frequency. The Schedule button allows the user to group site content by topic and then set the time when specific group will be played. The Play button begins the presentation of information. In the exemplary embodiment of the invention, the Play button also lets a user set parameters such as size of the content window, length of time each item is displayed and, if RoboSurf is being used as a screen saver, screen saver activation parameters (e.g. delay time, autostart position of cursor and password).

Channel window 6 displays structure publishers that may be accessed by a "point and click" operation. This window is analogous to a "favorite places" list in a conventional browser.

Control window 7 contains buttons which allow a user to Skip backwards and forwards through the show structure displayed in the Schedule window, Play the information provided from the structure of URLs, Stop playing this information, Print the information that is currently being viewed, and Mark the current resources for later viewing.

In the exemplary embodiment of the invention, the Mark button interacts with the Play and Print buttons. While viewing contents relating to a show structure, a user may mark individual

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resources. After viewing the show structure , the user may specify that the marked resource be displayed again, queued for printing or displayed and printed. This feature may be activated, for example, through the play or print buttons by activating the buttons with a modifier key, for example, the right mouse button.

In addition to these buttons, the control window also includes an Add/Up button which allows a user to add resources to a structure when it is being set up in schedule mode and allows a user to move up the hypertext links that are being displayed on the screen during play mode. The Cut/Down button conversely allows a user to delete a site from the structure during schedule mode and move down the hypertext links during play mode. The function of the Surf button is described above. This button allows a user to temporarily suspend the viewing of a structure with a first button press and resume at the suspended site with a second button press. In accordance with another embodiment of the invention the functions described above in reference with Fig. 7 are embodiment in a separate remote control hardware device.

The e-mail and video phone buttons, item 9 on the display shown in Figure 7, invoke third-party software packages, one for e-mail and one for a video telephone product.
Item 10 in the display is the content window. This is where all of the content which is Found, Picked, Gathered, Reviewed, Rated, Censored, Edited and Scheduled is finally and automatically played. The process of playing the content is like television mixed with radio, newspapers and a research library.

While the invention has been described in terms of an Internet browser application which allows a user to view or create a show structure of content from various sites, it is contemplated that it may be used for other purposes. For example, the invention may be used as a

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jukebox to schedule and present successive audio or video recordings or to schedule and view pay-per-view movies or videos.

As illustrated in Fig. 6A a show structure of resources may be created and played in accordance with various embodiments of the invention. These resources may include, for example, various local application files on a user's computer. Thus, a user may view information relating to various executable programs in a selected arrangement on a desired schedule. A typical example, involves a user system that contains an accounting software, an on-line banking software, an Intranet e-mail program, and a calendar program. The user creates a show structure that executes each of these programs and displays the relevant information at a predetermined rate. This allows the user to automate various tasks that are currently accomplished manually. Thus, for example, the user on a daily basis can check received e-mail, followed by the user's schedule for the day, available funds in the user's bank account. The selected information are presented automatically in an organized arrangement. It is noted that in accordance with another embodiment of the invention, a show structure may include the user's local resources and other remote resources as those explained above in reference with Internet applications.

While only certain features of the invention have been illustrated and described herein, many modifications, substitutions, changes or equivalents will now occur to those skilled in the art. It is therefore, to be understood that the appended claims are intended to cover all such modifications and changes that fall within the true spirit of the invention.

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I claim:

1. A method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement comprising the steps of:

creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources;

accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes;

retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources; and

displaying each of said retrieved contents automatically in accordance with said show structure.

2. The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

3. The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said step of accessing further comprises the step of executing an application file residing in the user's computer.

4. The method in accordance with claim 3 further comprising the step of generating a data file resulting from said executing step.

5. The method in accordance with claim 4 further comprising the step of storing said data file for each resource accessed.

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6. The method in accordance with claim 5 wherein said step of retrieving content further comprises the step of retrieving each of said data files.

7. The method in accordance with claim 6 wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of reformatting said data files in accordance with a predetermined arrangement.

8. The method in accordance with claim 7 further comprising the step of displaying control buttons for controlling the display of said data files.

9. The method in accordance with claim 8 further comprising the step of receiving control button commands for pausing said display of said data files, and for reversing the sequence of said display of said data files and for fast forwarding said display of said data files.

10. A method for displaying in a sequential arrangement on a user's terminal , content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources via said communications network;

accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes;

retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources; and

displaying each of said retrieved contents automatically in accordance with said

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show structure.

11. The method in accordance with claim 10, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

12. The method in accordance with claim 10, wherein said step of accessing further comprises the step of downloading a file from a server residing within said communications network.

13. The method in accordance with claim 12 further comprising the step of receiving a dynamic content from a predetermined server.

14. The method in accordance with claim 13 further comprising the step of displaying a persistent content window for receiving said dynamic content within said persistent content window.

15. The method in accordance with claim 13 further comprising the step of inserting resource identifiers interspersed within said show structure relating to said dynamic content.

16. The method in accordance with claim 15 wherein said dynamic content is an

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advertising message.

17. The method in accordance with claim 15 further comprising the step of providing said dynamic content in accordance with said user's profile.

18. The method in accordance with claim 17 further comprising the step of storing said content for each resource accessed.

19. The method in accordance with claim 18 wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of reformatting said content in accordance with a predetermined arrangement.

20. The method in accordance with claim 18 further comprising the step of displaying control buttons for controlling the display of said contents.

21. The method in accordance with claim 20 further comprising the step of receiving control button commands for pausing said display of said content, and for reversing the said display of said content and for fast forwarding said display of said content.

22. A method for transmitting in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

storing a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a

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plurality of accessible resources via said communications network;

accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes;

retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources; and

delivering said content to said user for display on said user's computer in accordance with said show structure.

23. The method in accordance with claim 22, wherein said step of storing further comprises the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

24. The method in accordance with claim 22, wherein said step of accessing further comprises the step of downloading a file from a server residing within said communications network.

25. The method in accordance with claim 24 further comprising the step of transmitting to said user a dynamic content.

26. The method in accordance with claim 25 further comprising the step of formatting said dynamic content for displaying within a persistent content window on said user's terminal.

27. The method in accordance with claim 26 further comprising the step of

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inserting resource identifiers interspersed within said show structure relating to said dynamic content.

28. The method in accordance with claim 27 wherein said dynamic content is an advertising message.

29. The method in accordance with claim 28 further comprising the step of providing said dynamic content in accordance with said user's profile.

30. The method in accordance with claim 29 further comprising the step of storing said content for each resource accessed.

31. The method in accordance with claim 30 wherein said step of delivering further comprises the step of reformatting said content in accordance with a predetermined arrangement.

32. The method in accordance with claim 31 further comprising the step of transmitting information to said user for displaying control buttons for controlling the display of said contents.

33. The method in accordance with claim 32 further comprising the step of receiving control button commands for pausing said display of said content, and for reversing the said display of said content and for fast forwarding said display of said content.

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Abstract Of The Invention

A method of sequencing and scheduling web resources, via a software application that collects URLs and feeds them to a Web browser, so that the amount of clicks and decisions are reduced when browsing the Internet. The method begins after a computer user with Net-access encounters a URL that leads to a collection of other URLs that the software application has arranged to be presented in a continuous, show manner. This collection of resources then plays automatically, going from one resource to the next without the user being required to make a decision or click. The decision-making process is not inhibited, it is made optional. A method of inserting full-screen advertising, public service announcements, news, etc. has been developed. The server software application module described herein allows a publisher to stream URLs to a user who does not have the client-side software. The publishing module allows a user to format resources to a particularly desirable size and characteristic that promotes readability during a show viewing session. This same module can publish collections of nodes for others to view as a whole sequence, accessible via e-mail, screen saver or as a web resource.

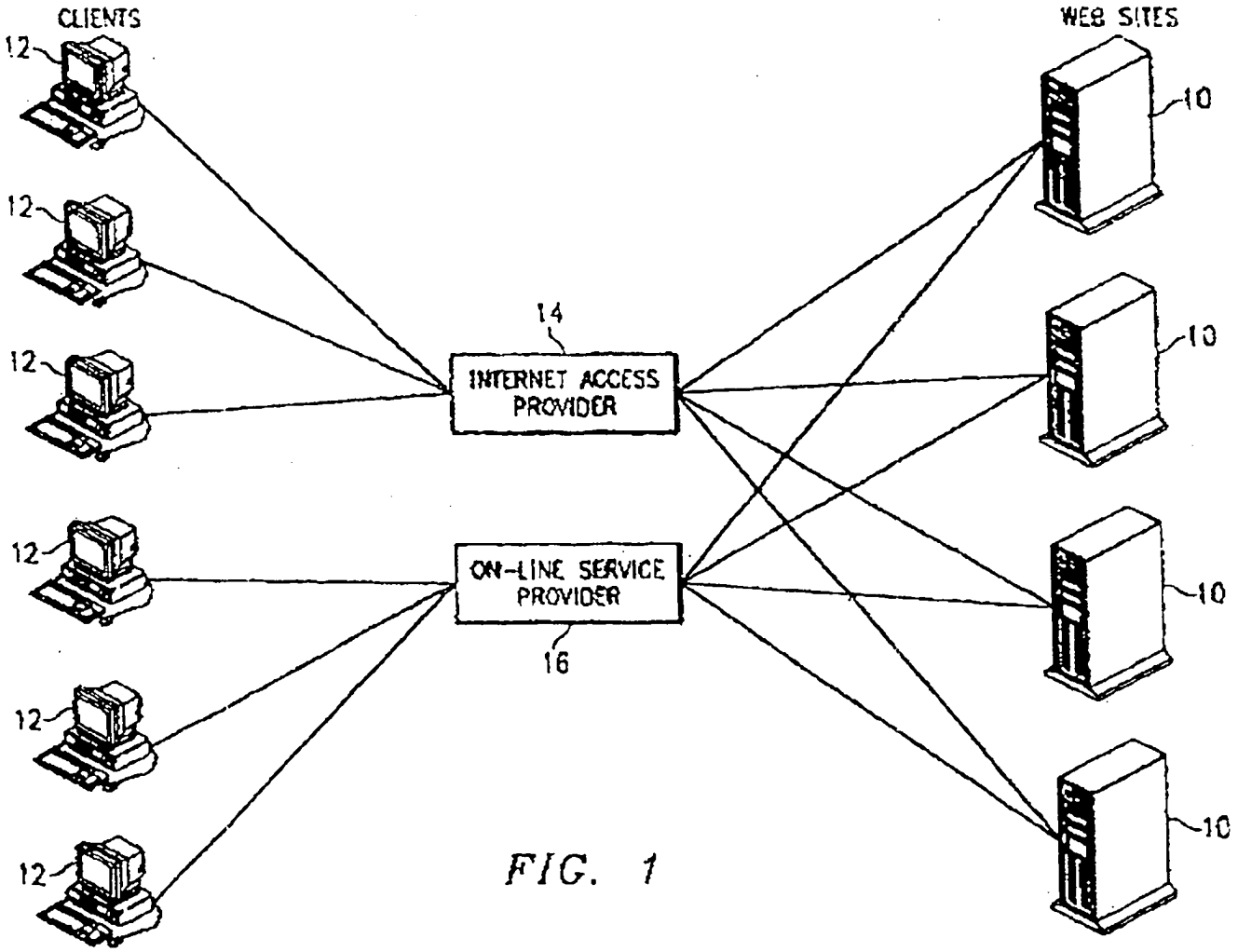
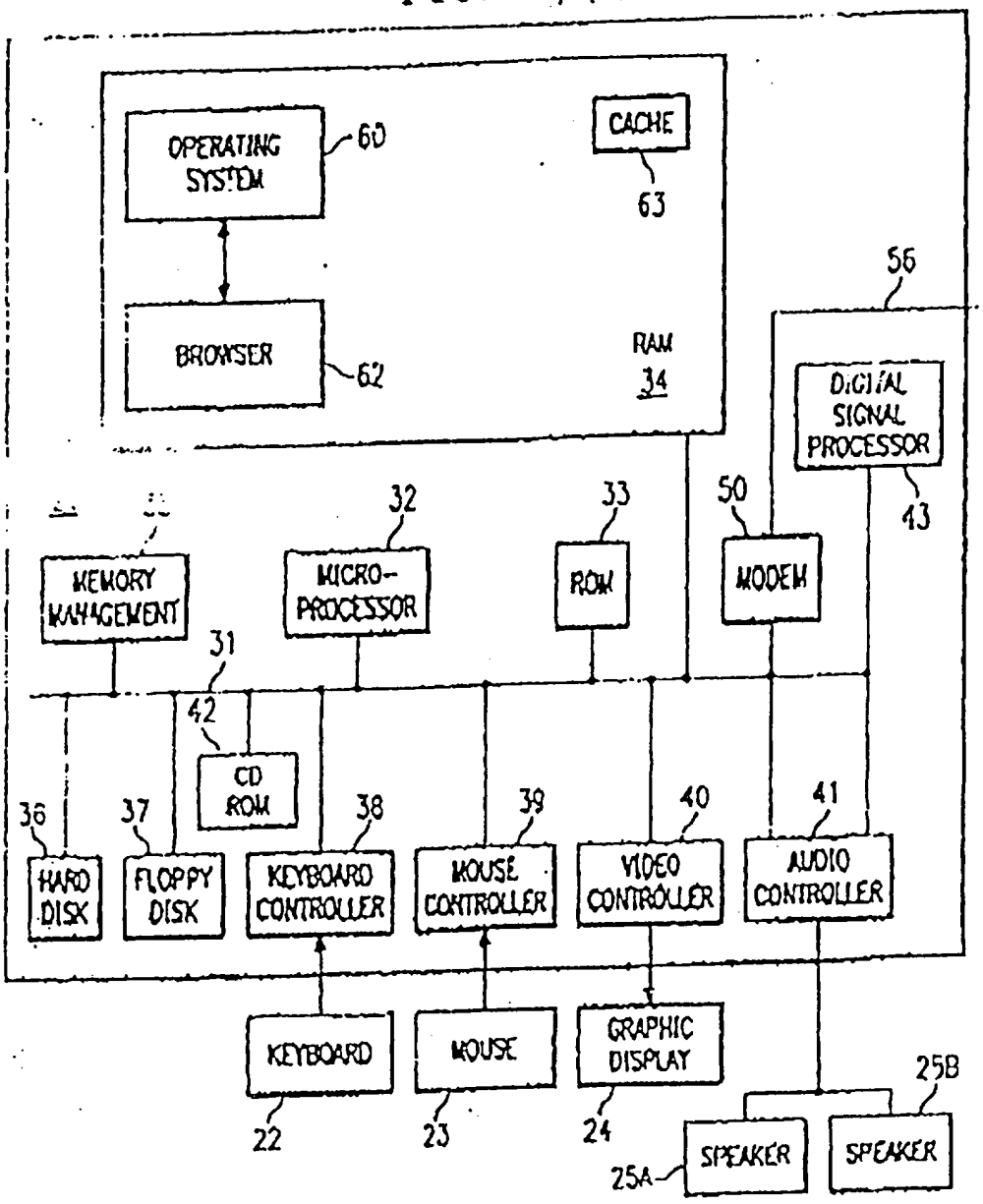


FIG. 1

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FIG. 2A


OPERATING SYSTEM
60
CACHE
63
BROWSER
62
RAM
34
56
DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSOR
43
50
MODEM
32
MICRO-PROCESSOR
33
ROM
MEMORY MANAGEMENT
31
42
CD ROM
36
HARD DISK
37
FLOPPY DISK
38
KEYBOARD CONTROLLER
39
MOUSE CONTROLLER
40
VIDEO CONTROLLER
41
AUDIO CONTROLLER
KEYBOARD
22
MOUSE
23
GRAPHIC DISPLAY
24
25A
SPEAKER
25B
SPEAKER

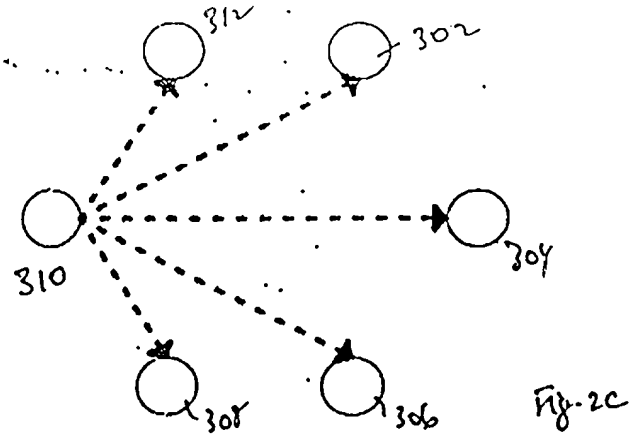


Fig. 2C

Unique paths with the same starting point and a length of one in a network of six resources

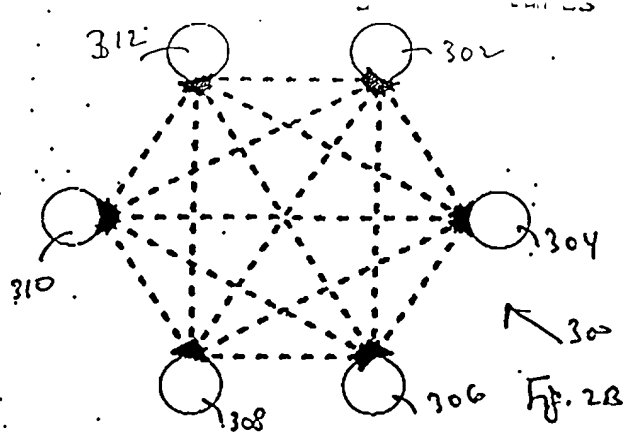


Fig. 2B

All possible paths from one node to another in a network of six resources

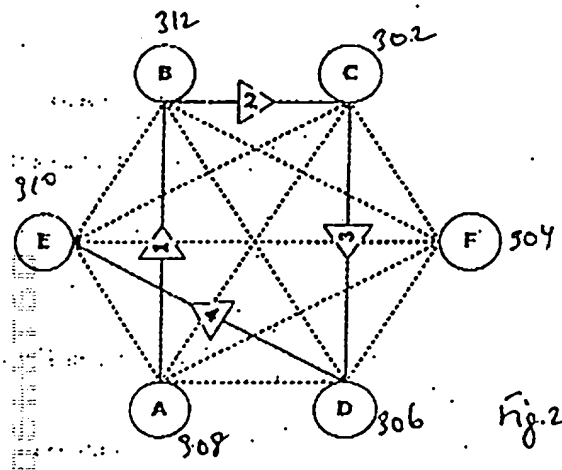


Fig. 2d-1

A path with a length of four in a network of six resources

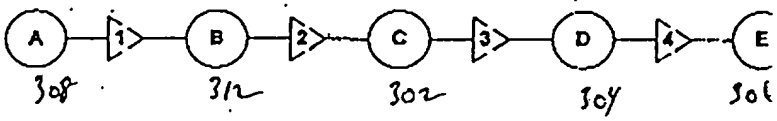


Fig. 2d-2

The state map of the previous path

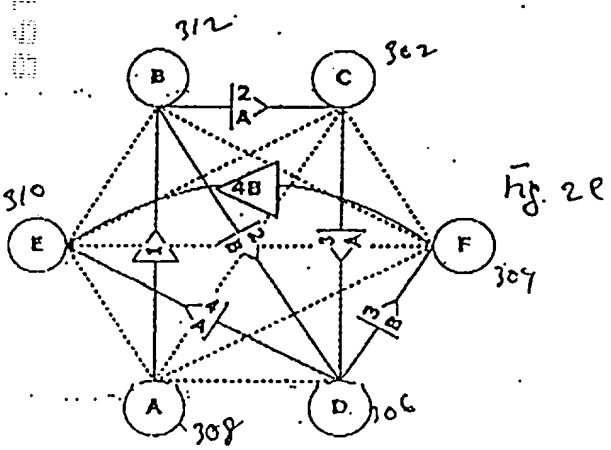


Fig. 2e

multipath with a length of four in two possible paths in a network of six resources

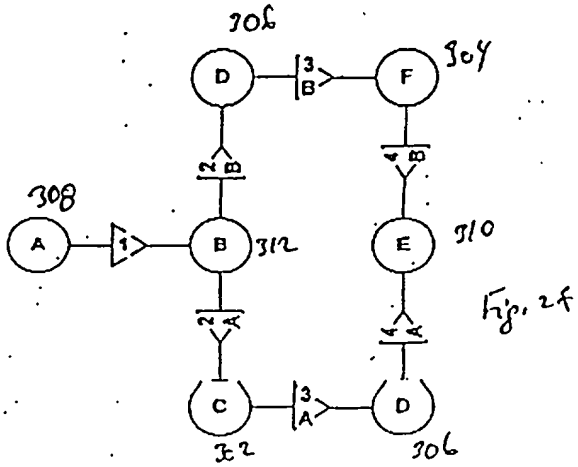


Fig. 2f

The state map of the previous path

Figure #3
Robosend

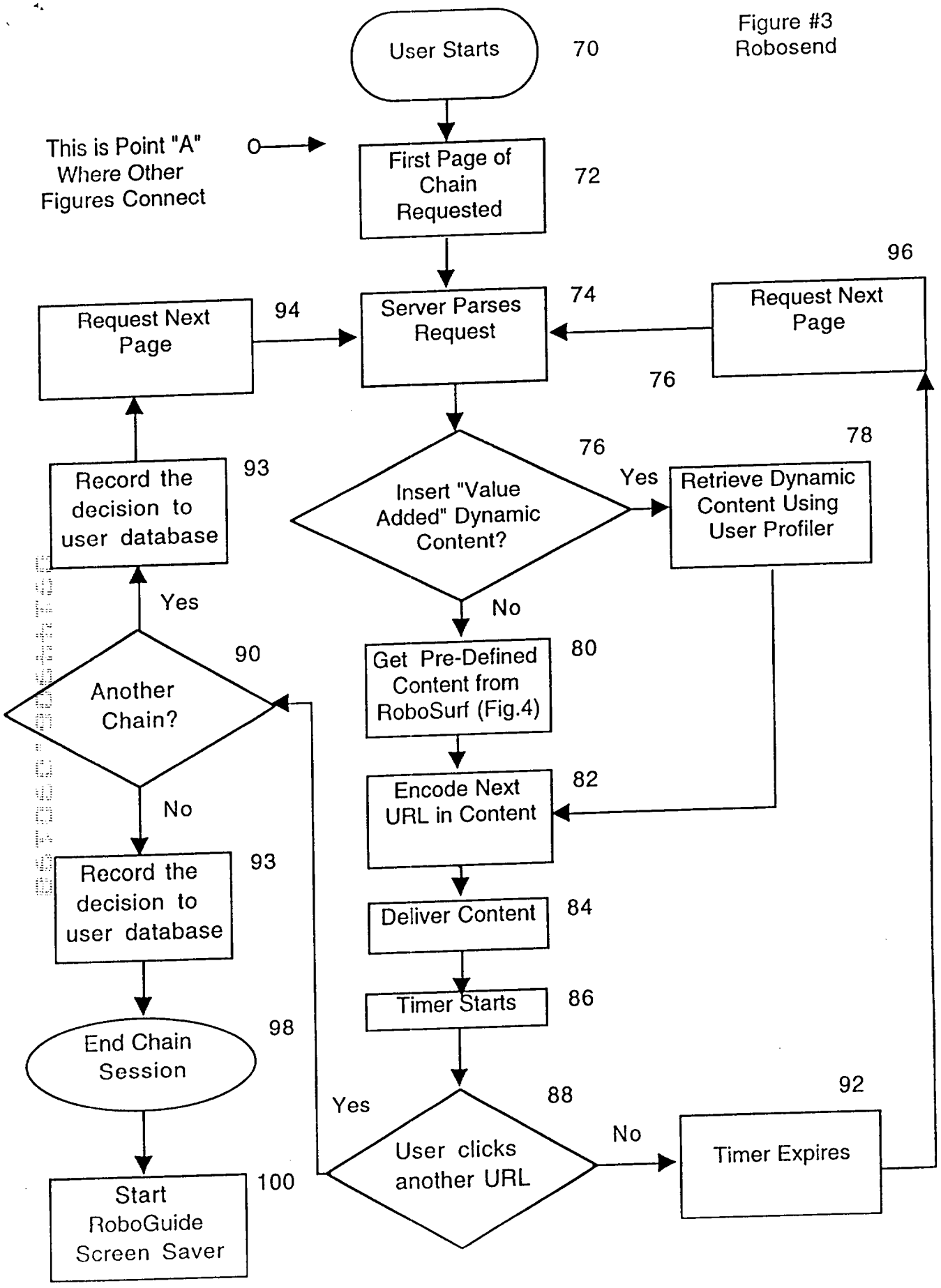
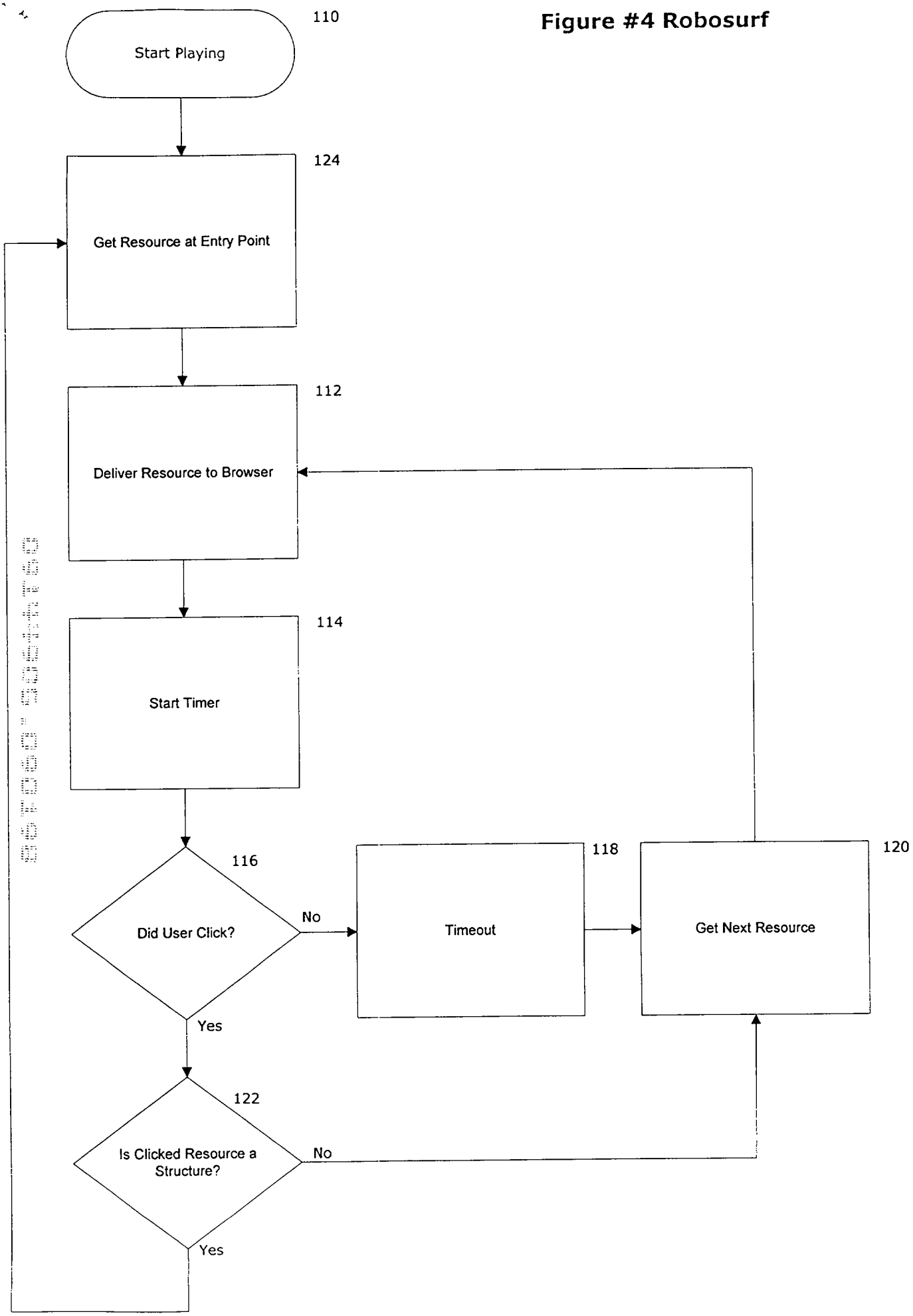


Figure #4 Robosurf



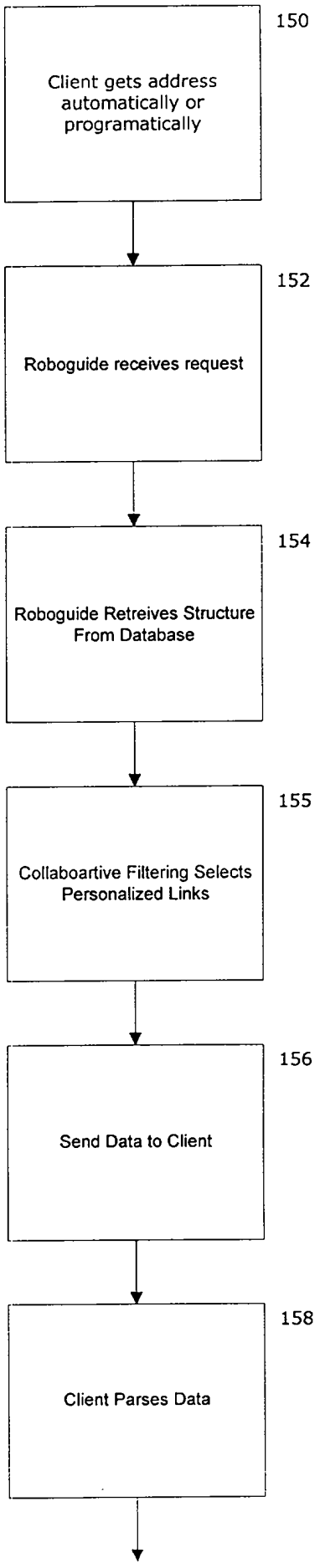


Figure #5 Roboguide

Continued in Figure 3(A)

Figure #6 Robopublisher

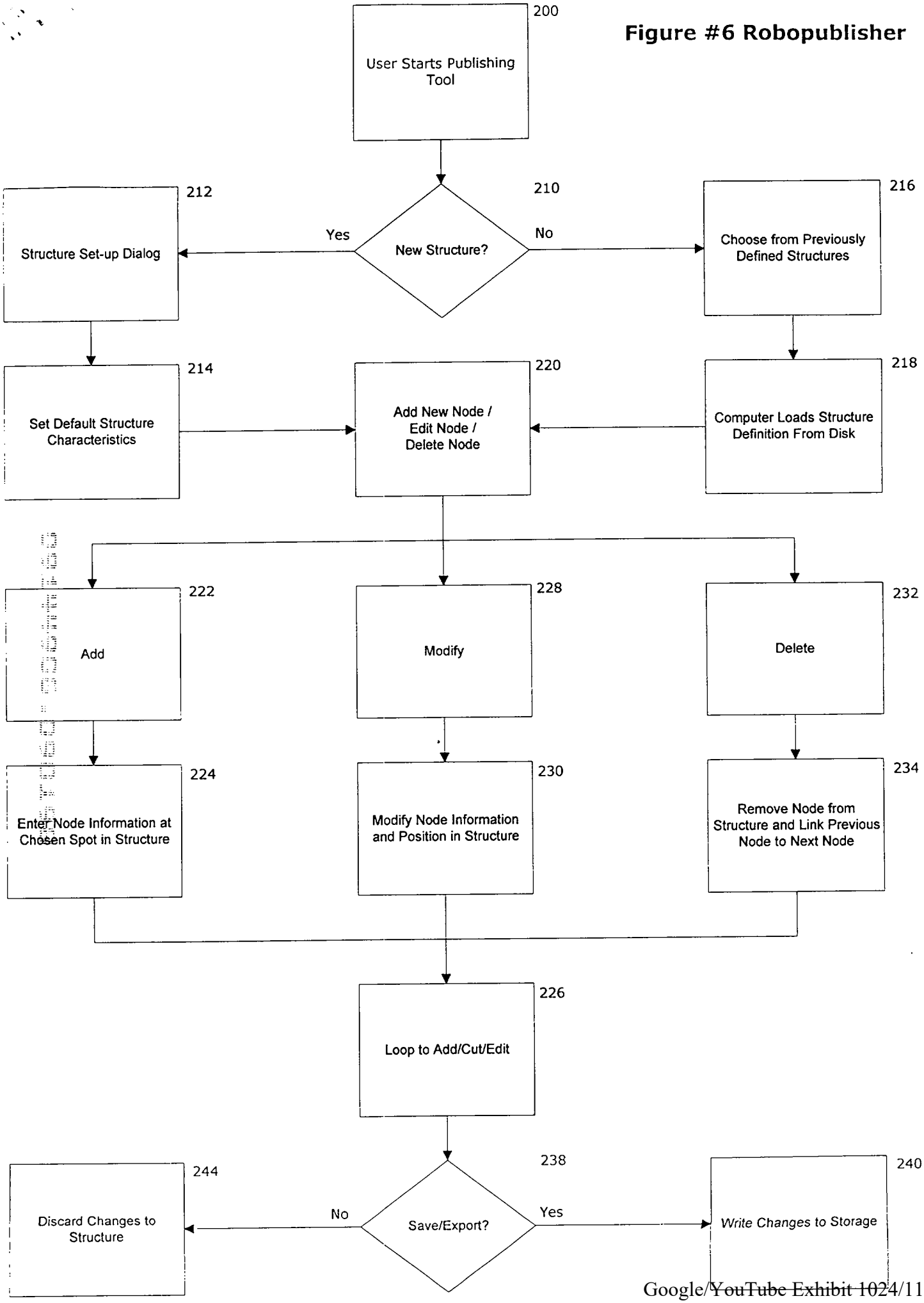
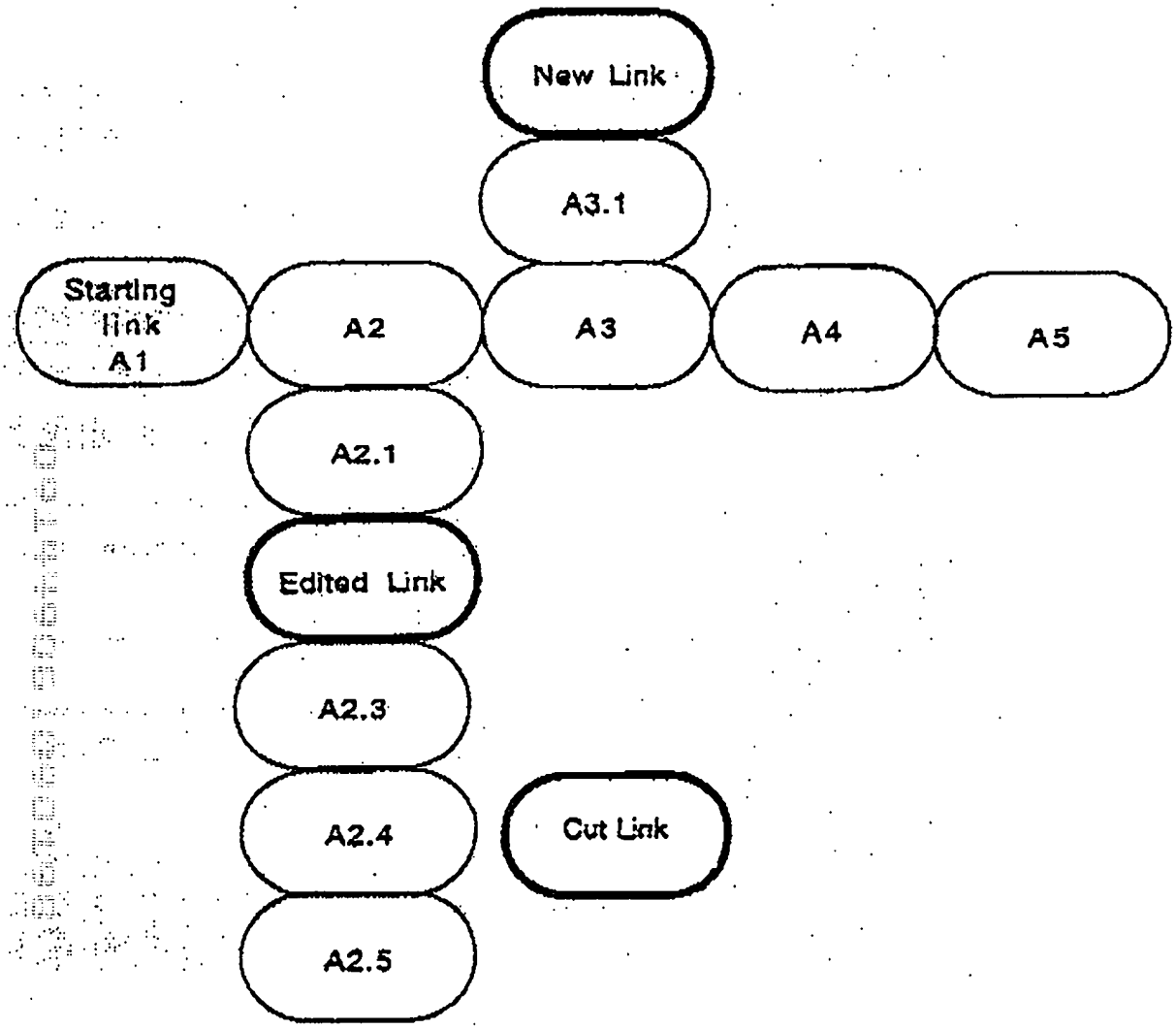


FIGURE 6A


New Link
A3.1
Starting link A1
A2
A3
A4
A5
A2.1
Edited Link
A2.3
A2.4
Cut Link
A2.5

SEARCH for specific info, then PICK content sources and related topics within sites. RoboSurf GATHERs this data when you choose.
SCHEDULE by topic (news, sports, comedy...) PLAY what you find, using fast scan-mode, slow study mode -- any speed. Controls streaming media (audio & video that doesn't require downloading).

SETTING CONTROLS
Controls for Volume, Channels and Speed. Up, Down and Dialog Box settings

PROGRESS BAR
Shows progress for all RoboSurf items

SCHEDULE WINDOW
Displays the chosen line-up of programs. Provides estimated viewing times and shows status: viewed, marked for return, printed, etc.

PROFILER
The user(s) can configure the software here, or just pick from a list of preset profiles containing choices for: "Internet Professional", "Lawyer", "Banker", "Student", "Mother", "Boy: 12-16", "Girl: preschooler", etc.

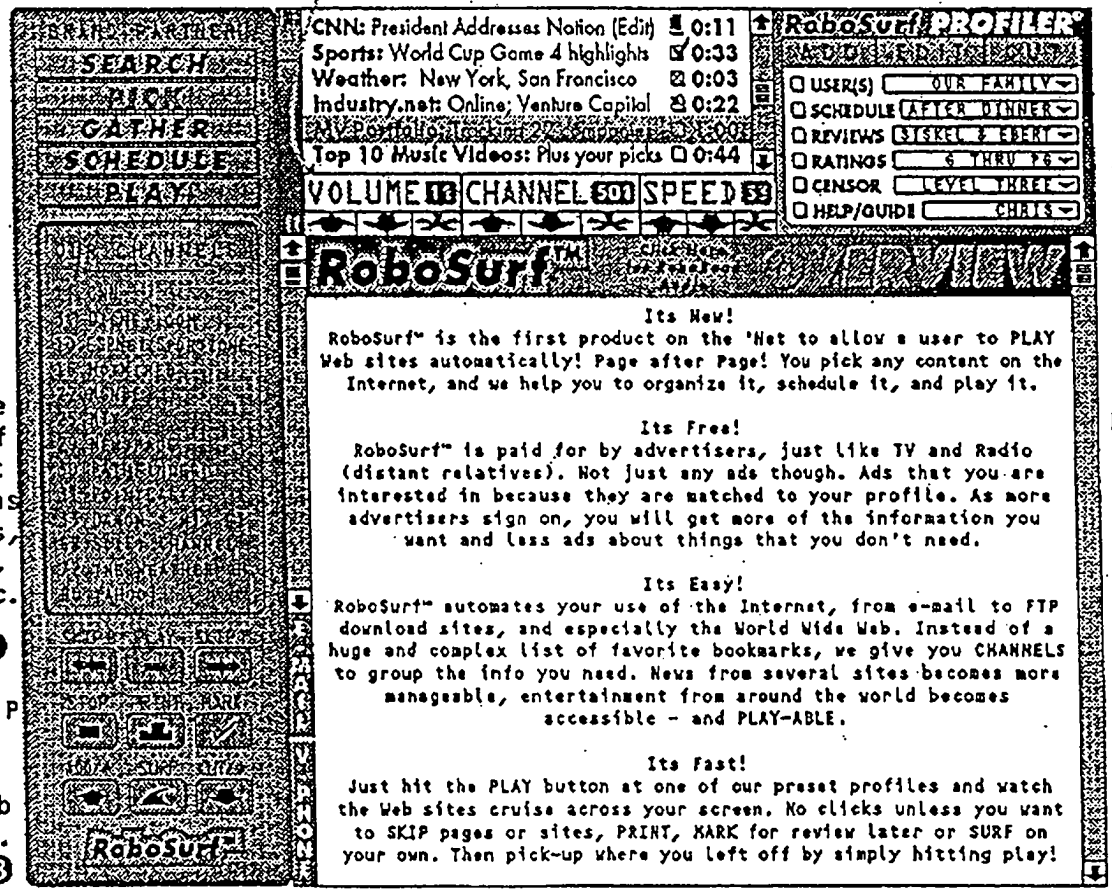


Fig. 7

CHANNEL DISPLAY
This area shows the current line-up of "sites" to choose from. Any site can be added to this menu of pre-configured content partners. Each site has a sub menu of keywords, such as: News, Sports, Companies, Comedy, etc.

CONTROL BUTTONS
Allow the user to SKIP forward & back, MARK for return viewing, and uniquely, PLAY web content consecutively.

REMOTE HARDWARE
A physical REMOTE CONTROL, that is a replica of the software version (fig.8) will be available, allowing users to SURF and PLAY the 'Net by touch, vs. using precise eye-hand coordination required with pointers on screens. This will facilitate a whole new breed of "couch potato" hereby known as "web potato"

E-MAIL & VIDEO PHONE
These are buttons to summon third party software packages. One for E-MAIL and one for a VIDEO TELEPHONY product that will provide voice only for computers that do not have the proper specifications or a fast enough connection for videoconferencing.

CONTENT WINDOW
This window is where all the content Found, Picked, Gathered, Reviewed, Rated, Censored, Edited and Schedulec (automatically) is finally PLAYED. The process is like TV mixed with some Radio, Newspapers and a research library. The content is a multimedia mix of text, audio, video database access and software downloads. A business function of RoboSurf is shown in the e-mail and videoconferencing options which facilitate a sharing of information either thru non-synchronous notification of pertinent info via e-mail or synchronous shared "white boards" of RoboSurf content. Video mail is also possible, and using Lotus Screen Cam, one can send a RoboSurfing

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VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(c)) - SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

Applicant or Patentee: Damon C. Torres
Attorney's Docket No.: 735-002
Serial or Patent No.: Not yet assigned
Filed or Issued: September 1, 1998
Title: AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

I hereby declare that I am

[ ] the owner of the small business concern identified below:
[X] an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN Robocast Inc.
ADDRESS OF CONCERN 89 Fifth Avenue, Suite 700
New York, New York 10003

I hereby declare that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR 121.12, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees to the United States Patent and Trademark Office in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention described in:

[X] the specification filed herewith with title listed above.
[ ] the application identified above.
[ ] the patent identified above.

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention must file separate verified statements averring to their status as small entities, and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person made the invention or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d), or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization having any rights in the invention is listed below:

[X] no such person, concern, or organization exists.
[ ] each such person, concern or organization listed below

FULL NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
[ ] INDIVIDUAL [ ] SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN [ ] NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING Damon C. Torres

TITLE OF PERSON OTHER THAN OWNER President

ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING 89 Fifth Avenue, Suite 700

New York, New York 10003

SIGNATURE Damon C. Torres DATE 9/1/98

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMBINED DECLARATION, POWER OF ATTORNEY & PETITION

TYPE OF DECLARATION

[ ] Utility
[ ] Design
[ ] Supplemental
[ ] Divisional
[ ] Continuation
[X] Continuation-in-part
[ ] National Stage of the PCT

INVENTORSHIP AND SPECIFICATION IDENTIFICATION

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the invention entitled:

AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

as described and claimed in the specification which
[X] is attached hereto.
[ ] was filed on _____
[ ] as U.S. Serial Number. 08/_____; or
[ ] Express Mail No._____ (as serial number not yet known); and
[ ] was amended on _____.
[ ] was described and claimed in PCT International Application No. PCT/ / _____ filed on _____; and
☐ as amended under PCT Article 19 and/or 34 on _____.

REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the attached specification including the drawing and claims as amended by any amendment referred to below; and
I acknowledge my duty to disclose information of which I am aware which is material to the examination of this application, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56(a); and
☐ in compliance with this duty there is attached an information disclosure statement.

PRIORITY CLAIMS

I hereby claim **foreign priority** benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign applications for patent applications for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)			Priority Claimed	
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year/Filed)	[ ] Yes	[ ] No
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year/Filed)	[ ] Yes	[ ] No
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year/Filed)	[ ] Yes	[ ] No

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any **United States Application(s)** listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States Application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status: Patented, Pending, Abandoned)
08/922,063	September 2, 1997	Pending
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status: Patented, Pending, Abandoned)

DECLARATION

I declare that all statements made above of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

I hereby appoint the following patent attorneys and/or patent agent(s) with full power of appointment, substitution and revocation to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments thereto, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the Patent Office connected therewith.

Joseph Sofer (Reg. No. 34,438)
Robert M. Haroun (Reg. No. 34,345)

Please address all telephone calls and correspondence to:

Joseph Sofer
SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.
342 Madison Avenue
Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173
Telephone:(212) 697-2800
Facsimile:(212) 697-3004

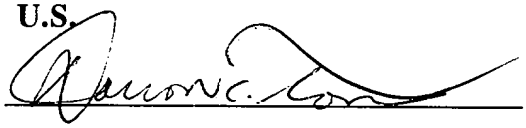
PETITION

Wherefore, I pray that Letters Patent be granted to me for the invention or discovery described and claimed in the above-mentioned specification and claims, and I hereby subscribe my name to the foregoing Declaration, Power of Attorney & Petition with references to the above-identified specification and claims.

SIGNATURES

Name of sole or first inventor: **Damon C. Torres**

Home Address: **245 East 11th Street, Apt. 5J, New York, NY 10003**
Post Office Address: **Same as above**
Citizenship: **U.S.**

Inventor's Signature:  Date: 4/1/98

jc560 U.S. PTO
09/144906
09/01/98

Class	Subclass

ISSUE CLASSIFICATION

[redacted]

PATENT NUMBER

U.S. UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION

O.I.P.E.	PATENT DATE
3 SCANNED HT Q.A.	

SECTOR	CLASS	SUBCLASS	ART UNIT	EXAMINER
	1041	1	2737	[illegible]

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ISSUING CLASSIFICATION

ORIGINAL		CROSS REFERENCE(S)						
CLASS	SUBCLASS	CLASS	SUBCLASS (ONE SUBCLASS PER BLOCK)					
INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION								
			☐ Continued on Issue Slip Inside File Jacket					

☐ TERMINAL DISCLAIMER	DRAWINGS			CLAIMS ALLOWED	
	Sheets Drwg.	Figs. Drwg.	Print Fig.	Total Claims	Print Claim for O.G.
☐ a) The term of this patent subsequent to _____ (date) has been disclaimed.	_____ (Assistant Examiner) _____ (Date)			NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE MAILED	
☐ b) The term of this patent shall not extend beyond the expiration date of U.S Patent. No. _____ .	_____ (Primary Examiner) _____ (Date)			ISSUE FEE	
				Amount Due	Date Paid
☐ c) The terminal ____months of this patent have been disclaimed.	_____ (Legal Instruments Examiner) _____ (Date)			ISSUE BATCH NUMBER	

WARNING:
The information disclosed herein may be restricted. Unauthorized disclosure may be prohibited by the United States Code Title 35, Sections 122, 181 and 368. Possession outside the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office is restricted to authorized employees and contractors only.

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(Rev. 10/97)

(LABEL AREA)

(FACE)

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Page 0059

[redacted]

SEARCHED

Class	Sub.	Date	Exmr.
707	10, 103	12/20/99	PH
707	104	12/20/99	PH
395	200.48 200.49	12/20/99	PH
707	501	12/20/99	PH
UPDATED		1/7/00	PH
345	340-342 349-350	12-13 June 01	LSN
updated search		25-28 Jun 02	LSN

SEARCH NOTES
(INCLUDING SEARCH STRATEGY)

	Date	Exmr.
EAST Internet Searches attached	12/20/99	PH
Additional EAST search (see attached)	12-13 June 01	LSN
EAST searching (see attached)	25-28 Jun 02	LSN

INTERFERENCE SEARCHED

Class	Sub.	Date	Exmr.

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ISSUE SLIP STAPLE AREA (for additional cross references)

POSITION	INITIALS	ID NO.	DATE
FEE DETERMINATION	NW	7134	9/9/98
O.I.P.E. CLASSIFIER			9-10-98
FORMALITY REVIEW	[illegible]	68031	9-17-98

INDEX OF CLAIMS

✔ ..... Rejected
= ..... Allowed
— (Through numeral) Canceled
÷ ..... Restricted
N ..... Non-elected
I ..... Interference
A ..... Appeal
O ..... Objected

Claim Final	Claim Original	Date 12/17/98	1 28 02	4 30 03
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	2	✔	✔	|
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86/10/60 JC545 U.S. PTO

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JC560 U.S. PTO 09/144906 09/01/98

Box Patent Application
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PATENT FILING TRANSMITTAL

Transmitted herewith for filing is the Patent Application of: DAMON C. TORRES

For: AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

TYPE OF FILING

This new patent application is for a(n):

[ ] Utility
[ ] Design
[ ] Plant
[ ] Divisional
[ ] Continuation
[X] Continuation-in-part

Benefit of a prior filed application

☒ This is a continuation-in-part of copending application Serial No. 08/922,063 filed on September 2, 1997 claims the benefit of an earlier filed U.S. Patent Application under 35 USC 120.

☐ Please accord Applicant the benefit of the priority date of_____ to this case pursuant to 35 USC 119. Applicant's claim for priority is based on application_____ filed in____ on that date.

Filing under 37 CFR 1.53 (Utility) or 37 CFR 1.153 (Design)

☐ This is an application filed pursuant to 37 CFR 1.53 or 37 CFR 1.153, permitting receipt of a filing date upon filing of a specification, at least one claim and necessary drawings.

☒ In the event any parts of this application are incomplete, please treat this as a filing under 37 CFR 1.53 or 37 CFR 1.153.

ENCLOSURES

Minimum requirements under 37 CFR 1.53(b) (Utility) or 37 CFR 1.153 (Design)

☒ 34 pages of specification;

☒ 6 pages of claims;

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☒ _1_ pages of abstract;
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☒ A Declaration, Power of Attorney & Petition or listing of inventors;
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☐ An Assignment of the invention to_____ and an Assignment cover sheet;
☒ Verified Statement Claiming Small Entity Status (37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b))
☐ Form PTO-1449 (IDS) and copies of the references listed thereon;
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DECLARATION OR OATH

The enclosed Declaration or Oath has been executed by:
☒ Inventor(s);
☐ Legal representative of the inventors (37 CFR 1.42 or 1.43);
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☐ Has not been executed and is enclosed for the purposes of identifying the inventors.

INVENTORSHIP STATEMENT

The inventorship for all the claims in this application is:
☒ the same;
☐ not the same and, as an explanation, a statement is/ will be submitted.

LANGUAGE

The application submitted herewith is:
☒ in English;
☐ in not in English and in terms of 37 CFR 1.52(d) a verified translation is
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FEE CALCULATION

The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

	SMALL ENTITY		OR	OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
BASIC FEE Design Patent		$165		$330	
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EXTRA FEES	RATE	FEE		RATE	FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS 33 MINUS 20 =	13	x 11 =	$143.00	x 22 =	$
INDEP.CLAIMS 3 MINUS 3 =	0	x 41 =	$	x 82 =	$
☐ MULTIPLE DEP.CLAIM		+135 =	$	+270 =	$
☐ ASSIGNMENT		+ 40=	$		+ 40 = $
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- ☐ Any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16, except Rule 53 filings, which will be paid within the time permitted by PTOL 1533.
- ☐ Assignment Recordal fees.

☐ The filing fee and surcharge under 37 CFR 1.16, patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17 and patent issue fees under 37 CFR 1.18 are intended to be paid by our firm as they arise. As no abandonment is intended by any inadvertent nonpayment of fees, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of such fees as from time to time come due, if not paid prior to due date to our Deposit Account No. 19-2825 .

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Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 9/1/98

Robert M. Haroun
Reg. No. 34,345

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

Address:342 Madison Avenue, Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173
Telephone:(212)697-2800
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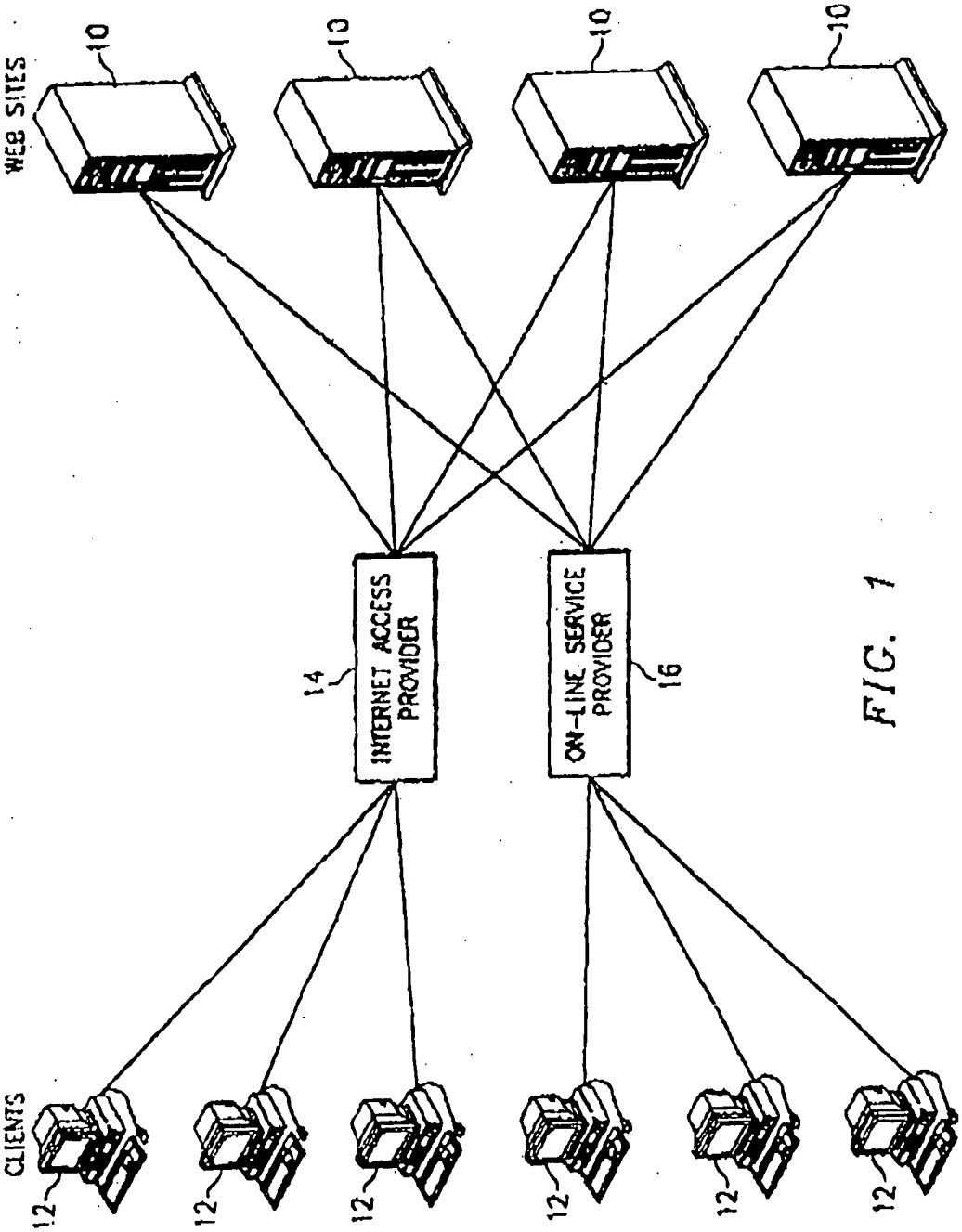
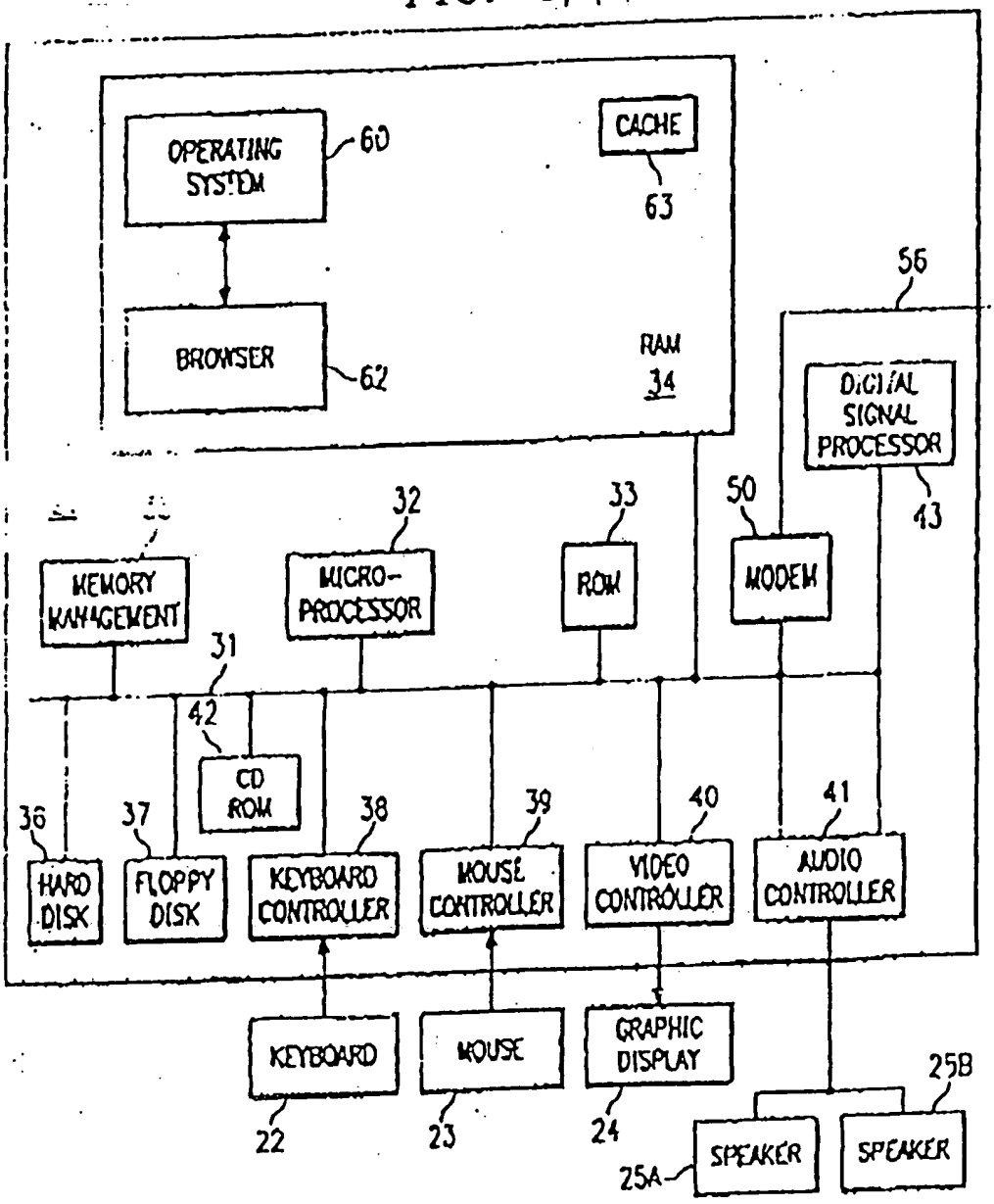

WEB SITES
10
10
10
10
INTERNET ACCESS PROVIDER
14
ON-LINE SERVICE PROVIDER
16
CLIENTS
12
12
12
12
12
12

FIG. 1

FIG. 2A



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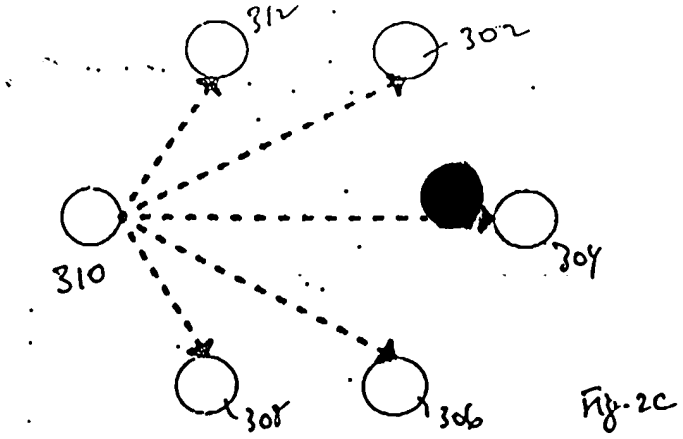


Fig. 2C

Unique paths with the same starting point and a length of one in a network of six resources

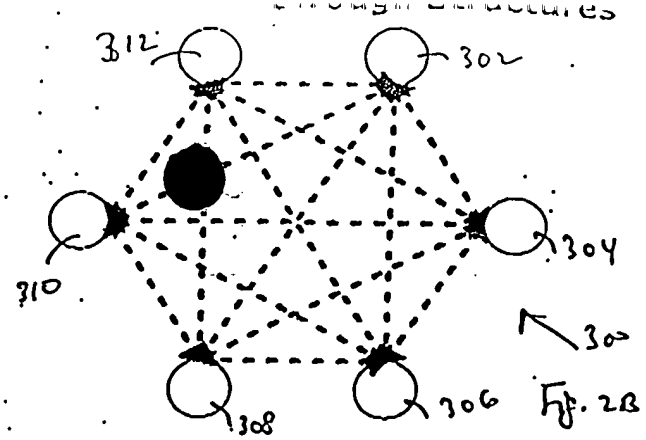


Fig. 2B

All possible paths from one node to another in a network of six resources

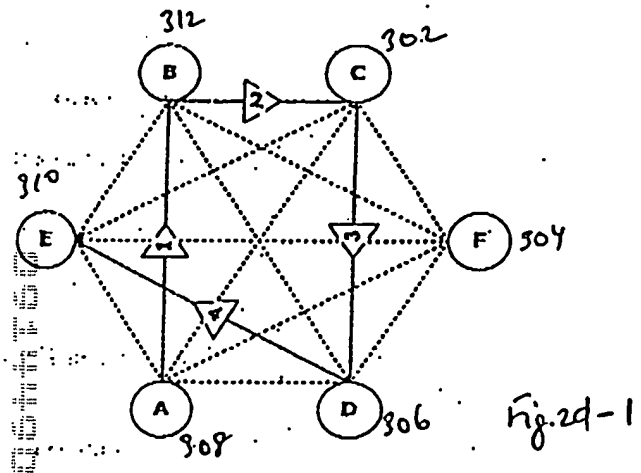


Fig. 2d-1

A path with a length of four in a network of six resources

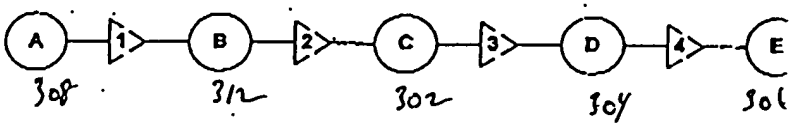


Fig. 2d-2

The state map of the previous path

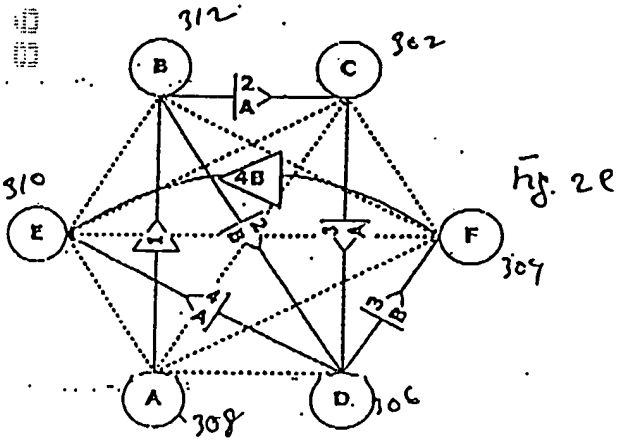


Fig. 2e

multipath with a length of four in two possible paths in a network of six resources

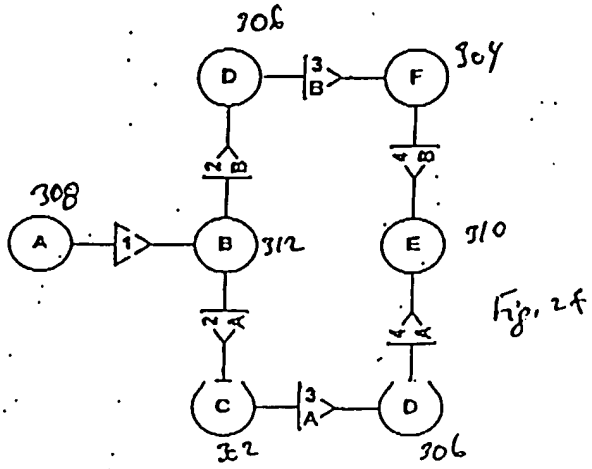


Fig. 2f

The state map of the previous path

Figure #3
Robosend

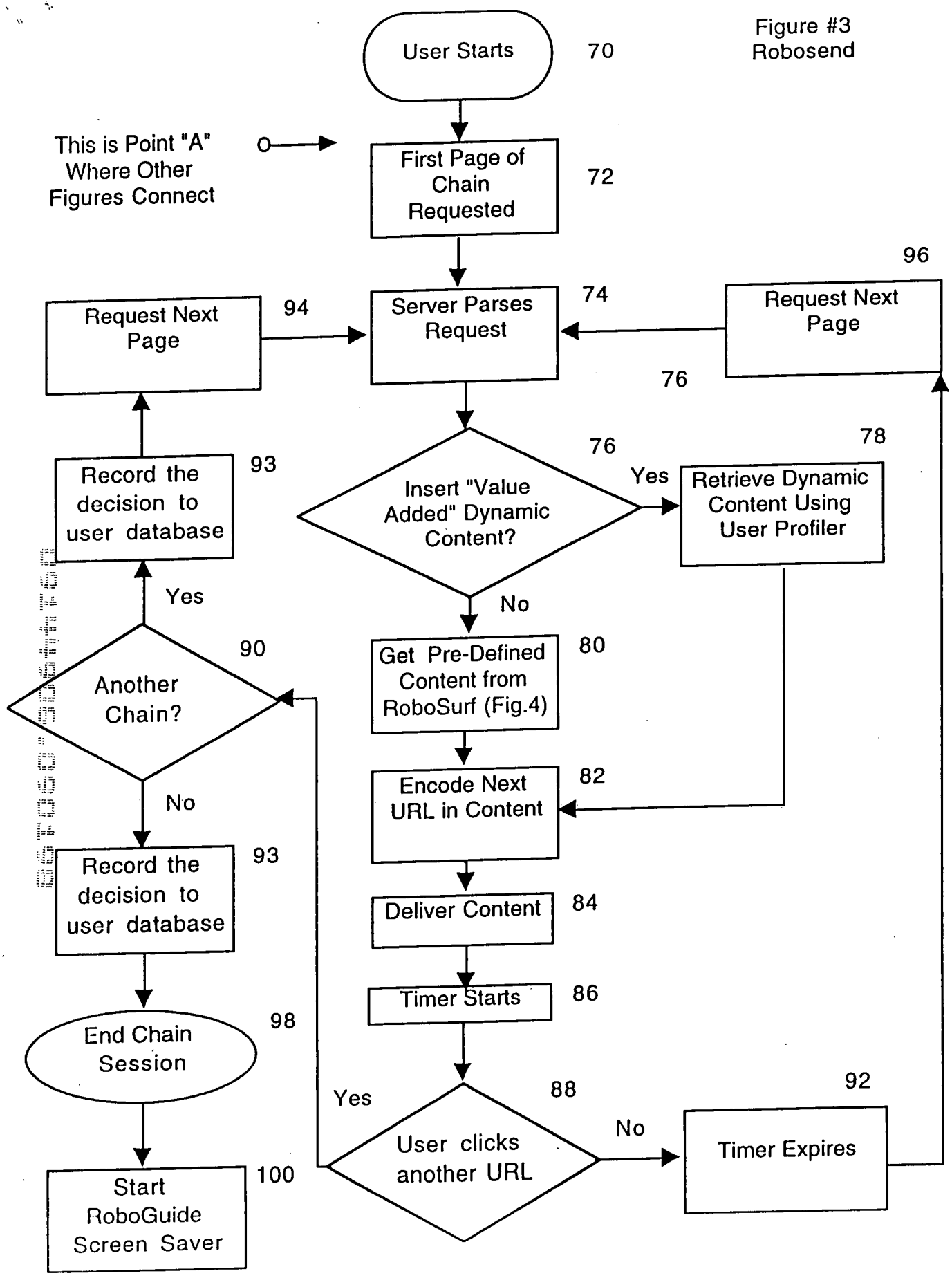
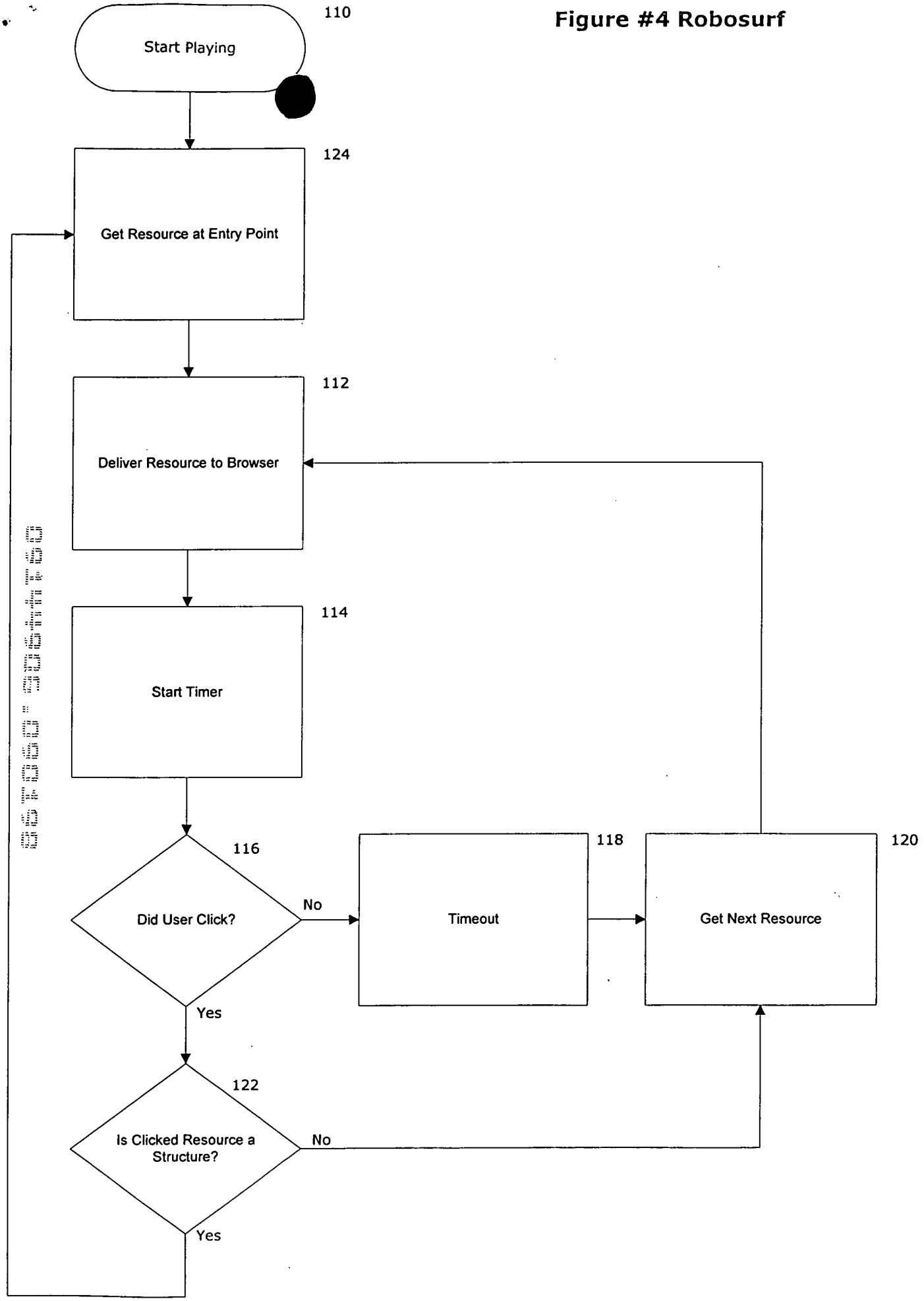


Figure #4 Robosurf



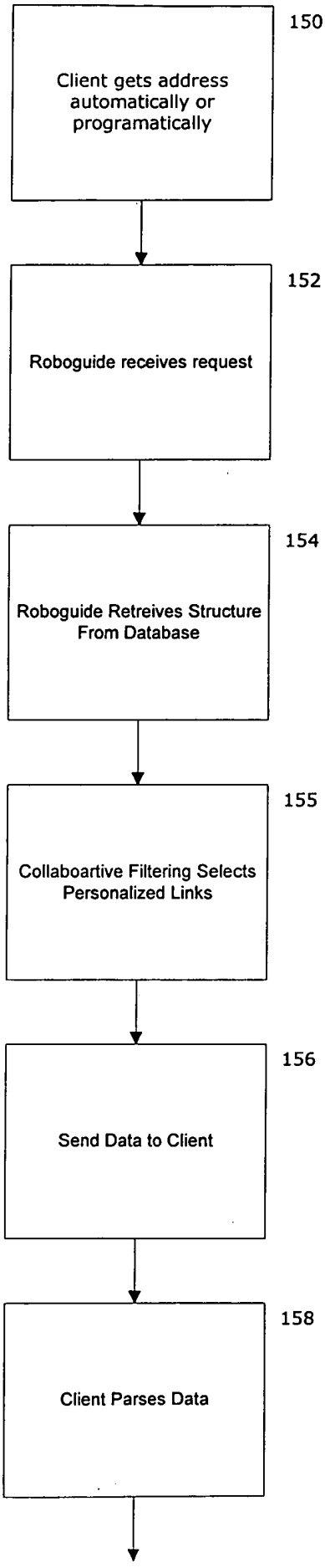


Figure #5 Roboguide

Continued in Figure 3(A)

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Figure #6 Robopublisher

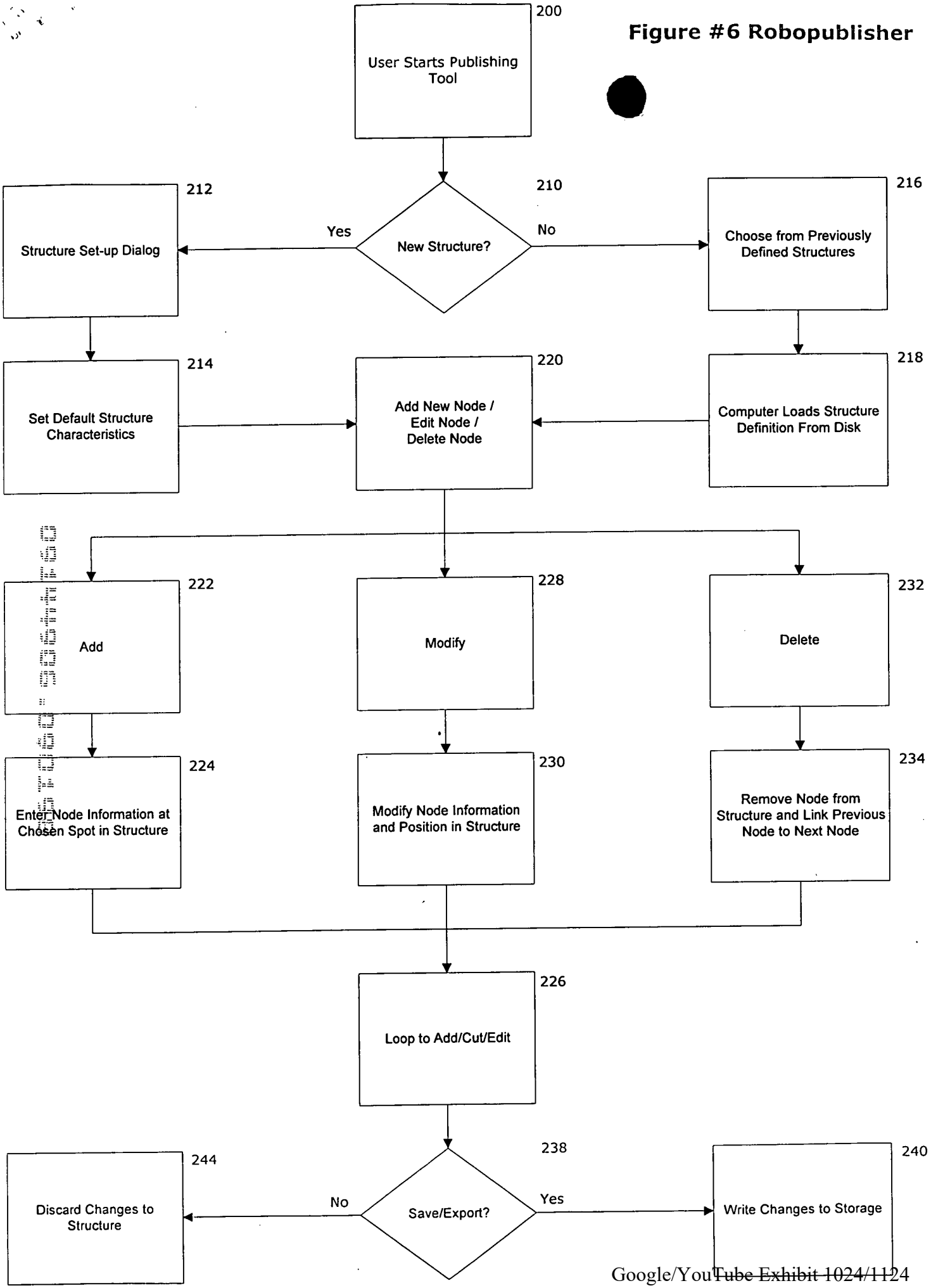
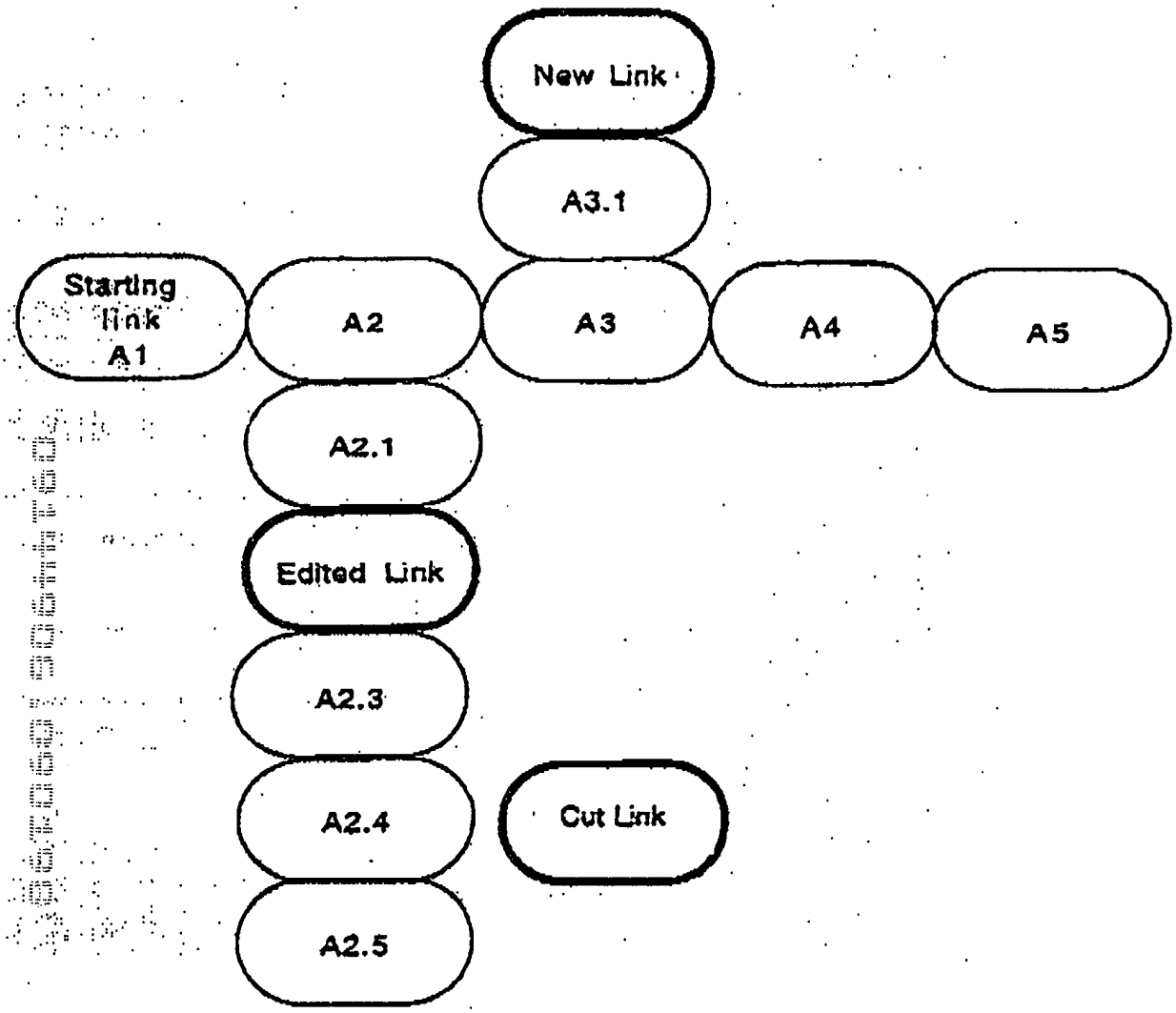


FIGURE 6A



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SEARCH / PICK / GATHER / SCHEDULE / PLAY
SEARCH for specific info, then PICK content sources and related topics within sites. RoboSurf GATHERs this data when you choose. SCHEDULE by topic (news, sports, comedy...) PLAY what you find, using fast scan-mode, slow study mode — any speed. Controls streaming media (audio & video that doesn't require downloading).

STATUS CONTROLS
Controls for Volume, Channels and Speed. Up, Down and Dialog Box settings

PROGRESS BAR
Shows progress for all RoboSurf items

SCHEDULE WINDOW
Displays the chosen line-up of programs. Provides estimated viewing times and shows status: viewed, marked for return, printed, etc.

PROFILER
The user(s) can configure the software here, or just pick from a list of preset profiles containing choices for: "Internet Professional", "Lawyer", "Banker", "Student", "Mother", "Boy: 12-16", "Girl: preschooler", etc.

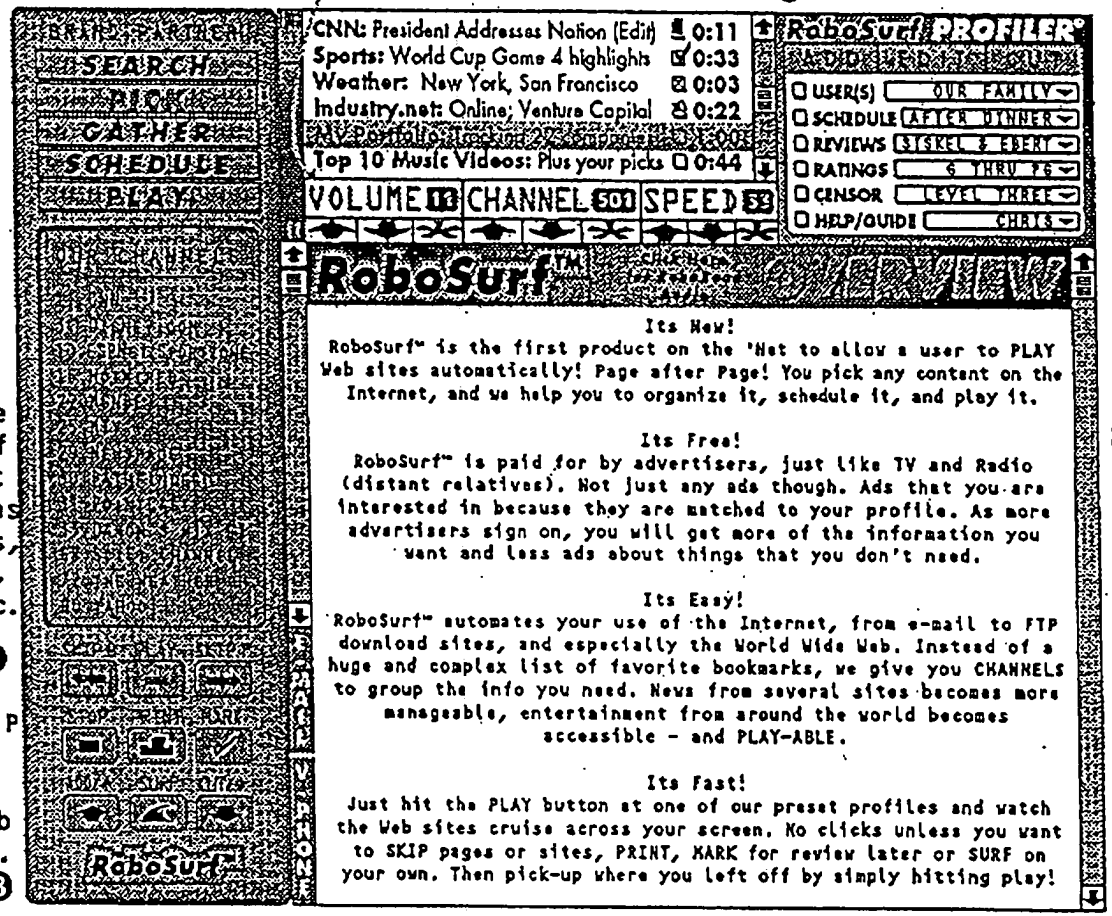


Fig. 7

CHANNEL DISPLAY
This area shows the current line-up of "sites" to choose from. Any site can be added to this menu of pre-configured content partners. Each site has a sub menu of keywords, such as: News, Sports, Companies, Comedy, etc.

CONTROL BUTTONS
Allow the user to SKIP forward & back, MARK for return viewing, and uniquely, PLAY web content consecutively.

REMOTE HARDWARE
A physical REMOTE CONTROL, that is a replica of the software version (fig.8) will be available, allowing users to SURF and PLAY the 'Net by touch, vs. using precise eye-hand coordination required with pointers on screens. This will facilitate a whole new breed of "couch potato" hereby known as "web potato"

E-MAIL & VIDEO PHONE
These are buttons to summon third party software packages. One for E-MAIL and one for a VIDEO TELEPHONY product that will provide voice only for computers that do not have the proper specifications or a fast enough connection for videoconferencing.

CONTENT WINDOW
This window is where all the content Found, Picked, Gathered, Reviewed, Rated, Censored, Edited and Schedulec (automatically) is finally PLAYED. The process is like TV mixed with some Radio, Newspapers and a research library. Th content is a multimedia mix of text, audio, video database access and software downloads. A business function of RoboSurf is shown in the e-mail anc videoconferencing options which facilitate a sharing of information either thru non-synchronous notification of pertinent info via e-mail or synchronous shared "white boards" of RoboSurf content. Video mail is also possible, and using Lotus Screen Cam, one can send a RoboSurfing

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UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION

FOR

AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

Inventor:

Damon C. Torres

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Related Applications

This is a continuation-in-part application of a currently pending application serial no. 08/922,063 filed on September 2, 1997.

INS. C2>

Field Of The Invention

This invention relates generally to computer networks, and specifically to a method of sequencing and scheduling web pages, via a suite of software applications.

Background Of The Invention

The worldwide network of computers commonly known as the "Internet" has grown tremendously since the creation of a subset known as the "World Wide Web" (WWW or Web), popularized in 1993. The emergence of the Web, and its accompanying standards enabled users to move beyond traditional on-line data exposure, which required knowledge of protocols and other low-level computer constructs, to a much more filtered and full-featured interface in the form of a "Web Browser." The Web Browser filters out the computer constructs, displaying only pertinent content, such as text, images, animations and sounds, while hiding from the user the computer codes that are used to negotiate access, generate and display this content.

Some of the standards popularized by the web are Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP), Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) and the Uniform Resource Locator (URL). HTTP allows HTML documents, which carry many forms of information, from text and images, to audio and video, to be easily found via a URL from a collection of networks known as the Internet. These networks have public and private files which are accessed via routing tables. The routing tables

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reside on Domain Name ers (DNS) and are regularly updated.

Two innovations provided by the Browser environment, HTTP and the Internet are: specialized display of data (certain text and graphics) and "Hyperlinks" which appear as "clickable-buttons" or "links" made of text or graphics in the Graphical User Interface (GUI) presented by the Browser. These links contain an address for another location on the Internet. Instead of seeing computer language full of telecommunications protocols and an occasional listing of a graphic file's name, the user sees only human pertinent text and an automatically displayed image within this text. The user is shown graphical or textual links to facilitate navigation instead of having to properly enter complex path names.

This combination of features, coupled with the ease of use that HTML provides as a page publishing format, have proved to be very popular, leading to a mass adoption of this new medium by many constituencies. These include education, most areas of business (publishing, finance, commerce, entertainment, etc.) and government. Given the increasing adoption of the Web, many non-technically oriented users use this new medium to go from page to page, shifting from one computer network to the next simply by making decisions on which links to click. Search engines which index the Web allow these users to quickly locate URLs and their associated links. In addition, content aggregators collect and publish collections of Web pages. In just a few years, the Web has evolved from static pages to pages containing animation, personalized data, commerce-level security and streaming audio and video. A more recent innovation is the "Push Technology" model which is found in the more recently released browsers.

Push technology, pioneered by Pointcast™, has been adopted by Netscape™ and

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Microsoft™, the two br[redacted] giants, as the next way to connect v[redacted]ers with content. As implemented by Pointcast, push technology began in 1996 as a personalized data gathering service. Users select content sources from a list and the Pointcast service automatically provides updated information which is displayed by the user's screen saver in a uniform format. Information providers who send information to users using the Pointcast system must first format their information according to requirements set by Pointcast. Thus, the "pages" of information displayed by the Pointcast screen saver are specially prepared screens. A user of the Pointcast system can access information only from those sources which have prepared information in the Pointcast format.

By collecting user interest profiles, the current "4.x" level browsers can constantly update a specific set of topics, from news, sports and weather, to financial and entertainment content. Thus, push technology enables information to come to the user instead of requiring the user to seek out the information. This not only facilitates a new distribution method for publishers and advertisers, but it also fosters new community models and demographics to go with them. As web browsing has evolved it has changed from a mere novelty, to a relied upon conduit of information flow.

Recently, problems with access to a major on-line service provider produced lawsuits stemming from lack of access to mission-critical information, in both receipt and transmission. As this technology has moved from budding curiosity browsing to true reliance, the blossoming of the technology has yet to show what mature fruit it will provide. Commerce is a large part of the development of the medium as companies like Cisco and Boeing conduct exclusive web-based sales in excess of one billion dollars. In addition, consumer and small

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business oriented vendo[redacted]ch as Dell have sales in excess of $1 [redacted]on per day via their website. But what other services, beyond a catalog of information and products, will the Internet and its Web offer? The subject invention proposes a next-level of functionality that may provide an insight.

5

Summary of the Invention

In accordance with one embodiment of the invention, a presentation software is employed in a web browser software. A triggering event, such as a mouse click on a single "link" commences the presentation of a series of resources instead of one resource at a time. This arrangement of resources, is defined as a "show structure" or "structure," which contains a set of nodes. Each node represents a resource such as a web page, an executable file, or a data file stored at a predetermined location and accessed via its corresponding address. This structure allows access to one or several topics of information from several sources in a continuous arrangement. The topics of information include multimedia data such as audio, video, graphics and text that together define a presentation show to a user.

It is noted that in accordance with one embodiment of the invention the nodes that define a show structure or a structure may be arranged as a multidimensional sequence. An array of nodes may be available for a multimedia presentation or show. Each node in the array is accessible from the other nodes in the array. These nodes or a portion of these nodes are selected for presentation. A show structure is defined by one or more paths that are spanned through these nodes.

The information conveyed by displaying the resources arranged may be

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interspersed with advert and public service announcements (P[redacted]). The presentation of all resources may be adjusted for different pacing attributes of individual users. While the invention may automate a number of the decisions that a user makes in viewing a plurality of resources, it in no way inhibits the interactivity currently present on the Web. The decision-making process is not inhibited: it is optional, allowing for preprogramming and navigating the arrangement of resources on-the-fly or simply watching a series of pre-edited resources. The present invention serves as an enhancement which refocuses the state of content delivery to a user via a communication medium, such as the Internet, TV/PC hardware and software offerings.

In accordance with another embodiment of the present invention a method of presenting information content is provided, which includes the steps of accessing and providing the information from an arrangement of content sources, or a show structure of nodes. Each node in the structure includes both an address from which the information may be accessed and an indication of the duration for which the content will be presented. For each node, the method locates the content source, accesses the content and presents it for the indicated duration.

According to another aspect of the invention, while the requested information is being presented, the method queues and caches the next resource, then loads the next resource for viewing.

According to yet another aspect of the invention, a method is provided by which structures of content sources may be generated. A user may select and organize content from a variety of sources by several methods including a bookmark list, a list of search results and through the creation of a structure of nodes by a "drag-and-drop" technique.

According to yet another aspect of the invention, a method is provided for

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generating and publishin[redacted]se structures. When a plurality of no[redacted]are available for presentation, the system determines the order of such presentation based on predetermined set of criteria. Furthermore, a user may specify additional criteria for arranging the order of nodes in order to create a show structure. The method further includes provisions for a filter which customizes a preexisting structure by automatically conforming variable items in the structure to a predefined user profile.

In accordance with another embodiment of the invention, the presentation system and method of displaying resources includes a system for presentation of a user's local computer resources. Therefore, the arrangement of resources may include a show structure wherein each node in the structure represents a resource that exists locally within the user's computer. These resources may be scheduled in accordance with a specifiable arrangement and executed in accordance with the schedule.

In accordance with another embodiment of the invention, the method for creating a show structure may be employed by a variety of user terminals, such as computer PCS, dumb terminals, TV sets and other terminals that are capable of displaying information. Furthermore, for certain applications, the method for creating and displaying content from various resources, in accordance with one embodiment of the invention, may function as an operating system for managing resources for display on the user's terminal.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is a block diagram which illustrates the Internet and the World Wide Web environment in which the invention operates.

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Figure 2A is a block diagram of a hardware system utilizing the present software invention.

Figure 2B-2F is an illustration of an exemplary node arrangements that define various show structures in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention.

Figure 3 is a flow-chart diagram which is useful for describing a software application which runs on a server and sequences and displays URLs and predefined structure automatically in accordance with timer settings while monitoring the navigation decisions of the user, if any.

Figure 4 is a flow-chart diagram of a client-side software application or Apple, which processes URLs and predefined structures automatically while monitoring the timer settings and navigation decisions of the user.

Figure 5 is a flow-chart diagram which illustrates the process by which initial structures of content are personalized and delivered to the user.

Figure 6 is a flow-chart diagram which illustrates a method of formatting individual resources and collections of resources for use with the resource scheduling and organizing software shown in Figures 3 through 5.

Figure 6A is a graphical depiction of a process for editing a structure of nodes.

Figure 7 is a computer screen diagram of an exemplary user interface for the invention that is useful for describing features of the invention.

Detailed Description

Figure 1 is a simplified block diagram which is useful for describing the

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connectivity of users an tent providers on the Internet. Brief[redacted]e Internet includes a large collection of content providers 10 which may be accessed by the users 12. Typically, a user accesses content on a "server" by establishing a data communications connection to the server through the network of computers 14, 16 defined by the Internet. Each server 10 operates a "web site" which includes data files that contain text, images, audio or video content. The web site typically includes a group of linked HTML documents or pages that contain links to the data files. A user 12 may access the content in a file by simply selecting one of these links. The file may be transferred to a cache in the user's computer and presented using the browser or the content may be provided directly by the server 10 to the user 12 as an encoded data stream (e.g. an audio program) which is decoded and played out by the user's computer 12.

Content accessed by the browser may not be in a file on a remote computer but may be generated by the remote computer and transmitted to the user directly. Much of the data that may be accessed by a browser on a remote computer is classified by Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension (MIME) type. One MIME type is an HTML file, another is a JPEG file, a still picture that is encoded according to the standard developed by the Joint Picture Experts Group. Mime types can also be proprietary data. In this instance, the browser may need to be configured with a "plug-in" program in order to decode and present the proprietary data. An example of such a plug-in is the Macromedia™ flash technology which allows streaming animation to be displayed with accompanying audio. For more information on MIME types, see Netscape's User Handbook at http://home.netscape.com/eng/mozilla/1.1/handbook/docs/answers.html, HTTP (HyperText Transfer Protocol) servers use HTML formatting. Netscape software has the built-in capability to read HTML-formatted pages (as well as the GIF, JPEG, and XBM graphic file

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formats). Netscape can [redacted]pret many other file formats with the of external helper applications. To accommodate the file formats requiring helper applications, Netscape keeps a mapping of file formats to helper applications. MIME (Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions) is a standardized method for organizing divergent file formats. The method organizes file formats according to the file's MIME type. When Netscape software retrieves a file from a server, the server provides the MIME type of the file. Netscape uses the MIME type to establish whether the file format can be read by the software's built-in capabilities or, if not, whether a suitable helper application is available to read the file.

For servers that do not provide a MIME type with a file, Netscape interprets the file's extension (a suffix appended to a file name). For example, the .HTML extension in the file name index.html suggests a file in the HTML format. Likewise, a .zip extension suggests a compressed file, an .rtf extension suggests a file in the Rich Text Format, and so on.

The Internet content relating to a show structure, in accordance with one embodiment of the invention, may be implemented as a new MIME type. Thus a show structure may be created by a show originator who intends to present a corresponding arrangement of resources to a user at a specifiable rate. The show structure may be transmitted to a plurality of users via the Internet. Thus, in order to ensure the integrity of a show structure a security arrangement in accordance with one embodiment of the invention is provided as described hereinafter.

Thus, the software that creates the show structure allows the show originator, to encode the identity of its creator. Furthermore, a mechanism is employed to automatically verify that the show structure comprising the show has not been tampered with. In one exemplary

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implementation, this is a[redacted]plished by using cryptographic techn[redacted]s; for example the Digital Signature Initiative (c.f. http://w3c.org/Dsig/Overview.html). The identity of the show originator is thus represented by a digital signature. The security status of the currently selected show structure is then visible at all times to the user. If a user chooses to edit a sequence of a show, the previously attached signature will be discarded and the user will be made aware of it's new unsigned status.

Today it is taken for granted that, to access services, information and entertainment on the Web, a user must make certain choices, position the mouse pointer and click the mouse buttons appropriately to indicate the decisions. For example, in a typical Web access, these selections are made at a rate of approximately once per minute. The result of each mouse click is another page and another set of decisions. Typically, a user is expected to click one of the several dozen links provided on any given page, (see, for example, cnn.com). Alternatively, a user may type in a URL or access a bookmark to visit a favorite search engine. In addition, a user may access a collection of "channels" of "push content" via Netscape Communicator's Netcaster or Microsoft Internet Explorer's Active Desktop and sit back for a few seconds to view an animated presentation of a specific publisher's offerings. The user may even choose a headline of a story presented in Pointcast's screen saver to receive more information about that topic grouping within the application, or to transfer to a relevant website. All of these methods typically require a significant amount of user effort and decision-making to drive the web surfing experience.

Although the users and servers are shown as separate machines in Figure 1, it is well known that a computer being used as a server may host users and may also serve as a conduit

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for connecting a user to a remote server.

Figure 2 is a block diagram which illustrates the basic layout of a typical user's computer, be it a personal computer (PC) or a network computer (NC), as typified by webtv™ or a Java Station™. The computer may also be a dedicated workstation coupled to a local area network or a terminal connected to a mainframe computer which is, in turn, coupled to the Internet or other communication networks. The user requires no special hardware to use this invention. No additional cards with TV tuners are required, but they can be used as an enhancement. This diagram illustrates one possible environment for the invention and should not be interpreted as limiting the invention. It is contemplated that the invention may employ user terminals which may have radically different hardware, including but not limited to hand held devices, public kiosks, dumb terminals, set-top boxes, TV sets, and even "credit card-sized" configurations.

The exemplary system includes a microprocessor 32 a random access memory (RAM) 34, a memory management circuit, a disk drive 36, a floppy disk drive 37, a read only memory (ROM) 33 which includes the basic I/O system (BIOS) for the computer system, a CD ROM drive 42, a modem 50, a digital signal processor 43, a keyboard controller 38, a mouse controller 39, a video controller 40, and an audio controller 41 which are all connected by a system bus 31. A keyboard 22, a mouse 23 and a graphic display monitor 24 are connected to the keyboard controller 38, mouse controller 39, and video controller 40. Stereo speakers 25A and 25B are connected to the audio controller 41. In the exemplary system, the connection to the on-line-service provider 16 (shown in Figure 1) is made through the modem 50 via a telephone line 56.

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As shown in Figure 2, the memory 34 includes an operating system 60, for example, Windows 95™; a browser 62 for example, Netscape Navigator™ 4.0; and a cache memory 63. The hard disk 36 is the main data storage device for the system shown in Figure 1. It includes the software needed to run the browser and libraries of software used by the operating system to control the operation of all of the components that are connected to the system bus 31. The hard disk 36 also includes a disk cache (not shown) for the browser. When data on a remote computer is accessed by the browser, it may be transferred by Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) or File Transfer Protocol (FTP) and stored in this disk cache temporarily.

The component of the invention which is used on the user computer 12 may be, for example, a browser plug in. While, in this example, the user component is a browser plug-in, it is contemplated that it may be an Applet which runs on a virtual computer defined by the browser, it may also be a stand-alone program, which includes the functionality that is typically provided by a browser, or it may be a distributed application. The user component is described below with reference to Figure 4 and is referred to as the program RoboSurf™. The RoboSurf program allows a user to view a show having content that corresponds to a show structure as will be explained in more detail later.

It is noted that in accordance with one embodiment of the invention the nodes that define a show structure or a structure may be arranged as a multidimensional sequence. Fig. 2b illustrates an array 300 of nodes that may be available for a multimedia presentation or show. Each node identifies an available resource and the time the resource may be presented to the user. As illustrated in Fig. 2B nodes 302, 304, 306, 308, 310 and 312 are available for presentation in accordance with an exemplary arrangement. Each node in the array is accessible from the other

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nodes in the array. For cal show or presentations, an arrangement of these nodes or a portion of these nodes is selected for presentation as described in reference with Figs. 2c through 2f. Thus, a show structure is defined by one or more paths that are spanned through these nodes.

Fig. 2c illustrates a show structure that simultaneously spans multiple paths from the same starting node such as node 310 to each one of the remaining nodes 312, 302, 304, 306 and 308. Thus, a show in accordance with the structure presented in Fig. 2c simultaneously presents the contents identified by nodes 312, 302, 304, 306 and 308, after the content identified by node 310 is presented.

Alternatively, as illustrated in Fig. 2d-1 a show structure can span a path with a length of four beginning at node 308 and traversing to nodes 312, 302 and 306. The state map of this path is illustrated in Fig. 2d-2. Thus, a show in accordance with the structure presented in Fig. 2d-1 first presents the contents identified by node 308, followed by contents identified by nodes 312, 302 and 306.

In a still alternative arrangement, a show structure can be created that also spans multiple paths concurrently, as illustrated in Fig. 2e. For example a first path spans nodes 308, 302, 306 and 310. The second path spans nodes 312, 306, 304 and 310. As illustrated nodes 302, 306 and 310 are spanned simultaneously with nodes 306, 304 and 310. Thus a show in accordance with the structure presented in Fig. 2e first presents the contents identified by node 310, followed by the contents identified by node 312. Thereafter, the show structure presents contents identified in nodes 302, and 306 at the same time that is presents the contents identified in nodes 306 and 304. Finally, the structure presents contents identified in node 310.

Thus, a show structure may include one or more paths that can be presented

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sequentially and/or concurrently. It is noted that a path may include portions that is presented sequentially and other portions that are presented concurrently. Furthermore, one node to many nodes paths and many nodes to one node paths can also define a show structure. Every time that a node is detected the corresponding content of that node is presented to the user's terminal regardless of whether a plurality of nodes have been detected at the same time or separately.

It is noted that the process that creates and/or organizes and manages the arrangement of these nodes and ultimately the corresponding resources, may be implemented as a user specific operating system in accordance with one embodiment of the invention. The operating system then allows the paths to be selected and arranged in accordance with interactive user specifications or in accordance with predefined criteria. Thus, the operating system, among other things, organizes and arranges the available resources as identified by available nodes; allows end users to select and interact with files and applications; and make certain files and or resources available to be shared by all the other resources. For example, during a presentation of a show, certain sound effects and visual effects may be shared by all resources that may have use for such effects. Such an operating system can be employed for many applications described herein in accordance with various embodiments of the invention.

A show structure may be presented on a server that can be accessed by a user who visits a corresponding site on the server. This component on the server is described below with reference to Figure 3, and is referred to as the program Robosites™. Robosites may perform the actual transfer operations to obtain the pages from other web sites.

In addition to RoboSurf and Robosites, the exemplary system includes RoboGuide™, described below with reference to Figure 5, a program that allows several users to

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access a prepared show ture of nodes or links and have it cus ized to their respective preferences. The system also includes a program referred to as RoboPublisher™, described below with reference to Figure 6, which functions as a publishing software so as to help a publisher to prepare show structures. The entire suite of programs is referred to below as RoboCast.

Referring again to Figure 3 a flow-chart diagram which illustrates the operation of the server-side application, Robosites is explained in more detail. The first two steps in Figure 3 represent activities occurring at a user's computer 12. At step 70, the user starts to access the Internet or other network via a Personal Computer (PC) a Network Computer (NC), Web-Enabled TV Set, or other similar device. At step 72, the user encounters and selects a URL, for example, within a screen saver, an e-mail message, or a website, which is designated as an entry node in a show structure of resources. The URL may be so designated by its association within a list generated by a publisher, by results that are automatically generated by a search engine or because it is the first URL in a show structure of URL's that was manually collected by the user. The server stores a plurality of show structures each structure including nodes that represent a resource on the Internet. Thus, each structure represents a show that is available for the user's preview.

Accessing the resources referred to by the URL initiates a structure of events in the application Robosites which is running on server 10, shown in Figure 1. At step 74, the server parses the request into task sets, initiating the look-up of the resources indicated by the URL. This step gathers the relevant data and custom packages it for the browser 62, shown in Figure 2. As part of its custom packaging application Robosites provides a set of contents that can be displayed on the user's display terminal in the form of a persistent content window. Therefore, a

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small window on the us[redacted]creen begins to display contents that ovided by the server, such as advertising or user specific messages. Furthermore, as part of its custom packaging application, Robosites may arrange the location on the screen where the user can view a selected show, and also updates show structures that had been previously used by a user and had been cached in the user's computer.

At step 76, Robosites checks whether the user is intended to receive information in a dynamic arrangement referred to as value added dynamic content. As will be explained in more detail below such value added dynamic content may include additional URL locations or files that are deemed by Robosite system to be of interest to the user, such as advertising material. Such dynamic content is usually based on, among other things, the user's profile. For example, some of the factors relating to a user profile, which are considered include a particular sports team preference; a demographic; or a pre-set profile as specified in the software. This information is used as selection criteria which is sent to a database and, at step 78, a page, conforming to the user's preferences, is retrieved by the server, either locally or from a remotely located database. Thus, this dynamic content may be presented in the persistent content window of the user's display screen or as information and messaging contents selectively interspersed between a show structure.

At step 80, if the resource addressed by the URL does not include dynamic content or if the user is unable to receive dynamic content, a resource having pre-defined content is retrieved, either directly from a Robocast-operated resource, or from a third party with prior authorization to handle such content requests. For example, a resource having a default set of advertising content may be presented to the user.

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At step 8 her the dynamic or pre-defined URL [redacted] ccessed and the content associated with the URL is retrieved, encoded and delivered to the browser at step 84. The content provided from the location addressed by the URL may be among other formats, include HTML, DHTML or XML documents. The delivered information may contain references for many other data types, including animation, streaming and non-streaming audio and video, Virtual Reality Modeling Language (VRML) Quicktime VR, and front-ends for several flavors of database applications, to name a few.

At step 84 the content retrieved by RoboSites is delivered ty the user's browser for a show presentation. This step is inherent in the operation of browser 62 (shown in Figure 2), accordingly, it is not described in detail. At step 86, a timer is started in response to a message produced by the browser 62 indicating that the retrieved content has been delivered and is ready to be presented. This timer is set from a value provided in the corresponding node in a show structure which indicates an amount of time that the content accessed from the associated URL is to be displayed. It is noted that RoboSites provides an additional code to the content corresponding to the amount of time the content is displayed. For example, for an HTML file, Robosites includes additional tags corresponding to the duration that the HTML document will be displayed by the user's browser.

At step 88, Robosites determines if the user has selected another URL before the timer expires. It is noted that the user may select another URL either manually or via a RoboSurf program that resides on the user's computer. In that event the newly selected URL is based on a node within a show structure that is being executed by the user's RoboSurf program. If another URL has been selected, the program will do one of two things: 1) forward that user away from

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the predetermined course the show structure that was entered at the beginning of this process and take the user on another course, based on the other URL selected; or 2) skip them forward on the predetermined course that is being played for the user in accordance with the selected structure . This latter scenario is advantageous for a quick reader, or someone who has seen the presented content before, or in the case of content that the viewer chooses to skip (even an advertisement or PSA).

If the user has selected a new URL during the display time allowed by the timer, then, at step 90 Robosites determines whether the next URL relates to a show structure or not. This may be determined simply by the lack of new URL requests. It may also be determined by checking the header information of the new URL, as described below with reference to Table 1. As shown in step 93, the user's decisions are recorded to a database at this point, providing a list of feedback for advertisers and content providers in some cases. If, for example, an advertisement for cat food is displayed, a user may skip over the advertisement or otherwise indicate that cat food advertisements are not interesting. This information is recorded at step 93 and used to direct only advertisements that are of interest to the user.

At step 94 the system requests the next resource in the show structure and returns to step 74 described above. It is noted that in accordance with another embodiment of the invention, it is possible to change the course of events to be displayed to the viewer by substituting next resource request at step 94 with a previous resource request. For example, if the forward going display provides a first URL content relating to weather forecast to a second URL content relating to sports news , the reverse going display provides the sports news before the weather forecast.

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It is also [redacted]d that a user may switch to another s[redacted] show structure at any time by selecting a desired structure, for example by a Robosurf program employed by the user's computer. The instructions relating to the newly selected path in a structure may be provided via point A as illustrated in Fig. 3. Furthermore, a newly selected path in a structure may also be diverted back to the prior show structure by using the application's "surf" feature (described below with reference to Figure 7). The user's selections are tracked by the user's Robosurf program. Thus, for example when a URL relating to a second show structure is selected, by being clicked for the first time, the system remembers where the user left the initial structure and returns the user to that point in the structure upon the second click of that surf button. Alternatively, the history feature, inherent in most browsers, may be used to return the user to pages that were presented moments before or days before.

If, at step 88, the user does not interact with the system within the allotted time (which is set by the user or publisher), the timer expires at step 92 and that signals the request for another resource, thus enabling the play sequence for automatic surfing.

At step 96, the program requests the next node in the currently playing show structure. While this sequence has been described as a simple display of preprogrammed URLs, it is contemplated that, in more complex forms, this process may stream URLs to the viewer, while monitoring the user's habits (e.g. which sites are skipped and which sites the user views for the full display time) and injecting targeted content, including news, advertising and PSAs into the data stream.

If the URL selected at step 88, before the time-out, is not another show structure, the Robosites process displays the selected content and resets the timer. If no additional content is

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available, a user-specifi[redacted]ow structure will be optionally displa[redacted].

Figure 4 is a flow-chart diagram which illustrates the operation of the exemplary user component of the system, referred to as the RoboSurf program, in accordance with one embodiment of the invention. Briefly, this program allows a user to schedule, personalize and play content obtained from Web addresses. Using RoboSurf, a user may access almost any accessible website as a node in a structure. It is noted that while RoboSurf is described as a browser plug-in, it may be an Applet, stand-alone program or distributed application.

The RoboSurf process illustrated by Figure 4 begins at step 110 to access a default list of URLs that may be generated by, for example, one of several sources, such as : 1) RoboCast's web server network that will supply a general listing of available show structures; 2) a pre-selected list generated by the server in response to information obtained about the user from a Profiler program (e.g. structures defined for an Intranet described below with reference to Figure 6); 3) the results of a Search initiated through the RoboCast system or through a non-affiliated search engine; 4) an e-mail message, 5) the contents of a screen saver's play queue; or 6) other delivery methods.

At step 112 the URL is delivered to the browser 62 by one of these methods in a traditional manner. This corresponds to step 84 of Figure 3, described above. Also at step 112, the content is received and/or activated either automatically or programmatically for presentation to the user. Once RoboSurf begins to display the content, it starts a timer, at step 114. This timer has a duration that is determined from the information contained in each node of the current show structure that corresponds to this URL.

At step 116, while the timer is running, RoboSurf monitors the user's actions to

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determine if the user wa[redacted] manually override the play sequence[redacted] clicking a URL before the time-out. The user may act in several ways to override the play sequence. First, the user may select a node or a link on the displayed resource at step 122. In this instance, if the selected link is itself part of a show structure, the program goes to step 124, and the newly selected show structure replaces the current structure. If the selected link is not part of a show structure, the program goes to step 120 to get the next resource of the initial structure and the timer is reset and play continues at step 112.

Second, the user may click on the Surf button, in the control buttons 7, shown in Figure 7, and then select a link on the displayed resource. By pressing the Surf button, the user temporarily suspends the display of the original show structure, to review contents of pages accessible by hyperlinks presented on a displayed page. When this review is complete, the show structure may be restarted at the point of departure by simply clicking on the Surf button a second time.

At step 118 if the user has not selected any URLs, the time-out occurs and the play sequence resumes at step 120. In the exemplary embodiment of the invention, this step highlights the next item in the schedule window 2 (shown in Figure 7), selects the corresponding URL and branches back to step 112, causing Robosites to deliver the content at the requested URL to the browser 62. It is noted that in accordance with one embodiment of the invention, either RoboSurf or Robosites programs may operate independently without interaction with the other.

Figure 5 is a flow-chart diagram which illustrates the operation of the RoboGuide component of the RoboCast program suite. RoboGuide is a helper application that provides a viewing guide which offers a personalized look at various show structures of content that have

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been cached at the serve[redacted]oboGuide interacts with information [redacted]uced by a Profiler program to modify the cached show structures to eliminate content or add alternate content according to a user's preferences.

RoboGuide program starts at step 150 where the user starts access to the Internet or other network via a Personal Computer (PC) a Network Computer (NC), Web-Enabled TV Set, or other similar device. The user encounters and selects a URL which has been designated as the entry node in a show structure of resources by a publisher. This URL may be encountered, for example, within a screen saver, an e-mail message, or a website.

In accordance with one embodiment of the invention, the server terminal that employs the RoboGuide program stores a plurality of various show structures that may be of interest to the users. These show structures may relate to different topics or subjects that visitors may have access via the server. An example of such a server may be a search engine such as those available by YAHOO ® or EXCITE ® . In accordance with one embodiment of the invention, the RoboGuide program may prepare various show structures based on a user's search specifications. The results of a search may include a plurality of URL locations that contain pertinent information relating to the search topic. In response, the RoboGuide program creates a show structure that includes all or portion of the uncovered URL locations as the result of the search.

At step 152 the RoboGuide program receives a request from a user for a URL location that is provided by the server. At step 154, the program retrieves from its database a show structure corresponding to the user's request. For example, the server may present a show on travel defined by a show structure prepared by the RoboGuide program.

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It is noted that in accordance with one embodiment of the invention, the RoboGuide program may create a customized show structure based on the user's preferences that can be obtained in accordance with various filtering techniques commercially available. The server may already have information on the user, for example, via a profiler program that the user had previously updated via a RoboSites program as described above in reference with Fig. 3. Thus, based on such adaptive filtering technique the RoboGuide program creates a personalized content that can be delivered for each user or groups of users.

At step 155 the program employs a filtering technique to create the customized show structure. An exemplary filtering process may be that which is available from Firefly.net, described below. This filtering is based on rating the resources (e.g. rating a cat food advertisement as inappropriate if the user profile does not indicate that the user has a cat or if the user indicates disinterest in cat food advertisements either explicitly by clicking on an on-screen "button" (not shown) indicating disinterest or implicitly as may be inferred from a pattern of skipping over cat food advertisements when they are presented). The information generated by the Profiler program is fed to the server based on "cookie technology," a common method of maintaining information about a client on the web. The server reads the cookie for preferences and date information then feeds a personalized request to the database which sends a dynamically generated list of URLs to the user.

At step 158, in response to the received show structures, the RoboSurf program residing at the user's terminal parses the data and displays the nodes in the structure in its Schedule window 2 (shown in Figure 7). In response to the user's request a show structure is then presented to the user by either a RoboSurf program as described in reference with Fig. 4 or

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by a RoboSites program described in reference with Fig. 3.

The following description of an exemplary filtering technique used by Firefly.net was obtained from their Web site at http://www.firefly.net/products/CollaborativeFiltering.html#Summary. Collaborative filtering technology is a powerful technology that can effectively address the problem of information and content overload, especially in highly subjective domains. Collaborative filtering systems use human intelligence instead of machine intelligence to address the limitations of content-based filtering systems. By leveraging human opinions, collaborative filtering systems automate the word of mouth process among users. Automated Collaborative Filtering (ACF) systems automate the word of mouth process on a global scale across hundreds of thousands of users and catalog items. Most ACF systems recommend items using the following three step process:

1. Capture a set of opinions from the user in the form of numerical ratings for items
2. Compute a set of "nearest neighbor users" for the user. These nearest neighbor users are users with opinions most like the given user.
3. Use the nearest neighbors ratings to compute a set of recommendations for the given user.

While standard ACF systems are effective in subjective domains, they suffer from certain limitations that may cause them to make incorrect conclusions in broad domains. This is mainly due to their tendency to ignore information about the items being recommended, even when such information is readily available.

Feature-Guided Automated Collaborative Filtering (FGACF) is Firefly Network Inc.'s powerful technology that combines the benefits of collaborative filtering with those of content-based filtering to overcome the limitations that affect standard ACF systems. FGACF

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utilizes simple feature information about items in a catalog to dynamically partition the space of items on a personalized basis, so as to more effectively apply the ACF algorithm in the appropriate sub-space.

Designers and developers of commercial collaborative filtering systems need to address several challenging issues. The foremost issue in building large scale collaborative filtering systems is the scaleability of the system. The accuracy of the underlying collaborative filtering technology, and the set of functionality offered, are important factors for designers of such systems.

Firefly Network Inc.'s Catalog Navigator product is scalable to handle loads of hundreds of thousands of users, catalog sizes in the half million range, with number of ratings in the millions, and still provide sub-second response times to queries. It has already been successfully deployed in applications on high-traffic sites. In addition, the Catalog Navigator is the only commercial implementation this powerful FGACF technology and offers one of the most comprehensive sets of catalog and community navigation functionality to a customer.
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It is noted that in accordance with another embodiment of the invention, the information presented to the user based on the show structures may be reformatted in accordance with certain default structure characteristics. For example, such reformatting may include the tasks, such as : making Web resources more reader-friendly when using RoboSurf, RoboSites or RoboGuide programs, by utilizing formatting parameters, such as restraining page size to a default screen size and cuing automatic playing of audio upon displaying a new page; providing "Play," "Stop," "Forward," "Reverse," and "Pause" indications to facilitate the user's viewing of

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a show presentation; m pages into parts of a of content; prov g information tags relating to the duration that a content is going to be displayed on the user's terminal; and, encoding pages with certain demographic and keyword-based information to aid the filtering operations explained above.

Table 1 shows an exemplary HTML code that may be added in accordance with one embodiment of the invention, to the Web resources or other content that is being reformatted. Note that the HTML of a page can be altered in this way between downloading it from a server and presenting it to the user. This "Tagging" process only requires a few milliseconds and can be done on the fly.

Essentially, this module uses the abilities of a HTML page publishing package like Pagemill from Adobe (www.adobe.com) to add HTML code of the type shown in Table 1.

Table 1

```
<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//IETF//DTD HTML 3.0//EN">
        <html>
        <head>
        <title>RoboGuide 11/3/97</title>
        <META name="author"      content="© 1997 Damon Torres,
Brian Foy">
        <META name="generator"   content="RoboSites
1.0">
        <META name="keywords"    content="news, sports, weather, lifestyles, jane q. public,
nyc weather, san francisco weather, washington d.c. weather, yankees, knicks, non-violent news,
parenting info, content filter 530145x2a, ad filter 398543*kjfd23, psa filter 19284jksd8sfj*659">
        <META name="description" content="Jane Q. Public's personalized news, sports and
weather. Contains preferences for cities, teams, content filters (i.e. sex, violence, language) and
preferences for advertising and public service announcement categories. Wildcard paramaters are
indicated by an asterix (*).">

        <META HTTP-EQUIV="Expires"  content="Tue, 04
Nov 1997 18:45:23 GMT">
```


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```
        <!-- see http://w[redacted]andia.gov/sci_compute/elements.htm[redacted] details -->
        <LINK rel="previous" href="some url">
<LINK rel="next"    href="some url">
        <LINK rel="toc"     href="url of channel description"><!--
                toc=Table of
    Contents-->
    </head>
    <body>
    <!-- content goes here -->
    </body>
    </html>
```

Figure 6 is a flow chart diagram that is useful for describing the operation of a RoboPublisher program, which is the publishing tool used to create and modify show structures for viewing via RoboGuide, RoboSurf and/or Robosites. The first step represents activities occurring at the user's computer 12. At step 200 the user access the program described in this flowchart. At step 210 the user selects between editing an existing show structure or creating a new one. This can be an existing structure that has been previously made, or a structure that another content provider has published. If the user is creating a new structure, the resources, or nodes of the structure, can be gathered from their local hard drive or server or from a remote server.

At step 212 the user is presented with a dialog box. At step 214 the user is presented with the dialog box options for setting general preferences for all of the resources that will be linked in the structure, such as duration for all resources, duration estimate based on word count, and default " page turn" sound to accompany an automatic resource delivery.

At step 216 the user has chosen to load a previously defined structure, and, at step 218 the computer requests and loads the structure from the local or remote drive. Beginning at step

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220 the user has many o s, presented by an interface that will [redacted] w the user to choose to "Add, Edit or Cut" a node for the structure they are building. This can be accomplished graphically, as shown for example, in Figures 6A or via a list. In step 222 the user may Add a node from a standard dialog box that enables browsing from all available drives and from a special cache area that RoboSites, RoboSurf and/or Robosites produce. This cache area allows users to collect URLs from the Internet by, for example, browsing, implementing searches, or culling their e-mail for additional show structures. At step 224 the user adds the node at the chosen spot in the structure.

At step 226 the user has the option to commit to changes or cancel and start again. At step 228 the Modify Choice selection gives the user options 230 to edit the parameters of the "next" node (i.e. changing the next node destination or previous node in the structure from, for example, a local news link to a local weather link). The duration choice pertains to how long the node will be displayed before a subsequent node is loaded. This can be done on a per resource basis, since some resources require more time than others. The expiration option allows the publisher to choose a "kill date" for the node, automatically triggering a replacement search, or a skip to next action. This is useful for dated information such as weather.

At step 232 the user has the option to delete a node from the structure. Again, this can be done graphically (as shown in Figure 6A) or via a list. This step leads to step 234 where ~~a~~ the previous structure is linked to the node that succeeds the deleted node . Step 236 allows the user to choose to continue adding, editing and/or cutting by branching back either to step 220 or 238, to save the work and/or export it for a preview or viewing by others. If the user does not choose to save or export, then, at step 244, the program reverts to the last saved version or cancels the

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session. If the user doe ort then, at step 240 the program wri[redacted]he changes to the local disk 36 (shown in Figure 2). The RoboSites program may, in turn, write header information to the files to which the user may access locally or even to remote server files. It should be noted that the writing of header information into the HTML documents is an option, providing a convenience for RoboSurf and Robosites programs. The page playing actions can be achieved without this header information present. The publisher completes its work at step 242 where it gives the option to preview for the publisher using RoboCast browser enhancements, or to publish for other RoboCast product users.

Figure 7 is a screen diagram of the interface presented by the RoboSurf program. Item 1 on the screen is an interface to the Profiler program. This program allows a user to specify several profiles for RoboSurf. The user may select from prepared profiles, for individuals or groups for example, "Internet Professional," "Lawyer," "Student," "Family.1" and "Girl: Preschool" and modify these or create a new profile. In the Profiler window, the User field allows a name to be attached to the profile. The Schedule field allows a user to associate the profile with a particular structure, also referred to as a Schedule. In this instance, the structure of URLs being displayed in the Schedule window 2 is named "After Dinner."

The Reviews field allows a user to specify one of several sources for website or show structure reviews. Using the Ratings field, the user can specify limitations on the type of website or structure that will be reviewed using the familiar MPAA rating system. The Censor Level field may be used to control the Web content that the user will see. Different Censor Levels will allow different types of content to be displayed. The RoboSurf program may compare the specified Censor Level to voluntary content ratings obtained from the Web resources or it may interface

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with an existing content toring system such as Cyber Patrol to [redacted]sure that undesirable content is blocked. The final field in the Profiler window allows a user to specify a Help or Guide function. It is contemplated that both text-oriented and voice synthesized help would be available. For voice-synthesized help, the user may identify a particular voice with a name (e.g. "Chris") as shown in Figure 7.

Item 2 in Figure 7 is the Schedule window. As described above, this window shows the current structure of URLs that is being displayed by RoboSurf. The window contains a brief textual description of each URL and a time in hours and minutes and seconds for which content provided from the URL will be displayed. The URL from which content is currently being displayed is highlighted. Each URL in the schedule list also includes a small box which is marked with an "x" after a URL has been viewed and may be marked with a " " to indicate that the user wants to return to this site.

Item 3 in Figure 7 are controls for volume, channel and speed. The volume control works as would be expected to increase or decrease the level of sound provided. The Channel button allows a viewer to move a pointer up and down in the channel window to select a new channel. As used in this description, a "channel" is a collection of resources, such as web pages, which are linked into a structure by a content provider. The Speed button allows a user to specify the amount of time between the content of resources. The "*" button on each of the volume, channel and speed buttons brings up a separate dialog box in which specific entries may be entered manually.

Item 4 in Figure 7 is the progress bar. This bar displays progress of the system in whatever it has been requested to do. During play mode, this bar displays progress through the

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structure as a percentage [redacted]me remaining in the display of the st[redacted]ure. In search mode, the bar may display progress in a search and the preparation of a show structure derived from the search. In gather mode, the bar may display the progress of the gathering operation.

Item 5 in Figure 7 are the programming bars. The Search button allows the user to establish criteria for a search of the Internet for URLs to be included in a show structure. The Pick button lets a user select categories within established information sources in order to make selections within the specified sites. Once Search Crieteria and Pick categories have been established, the Gather button retrieves information from the selected sources according to the user's criteria at a specified time and frequency. The Schedule button allows the user to group site content by topic and then set the time when specific group will be played. The Play button begins the presentation of information. In the exemplary embodiment of the invention, the Play button also lets a user set parameters such as size of the content window, length of time each item is displayed and, if RoboSurf is being used as a screen saver, screen saver activation parameters (e.g. delay time, autostart position of cursor and password).

Channel window 6 displays structure publishers that may be accessed by a "point and click" operation. This window is analogous to a "favorite places" list in a conventional browser.

Control window 7 contains buttons which allow a user to Skip backwards and forwards through the show structure displayed in the Schedule window, Play the information provided from the structure of URLs, Stop playing this information, Print the information that is currently being viewed, and Mark the current resources for later viewing.

In the exemplary embodiment of the invention, the Mark button interacts with the Play and Print buttons. While viewing contents relating to a show structure, a user may mark individual

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resources. After viewing a show structure, the user may specify that the marked resource be displayed again, queued for printing or displayed and printed. This feature may be activated, for example, through the play or print buttons by activating the buttons with a modifier key, for example, the right mouse button.

In addition to these buttons, the control window also includes an Add/Up button which allows a user to add resources to a structure when it is being set up in schedule mode and allows a user to move up the hypertext links that are being displayed on the screen during play mode. The Cut/Down button conversely allows a user to delete a site from the structure during schedule mode and move down the hypertext links during play mode. The function of the Surf button is described above. This button allows a user to temporarily suspend the viewing of a structure with a first button press and resume at the suspended site with a second button press. In accordance with another embodiment of the invention the functions described above in reference with Fig. 7 are embodiment in a separate remote control hardware device.

The e-mail and video phone buttons, item 9 on the display shown in Figure 7, invoke third-party software packages, one for e-mail and one for a video telephone product.
Item 10 in the display is the content window. This is where all of the content which is Found, Picked, Gathered, Reviewed, Rated, Censored, Edited and Scheduled is finally and automatically played. The process of playing the content is like television mixed with radio, newspapers and a research library.

While the invention has been described in terms of an Internet browser application which allows a user to view or create a show structure of content from various sites, it is contemplated that it may be used for other purposes. For example, the invention may be used as a

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jukebox to schedule and [redacted]ent successive audio or video recordi[redacted]or to schedule and view pay-per-view movies or videos.

As illustrated in Fig. 6A a show structure of resources may be created and played in accordance with various embodiments of the invention. These resources may include, for example, various local application files on a user's computer. Thus, a user may view information relating to various executable programs in a selected arrangement on a desired schedule. A typical example, involves a user system that contains an accounting software, an on-line banking software, an Intranet e-mail program, and a calendar program. The user creates a show structure that executes each of these programs and displays the relevant information at a predetermined rate. This allows the user to automate various tasks that are currently accomplished manually. Thus, for example, the user on a daily basis can check received e-mail, followed by the user's schedule for the day, available funds in the user's bank account. The selected information are presented automatically in an organized arrangement. It is noted that in accordance with another embodiment of the invention, a show structure may include the user's local resources and other remote resources as those explained above in reference with Internet applications.

While only certain features of the invention have been illustrated and described herein, many modifications, substitutions, changes or equivalents will now occur to those skilled in the art. It is therefore, to be understood that the appended claims are intended to cover all such modifications and changes that fall within the true spirit of the invention.

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I claim:

SUB A1

1. A method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement comprising the steps of:

creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources;

accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes;

retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources; and

displaying each of said retrieved contents automatically in accordance with said show structure.

2. The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

3. The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said step of accessing further comprises the step of executing an application file residing in the user's computer.

4. The method in accordance with claim 3 further comprising the step of generating a data file resulting from said executing step.

5. The method in accordance with claim 4 further comprising the step of storing said data file for each resource accessed.

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SUB A2

6. The method in accordance with claim 5 wherein said step of retrieving content further comprises the step of retrieving each of said data files.

7. The method in accordance with claim 6 wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of reformatting said data files in accordance with a predetermined arrangement.

8. The method in accordance with claim 7 further comprising the step of displaying control buttons for controlling the display of said data files.

9. The method in accordance with claim 8 further comprising the step of receiving control button commands for pausing said display of said data files, and for reversing the sequence of said display of said data files and for fast forwarding said display of said data files.

SUB A3

10. A method for displaying in a sequential arrangement on a user's terminal , content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources via said communications network;

accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes;

retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources; and

displaying each of said retrieved contents automatically in accordance with said

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show structure.

11. The method in accordance with claim 10, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

12. The method in accordance with claim 10, wherein said step of accessing further comprises the step of downloading a file from a server residing within said communications network.

13. The method in accordance with claim 12 further comprising the step of receiving a dynamic content from a predetermined server.

14. The method in accordance with claim 13 further comprising the step of displaying a persistent content window for receiving said dynamic content within said persistent content window.

15. The method in accordance with claim 13 further comprising the step of inserting resource identifiers interspersed within said show structure relating to said dynamic content.

16. The method in accordance with claim 15 wherein said dynamic content is an

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advertising message.

17. The method in accordance with claim 15 further comprising the step of providing said dynamic content in accordance with said user's profile.

18. The method in accordance with claim 17 further comprising the step of storing said content for each resource accessed.

19. The method in accordance with claim 18 wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of reformatting said content in accordance with a predetermined arrangement.

20. The method in accordance with claim 18 further comprising the step of displaying control buttons for controlling the display of said contents.

21. The method in accordance with claim 20 further comprising the step of receiving control button commands for pausing said display of said content, and for reversing the said display of said content and for fast forwarding said display of said content.

SUB A4) 22. A method for transmitting in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

storing a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a

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plurality of accessible resources via said communications network;

accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes;

retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources; and

delivering said content to said user for display on said user's computer in accordance with said show structure.

23. The method in accordance with claim 22, wherein said step of storing further comprises the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

24. The method in accordance with claim 22, wherein said step of accessing further comprises the step of downloading a file from a server residing within said communications network.

25. The method in accordance with claim 24 further comprising the step of transmitting to said user a dynamic content.

26. The method in accordance with claim 25 further comprising the step of formatting said dynamic content for displaying within a persistent content window on said user's terminal.

27. The method in accordance with claim 26 further comprising the step of

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inserting resource identi nterspersed within said show structu lating to said dynamic content.

28. The method in accordance with claim 27 wherein said dynamic content is an advertising message.

29. The method in accordance with claim 28 further comprising the step of providing said dynamic content in accordance with said user's profile.

30. The method in accordance with claim 29 further comprising the step of storing said content for each resource accessed.

31. The method in accordance with claim 30 wherein said step of delivering further comprises the step of reformatting said content in accordance with a predetermined arrangement.

32. The method in accordance with claim 31 further comprising the step of transmitting information to said user for displaying control buttons for controlling the display of said contents.

33. The method in accordance with claim 32 further comprising the step of receiving control button commands for pausing said display of said content, and for reversing the said display of said content and for fast forwarding said display of said content.

ADD A5>
ADD C7>

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Abstract Of The Inven[redacted]

A method of sequencing and scheduling web resources, via a software application that collects URLs and feeds them to a Web browser, so that the amount of clicks and decisions are reduced when browsing the Internet. The method begins after a computer user with Net-access encounters a URL that leads to a collection of other URLs that the software application has arranged to be presented in a continuous, show manner. This collection of resources then plays automatically, going from one resource to the next without the user being required to make a decision or click. The decision-making process is not inhibited, it is made optional. A method of inserting full-screen advertising, public service announcements, news, etc. has been developed. The server software application module described herein allows a publisher to stream URLs to a user who does not have the client-side software. The publishing module allows a user to format resources to a particularly desirable size and characteristic that promotes readability during a show viewing session. This same module can publish collections of nodes for others to view as a whole sequence, accessible via e-mail, screen saver or as a web resource.

VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(c)) - SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

Applicant or Patentee: Damon C. Torres
Attorney's Docket No.: 735-002
Serial or Patent No.: Not yet assigned
Filed or Issued: September 1, 1998
Title: AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

I hereby declare that I am

[ ] the owner of the small business concern identified below:
[X] an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN Robocast Inc.
ADDRESS OF CONCERN 89 Fifth Avenue, Suite 700
New York, New York 10003

I hereby declare that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR 121.12, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees to the United States Patent and Trademark Office in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention described in:

[X] the specification filed herewith with title listed above.
[ ] the application identified above.
[ ] the patent identified above.

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention must file separate verified statements averring to their status as small entities, and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person made the invention or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d), or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization having any rights in the invention is listed below:

[X] no such person, concern, or organization exists.
[ ] each such person, concern or organization listed below

FULL NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
[ ] INDIVIDUAL [ ] SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN [ ] NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING Damon C. Torres

TITLE OF PERSON OTHER THAN OWNER President

ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING 89 Fifth Avenue, Suite 700

New York, New York 10003

SIGNATURE Damon C. Torres DATE 9/1/98

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMBINED DECLARATION, POWER OF ATTORNEY & PETITION

TYPE OF DECLARATION

[ ] Utility
[ ] Design
[ ] Supplemental
[ ] Divisional
[ ] Continuation
[X] Continuation-in-part
[ ] National Stage of the PCT

INVENTORSHIP AND SPECIFICATION IDENTIFICATION

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the invention entitled:

AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

as described and claimed in the specification which
[X] is attached hereto.
[ ] was filed on _____
[ ] as U.S. Serial Number. 08/___·_____; or
[ ] Express Mail No._____ (as serial number not yet known); and
[ ] was amended on _____.
[ ] was described and claimed in PCT International Application No. PCT/ / _____ filed on _____; and
☐ as amended under PCT Article 19 and/or 34 on _____.

REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the attached specification including the drawing and claims as amended by any amendment referred to below; and
I acknowledge my duty to disclose information of which I am aware which is material to the examination of this application, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56(a); and
☐ in compliance with this duty there is attached an information disclosure statement.

PRIORITY CLAIMS

I hereby claim **foreign priority** benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign applications for patent applications for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)			Priority Claimed	
_____	_____	_____	[ ]	[ ]
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year/Filed)	Yes	No
_____	_____	_____	[ ]	[ ]
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year/Filed)	Yes	No
_____	_____	_____	[ ]	[ ]
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year/Filed)	Yes	No

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any **United States Application(s)** listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States Application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

08/922,063	September 2, 1997	Pending
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status: Patented, Pending, Abandoned)
_____	_____	_____
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status: Patented, Pending, Abandoned)

DECLARATION

I declare that all statements made above of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

I hereby appoint the following patent attorneys and/or patent agent(s) with full power of appointment, substitution and revocation to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments thereto, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the Patent Office connected therewith.

Joseph Sofer (Reg. No. 34,438)
Robert M. Haroun (Reg. No. 34,345)

Please address all telephone calls and correspondence to:

Joseph Sofer
SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.
342 Madison Avenue
Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173
Telephone:(212) 697-2800
Facsimile:(212) 697-3004

PETITION

Wherefore, I pray that Letters Patent be granted to me for the invention or discovery described and claimed in the above-mentioned specification and claims, and I hereby subscribe my name to the foregoing Declaration, Power of Attorney & Petition with references to the above-identified specification and claims.

SIGNATURES

Name of sole or first inventor: **Damon C. Torres**

Home Address: **245 East 11th Street, Apt. 5J, New York, NY 10003**
Post Office Address: **Same as above**
Citizenship: **U.S.**

Inventor's Signature:  Date: 9/1/98

PATENT Docket No. 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)	:	Damon C. Torres	Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned
Serial No.	:	Not yet assigned	Examiner: Not yet assigned
Filed	:	September 1, 1998	
For	:	AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAY	

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

Express Mail Label No. EL101939137US

Date of Deposit September 1, 1998

I hereby certify that the following attached paper(s) or fee

1) Patent Application
2) Informal Figures 1-7
3) Patent Transmittal
4) Declaration - executed
5) Small Entity Statement
6) Express Mail Certificate
7) Return Postcard

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Stacey Taitt
(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper(s) or fee)

(Signature of person mailing paper(s) or fee)

Mailing Address:
SOFER & HAROUN, LLP
342 Madison Avenue, Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173
Tel:(212) 697-2800; fax (212) 697-3004

PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD

Effective October 1, 1997

Application or Docket Number: 09/144,906

CLAIMS AS FILED - PART I

	(Column 1) NUMBER FILED	(Column 2) NUMBER EXTRA
FOR		
BASIC FEE	[redacted]	
TOTAL CLAIMS	33 minus 20 =	* 13
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	3 minus 3 =	*
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT		

* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2

SMALL ENTITY TYPE [Z]		OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
RATE	FEE		RATE	FEE
[redacted]	395.00	OR	[redacted]	790.00
x$11=	143	OR	x$22=	
x41=		OR	x82=	
+135=		OR	+270=	
TOTAL	538	OR	TOTAL	

CLAIMS AS AMENDED - PART II

AMENDMENT A

	(Column 1) [redacted]	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	(Column 2) [redacted]	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA
Total		*	Minus	**	=
Independent		*	Minus	***	=
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM					

SMALL ENTITY		OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE		RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
x$11=		OR	x$22=	
x41=		OR	x82=	
+135=		OR	+270=	
TOTAL ADDIT. FEE		OR	TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	

AMENDMENT B

	(Column 1) [redacted]	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	(Column 2) [redacted]	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA
Total		*	Minus	**	=
Independent		*	Minus	***	=
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM					

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE		RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
x$11=		OR	x$22=	
x41=		OR	x82=	
+135=		OR	+270=	
TOTAL ADDIT. FEE		OR	TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	

AMENDMENT C

	(Column 1) [redacted]	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	(Column 2) [redacted]	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA
Total		*	Minus	**	=
Independent		*	Minus	***	=
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM					

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE		RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
x$11=		OR	x$22=	
x41=		OR	x82=	
+135=		OR	+270=	
TOTAL ADDIT. FEE		OR	TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.
** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20."
*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3."
The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO./TITLE
09/144,906	09/01/98	TORRES	D 735-00

0222/0918

JOSEPH SOFER
SOFER & HAROUN
342 MADISON AVENUE
SUITE 1921
NEW YORK NY 10173

NOT ASSIGNED

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

2771

DATE MAILED: 09/18/98

NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF APPLICATION
Filing Date Granted

An Application Number and Filing Date have been assigned to this application. The items indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE within which to file all required items and pay fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). **If any of items 1 or 3 through 5 are indicated as missing, the SURCHARGE set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(e) of ☐ $65.00 for a small entity in compliance with 37 CFR 1.27, or ☐ $130.00 for a non-small entity, must also be timely submitted in reply to this NOTICE to avoid abandonment.**

If all required items on this form are filed within the period set above, the total amount owed by applicant as a ☐ small entity (statement filed) ☐ non-small entity is $ 605 .

☑ 1. The statutory basic filing fee is:
- ☑ missing.
- ☐ insufficient.

Applicant must submit $ 395 to complete the basic filing fee and/or file a small entity statement claiming such status (37 CFR 1.27).

☐ 2. Additional claim fees of $_____, including any multiple dependent claim fees, are required.

$_____ for _____ independent claims over 3.
$ 143 for 13 dependent claims over 20.
$_____ for multiple dependent claim surcharge.

Applicant must either submit the additional claim fees or cancel additional claims for which fees are due.

☐ 3. The oath or declaration:
- ☐ is missing or unexecuted.
- ☐ does not cover the newly submitted items.
- ☑ does not identify the application to which it applies.
- ☐ does not include the city and state or foreign country of applicant's residence.

An oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1. 63, including residence information and identifying the application by the above Application Number and Filing Date is required.

☐ 4. The signature(s) to the oath or declaration is/are by a person other than inventor or person qualified under 37 CFR 1.42, 1.43 or 1.47.

A properly signed oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63, identifying the application by the above Application Number and Filing Date, is required.

☐ 5. The signature of the following joint inventor(s) is missing from the oath or declaration:

_____

An oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63 listing the names of all inventors and signed by the omitted inventor(s), identifying this application by the above Application Number and Filing Date, is required.

☐ 6. A $50.00 processing fee is required since your check was returned without payment (37 CFR 1.21(m)).
☑ 7. Your filing receipt was mailed in error because your check was returned without payment.
☐ 8. The application does not comply with the Sequence Rules.
See attached "Notice to Comply with Sequence Rules 37 CFR 1.821-1.825."
☐ 9. OTHER: _____

Direct the reply and any qu stions about this notice to "Attention: Box Missing Parts."

A copy of this notice MUST b returned with the reply.

Customer Service Center
Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

SECTOR 4

OIPE JC59 JAN 8 1999 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: 735-002 Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

----------X

In re Application of
Damon Torres :

Serial No.: 09/144,906 :

Filed: September 1, 1998 :

For: AUTOMATED CONTENT :
SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

----------X

RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF APPLICATION FILING DATE GRANTED

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R:

Enclosed is a check in the amount of $605 in payment of the application fees and surcharge. A copy of PTO-1533, Notice to File Missing Parts of Application is also enclosed.

Any additional fees required in connection with this application may be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-2825.

Respectfully submitted,
SOFER & HAROUN, LLP

By: _____
Robert M. Haroun
Reg. No. 34,345
342 Madison Avenue, Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173
(212) 697-2800

Dated: December 29, 1998

JAN 8 1999 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO./TITLE
09/144,906	09/01/98	TORRES	D 735-002

0222/0918

JOSEPH SOFER
SOFER & HAROUN
342 MADISON AVENUE
SUITE 1921
NEW YORK NY 10173

NOT ASSIGNED

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

2771

DATE MAILED: 09/18/98

NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF APPLICATION
Filing Date Granted

An Application Number and Filing Date have been assigned to this application. The items indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE within which to file all required items and pay fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). **If any of items 1 or 3 through 5 are indicated as missing, the SURCHARGE set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(e) of ☐ $65.00 for a small entity in compliance with 37 CFR 1.27, or ☐ $130.00 for a non-small entity, must also be timely submitted in reply to this NOTICE to avoid abandonment.**

If all required items on this form are filed within the period set above, the total amount owed by applicant as a ☐ small entity (statement filed) ☐ non-small entity is $ 605.

☒ 1. The statutory basic filing fee is:
☐ missing.
☐ insufficient.
Applicant must submit $ 395 to complete the basic filing fee and/or file a small entity statement claiming such status (37 CFR 1.27).

☒ 2. Additional claim fees of $_____, including any multiple dependent claim fees, are required.
$_____ for _____ independent claims over 3.
$ 143 for 13 dependent claims over 20.
$_____ for multiple dependent claim surcharge.
Applicant must either submit the additional claim fees or cancel additional claims for which fees are due.

☐ 3. The oath or declaration:
☐ is missing or unexecuted.
☐ does not cover the newly submitted items.
☐ does not identify the application to which it applies.
☐ does not include the city and state or foreign country of applicant's residence.
An oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1. 63, including residence information and identifying the application by the above Application Number and Filing Date is required.

☐ 4. The signature(s) to the oath or declaration is/are by a person other than inventor or person qualified under 37 CFR 1.42, 1.43 or 1.47.
A properly signed oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63, identifying the application by the above Application Number and Filing Date, is required.

☐ 5. The signature of the following joint inventor(s) is missing from the oath or declaration:
_____
An oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63 listing the names of all inventors and signed by the omitted inventor(s), identifying this application by the above Application Number and Filing Date, is required.

☐ 6. A $50.00 processing fee is required since your check was returned without payment (37 CFR 1.21(m)).

☐ 7. Your filing receipt was mailed in error because your check was returned without payment.

☐ 8. The application does not comply with the Sequence Rules.
See attached "Notice to Comply with Sequence Rules 37 CFR 1.821-1.825."

☒ 9. OTHER: _____

Direct the reply and any questions about this notice to "Attention: Box Missing Parts."

A copy of this notice MUST be returned with the reply.

Customer Service Center
Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE

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Page 00125

OIPE
JAN 20 1999
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JC800

PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

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JAN 25 1999
Group 2700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Damon Torres

Serial No. : 09/144,906 Group Art Unit: 2771

Filed : September 1, 1998

For : AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

HON. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on Form PTO-1449, a copy of which is enclosed, may be deemed to be pertinent to the above-identified application and are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items and to independently ascertain their teaching.

1. [ ] For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, an English language translation of that item or a portion thereof or a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is enclosed:
A:
B:

2. [ ]For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application.

3. [ ]Any copy of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement was previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in the prior [ ] Continuation, [ ] Divisional or [ ] Continuation-In-Part application under 37 C.F.R. §1.60, U.S. Serial No. _____ _____, filed _____.

4. [X]No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

[ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application.

[ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application.

[X] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits.

5. [ ] No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below.

6. [ ] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance (where there has been no prior final action):

[ ] A check in the amount of $240.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee.

[ ] Charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 19-2825. Order No. _____. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

7. [ ] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance, whichever comes first, but before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:

a. one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below; and

b. the attached petition requesting consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement; and

c. the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) which is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.

8. [ ] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

a. [ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(3), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement may render at least one claim unpatentable and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue;

b. [ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(5), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is to be considered in a Continuation application upon abandonment of the instant application and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue.

c. The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.

9. [ ] I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

[ ] I hereby certify that no item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

10. [ ] A check in the amount of $130.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1).

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Page 00127

[ ] Charge the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) to Deposit Account No. . Order No.
A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

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Group 2700

[X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2825, Order No. 735.002.
A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

By: Joseph Sofer
Registration No. 34,438

Dated: 1/19/99

Signature:

Mailing Address:

Joseph Sofer, Esq.
SOFER & HAROUN, LLP
342 Madison Avenue, Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173

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GP2771

PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

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JAN 25 1999
Group 2700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Damon Torres
Serial No. : 09/144,906
Filed : September 1, 1998
For : AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

Group Art Unit: 2771
Examiner: TBA

2771

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. 1.8a)

HON. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

I hereby certify that the attached Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449, Eight (8) References and Return Postcard along with any paper(s) referred to as being attached or enclosed and this Certificate of Mailing are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Respectfully submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

By: Andrea Curchar
Andrea Curchar

Date: January 14, 1999

Mailing Address:

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.
342 Madison Avenue, Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173
Tel:(212) 697-2800
Fax:(212) 697-3004

OIPE
FEB 25 1999
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
1C52

AU 2771

PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Damon Torres
Serial No. : 09/144,906 Group Art Unit: 2771
Filed : September 1, 1998 Examiner: Not yet assigned
For : AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. 1.8a)

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HON. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

I hereby certify that the attached Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449, Four (4) References w/copy of Search Report and Return Postcard along with any paper(s) referred to as being attached or enclosed and this Certificate of Mailing are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Respectfully submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

By: _____
Stacey Taitt

Date: 2/17/99

Mailing Address:

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.
342 Madison Avenue, Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173
Tel:(212)697-2800
Fax:(212)697-3004

OIPE
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K. Ward
4/12/99
#4 Supp. Info Disclosure Statement

PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Damon Torres

Serial No. : 09/144,906 Group Art Unit: 2771

Filed : September 1, 1998

For : AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED
MAR 04 1999
Group 2700

HON. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on Form PTO-1449, a copy of which is enclosed, may be deemed to be pertinent to the above-identified application and are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items and to independently ascertain their teaching.

1. [ ] For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, an English language translation of that item or a portion thereof or a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is enclosed:
   A:
   B:

2. [ ]For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application.

3. [ ]Any copy of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement was previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in the prior [ ] Continuation, [ ] Divisional or [ ] Continuation-In-Part application under 37 C.F.R. §1.60, U.S. Serial No. _____ _____, filed _____.

4. [X]No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

[ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application.

[ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application.

[X] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits.

5. [ ] No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below.

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[ ] A check in the amount of $240.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee.

[ ] Charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 19-2825. Order No. _____. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

7. [ ] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance, whichever comes first, but before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:

a. one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below; and

b. the attached petition requesting consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement; and

c. the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) which is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.

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8. [ ] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

a. [ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(3), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement may render at least one claim unpatentable and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue;

b. [ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(5), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is to be considered in a Continuation application upon abandonment of the instant application and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue.

c. The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.

9. [ ] I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

[ ] I hereby certify that no item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

10. [ ] A check in the amount of $130.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1).

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Page 00132

[ ] Charge the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) to Deposit Account No. . Order No. _____.

A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

[X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2825, Order No. 735-002 .

A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

By: Joseph Sofer
Registration No. 34,438

Dated: 2/17/99

Signature: _____

Mailing Address:

Joseph Sofer, Esq.
SOFER & HAROUN, LLP
342 Madison Avenue, Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173

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Web Pages

1-10 of at least 13741

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  www.infobel.be/travel/slide.asp

- The Slide Show/ Neckerchief Slides
  ...The **Slide Show** Neckerchief **Slide** Ideas Collected by Lorie ...Submitted to AOL by ">Mark Adkins. **Slide Show** Table of Contents...
  home.att.net/~llmcgraw/etowah/slides.htm

- CCI Slide Show - a sample CCI application
  ...followed by a **URL**. When CCI **Slide Show** encounters the ...sample CCI **Slide Show** script file **###** This is a comment **url**...
  www.ncsa.uiuc.edu/SDG/Software/XMosaic/CCI/cci-slide-show.html

- IALC: PPFRT Slide show index
  ...Fellowship Research Tour **Slide show** index [Note: All pictures ...Description Thumbnail Link Description **Slide** No. 1: Dr. Menachem Sachs,...
  ag.arizona.edu/OALS/IALC/PF/slides-index.html

- NPAC Slide Show Applet
  ...for **slide show** play function BaseURL -- base **URL** for the ...NPAC **Slide Show** Applet This applet was written by Alvin Leung,...
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Page 00134

the...
www.labmed.umn.edu/~john/slides/readme.html

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Page 00135

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/144,906	09/01/98	TORRES	D 735-002

LM01/1223

JOSEPH SOFER
SOFER & HAROUN
342 MADISON AVENUE
SUITE 1921
NEW YORK NY 10173

EXAMINER	
KULIK,P	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2777	6

DATE MAILED: 12/23/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or pr ceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.	Applicant(s)	
09/144,906	Torres	
Examiner	Group Art Unit	
Kulik	2777	

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Peri d for Response

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 (THREE) MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a response be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for response specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a response within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for response is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication .
- Failure to respond within the set or extended period for response will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 9/1/98, 1/20/99 and 2/25/99.

☐ This action is **FINAL.**

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle,* 1935 C.D. 1 1; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above claim(s)_____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s)_____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s)_____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claim(s)_____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on_____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on_____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Pri rity under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 11 9(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number)_____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1 7.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received:_____.

Attachm nt(s)

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Other_____

Office Action Summary

1. This application has been examined. Claims 1-33 are pending.

2. The drawings have been objected to by a PTO draftsperson for reason noted on attached form PTO-948. Please direct any inquiries concerning drawing review to the Drawing Review Branch at (703) 305-8404.

3. The Information Disclosure Statements filed January 20, 1999 and February 25, 1999 have been received and considered. See attached form PTO-1449.

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1- 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franz J. Hauck, "Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web," Fifth International Worl Wide Web Conference, pp. 1-13, May 1996 (hereafter Hauck), and Alan Braverman, "CCI Slide Show," September 22, 1994, 3 pages (hereafter Braverman).

6. Regarding all claims 1-33 the basis of this rejection is that Hauck described each of the claim features with respect to the display on a user's computer of a plurality of resources including a show structure of nodes (over the internet) but did not specifically mention the use of delay or duration information in sequencing the resources to be displayed to user's.

7. From the Braverman CCI Slide Show is evident that a "slideshow" of URLs and coresponding delay times was known as a way to sequence the presentation of information to a user of the internet. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have utilized this teaching of delayed display of URLs for the sequencing in Hauck because it is clear from Hauck that the teachings therein are directed to display of resources from the internet, as is Braverman.

8. Claims 1-33 have been rejected.

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Accordingly, applicant should consider these references before any response to this Office action.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul Kulik whose telephone number is (703) 305-3831. The examiner can normally be reached from Monday through Thursday between 8:30am and 6:00pm.

11. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anton Fetting, can be reached on (703) 305-8449. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-6606.

12. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.

PVK/12-20-99

PAUL V. KULIK
PRIMARY EXAMINER
A.U. 2777

Notice of References Cited

Application No.	Applicant(s)		
09/144,906	Torres		
Examiner	Group Art Unit	Page 1 of 2	
Kulik	2777		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS
	A	5,995,951 ✓	11/30/99	Ferguson	706	10
	B	5,918,012 ✓	6/29/99	Astiz et al.	395	200.47
	C	5,905,492 ✓	5/18/99	Straub et al.	345	333
	D	5,822,525 ✓	10/13/98	Tafoya et al.	395	200.34
	E	5,799,157 ✓	8/25/98	Escallon	395	227
	F	5,732,216 ✓	3/24/98	Logan et al.	395	200.33
	G	5,721,827 ✓	2/24/98	Logan et al.	395	200.47
	H					
	I					
	J					
	K					
	L					
	M					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS
	N						
	O						
	P						
	Q						
	R						
	S						
	T						

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		DOCUMENT (Including Author, Title, Source, and Pertinent Pages)	DATE
	U	Alan Braverman, "CCI Slide Show," @ <http://www.ncsa.uiuc.edu/SDG/Software/XMosaic/CCI/cci-slide-show.html>, accessed July 20, 1999. ✓	9/22/94
	V	Franz J. Hauck, "Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web," Fifth International World Wide Web Conference, @ <http://www5conf.inria.fr/fich_html/papers/P30/Overview.html>, accessed June 30, 1999. ✓	5/1996
	W		
	X		

* A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, Section 707.05(a).)

Part of Paper No. 6

FORM PTO 948 (REV. 11-97) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE-Patent and Trademark Office Application No. 09/144906

NOTICE OF DRAFTPERSON'S PATENT DRAWING REVIEW

The drawing filied (insert date) 9/1/98 are:

A. _____ not objected to by the Draftperson under 37 CFR 1.84 or 1.152.

B. X _____ objected to by the Draftperson under 37 CFR 1.84 or 1.152 as indicated below. The Examiner will require submission of new, corrected drawings whe necessary. Corrected drawings must be submitted according to the instructions on the back of this notice.

1. DRAWINGS. 37 CFR 1.84(a): Acceptable categories of drawings: Black ink. Color.
   - _____ Color drawing are not acceptable until petition is granted. Fig.(s) _____
   - _____ Pencil and non black ink is not permitted. Fig(s)_____

2. PHOTOGRAPHS. 37 CFR 1.84(b)
   - _____ Photographs are not acceptable until petition is granted,
   - _____ 3 full-tone sets are required. Fig(s)_____
   - _____ Photographs not properly mounted (must brystol board or photographic double-weight paper). Fig(s)_____
   - _____ Poor quailty (half-tone). Fig(s)_____

3. TYPE OF PAPER. 37 CFR 1.84(e)
   - _____ Paper not flexible, strong, white and durable. Fig.(s)_____
   - X Erasures, alterations, overwritings, interlineations, folds, copy machine marks not acceptable. ~~(too thin)~~
   - _____ Mylar, vellum paper is not acceptable (too thin). Fig(s)_____

4. SIZE OF PAPER. 37 CFR 1.84(F): Acceptable sizes:
   - _____ 21.0 cm by 29.7 cm (DIN size A4)
   - _____ 21.6 cm by 27.9 cm (8 1/2 x 11 inches)
   - _____ All drawings sheets not the same size. Sheet(s)_____

5. MARGINS. 37 CFR 18.4(g): Acceptable margins:
   Top 2.5 cm Left 2.5 cm Right 1.5 cm Bottom 1.0 cm SIZE: A4 Size
   Top 2.5 cm Left 2.5 cm Right 1.5 cm Bottom 1.0 cm SIZE: 8 1/2 x 11
   - _____ Margins not acceptable. Fig(s) 2B-7
   - X Top (T) X Left (L)
   - X Right (R) _____ Bottom (B)

6. VIEWS. CFR 1.84(h)
   REMINDER: Specification may require revision to correspond to drawing changes.
   - _____ Views connected by projection lines or lead lines. Fig.(s)_____

   Partial views. 37 CFR 1.84(h)(2)
   - _____ Brackets needed to show figure as one entity. Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Views not labeled separately or properly. Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Enlarged view not labeled separately or properly. Fig.(s)_____

7. SECTIONAL VIEWS. 37 CFR 1.84(h)(3)
   - _____ Hatching not indicated for sectional portions of an object. Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Sectional designation should be noted with Arabic or Roman numbers. Fig.(s)_____

8. ARRANGEMENT OF VIEWS. 37 CFR 1.84(i)
   - _____ Words do not appear on a horizontal, left-to-right fashion when page is either upright or turned, so that the top becomes the right side, except for graphs. Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Views not on the same plane on drawing sheet. Fig.(s)_____

9. SCALE. 37 CFR 1.84(k)
   - _____ Scale not large enough to show mechansim without crowding when drawing is reduced in size to two-thirds in reproduction. Fig.(s)_____

10. ~~CHARACTER~~ OF LINES, NUMBERS, & LETTERS. 37 CFR 1.84(l)
   - X _____ Lines, numbers & letters not uniformly thick and well defined, clean, durable and black (poor line quality). Fig.(s) 1 - 7

11. SHADING. 37 CFR 1.84(m)
   - _____ Solid black areas pale. Fig.(s) _____
   - _____ Solid black shading not permitted. Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Shade lines, pale, rough and blurred. Fig.(s)

12. NUMBERS, LETTERS, & REFERENCE CHARACTERS. 37 CFR 1.48(p)
   - _____ Numbers and reference characters not plain and legible. Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Figure legends are poor. Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Numbers and reference characters not oriented in the same direction as the view. 37 CFR 1.84(p)(3) Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Engligh alphabet not used. 37 CFR 1.84(p)(3) Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Numbers, letters and reference characters must be at least .32 cm (1/8 inch) in height. 37 CFR 1.84(p)(3) Fig.(s)_____

13. LEAD LINES. 37 CFR 1.84(q)
   - _____ Lead lines cross each other. Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Lead lines missing. Fig.(s)_____

14. NUMBERING OF SHEETS OF DRAWINGS. 37 CFR 1.48(t)
   - _____ Sheets not numbered consecutively, and in Ababic numerals beginning with number 1. Fig.(s)_____

15. NUMBERING OF VIEWS. 37 CFR 1.84(u)
   - _____ Views not numbered consecutively, and in Abrabic numerals, beginning with number 1. Fig.(s)_____

16. CORRECTIONS. 37 CFR 1.84(w)
   - _____ Corrections not made from PTO-948 dated _____

17. DESIGN DRAWINGS. 37 CFR 1.152
   - _____ Surface shading shown not appropriate. Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Solid black shading not used for color contrast. Fig.(s)_____

COMMENTS

REVIEWER Q. D DATE 2/16/99 TELEPHONE NO. _____

ATTACHMENT TO PAPER NO. 6

PTO COPY

Google/YouTube Exhibit 1024/1124
Page 00142

REMINDER

Drawing changes may also require changes in the specification, e.g., if Fig. 1 is changed to Fig. 1A, Fig. 1B, Fig. 1C, etc., the specification, at the Brief Description of the Drawings, must likewise be changed. Please make such changes by 37 CFR 1.312 Amendment at the time of submitting drawing changes.

INFORMATION ON HOW TO EFFECT DRAWING CHANGES

1. Correction of Informalities--37 CFR 1.85

File new drawings with the changes incorporated therein. The application number or the title of the invention, inventor's name, docket number (if any), and the name and telephone number of a person to call if the Office is unable to match the drawings to the proper application, should be placed on the back of each sheet of drawings in accordance with 37 CFR 1.84(c). Applicant may delay filing of the new drawings until receipt of the Notice of Allowability (PTOL-37). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136. The drawing should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Drawing Review Branch.

2. Timing of Corrections

Applicant is required to submit **acceptable** corrected drawings within the three-month shortened statutory period set in the Notice of Allowability (PTOL-37). If a correction is determined to be unacceptable by the Office, applicant must arrange to have acceptable correction resubmitted within the original three-month period to avoid the necessity of obtaining as extension of time and paying the extension fee. Therefore, applicant should file corrected drawings as soon as possible.

Failure to take corrective action within set (or extended) period will result in ABANDONMENT of the Application.

3. Corrections other than Informalities Noted by the Drawing Review Branch on the Form PTO 948

All changes to the drawings, other than informalities noted by the Drawing Review Branch, MUST be approved by the examiner before the application will be allowed. No changes will be permitted to be made, other than correction of informalities, unless the examiner has approved the proposed changes.

*U.S. GPO: 1998-433-221/82100

Google/YouTube Exhibit 1024/1124
Page 00143

OIPE JC52
FEB 2 5 1999
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Rev.2-3) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 735-002	SERIAL NO. 09/144,906
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	APPLICANT Damon Torres	
	FILING DATE September 1, 1998	GROUP 2771

RECEIVED
MAR 02 1999
Group 2700

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
PH	5,717,923	02/10/98	Dedrick	395	613	11/03/94
PH	5,748,190	05/05/98	Kjorsvik	345	329	09/05/95
PH	5,758,151	05/26/98	Milligan et al.	395	611	12/09/94
PH	5,819,273	10/06/98	Vora et al.	707	10	04/30/97

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES	TRANSLATION NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

PH	PCT Search Report Dated January 28, 1999 (Citing the above 4 patents)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
[signature]	12/20/99

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Google/YouTube Exhibit 1024/1124
Page 00144

OIPE
JAN 20 1999
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED
JAN 25 1999
Group 2700

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Rev. 2-3) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 735-002	SERIAL NO. 09/144,906
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	APPLICANT Damon Torres	
	FILING DATE September 1, 1998	GROUP 2771

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5 7 4 0 5 4 9	04/14/98	Reilly et al.	705	14	June 12, 1995
		5 7 6 0 7 7 1	06/02/98	Blondet et al.	345	336	July 17, 1996
		5 7 6 8 5 2 8	06/16/98	Stumm	395	200.61	May 24, 1996
		5 7 7 4 1 2 3	06/30/98	Matson	345	357	December 15,1995
		5 7 7 4 6 6 4	06/30/98	Hidary et al.	395	200.48	March 25, 1996
		5 7 7 8 1 8 1	07/07/98	Hidary et al.	395	200.48	March 14, 1996
		5 7 7 8 1 8 7	07/07/98	Monteiro et al.	395	200.61	May 9, 1996
		5 7 9 6 9 5 2	08/18/98	Davis et al.	395	200.54	March 21, 1997
		5 8 0 9 2 4 7	09/15/98	Richardson et al.	395	200.48	July 22, 1996

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES	TRANSLATION NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
	12/20/99

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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Page 00145

OIPE JUN 23 2000 PATENT & TRADEMARK

Patents

Doc. 735-002

#8A 7/10/00 A.W.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):Torres

Group Art Unit:2777

Serial No.: 09/144,906

Examiner: P. Kulik

Filed: September 1, 1998

For: AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

OIPE JUN 23 2000 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE JC144

Commissioner Of Patents and
Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED JUN 29 2000 TC 2700 MAIL ROOM

Amendment

Dear Sir:

In response to an Office Action dated December 23, 1999, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In The Claims

Please amend claims 1, 10, and 22 as follows:

A1 SUB BY

1. (Amended) A method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement comprising the steps of:

creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources;

accessing a plurality of said resources each of said resources identified by each of said nodes;

[retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources;] and

displaying [each of said retrieved] a content[s] corresponding to each of said resources

06/27/2000 JADD01 00000063 192825 09144906
01 FC:202 78.00 CH
02 FC:203 72.00 CH

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Page 00146

automatically in accordance with said show structure, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

A1 Cont...

2 (Amended). The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said step of accessing is dynamically modified based on accumulated information from said user. [wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed].

A2

6 (Amended). The method in accordance with claim 5 [wherein said step of retrieving content] further comprises the step of retrieving each of said data files.

A3 Sub B2

10. (Amended) A method for displaying in a sequential arrangement on a user's terminal display, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

[creating a show structure of nodes, each node] identifying at least one [a] resource from a plurality of accessible resources via said communications network, wherein each of said resources is associated with a corresponding icon on a display;

creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a corresponding resource by recording a sequence of said resources by dragging and dropping said icons on sections of said display ;

accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes automatically in

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Page 00147

accordance with said show structure;

retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources; and

displaying each of said retrieved contents automatically in accordance with said show structure.

A3 Cont...

11 (Amended). The method in accordance with claim 10, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing [a] an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

A4 SUB B3

22. (Amended) A method for transmitting in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

creating and storing a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources via said communications network wherein said show structure is created in response to a search requested by said user;

accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes;

retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources; and

delivering said content to said user for display on said user's computer in accordance with said show structure.

Please add the following new claims:

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34. The method in accordance with claim 2 further comprising the step of monitoring said user's instructions corresponding to interruption of said show structure within said duration.

A5

35. The method in accordance with claim 2 further comprising the step of inserting advertisement displays between display of said contents corresponding to each of said nodes.

36. The method in accordance with claim 35 further comprising the step of selecting said advertisement displays based on said users' profiles.

37. A method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement comprising the steps of:

creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources;

accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes;

displaying a content corresponding to each of said resources automatically in accordance with said show structure; and

caching and queuing resources corresponding to subsequent nodes within said show structure, while a content corresponding to a current resource is being displayed.

38 The method in accordance with claim 37, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

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39. The method in accordance with claim 38 further comprising the step of updating each of said show structures previously displayed to each of said users and storing said updated show structure in said user's computer.

A5 cont.. SUB C6)

40. A method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement comprising the steps of:

creating a multidimensional show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources;

accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes wherein at least two of said nodes are spanned concurrently;

displaying a content corresponding to each of said resources automatically in accordance with said show structure, wherein contents of said at least two nodes are displayed during an overlapping time period.

41. The method in accordance with claim 40 further comprising the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to each of said resources is being displayed. –

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REMARKS

Applicant submits this Amendment in response to an outstanding Office Action dated December 23, 1999, along with an Amendment Transmittal form and a Petition for Extension of Time to respond. Claims 1-33 were pending in the application. Claims 34-41 have been added. No new matter has been added..

In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-33 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hauck and Braverman. According to the Examiner, regarding all claims 1-33 the basis of the rejection is that Hauck describes each of the claim features with respect to the display on a user's computer of a plurality of resources including a show structure of nodes (over the internet). The Examiner further states that Hauck does not specifically mention the use of delay or duration information in sequencing the resources to be displayed to users.

The Examiner further states that from the Braverman CCI slide show reference, it is evident that a "slideshow" of URLs and corresponding delay times was known as a way to sequence the presentation of information to a user of the internet. The Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have utilized the teaching of delayed display of URLs for the sequencing in Hauck because, according to the Examiner, it is clear from Hauck that the teachings therein are directed to display of resources from the internet. Applicant respectfully disagrees and requests that the §103 rejection by the Examiner be withdrawn.

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Hauck discloses an arrangement for authoring of hypertext documents. According to Hauck, as stated in introduction, paragraph 3, a guided tour is a sequence of nodes with "schema links" which allow readers to follow the sequence of these nodes back and forth. These schema links are links that are provided by the author to guide the user back and forth along the sequence of nodes. The entire purpose of Hauck's paper is to elaborate on a server-side mechanism that creates the schema links automatically for each node within the sequence.

The server-side mechanism of Hauck is employed mainly to retrieve an original document corresponding to a node, and add some decorations to it – referred to as the schema links. The decorated page with the appropriate schema links is then sent to the client. Some examples of these decorations include clickable arrow images as illustrated in Fig. 2.3 which refer to for example, "previous," "up," "down," and "next."

Meanwhile, the Braverman reference discloses a simple slide show wherein a list of URLs are read and presented in succession as in a slide show. A special script file is employed that contains the list of the URLs and corresponding delay times. The script file that the slide show reads "is a simple ASCII text file, consisting of one command per line." Braverman, p.2, line 1.

None of the references cited by the Examiner teach or suggest the present invention as claimed. For example, claim 1 of the present application relates to a method for displaying content corresponding to a show structure of nodes, wherein the delay time between the display of two consecutive nodes can be varied by the user in an interactive arrangement. system.

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Furthermore, with respect to claim 2, the system accumulates information about the user, such as user profile and preferences, and based on that accumulated information dynamically modifies the resources that are accessed and the corresponding contents that are displayed.

As such, Hauck nor Braverman either alone or in combination teach or disclose the arrangement of a show structure wherein access to various nodes of the structure can be modified based on user preferences and profile. Furthermore, there is no teaching or suggestion in Hauck or Braverman to provide a system wherein the rate of transfer from one node to the other can be varied and controlled by the user.

Another important aspect of the invention has been emphasized in claim 3. For example, claim 3 calls for the step of executing an application file that resides in a user computer. As such the user can automate various application programs on his/her personal computer. Again, there is no teaching or suggestion in the cited references that disclose an arrangement wherein a show structure defines a series of executable files on one's personal computer.

With respect to claim 10, a method for creating a show structure is disclosed, wherein accessible resources are identified along with a corresponding icon. The show structure is created by dragging and dropping the icons on a dedicated portion of the display. Again, there is no teaching or suggestion in the cited references for an arrangement wherein a list of icons can be moved to a dedicated portion of a display screen so as to create a show structure.

With respect to claim 22, a method for creating a show structure is disclosed,

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wherein a user submits a search query in response to which a portion of the entire results of the search form the show structure. Again, there is no teaching or suggestion in the cited references for a method to create a show structure based on the results of a search.

With respect to claim 35, a method is disclosed wherein an advertisement is inserted in between two nodes. Therefore, as a user is watching a show corresponding to a show structure, various pages of advertisements can be inserted after every few nodes. These advertisements can be selected based on each user's preferences and profile. Again, there is no teaching or suggestion in the cited references for this aspect of the invention.

With respect to claim 37, a method is disclosed wherein while a node is being displayed subsequent nodes are being downloaded and stored, so that the following displays of content appear seamless to the user.

Finally, with respect to claim 40, a method is disclosed that relates to creation of a multidimensional show structure, wherein at least two of the nodes are spanned concurrently, such that the contents corresponding to the nodes are both displayed to the user. Again, none of the references cited by the Examiner teach or suggest the arrangement of a multidimensional node structure as claimed herein.

The remaining claims depend from independent claims and therefore, are deemed allowable in view of the above discussions.

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In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims in this application are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any additional questions or comments.

Respectfully Submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

Dated: June 23, 2000

By: _____
Joseph Sofer (Reg. No. 34,438)

SOFER & HAROUN, LLP
342 Madison Avenue, Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173
(212)697-2800; Fax(212)697-3004

Google/YouTube Exhibit 1024/1124
Page 00155

#17
7/10/00
A.W.

PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Torres
Serial No. : 09/144,906
Filed : September 1, 1998 Examiner: P. Kulik
For : AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DIPSLAYER

PETITION AND FEE FOR EXTENSION OF TIME (37 C.F.R. §1.136(a))

OIPE JC144 JUN 23 2000 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
RECEIVED JUN 29 2000 TC 2700 MAIL ROOM

HON. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
Sir:

1. This is a petition for an extension of time for filing an Amendment

2. The communication in connection with the matter for which this extension is requested

[X] is filed herewith.

[ ] has been filed on _____

3. [X] Applicant is a small-entity -- verified statement is attached [ ], or has already been filed. [X]

4.

		Total Months Requested	Fee for Other than Small Entity	Fee for Small Entity
a.	[ ]	one month	$110.00	$55.00
b.	[ ]	two months	$380.00	$190.00
c.	[X]	three months	$870.00	$435.00
d.	[ ]	four months	$1360.00	$680.00
e.	[ ]	five months	$1850.00	$925.00

f. [ ] An extension for _____ months has already been secured for filing the above-identified communication and the fee paid therefor of $ _____ is deducted from the total fee due for the total months of extension now requested. The fee for this extension ($ _____), minus the fee previously paid ($ _____) equals $ _____ (total fee due).

5. [ ] A check in the amount of $.00 to cover the extension fee is attached.

6. [X] Charge $435.00 to Deposit Account No. 19-2825 Order No. 735-002 DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

7. [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required by this paper, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2825. Order No. 735-002 A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

06/27/2000 JADD01 00000063 192825 09144906
03 FC:217 435.00 CH

Dated: June 23, 2000

Respectfully submitted,
SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

By: _____
Thomas C. Hughes
Registration No. 42,674

Mailing Address:
342 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10173
(212) 697-2800;
Fax (212) 697-3004

06/26/00

G/2777



PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

RECEIVED
JUN 29 2000
TC 2700 MAIL ROOM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)	:	Torres
Serial No.	:	09/144,906
Filed	:	September 1, 1998
For	:	AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

Express Mail Label No. EL599411630US

Date of Deposit June 23, 2000

I hereby certify that the following attached paper(s) or fee

1) Amendment
2) Amendment Transmittal
3) Petition for Three Months Extension
4) Return Postcard
5) Express Mail Certificate

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Ester Aronova
(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper(s) or fee)

Ester Aronova
(Signature of person mailing paper(s) or fee)

Mailing Address:
SOFER & HAROUN, LLP
342 Madison Avenue, Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173
Tel:(212) 697-2800; fax (212) 697-3004

06/26/00

Grp/2777



PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

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JUN 29 2000
TC 2700 MAIL ROOM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Torres
Serial No. : 09/144,906
Filed : September 1, 1998
For : AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

Group Art Unit: 2777
Examiner: P. Kulik

AMENDMENT FEE TRANSMITTAL

HON. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment for the above-identified application.

[ ] No additional fee is required.

[X] The additional fee has been calculated as shown below:

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Covered by Previous Payments	Present Extra	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims*	41	-	33	=8	8x $9.00	$ 72.00
Independent Claims	5	-	3	=2	2x $39.00	$ 78.00
Multiple Dependent Claim(s)	(If claims added by amendment include Multiple Dependent Claim(s) and there was no Multiple Dependent Claim(s) in application before amendment add $260.00 to additional fee.)					$ .00
					Total:	$ 150.00

[ ] Verified Statement of "Small Entity" Status Under 37 CFR § 1.27 filed _____. Reduced Fees Under 37 CFR § 1.9(f) (50% of total) paid herewith. $_____

[X] Charge $150.00 fee to Deposit Account No. 19-2825 . Order No. 735-002

* Includes all independent and single dependent claims and all claims referred to in multiple dependent claims. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c).

A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

[X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No.19-2825. Order No. 735-002 .
A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

[ ] ___ Page(s) of substitute Sequence Listing

[ ] ___ Computer disk(s) containing substitute Sequence Listing

[ ] Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.825(b) that the computer and paper copies of the substitute Sequence Listing are the same.

Respectfully submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.

Date: June 23, 2000

Thomas C. Hughes

Registration No. 42,674

Mailing Address:

SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.
342 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10173
(212) 697-2800
Fax: (212) 697-3004

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PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

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A.W.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Damon Torres

Serial No. : 09/144,906 Group Art Unit: 2777

Filed : September 1, 1998

For : AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAY

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

HON. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on Form PTO-1449, a copy of which is enclosed, may be deemed to be pertinent to the above-identified application and are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items and to independently ascertain their teaching.

Briefly, the enclosed videotape cited in Applicants form PTO-1449 contains a recording of a video demonstration that celebrates Lante's 10 year anniversary event. The recording displays a simulated computer screen titled "CELEBRATING THE PAST BY LOOKING TO THE FUTURE." A user simulates a search between years 84-94 to retrieve important events in the PC computer industry. The results of the search are then listed with a corresponding file icon next to each year. Each file icon is then highlighted and a corresponding blank screen displays the major event of the year that corresponds to the highlighted file icon.

1. [ ] For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, an English language translation of that item or a portion thereof or a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is enclosed:
   A:
   B:

2. [ ]For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application.

3. [ ]Any copy of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement was previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in the prior [ ] Continuation, [ ] Divisional or [ ] Continuation-In-Part application under 37 C.F.R. §1.60, U.S. Serial No. ___, filed _____.

4. [ ]No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

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[ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application.

[ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application.

[ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits.

5. [] No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below.

6. [X] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance (where there has been no prior final action):

[X] A check in the amount of $240.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee.

[ ] Charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 19-2825. Order No. _____. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

7. [ ] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance, whichever comes first, but before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:

a. one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below; and

b. the attached petition requesting consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement; and

c. the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) which is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.

8. [ ] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

a. [ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(3), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement may render at least one claim unpatentable and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue;

b. [ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(5), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is to be considered in a Continuation application upon abandonment of the instant application and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue.

c. The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.

9. [ ] I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

[ ] I hereby certify that no item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge

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Page 00161

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after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

10. [ ] A check in the amount of $130.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1).

[ ] Charge the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) to Deposit Account No. . Order No. _____.
A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

11. [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2825, Order No. 735-002 .
A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

By: Joseph Sofer
Registration No. 34,438

Dated: 8/1/00

Signature. _____

Mailing Address:

Joseph Sofer, Esq.
SOFER & HAROUN, LLP
342 Madison Avenue, Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173

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2781

PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)	:	Torres	
Serial No.	:	09/144,906	Examiner: P. Kulik
Filed	:	September 1, 1998	Group Art Unit: 2781
For	:	AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER	

VIDEO Cassette

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. 1.8a)

HON. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

I hereby certify that the attached Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449, Video Tape, Check for $240.00, and Return Postcard along with any paper(s) referred to as being attached or enclosed and this Certificate of Mailing are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Respectfully submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

By: Aronova Ester
Ester Aronova

Date: 8/1/00

Mailing Address:

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.
342 Madison Avenue, Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173
Tel:(212) 697-2800
Fax:(212) 697-3004

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Offic
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

MF

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/144,906	09/01/98	TORRES	D 735-002

EXAMINER	
KULIK, P	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2177	10

DATE MAILED: 10/24/00

TM31/1024

JOSEPH SOFER
SOFER & HAROUN
342 MADISON AVENUE
SUITE 1921
NEW YORK NY 10173

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or pr ceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

SK

PTO-90C (Rev. 2/95)

1 - File Copy

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/144,906	Applicant(s) Torres
	Examiner Kutik	Group Art Unit 2177

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Response

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 (THREE) MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a response be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for response specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a response within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for response is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication .
- Failure to respond within the set or extended period for response will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 6/23/2000 and 8/4/2000.

☒ This action is **FINAL.**

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle,* 1935 C.D. 1 1; 453 O.G. 213.

Disp sition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above claim(s)____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s)____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s)____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claim(s)____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 11 9(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number)____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1 7.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received:____.

Attachment(s)

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 9

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Other____

Office Acti n Summary

1. This application has been examined in response to the amendment filed June 23, 2000. The amendment added claims 34-41 and amended claims 1, 2, 6, 10, 11 and 22. Claims 1-41 are pending.

2. The Information Disclosure Statement filed August 4, 2000 has been received and considered. See attached form PTO-1449.

3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

4. Claims 1-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franz J. Hauck, "Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web," Fifth International World Wide Web Conference, pp. 1-13, May 1996 (hereafter Hauck) and Alan Braverman, "CCI Slide Show," September 22, 1994, 3 pages (hereafter Braverman).

5. The basis of this rejection was set forth in the last Office action. The amended and new claims are not seen to overcome the rejection.

6. Applicant has amended claims to recite the provision of interactively variable duration information, the use of icons and creation of a show structure in response to a search. New claims

include the insertion of advertisements and the caching of resources corresponding to subsequent nodes. Claim 41 recites the creation of a "multidimensional" show structure of nodes.

7. With respect to the amended claims the examiner finds that Hauck and Braverman would have suggested the claimed features to one of ordinary skill in the art. Hauck indicates that a configuartion file remains on a local server which an be edited to include arbitrary documents on arbitrary servers, suggesting the claimed interactivity. The use of icons is not mentioned in the references but was entirely conventional at the time of the invention. Those of skill in the art would have been motivated to use drag and drop features claimed because this was so widely in use at the time of the invention. With respect to the claimed creation of a show structure in response to a search request, it appears this was taught by Hauck in sections 3.1-3.2. With respect to new claim 41, Hauck is understood to create multidimensional show structures as claimed since a hierarchical tour may be recursive in Hauck. Claim 37 recites the caching and queuing of subsequent nodes for display. Braverman indicated that URLS are presented in succ ession and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have retrieved and cached a subsequent node as claimed in order to smoothly present the resource to a user. With respect to the insertion of advertisements between nodes of the show structure, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have inserted links to adds in the node structure since Hauck taught that any "arbitrary" resource could be linked.

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul Kulik whose telephone number is (703) 305-3831. The examiner can normally be reached from Monday through Thursday between 8:30am and 6:00pm (EST).

10. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene, can be reached on (703) 305-9707. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-6606.

11. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9700.

PVK/10-18-00

PAUL V. KULIK
PRIMARY EXAMINER
A.U. 2177

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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Rev.2-3) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 735-002	SERIAL NO. 09/144,906
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	APPLICANT Damon Torres	
	FILING DATE September 1, 1998	GROUP 2777

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES	TRANSLATION NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Pl		Video tape demonstration, "Celebrating the Past by Looking to the future," date unknown.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
	10/18/00

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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RCE/2777

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PTO/SB/30 (08-00)
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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

+ $ SSC #12 5/2/01

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/144,906
Filing Date	9/1/98
First Named Inventor	Torres
Group Art Unit	2777
Examiner Name	P. Kulik
Attorney Docket Number	735-002

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: *37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA.* See *Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice*, Final Rule, 65 *Fed. Reg.* 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 *Fed. Reg.* 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 *Off. Gaz. Pat. Office* 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. ☐ Previously submitted
   i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
   (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
   ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
   iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Enclosed
   i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
   ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
   iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
   iv. ☒ Other Petition for 3-Month Extension

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2. Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees ~~The RCE~~ fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No._____
   i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
   ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
   iii. ☐ Other _____

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b. ☒ Check in the amount of $ 355.00 and 445.00 enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Joseph Sofer	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	34,438
Signature		Date	April 20, 2001

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)			
Signature		Date	

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

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#18 B SC 5/2/01

Patents **Doc. 735-002**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

----------X

Applicant(s):Torres

Serial No.: 09/144,906

Filed: September 1, 1998



Group Art Unit: 2777

Examiner: P. Kulik

For: AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

----------X

Commissioner Of Patents and
Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Response to Final Office Action

Dear Sir:

Applicant submits this Response to Final Office Action in response to the final Office Action dated October 24, 2000, along with an Amendment Transmittal form and a Petition for Three-Month Extension of Time to respond. A Request for Continued Examination Transmittal, along with the appropriate fee, is submitted herewith in order that this response be considered by the Examiner. In the above-identified application please enter the following amendments and remarks.

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In The Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

B1 SUB C3) 1. (Twice Amended) A method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement comprising the steps of:

creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of

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Page 00172

accessible resources;

accessing a plurality of said resources each of said resources identified by each of said nodes; and

displaying a content corresponding to each of said resources automatically in accordance with said show structure, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary said duration.

B2 SUB C4 10. (Twice Amended) A method for displaying in a sequential arrangement on a user's terminal display, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

identifying at least one resource from a plurality of accessible resources via said communications network, wherein each of said resources is associated with a corresponding icon [on a display] displayed on a first section of said user's terminal;

creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a corresponding resource by recording a sequence of said resources by dragging and dropping said icons on [sections] a second section of said [display] user's terminal ;

accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes automatically in accordance with said show structure;

retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources; and

displaying each of said retrieved contents automatically in accordance with said show structure.

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SUB C57
133

22. (Twice Amended) A method for transmitting in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

performing an on-line search, in response to which a plurality of search results and their corresponding URL resources are received;

creating and storing a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources via said communications network wherein said show structure is created in response to [a] said search results received in response to said on-line search [requested by said user];

accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes;

retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources; and

delivering said content to said user for display on said user's computer in accordance with said show structure.

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Claims 1-41 are pending in this application.

Claims 1-41 are finally rejected.

Claims 1, 10 and 22 are amended.

Claims 1-41 are presented herein for review and reconsideration by the Examiner.

II. Response to 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

Summary of the Office Action

In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-41 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as

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Page 00174

being unpatentable over Hauck and Braverman. According to the Examiner, the Examiner finds that Hauck and Braverman would have suggested the claimed features to one of ordinary skill in the art. Specifically, the Examiner states that Hauck indicates that a configuration file remains on a local server which can be edited to include arbitrary documents on arbitrary servers, and that this suggests the interactivity recited in claim 1 of the present invention.

With respect to claim 10, the Examiner states that the use of icons is not mentioned in the references but was entirely conventional at the time of the invention. Also with respect to claim 10, the Examiner states that those skilled in the art would have been motivated to use drop and drag features because "this was so widely in use at the time of the invention." With respect to claim 22, the Examiner states that the claimed creation of a show structure in response to a search request "[appears to have been] taught by Hauck in sections 3.1-3.2. With respect to claim 37, which recites the caching and queuing of subsequent nodes for display, the Examiner states that Braverman indicates that URLs are presented in succession and that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have retrieved and cached a subsequent node as claimed in order to smoothly present the resource to a user.

With respect to claims 35 and 36 relating to the insertion of advertisements between nodes of the show structure, the Examiner states that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have inserted links to adds in the node structure since Hauck taught that any "arbitrary" resource could be linked. Finally, with respect to claim 41, the Examiner states that "Hauck is understood to create multidimensional show structures ... since a hierarchical tour may be recursive in Hauck." Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner and requests that the §103 rejections be withdrawn.

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Brief Description of the Cited References

As previously described in Applicant's previous response, Hauck discloses an arrangement for authoring of hypertext documents. According to Hauck, as stated in introduction, paragraph 3, a guided tour is a sequence of nodes with "schema links" which allow readers to follow the sequence of these nodes back and forth. These schema links are links that are provided by the author to guide the user back and forth along the sequence of nodes. The entire purpose of Hauck's paper is to elaborate on a server-side mechanism that creates the schema links automatically for each node within the sequence.

The server-side mechanism of Hauck is employed mainly to retrieve an original document corresponding to a node, and add some decorations to it – referred to as the schema links. The decorated page with the appropriate schema links is then sent to the client. Some examples of these decorations include clickable arrow images as illustrated in Fig. 2.3 which refer to for example, "previous," "up," "down," and "next."

Meanwhile, the Braverman reference discloses a simple slide show wherein a list of URLs are read and presented in succession as in a slide show. A special script file is employed that contains the list of the URLs and corresponding delay times. The script file that the slide show reads "is a simple ASCII text file, consisting of one command per line." Braverman, p.2, line 1.

Arguments

Claim 1

Independent claim 1 of the present invention relates to a method for displaying, on a

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user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement. The method comprises the steps of creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources; accessing a plurality of the resources each of the resources identified by each of the nodes; and displaying a content corresponding to each of the resources automatically in accordance with the show structure. The step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to the resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary the duration.

None of the references cited by the Examiner teach or suggest the present invention as recited in claim 1. For instance, neither of the references teach or suggest the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, so as to enable a user to vary the duration that a resource is displayed to the user. Specifically, the present invention provides a system wherein the rate of transfer from one node to another in the show structure can be interactively varied and controlled by the user. Thus, a user can speed up or slow down the rate at which the consecutive resources are being displayed.

By contrast, there is no teaching or suggestion in Hauck or Braverman to provide a system wherein the rate of transfer from one node to the other can be interactively varied and controlled by the user. The Examiner's statement that "a configuration file remains on a local server which can be edited to include arbitrary documents on arbitrary servers, and that this suggests the interactivity" does not address the feature of the present invention which enables a user to interactively vary the duration that resources are displayed to the user. There is simply no teaching or suggestion in either cited reference that the rate of transfer from one node to

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another in the show structure can be interactively varied and controlled by the user. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection, and the rejection of all claims that depend on claim 1, be withdrawn by the Examiner.

Claim 10

Independent claim 10 of the present invention relates to a method for displaying, in a sequential arrangement on a user's terminal display, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources. The method comprises the steps of identifying at least one resource from a plurality of accessible resources via the communications network, wherein each of the resources is associated with a corresponding icon displayed on a first section of said user's terminal. Next, a show structure of nodes is created, wherein each node identifies a corresponding resource by recording a sequence of the resources by dragging and dropping the icons on a second section of the user's terminal. Each of the resources identified by each of the nodes is automatically accessed in accordance with the show structure. Upon retrieving a content corresponding to each of the accessed resources, each of the retrieved contents are automatically displayed in accordance with the show structure.

None of the references cited by the Examiner teach or suggest the present invention as recited in claim 10. For instance, neither of the references teach or suggest the creation of a show structure of nodes whereby a user drops and drags an icon corresponding to a resource from a first section of a user's terminal to a second section of the user's terminal. Specifically, the present invention, in accordance with this embodiment, provides a system wherein a first section of a user's terminal comprises a list of nodes corresponding to resources. The user may then create a show structure of nodes by selectively dragging and dropping these icons to a

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second section of the user's terminal. Once the show structure is created on the second section of the user's terminal, the resources corresponding to the selected icons are retrieved and displayed to the user.

By contrast, there is no teaching or suggestion in Hauck or Braverman to provide a system wherein a show structure of nodes is created by a user dropping and dragging an icon corresponding to a resource from a first section of a user's terminal to a second section of the user's terminal. As previously mentioned, the Examiner states that "the use of icons ... was entirely conventional at the time of the invention" and that "those skilled in the art would have been motivated to use drop and drag features because this was so widely in use at the time of the invention." However, irrespective of whether the use of icons, or the method of dropping and dragging icons, was previously known in the art, Applicant maintains that neither reference teaches or suggests the creation of a show structure of nodes whereby a user drops and drags an icon corresponding to a resource from a first section of a user's terminal to a second section of the user's terminal.

This arrangement provides a convenient way to create a show structure of nodes from a plurality of available resources, without the need to write a particular program code such as those cited in the prior art. The additional advantage of this arrangement is its flexibility. The user can now pick and choose, modify, add and remove various resources conveniently and without having any knowledge in programming. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection, and the rejection of all claims that depend on claim 10, be withdrawn by the Examiner.

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Claim 22

Independent claim 22 of the present invention relates to a method for transmitting, in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources. The method comprises the steps of performing an on-line search, in response to which a plurality of search results and their corresponding URL resources are received. A show structure of nodes is then created and stored, wherein each node identifies a resource from a plurality of accessible resources via the communications network wherein the show structure is created in response to the search results received in response to the on-line search. Upon accessing each of the resources identified by each of the nodes, a content corresponding to each of the accessed resources is retrieved and the content is delivered to the user for display on the user's computer in accordance with the show structure.

None of the references cited by the Examiner teach or suggest the present invention as recited in claim 22. For instance, neither of the references teach or suggest performing an on-line search and creating a show structure of nodes that correspond to the search results. The present invention, in accordance with this embodiment, provides a system wherein the results of an on-line search are used to create a show structure. When a user performs an on-line search, the system creates a show structure in which each node of the structure corresponds to one of the search results. Thus, the system displays to the user each of the search results consecutively.

By contrast, there is no teaching or suggestion in Hauck or Braverman to provide a system for performing an on-line search and creating a show structure of nodes that correspond to the search results. As previously mentioned, the Examiner states that "it appears that this was taught by Hauck in sections 3.1-3.2". However, these sections of Hauck disclose a method of

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implementing a tour structure in which a document file system (DFS) gets a request from a client, translates the URL of the request to their original nodes according to a mapping of nodes in a tour structure, decorates the returned document with schema links such as "Next" and "Previous" and finally returns to the changed document to the client. Applicant maintains that these sections of Hauck (and also the remaining sections of Hauck and the Braverman reference) do not teach or suggest performing an on-line search and creating a show structure of nodes that correspond to the search results. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection, and the rejection of all claims that depend on claim 22, be withdrawn by the Examiner.

Claims 35 and 36

Claims 35 and 36 of the present invention depend indirectly from independent claim 1 and recite the additional step of inserting advertisement displays between display of the contents corresponding to each of the nodes in a show structure. Thus, in this embodiment of the present invention, upon creating a show structure of nodes, the content corresponding to each of the resources associated with the nodes, and predetermined advertisements, are displayed to the user in accordance with the show structure.

None of the references cited by the Examiner teach or suggest the present invention as recited in claim 35 and 36. For instance, neither of the references teach or suggest the insertion of advertisement displays between display of the contents corresponding to each of the nodes in a show structure. As previously noted, the Examiner states that "it would have been obvious to ... have inserted links to advertisements [sic] in the node structure since Hauck taught that any "arbitrary" resource could be linked." That Hauck teaches that "any arbitrary resource could be linked [to a node structure]" does not further teach or suggest the insertion of advertisement

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displays between display of the contents corresponding to each of the nodes in a show structure. In addition, the Examiner has not cited any other references to support his assertions that these features were well-known in the prior art, nor has he taken official notice of such, as discussed in Section 2144.03 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn by the Examiner.

Claim 37

Independent claim 37 of the present invention relates to a method for displaying, on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement. The method comprises the steps of creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources. Each of the resources identified by each of the nodes is accessed and a content corresponding to each of the resources is automatically displayed in accordance with the show structure. The method further comprises the step of caching and queuing resources corresponding to subsequent nodes within the show structure while a content corresponding to a current resource is being displayed.

None of the references cited by the Examiner teach or suggest the present invention as recited in claim 37. For instance, neither of the references teach or suggest caching and queuing resources corresponding to subsequent nodes within the show structure while a content corresponding to a current resource is being displayed. As previously mentioned, the Examiner's contends that "Braverman indicates that URLs are presented in succession". However, Braverman does not disclose caching and queuing resources corresponding to subsequent nodes within the show structure while a content corresponding to a current resource is being displayed. In addition, the Examiner has not cited any references to support his

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assertions that these features were well-known in the prior art, nor has he taken official notice of such, as discussed in Section 2144.03 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection, and the rejection of all claims that depend on claim 37, be withdrawn by the Examiner.

Claim 40

Independent claim 40 of the present invention relates to a method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement. The method comprises the steps of creating a multi-dimensional show structure of nodes, wherein each node identifies a resource from a plurality of accessible resources. Each of the resources identified by each of the nodes is accessed wherein at least two of the nodes are spanned concurrently. The method further comprises displaying a content corresponding to each of the resources automatically in accordance with the show structure, wherein contents of the at least two nodes are displayed during an overlapping time period.

None of the references cited by the Examiner teach or suggest the present invention as recited in claim 22. For instance, neither of the references teach or suggest a multi-dimensional show structure of nodes, wherein at least two of the nodes are spanned concurrently and the contents of the at least two nodes are displayed during an overlapping time period. Specifically, in this embodiment, the present invention provides a system for creating a multi-dimensional show structure of nodes. Thus, instead of a single dimensional show structure of nodes, in which one node at a time is displayed to a user, this embodiment provides a multi-dimensional show structure of nodes, in which more than one node at a time is simultaneously displayed to the user. For instance, the user's display screen may display a first resource corresponding to a node

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of a show structure on a first dedicated portion of the display screen and may display a second resource corresponding to another node of a show structure on a first dedicated portion of the display screen. Each of the portions of the display screens may then also consecutively display other resources corresponding to other nodes in the multi-dimensional show structure, such that the user enjoys a different show structure in each of the different portions of the display screen.

By contrast, there is no teaching or suggestion in Hauck or Braverman to provide a multi-dimensional show structure of nodes, wherein at least two of the nodes are spanned concurrently and the contents of the at least two nodes are displayed during an overlapping time period. As previously mentioned, the Examiner states that "Hauck is understood to create a multi-dimensional show structure since a hierarchical tour may be recursive in Hauck." However, Hauck fails to disclose the concurrent display of more than one node of a show structure. Furthermore, Hauck fails to disclose a multi-dimensional show structure of nodes, in which more than one node at a time is simultaneously displayed to the user and in which the system also consecutively displays other resources in accordance with the show structure. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection, and the rejection of all claims that depend on claim 40, be withdrawn by the Examiner.

Fees

Any fees or charges required at this time in connection with this application may be charged to Patent and Trademarks Office Deposit Account No. 19-2825.

Conclusion

In view of the aforementioned amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that

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all claims currently pending in the above identified application are now in condition for allowance, the earliest possible notice of which is earnestly solicited. If in the Examiner's opinion the prosecution of the present application would be advanced by a telephone interview, he is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,

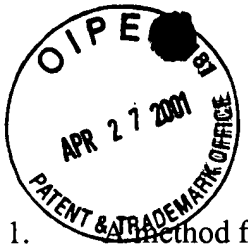
SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

Dated: April 23, 2001

By: _____

Joseph Sofer (Reg. No. 34,438)
SOFER & HAROUN, LLP
342 Madison Avenue, Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173
(212)697-2800; Fax(212)697-3004

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I claim:

1. A method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement comprising the steps of:

creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources;

accessing a plurality of said resources each of said resources identified by each of said nodes; and

displaying a content corresponding to each of said resources automatically in accordance with said show structure, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary said duration.

2. The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

3. The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said step of accessing further comprises the step of executing an application file residing in the user's computer.

4. The method in accordance with claim 3 further comprising the step of generating a data file resulting from said executing step.

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5. The method in accordance with claim 4 further comprising the step of storing said data file for each resource accessed.

6. The method in accordance with claim 5, further comprises the step of retrieving each of said data files.

7. The method in accordance with claim 6 wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of reformatting said data files in accordance with a predetermined arrangement.

8. The method in accordance with claim 7 further comprising the step of displaying control buttons for controlling the display of said data files.

9. The method in accordance with claim 8 further comprising the step of receiving control button commands for pausing said display of said data files, and for reversing the sequence of said display of said data files and for fast forwarding said display of said data files.

10. A method for displaying in a sequential arrangement on a user's terminal display, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

identifying at least one resource from a plurality of accessible resources via said communications network, wherein each of said resources is associated with a corresponding icon

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displayed on a first section of said user's terminal;

creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a corresponding resource by recording a sequence of said resources by dragging and dropping said icons on a second section of said user's terminal ;

accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes automatically in accordance with said show structure;

retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources; and

displaying each of said retrieved contents automatically in accordance with said show structure.

11. The method in accordance with claim 10, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

12. The method in accordance with claim 10, wherein said step of accessing further comprises the step of downloading a file from a server residing within said communications network.

13. The method in accordance with claim 12 further comprising the step of receiving a dynamic content from a predetermined server.

14. The method in accordance with claim 13 further comprising the step of displaying a persistent content window for receiving said dynamic content within said persistent

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content window.

15. The method in accordance with claim 13 further comprising the step of inserting resource identifiers interspersed within said show structure relating to said dynamic content.

16. The method in accordance with claim 15 wherein said dynamic content is an advertising message.

17. The method in accordance with claim 15 further comprising the step of providing said dynamic content in accordance with said user's profile.

18. The method in accordance with claim 17 further comprising the step of storing said content for each resource accessed.

19. The method in accordance with claim 18 wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of reformatting said content in accordance with a predetermined arrangement.

20. The method in accordance with claim 18 further comprising the step of displaying control buttons for controlling the display of said contents.

21. The method in accordance with claim 20 further comprising the step of

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receiving control button commands for pausing said display of said content, and for reversing the said display of said content and for fast forwarding said display of said content.

22. A method for transmitting in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

performing an on-line search, in response to which a plurality of search results and their corresponding URL resources are received;

creating and storing a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources via said communications network wherein said show structure is created in response to said search results received in response to said on-line search;

accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes;

retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources; and

delivering said content to said user for display on said user's computer in accordance with said show structure.

23. The method in accordance with claim 22, wherein said step of storing further comprises the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

24. The method in accordance with claim 22, wherein said step of accessing further comprises the step of downloading a file from a server residing within said communications network.

25. The method in accordance with claim 24 further comprising the step of transmitting to said user a dynamic content.

26. The method in accordance with claim 25 further comprising the step of formatting said dynamic content for displaying within a persistent content window on said user's terminal.

27. The method in accordance with claim 26 further comprising the step of inserting resource identifiers interspersed within said show structure relating to said dynamic content.

28. The method in accordance with claim 27 wherein said dynamic content is an advertising message.

29. The method in accordance with claim 28 further comprising the step of providing said dynamic content in accordance with said user's profile.

30. The method in accordance with claim 29 further comprising the step of storing said content for each resource accessed.

31. The method in accordance with claim 30 wherein said step of delivering further comprises the step of reformatting said content in accordance with a predetermined arrangement.

32. The method in accordance with claim 31 further comprising the step of transmitting information to said user for displaying control buttons for controlling the display of said contents.

33. The method in accordance with claim 32 further comprising the step of receiving control button commands for pausing said display of said content, and for reversing the said display of said content and for fast forwarding said display of said content.

34. The method in accordance with claim 2 further comprising the step of monitoring said user's instructions corresponding to interruption of said show structure within said duration.

35. The method in accordance with claim 2 further comprising the step of inserting advertisement displays between display of said contents corresponding to each of said nodes.

36. The method in accordance with claim 35 further comprising the step of selecting said advertisement displays based on said users' profiles.

37. A method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement comprising the steps of:

creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources;

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accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes;

displaying a content corresponding to each of said resources automatically in accordance with said show structure; and

caching and queuing resources corresponding to subsequent nodes within said show structure, while a content corresponding to a current resource is being displayed.

38. The method in accordance with claim 37, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

39. The method in accordance with claim 38 further comprising the step of updating each of said show structures previously displayed to each of said users and storing said updated show structure in said user's computer.

40. A method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement comprising the steps of:

creating a multidimensional show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources;

accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes wherein at least two of said nodes are spanned concurrently;

displaying a content corresponding to each of said resources automatically in accordance with said show structure, wherein contents of said at least two nodes are displayed during an

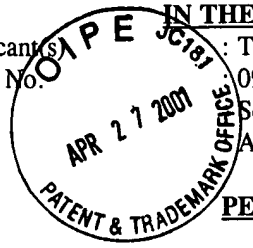
overlapping time period.

41. The method in accordance with claim 40 further comprising the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to each of said resources is being displayed.

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PATENT

Docket No. 735-002



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Torres
Serial No.: 09/144,906
Filed: September 1, 1998 Examiner: P. Kulik
For: AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DIPSLAYER

PETITION AND FEE FOR EXTENSION OF TIME (37 C.F.R. §1.136(a))

HON. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
Sir:

1. This is a petition for an extension of time for filing an Amendment

2. The communication in connection with the matter for which this extension is requested

[X] is filed herewith.

[ ] has been filed on _____.

3. [X] Applicant is a small-entity -- verified statement is attached [ ], or has already been filed. [X].

4.

		Total Months Requested	Fee for Other than Small Entity	Fee for Small Entity
a.	[ ]	one month	$110.00	$55.00
b.	[ ]	two months	$380.00	$190.00
c.	[X]	three months	$890.00	$445.00
d.	[ ]	four months	$1360.00	$680.00
e.	[ ]	five months	$1850.00	$925.00

f. [ ] An extension for ____ months has already been secured for filing the above-identified communication and the fee paid therefor of $ _____ is deducted from the total fee due for the total months of extension now requested. The fee for this extension ($ _____), minus the fee previously paid ($ _____) equals $ _____ (total fee due).

5. [X] A check in the amount of $445.00 to cover the extension fee is attached.

6. [ ] Charge $.00 to Deposit Account No. 19-2825 Order No.__ DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

7. [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required by this paper, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2825. Order No. 735-002 A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P

Dated: April 23, 2001

By: _____
Joseph Sofer
Registration No. 34,438

Mailing Address:
342 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10173
(212) 697-2800;
Fax (212) 697-3004

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01 FC:217 445.00 OP

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PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Torres
Serial No. : 09/144,906 Examiner: P. Kulik
Filed : September 1, 1998 Group Art Unit: 2177
For : AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

OIPE JC181 APR 27 2001 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. 1.8a)

HON. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

I hereby certify that the attached Amendment with Replacement Pages, Amendment Transmittal, RCE transmittal, two checks for$355.00 and $445.00, Petition for Three Months Extension and Return Postcard along with any paper(s) referred to as being attached or enclosed and this Certificate of Mailing are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Respectfully submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

By: _____
Ester Aronova

Date: 4/23/01

Mailing Address:

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.
342 Madison Avenue, Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173
Tel:(212) 697-2800
Fax:(212) 697-3004

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PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Torres
Serial No. : 09/144,906
Filed : September 1, 1998
For : AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

Group Art Unit: 2177
Examiner: P. Kulik

AMENDMENT FEE TRANSMITTAL

HON. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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Transmitted herewith is an Amendment for the above-identified application.

[X] No additional fee is required.

[ ] The additional fee has been calculated as shown below:

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Covered by Previous Payments	Present Extra	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims*	41	-	41	=0	8x $9.00	$.00
Independent Claims	5	-	5	=0	2x $39.00	$.00
Multiple Dependent Claim(s)	(If claims added by amendment include Multiple Dependent Claim(s) and there was no Multiple Dependent Claim(s) in application before amendment add $260.00 to additional fee.)					$.00
					Total:	$.00

[ ] Verified Statement of "Small Entity" Status Under 37 CFR § 1.27 filed _____. Reduced Fees Under 37 CFR § 1.9(f) (50% of total) paid herewith. $_____

[ ] Charge $.00 fee to Deposit Account No. 19-2825 . Order No. ___
A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

* Includes all independent and single dependent claims and all claims referred to in multiple dependent claims. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c).

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OIPE JC181 APR 27 2001 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

[X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No.19-2825. Order No. 735-002 .
A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

[ ] ___ Page(s) of substitute Sequence Listing

[ ] ___ Computer disk(s) containing substitute Sequence Listing

[ ] Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.825(b) that the computer and paper copies of the substitute Sequence Listing are the same.

Respectfully submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.

Date: April 20, 2001

Joseph Sofer
Registration No. 34,438

Mailing Address:

SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.
342 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10173
(212) 697-2800
Fax: (212) 697-3004

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09/144906

	Type	Hits	Search Text	DBs	Time Stamp
1	BRS	11	"slide show" and ((variable or vary) near2 (time or duration or delay))	USPAT	2001/06/12 16:24
2	BRS	102	"slide show" and (display$3 near4 (time or duration or delay))	USPAT	2001/06/12 16:26
3	BRS	23	"slide show" same (display$3 near4 (time or duration or delay))	USPAT	2001/06/12 17:04
4	BRS	8	hauck near franz	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM TDB	2001/06/13 10:28
5	BRS	33	"slide show" and node	USPAT	2001/06/13 11:52
6	BRS	17	345/$.ccls. and ((icon$5 with (set$4 or configur$4)) same (drag adj drop))	USPAT	2001/06/13 12:59
7	BRS	713	705/$.ccls. and (internet or "world wide web") and (advertisement$1 or ad$1)	USPAT	2001/06/13 13:01
8	BRS	1	705/$.ccls. and (internet or "world wide web") and (advertisement$1 or ad$1) and "slide show"	USPAT	2001/06/13 13:03
9	BRS	251	705/$.ccls. and (internet or "world wide web") and advertisement$1	USPAT	2001/06/13 13:03
10	BRS	0	705/$.ccls. and (internet or "world wide web") and advertisement$1 and "slide show"	USPAT	2001/06/13 13:04
11	BRS	2	705/$.ccls. and "slide show" and advertisement$1	USPAT	2001/06/13 13:18
12	BRS	19	705/$.ccls. and (target$3 with advertisement$1) same (attribut$3 or profil$4)	USPAT	2001/06/13 13:56
13	BRS	0	"slide show" and ((cach$4 with queu$4) with slide)	USPAT	2001/06/13 13:58
14	BRS	1	"slide show" and (cach$4 with queu$4)	USPAT	2001/06/13 14:03
15	BRS	1	"slide show" and (queu$4 with slide)	USPAT	2001/06/13 14:00
16	BRS	66	cach$4 with queu$4 and 345/$.ccls.	USPAT	2001/06/13 15:20

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office
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Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/144,906	09/01/98	TORRES	D 735-002

TM02/0618

JOSEPH SOFER
SOFER & HAROUN
342 MADISON AVENUE
SUITE 1921
NEW YORK NY 10173

EXAMINER	
WASSUM, L	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2177	14

DATE MAILED: 06/18/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trad marks

PTO-90C (Rev. 2/95)
*U.S. GPO: 2000-473-000/44602

1- File Copy

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/144,906	Applicant(s) TORRES, DAMON C.	
	Examiner Luke S. Wassum	Art Unit 2177	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *23 April 2001* .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-41* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-41* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
20) ☐ Other: .

Google/YouTube Exhibit 1024/1124

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Receipt is acknowledged of Applicant's Amendment and Request for Continued Examination filed 23 April 2001.

2. As a result of the Amendment, claims 1, 10 and 22 have been amended. Claims 1-41 are now presented for examination.

Priority

3. The domestic priority claim of the applicant is acknowledged. The instant application is a Continuation-In-Part of application 08/922,063 filed 2 September 1997.

Specification

4. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: **Method for Slide Show Creation and Configuration, Slides Comprising World Wide Web Pages.**

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claim 40 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Hauck** ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web").

7. Regarding claim 40, **Hauck** teaches a method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement comprising the steps of:

a) creating a multidimensional show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources (see 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4; see also Figures 2.1 and 2.2);

b) accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes wherein at least two of said nodes are spanned concurrently (see discussion of how nodes can be mapped to other nodes, section 3.5 Recursive Tours, pages 10-11); and

c) displaying a content corresponding to each of said resources automatically in accordance with said show structure, wherein contents of said at least two nodes are displayed during an overlapping time period (see discussion of how frames allow several HTML windows to be displayed in a single browser, section 3.4 Frames, page 9, first paragraph).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 1-9 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hauck** ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") in view of **Qureshi et al.** (U.S. Patent 6,084,582).

10. Regarding claim 1, **Hauck** teaches a method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement substantially as claimed, comprising the steps of:

a) creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources (see 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4; see also Figure 2.1);

b) accessing a plurality of said resources each of said resources identified by each of said nodes (see 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4); and

c) displaying a content corresponding to each of said resources automatically in accordance with said show structure (see discussion of the 'guided tour' in 1.0 Introduction, pages 2-3).

Hauck does not teach a method wherein the step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary said duration.

Qureshi et al., however, teaches a method wherein the step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within

which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary said duration (see col. 9, lines 33-49, and particularly lines 40-42).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate a mechanism for adjusting the duration of time of display for each content, since "slide show" applications (such as Microsoft's PowerPoint) were well known in the art at the time, and slide duration was a well known configuration item for said slide shows.

11. Regarding claim 2, **Qureshi et al.** teaches a method wherein the step of creating further comprises the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed (see col. 9, lines 33-49).

12. Regarding claim 3, **Hauck** teaches a method wherein said step of accessing further comprises the step of executing an application file residing on the user's computer (see discussion of the Perplex server software, sections 3 Implementation and 3.1 The Perplex Server, pages 6-7).

13. Regarding claims 4-6, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of generating, storing and retrieving a data file for each resource from said executing step (see discussion of the tour structures, sections 2 Structuring Web Documents and 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4).

14. Regarding claims 7-9, **Hauck** teaches a method wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of reformatting said data files in accordance with a predetermined arrangement,

and displaying control buttons for pausing, reversing and fast forwarding said display (see section 2.2 Decoration, pages 4-5).

15. Regarding claim 34, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of monitoring said user's instructions corresponding to interruption of said show structure within said duration (see discussion of the forward-trace logs, section 3.2 The Tour DFS).

16. Claims 10 and 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hauck** ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") in view of **Li et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,548,702).

17. Regarding claim 10, **Hauck** teaches a method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement substantially as claimed, comprising the steps of:

a) identifying at least one resource from a plurality of accessible resources via said communications network (see 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4);

b) creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources (see 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4; see also Figure 2.1);

c) accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes automatically in accordance with said show structure (see 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4);

d) retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources (see discussion of the 'guided tour' in 1.0 Introduction, pages 2-3); and

e) displaying each of said retrieved contents automatically in accordance with said show structure (see discussion of the 'guided tour' in 1.0 Introduction, pages 2-3).

Hauck does not teach a method wherein the steps of identifying and creating are accomplished through the use of dragging and dropping icons, said icons representative of said resources.

Li et al., however, teaches a method wherein the steps of identifying and creating are accomplished through the use of dragging and dropping icons, said icons representative of said resources (see Figures 3A, 3B and 3C; see also col. 4, lines 1-26.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate a drag and drop interface for use in creating the show structure of nodes, since the use of drag and drop was well known in the art at the time, and served to facilitate the manipulation of data items without the need for the user to perform such operations through a more explicitly 'manual' procedure.

18. Regarding claim 12, **Hauck** teaches a method wherein the step of accessing further comprises the step of downloading a file from a server residing within said communications network (see section 3.1 The Perplex Server, page 7).

19. Regarding claim 13, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of receiving a dynamic content from a predetermined server (see section 2.3 Meta Nodes, pages 5-6; see also sections 3.2 The Tour DFS and 3.3 Decoration and Configuration, pages 7-9).

20. Regarding claim 14, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of displaying a persistent content window for receiving said dynamic content within said persistent content window (see section 3.4 Frames, pages 9-10).

21. Regarding claim 15, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of inserting resource identifiers interspersed within said show structure relating to said dynamic content (see section 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4).

22. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hauck** ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") in view of **Li et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,548,702) as applied to claims 10 and 12-15 above, and further in view of **Qureshi et al.** (U.S. Patent 6,084,582).

23. Regarding claim 11, **Hauck** and **Li et al.** teach a method for displaying on a user's computer substantially as claimed.

Neither **Hauck** nor **Li et al.** teaches a method wherein the step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary said duration.

Qureshi et al., however, teaches a method wherein the step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary said duration (see col. 9, lines 33-49, and particularly lines 40-42).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate a mechanism for adjusting the duration of time of display for each content, since "slide show" applications (such as Microsoft's PowerPoint) were well known in the art at the time, and slide duration was a well known configuration item for said slide shows.

24. Claims 16-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hauck** ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") in view of **Li et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,548,702) as applied to claims 10 and 12-15 above, and further in view of **Malec et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,287,266).

25. Regarding claim 16, **Hauck** and **Li et al.** teach a method for displaying on a user's computer substantially as claimed.

Neither **Hauck** nor **Li et al.** teaches a method further comprising the step of inserting advertisement displays between display of said contents corresponding to each of said nodes.

Malec et al., however, teaches a method further comprising the step of inserting advertisement displays between display of said contents corresponding to each of said nodes (see col. 2, lines 30-40; see also col. 26, lines 12-31).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to display advertisements between the display of each node, since advertisements would constitute a valuable revenue source for the provider of the show. Furthermore, the display of advertisements over the Internet was well known in the art at the time of the invention.

26. Regarding claim 17, **Malec et al.** teaches a method further comprising the step of providing said dynamic content based on said user's profiles (see col. 24, lines 28-45).

27. Regarding claim 18, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of storing a data file for each resource from said executing step (see discussion of the tour structures, sections 2 Structuring Web Documents and 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4).

28. Regarding claims 19-21, **Hauck** teaches a method wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of reformatting said data files in accordance with a predetermined arrangement, and displaying control buttons for pausing, reversing and fast forwarding said display (see section 2.2 Decoration, pages 4-5).

29. Claims 22 and 24-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hauck** ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") in view of **Examiner's Official Notice.**

30. Regarding claim 22, **Hauck** teaches a method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement substantially as claimed, comprising the steps of:

a) creating and storing a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources (see 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4; see also Figure 2.1);

b) accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes automatically in accordance with said show structure (see 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4);

c) retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources (see discussion of the 'guided tour' in 1.0 Introduction, pages 2-3); and

d) delivering said content to said user for display on said user's computer in accordance with said show structure (see discussion of the 'guided tour' in 1.0 Introduction, pages 2-3).

Hauck does not teach a method comprising the step of performing an on-line search, in response to which a plurality of search results and their corresponding URL resources are received.

Examiner gives **Official Notice** that it was well known in the art at the time of the invention to perform an on-line search to obtain a list of URLs corresponding to World Wide Web pages containing content desired by the user.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate an on-line search to obtain desired URLs for use in the creation of the show structure, since this is the most efficient method of assembling a list of URLs having content desired by the user for the show.

31. Regarding claim 24, **Hauck** teaches a method wherein the step of accessing further comprises the step of downloading a file from a server residing within said communications network (see section 3.1 The Perplex Server, page 7).

32. Regarding claim 25, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of receiving a dynamic content from a predetermined server (see section 2.3 Meta Nodes, pages 5-6; see also sections 3.2 The Tour DFS and 3.3 Decoration and Configuration, pages 7-9).

33. Regarding claim 26, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of displaying a persistent content window for receiving said dynamic content within said persistent content window (see section 3.4 Frames, pages 9-10).

34. Regarding claim 27, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of inserting resource identifiers interspersed within said show structure relating to said dynamic content (see section 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4).

35. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hauck** ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") in view of **Examiner's Official Notice** as applied to claims 22 and 24-27 above, and further in view of **Qureshi et al.** (U.S. Patent 6,084,582).

36. Regarding claim 23, **Hauck** and **Official Notice** teach a method for displaying on a user's computer substantially as claimed.

Neither **Hauck** nor **Official Notice** teaches a method wherein the step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary said duration.

Qureshi et al., however, teaches a method wherein the step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary said duration (see col. 9, lines 33-49, and particularly lines 40-42).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate a mechanism for adjusting the duration of time of display for each content, since "slide show" applications (such as Microsoft's PowerPoint) were well known in the art at the time, and slide duration was a well known configuration item for said slide shows.

37. Claims 28-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hauck** ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") in view of **Examiner's Official Notice** as applied to claims 22 and 24-27 above, and further in view of **Malec et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,287,266).

38. Regarding claim 28, **Hauck** and **Official Notice** teach a method for displaying on a user's computer substantially as claimed.

Neither **Hauck** nor **Official Notice** teaches a method further comprising the step of inserting advertisement displays between display of said contents corresponding to each of said nodes.

Malec et al., however, teaches a method further comprising the step of inserting advertisement displays between display of said contents corresponding to each of said nodes (see col. 2, lines 30-40; see also col. 26, lines 12-31).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to display advertisements between the display of each node, since advertisements would constitute a valuable revenue source for the provider of the show. Furthermore, the display of advertisements over the Internet was well known in the art at the time of the invention.

39. Regarding claim 29, **Malec et al.** teaches a method further comprising the step of providing said dynamic content based on said user's profiles (see col. 24, lines 28-45).

40. Regarding claim 30, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of storing a data file for each resource from said executing step (see discussion of the tour structures, sections 2 Structuring Web Documents and 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4).

41. Regarding claims 31-33, **Hauck** teaches a method wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of reformatting said data files in accordance with a predetermined arrangement, and displaying control buttons for pausing, reversing and fast forwarding said display (see section 2.2 Decoration, pages 4-5).

42. Claims 35 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hauck** ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") in view of **Qureshi et al.** (U.S. Patent 6,084,582) as applied to claims 1-9 and 34 above, and further in view of **Malec et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,287,266).

43. Regarding claim 35, **Hauck** and **Qureshi et al.** teach a method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement substantially as claimed.

Hauck does not teach a method further comprising the step of inserting advertisement displays between display of said contents corresponding to each of said nodes.

Malec et al., however, teaches a method further comprising the step of inserting advertisement displays between display of said contents corresponding to each of said nodes (see col. 2, lines 30-40; see also col. 26, lines 12-31).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to display advertisements between the display of each node, since advertisements would constitute a valuable revenue source for the provider of the show. Furthermore, the display of advertisements over the Internet was well known in the art at the time of the invention.

44. Regarding claim 36, **Malec et al.** teaches a method further comprising the step of selecting said advertisement displays based on said user's profiles (see col. 24, lines 28-45).

45. Claim 37 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hauck** ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") in view of **Examiner's Official Notice[2]**.

46. Regarding claim 37, **Hauck** teaches a method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement substantially as claimed, comprising the steps of:

a) creating and storing a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources (see 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4; see also Figure 2.1);

b) accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes automatically in accordance with said show structure (see 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4);

c) retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources (see discussion of the 'guided tour' in 1.0 Introduction, pages 2-3); and

d) delivering said content to said user for display on said user's computer in accordance with said show structure (see discussion of the 'guided tour' in 1.0 Introduction, pages 2-3).

Hauck does not teach a method comprising the step of caching and queueing resources corresponding to subsequent nodes within said show structure, while a content corresponding to a current resource is being displayed.

Examiner gives **Official Notice** that it was well known in the art at the time of the invention to cache and queue information to be subsequently displayed while current information is being displayed.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to cache and queue information to be subsequently displayed, since their use would lead to increased performance of the invention, and the use of queues and caches were extremely well known in the art at the time of the invention, the purpose of a queue being to store data to be readily available for subsequent use, and the purpose of a cache being to hold frequently used data in memory for rapid retrieval.

47. Claims 38 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hauck** ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") in view of **Examiner's Official**

Notice[2] as applied to claim 37 above, and further in view of **Qureshi et al.** (U.S. Patent 6,084,582).

48. Regarding claim 38, **Hauck** and **Official Notice** teach a method for displaying on a user's computer substantially as claimed.

Neither **Hauck** nor **Official Notice** teaches a method wherein the step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary said duration.

Qureshi et al., however, teaches a method wherein the step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary said duration (see col. 9, lines 33-49, and particularly lines 40-42).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate a mechanism for adjusting the duration of time of display for each content, since "slide show" applications (such as Microsoft's PowerPoint) were well known in the art at the time, and slide duration was a well known configuration item for said slide shows.

49. Regarding claim 39, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of updating each of said show structures previously displayed to each of said users and storing said show structure in

said user's computer (see discussion of the editing of tour structures in section 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3 and 4, and also in section 2.3 Meta Nodes, pages 5 and 6.

50. Claim 41 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hauck** ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") as applied to claim 40 above, and further in view of **Qureshi et al.** (U.S. Patent 6,084,582).

51. Regarding claim 41, **Hauck** teaches a method for displaying on a user's computer substantially as claimed.

Hauck does not teach a method wherein the step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary said duration.

Qureshi et al., however, teaches a method wherein the step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary said duration (see col. 9, lines 33-49, and particularly lines 40-42).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate a mechanism for adjusting the duration of time of display for each content, since "slide

show" applications (such as Microsoft's PowerPoint) were well known in the art at the time, and slide duration was a well known configuration item for said slide shows.

Response to Arguments

52. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-41 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

53. In the Amendment, the applicant makes the following arguments:

1) that the references used in the rejection of independent claim 1 fail to teach the step of providing an interactively variable duration information...so as to enable a user to vary said duration;

2) that the references used in the rejection of independent claim 10 fail to teach the use of icons in a drag and drop fashion to configure the show structure of nodes with a desired set of resources;

3) that the references used in the rejection of independent claim 22 fail to teach the step of performing an on-line search to create a show structure that corresponds to the search results;

4) that the references used in the rejection of dependent claims 35 and 36 fail to teach the insertion of advertising displays between display of each node in the show structure;

5) that the references used in the rejection of independent claim 37 fails to teach the caching and queuing of resources corresponding to subsequent nodes within the show structure while a content corresponding to a current resource is being displayed; and

6) that the references used in the rejection of independent claim 40 fails to teach a multi-dimensional show structure of nodes.

54. Regarding argument (1), the examiner has combined the **Hauck** reference with the **Qureshi et al.** reference to overcome the argument.

55. Regarding argument (2), the examiner has combined the **Hauck** reference with the **Li et al.** reference to overcome the argument.

56. Regarding argument (3), the examiner has given **Official Notice** that performing an on-line search to find desired URLs was well known in the art at the time of the invention.

57. Regarding argument (4), the examiner has combined the **Hauck** reference with the **Malec et al.** reference to overcome the argument.

58. Regarding argument (5), the examiner has given **Official Notice** that the use of caches and queues to increase performance was well known in the art at the time of the invention.

59. Regarding argument (6), the examiner maintains that the **Hauck** reference teaches the claimed limitations through the disclosure of HTML Frames.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Luke S. Wassum whose telephone number is 703-305-5706. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-5:30, alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene can be reached on 703-305-9790. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-6606 for regular communications and 703-308-9051 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Luke S. Wassum
Art Unit 2177

lsw
June 14, 2001

JEAN R. HOMERE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Notice of Referenc s Cited	Application/Control No. 09/144,906	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination TORRES, DAMON C.	
	Examiner Luke S. Wassum	Art Unit 2177	Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification	
	A	US-6,084,582-A	07-2000	Qureshi et al.	345	302
	B	US-5,548,702-A	08-1996	Li et al.	345	346
	C	US-5,287,266-A	02-1994	Malec et al.	705	1
	D	US- -				
	E	US- -				
	F	US- -				
	G	US- -				
	H	US- -				
	I	US- -				
	J	US- -				
	K	US- -				
	L	US- -				
	M	US- -				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification	
	N	- -					
	O	- -					
	P	- -					
	Q	- -					
	R	- -					
	S	- -					
	T	- -					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
*	U	Hauck, Franz J. "Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web", Fifth International World Wide Web Conference, 6-10 May 1996, downloaded from http://www5conf.inria.fr/fich_html/papers/P30/Overview.html, accessed 30 June 1999.
	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

OIPE JC184 JAN 03 2001 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Torres
Serial No. : 09/144,906
Filed : September 1, 1998
For : AN AUTOMATED BROWSING SYSTEM FOR PUBLISHERS AND USERS ON A NETWORKS SERVING INTERNET AND REMOTE DEVICES

Group Art Unit: 2177
Examiner: L. Wassum

AMENDMENT FEE TRANSMITTAL

RECEIVED
JAN 10 2002
Technology Center 2100

HON. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment for the above-identified application.

[X] No additional fee is required.

[ ] The additional fee has been calculated as shown below:

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Covered by Previous Payments	Present Extra	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims*	64	-	41	=23	8x $9.00	$ 207.00
Independent Claims	7	-	5	=2	2x $42.00	$ 82.00
Multiple Dependent Claim(s)	(If claims added by amendment include Multiple Dependent Claim(s) and there was no Multiple Dependent Claim(s) in application before amendment add $260.00 to additional fee.)					$ .00
					Total:	$ 289.00

[X] Verified Statement of "Small Entity" Status Under 37 CFR § 1.27 filed. Reduced Fees Under 37 CFR § 1.9(f) (50% of total) paid herewith. $_____

[X] A check in the amount of $289.00 is enclosed herewith to cover the claim fees.

* Includes all independent and single dependent claims and all claims referred to in multiple dependent claims. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c).

[ ] Charge $.00 fee to Deposit Account No. 19-2825 . Order No. ___
A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

[X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No.19-2825. Order No. 735-002 .
A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

[ ] ___ Page(s) of substitute Sequence Listing

[ ] ___ Computer disk(s) containing substitute Sequence Listing

[ ] Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.825(b) that the computer and paper copies of the substitute Sequence Listing are the same.

Respectfully submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.

Date: December 18, 2001

Joseph Sofer
Registration No. 34,438

Mailing Address:

SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.
342 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10173
(212) 697-2800
Fax: (212) 697-3004

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A.W.

OIPE JC1 JAN 2001 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant(s): Torres

Group Art Unit: 2177

Serial No.: 09/144,906

Examiner: L. Wassum

Filed: September 1, 1998

For: **AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER**

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JAN 1 0 2002
Technology Center 2100

Commissioner Of Patents and
Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Response to Office Action

Dear Sir:

Applicant submits this Response to the Office Action dated June 18, 2001, along with an Amendment Transmittal form and a Petition for Three-Month Extension of Time to respond. In the above-identified application please enter the following amendments and remarks.

In The Title

Please delete the original title and replace therefor –AN AUTOMATED BROWSING SYSTEM FOR PUBLISHERS AND USERS ON NETWORKS SERVING INTERNET AND REMOTE DEVICES--

C1

In The Specification

At page 1, line 2, after "September 2, 1997", please add –which in turn is based on U.S. Provisional application 60/025,360 filed September 3, 1996, both of which applications are incorporated herein by reference--

C2

01/08/2002 FFANAEIA 00000015 09144906

~~01 FC:217~~		~~460.00 OP~~
02 FC:202		84.00 OP
03 FC:203	2.00 CH	205.00 OP

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Page 00226

In The Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Three Times Amended) A method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement comprising the steps of:

creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources;

C3

without requiring user input, automatically accessing a plurality of said resources each of said resources identified by each of said nodes; and

displaying a content corresponding to each of said resources automatically in accordance with said show structure, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary said duration.

10. (Three Times Amended) A method for displaying in a sequential arrangement on a user's terminal display, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

C4

identifying at least one resource from a plurality of accessible resources via said communications network, wherein each of said resources is associated with a corresponding icon displayed on a first section of said user's terminal;

creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a corresponding resource by recording a sequence of said resources by dragging and dropping said icons on a second section of said user's terminal ;

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without requiring user input, automatically accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes [automatically] in accordance with said show structure;

automatically retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources; and

C4

displaying each of said retrieved contents automatically in accordance with said show structure.

---

22. (Three Times Amended) A method for transmitting in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

performing an on-line search, in response to which a plurality of search results and their corresponding URL resources are received;

automatically creating and storing a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a

C5

resource from a plurality of accessible resources via said communications network wherein said show structure is created in response to said search results received in response to said on-line search;

without requiring user input accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes;

retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources; and

automatically delivering said content to said user for display on said user's computer in accordance with said show structure.

Delete claims 37-39, without prejudice.

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Page 00228

40. (Amended) A method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement comprising the steps of:

creating a multidimensional show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources;

without requiring user input accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes wherein at least two of said nodes are spanned concurrently;

C6

automatically displaying a content corresponding to each of said resources [automatically] in accordance with said show structure, wherein contents of said at least two nodes are displayed during an overlapping time period.

Please add the following new claims:

-- 42. A method for displaying in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

selecting a category from a predefined list of categories;

C7

performing an on-line search related to said selected category, in response to which a plurality of search results and their corresponding URL resources are received;

automatically creating and storing a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources via said communications network wherein said show structure is created in response to said search results received in response to said on-line search;

without requiring user input retrieving each of said resources identified by each of said

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nodes; and

automatically delivering said content to said user for display on said user's computer in accordance with said show structure.

43. The method in accordance with claim 42, wherein prior to said step of automatically delivering the method further comprises the step of filtering the retrieved plurality of said resources to determine which of the retrieved resources are to be displayed.

44. The method in accordance with claim 42, further comprises the step of automatically replacing each of said displayed content to said user with a following retrieved resource, after a specified period of time.

C1

45. The method in accordance with claim 42, further comprising the step of allowing an option to bookmark each of the resources being displayed for later viewing.

46. The method in accordance with claim 42, further comprising the step of allowing an option to bookmark each of the resources being displayed for printing a selected subset of said retrieved resources.

47. The method in accordance with claim 42, wherein each of said retrieved resources is a World Wide Web page.

48. The method in accordance with claim 47, further comprising the step of displaying a

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schedule window, for displaying a set of chosen line-up of show structures and time of their display, each corresponding to one of said categories.

49. A method for transmitting in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

creating a user profile by specifying a plurality of user preferences;

conducting an online search to locate a plurality of of web pages and their associated URL addresses corresponding to said user profile;

without requiring user input retrieving each of said web pages located by said search; and

automatically delivering said content to said user for display on said user's computer in accordance with said show structure.

C7

50. The method in accordance with claim 49, wherein prior to said step of automatically delivering said content the method further comprises the step of filtering the retrieved plurality of said resources to determine which of the retrieved resources are to be displayed.

51. The method in accordance with claim 49, further comprises the step of automatically replacing each of said displayed content to said user with a following retrieved resource, after a specified period of time, wherein said period of time is interactively variable by said user.

52. The method in accordance with claim 49, wherein said step of filtering further comprises the step of reviewing each of said web pages in accordance with a predefined rating

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system.

53. The method in accordance with claim 52, wherein said rating system is MPAA rating system.

54. The method in accordance with claim 49, further comprising the step of censoring each of said retrieved web pages in accordance to a specified censor level.

55. The method in accordance with claim 49, further comprising the step of allowing an option to bookmark each of the resources being displayed for later viewing.

C1

56. The method in accordance with claim 49, further comprising the step of allowing an option to bookmark each of the resources being displayed for printing a selected subset of said retrieved resources.

57. The method in accordance with claim 49, further comprising the step of displaying a schedule window, for displaying a set of chosen line-up of show structures corresponding to one of said categories, and their corresponding display time.

58. An automated content displayer which is used to sequentially present, to a remote user, information content derived from selected websites, comprising:

means for storing at least one list of websites, each website of said at least one list having a corresponding address and an amount of time for which information content from said website

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Page 00232

is to be displayed to said remote user;

means for receiving from said remote user a selection of said list;

means, responsive to said selection of said list, for automatically retrieving information content from the websites in said list, without a user input;

means, for automatically providing the retrieved information content to said remote user;

means, for caching and queuing content from subsequent websites within said list, while a content corresponding to a current website is being displayed; and

a timer for controlling the duration that said information content is displayed to said user in accordance with the stored amount of time and for determining a time for retrieving information content corresponding to a next item in the list, wherein said duration that said information content is displayed is also interactively variable so as to enable a user to vary said duration.

C7

59. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 58, further comprising means to determine whether one of said remote users requesting information is capable of receiving dynamic content.

60. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 58, further comprising means to dynamically modify said stored addresses based on sites skipped by said user before expiration of said timer .

61. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 59, further comprising means for determining a profile of said remote user, when said user is capable of receiving

dynamic content.

62. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 61, further comprising means for transmitting the type of dynamic content sent to said remote user based on said profile of said user.

63. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 60, further comprising means for transmitting advertising content to each one of said users in response to said dynamic modification.

C1

64. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 63, wherein said advertising content is based on preferences of each one of said users.

65. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 58, further comprising means to monitor whether one of said users has selected a new site before expiration of said timer.

66. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 65, further comprising means to determine whether said new site is within said stored list of selected sites.

67. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 66, further comprising a database configured to store decisions made by said user while viewing contents of said sites corresponding to said stored list of selected sites. --

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REMARKS

Applicant submits this Amendment and Remarks in response to an outstanding Office Action dated June 18, 2001, along with a Petition for extension of time. Claims 1- 36, and 40-67 are pending in the application. Claims 42-67 have been newly submitted. No new matter has been added.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-9 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious over Hauck in view of Qureshi. According to the Examiner Hauck teaches a method for displaying content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement, which includes the steps of creating a show structure, accessing a plurality of resources and displaying their corresponding content. According to the Examiner Hauck does not teach the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, enabling a user to vary said duration.

The Examiner has cited Qureshi stating that it teaches a method for providing an interactively variable duration . According to the Examiner it would have been obvious to incorporate a mechanism for adjusting the duration of display for each content.

At the outset, Applicant submits that Qureshi should not be deemed prior art reference under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Qureshi was filed on July 2, 1997 and was issued on July 4, 2000. However the present application is based on a provisional application which was filed on September 3, 1996. The provisional application discloses all the details set forth in claim 1, and as such predates the Qureshi reference. Applicant respectfully requests that for this reason alone, the Examiner's rejection be withdrawn.

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Furthermore, Applicant has amended the claims to clarify their scope. It is noted that this amendment is not provided to distinguish the claim over prior art. It is provided to simply emphasize the inventive aspects, which Applicant believes were present in the claims before this Amendment. Specifically, the claims are now amended to indicate that the contents are automatically accessed without a user input.

Neither Hauck nor Qureshi teach or suggest the invention as claimed. For example, neither of the references teaches an arrangement wherein a plurality of resources are automatically accessed without a need for user input. Hauck specifically states that each page needs to be decorated with a "next (—>)" and "previous (<-----)" arrows to allow the user to click on this arrows to go to the next displayed node of a structure or to a previous displayed node of the structure. This references either alone or in combination do not rise to a level to render the claims prima facie obvious. As such, Applicant resepctfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

With respect to claim 10, the Examiner states that the Li et al. teaches a method for dragging and dropping icons, said icons representative of said resources. Thus, the Examiner states that claim 10 would have been obvious over Hauck in view of Li et al.

Independent claim 10 of the present invention relates to a method for displaying, in a sequential arrangement on a user's terminal display, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources. The method comprises the steps of identifying at least one resource from a plurality of accessible resources via the communications network, wherein each of the resources is associated with a corresponding icon displayed on a first section of said user's terminal. Next, a show structure of nodes is created, wherein each node identifies a corresponding resource by recording a sequence of the resources by dragging and dropping the

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icons on a second section of the user's terminal. Each of the resources identified by each of the nodes is automatically accessed, without any user input, in accordance with the show structure. Upon retrieving a content corresponding to each of the accessed resources, each of the retrieved contents are automatically displayed in accordance with the show structure.

Li et al. discusses an arrangement wherein the target window in a drag and drop operation is scrollable for accomplishing this task in a single operation. However, the traditional purpose for a drag and drop operation is the only issue contemplated in this reference. That is a drag and drop operation is performed to either find an aesthetically more pleasing location for an icon, or it is performed to transfer a file between windows. *See* col. 1, lines 25-29, which states:

> The desired position may simply be for a more aesthically [sic] pleasing arrangement of the interface, or, in the case of a transfer between windows, may represent a transfer of data between applications or data files.

Thus, none of the references cited by the Examiner teach or suggest the present invention as recited in claim 10. For instance, neither of the references teach or suggest the creation of a show structure of nodes whereby a user drops and drags an icon corresponding to a resource from a first section of a user's terminal to a second section of the user's terminal. Specifically, the present invention, in accordance with this embodiment, provides a system wherein a first section of a user's terminal comprises a list of nodes corresponding to resources. The user may then create a show structure of nodes by selectively dragging and dropping these icons to a second section of the user's terminal. Once the show structure is created on the second section of the user's terminal, the resources corresponding to the selected icons are retrieved and displayed to the user, without any user input.

This arrangement provides a convenient way to create a show structure of nodes

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from a plurality of available resources, without the need to write a particular program code such as those cited in the prior art. The additional advantage of this arrangement is its flexibility. The user can now pick and choose, modify, add and remove various resources conveniently and without having any knowledge in programming. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection, and the rejection of all claims that depend on claim 10, be withdrawn by the Examiner.

With respect to claim 22, the Examiner states that the claimed creation of a show structure in response to a search request is obvious, in view of the Examiner's Official Notice that it was well known in the art to perform a search and to obtain a list of URLs corresponding to Web pages containing content desired by the user. Thus, the Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate an on-line search to obtain desired URLs for use in creation of the show structure, since this is the most efficient method of assembling a list of URLs having content desired by the user for the show.

There is no teaching in prior art to create an automated show structure in response to a search. As is evident by any one who has conducted an on-line search, the process of obtaining a plurality of URLs and thereafter retrieving the contents of each URL, one at a time is very cumbersome and time consuming. The present invention has solved this problem by assembling the list of retrieved URLs into a show structure that retrieves and displays each of the contents corresponding to a URL automatically and without a user input. Such an arrangement has not been taught in the prior art.

As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner provide support for his use of Official Notice pursuant to MPEP § 706.02(a), or withdraw the rejection.

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With respect to claim 40, the Examiner has rejected this claim as being anticipated under 35 USC. § 102 in view of Hauck. According to the Examiner Hauck teaches all the elements set forth in claim 40. Applicant disagrees and requests that the Examiner's rejection be withdrawn.

Hauck does not teach or suggest the present invention as claimed. For example, there is no teaching in Hauck to automatically and without a user input to access and display a sequence of two separate resources simultaneously.

With respect to the remaining claims, which have been newly added, Applicant submits that none of the references cited by the Examiner teach or suggest their inventive aspects.

For example, with respect to claim 42, the method performs an on-line search based on a predefined category. This feature is shown in Fig. 7, and the corresponding description, wherein the user can configure a search associated with a list of preset categories, to create a show structure based on the result of the search.

Similarly, claim 48 relates to an arrangement wherein a user profile can be created and associated web pages can be searched based on the user profile.

Claim 49 relates to the system wherein a server provides a selection of compiled lists for viewing by the user, without the user input. It also calls for means to cache subsequent pages, while the current page is being viewed. The user has the option of interactively varying the speed of the automatic display of the contents corresponding to each site in a list.

Claim 49 should be deemed allowable by the Examiner, in view of the absence of any reference in the prior art that discloses or suggests an automatic display of content without any user input, interactive ability to control the speed of display, and queuing subsequent pages,

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while the current content is being viewed.

In the Office Action, with respect to claim 37, which also called for an arrangement to cache and queue subsequent pages while the current page is being viewed, the Examiner took Official Notice stating that caching arrangements are well known in the art. However, the caching arrangement in prior art browsers relate to the feature wherein contents of a page is cached in a local computer after the page has been downloaded, so that a later request to download the same page causes the stored copy to be retrieved locally, rather than performing a remote access. As such Applicant requests that the Examiner provide support for the Official Notice under MPEP 706.02(a) or withdraw the rejection.

In view of the aforementioned amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all claims currently pending in the above identified application are now in condition for allowance, the earliest possible notice of which is earnestly solicited. If in the Examiner's opinion the prosecution of the present application would be advanced by a telephone interview, he is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

Dated: December 18, 2001

By: _____

Joseph Sofer (Reg. No. 34,438)
SOFER & HAROUN, LLP
342 Madison Avenue, Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173
(212)697-2800; Fax(212)697-3004

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Patents

Doc. 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant(s):Torres

Group Art Unit: 2177

Serial No.: 09/144,906

Examiner: L. Wassum

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JAN 10 2002
Technology Center 2100

Filed: September 1, 1998

For: AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

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Commissioner Of Patents and
Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Response to Office Action

Dear Sir:

Applicant submits these replacement pages to accompany the amendment in response to the Office Action dated June 18, 2001 filed herewith.

AMENDMENT

REPLACEMENT PAGES



Replacement pages

I claim:

1. A method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement comprising the steps of:

creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources;

without requiring user input, automatically accessing a plurality of said resources each of said resources identified by each of said nodes; and

displaying a content corresponding to each of said resources automatically in accordance with said show structure, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary said duration.

2. The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

3. The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said step of accessing further comprises the step of executing an application file residing in the user's computer.

4. The method in accordance with claim 3 further comprising the step of generating a data file resulting from said executing step.

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Replacement pages

5. The method in accordance with claim 4 further comprising the step of storing said data file for each resource accessed.

6. The method in accordance with claim 5, further comprises the step of retrieving each of said data files.

7. The method in accordance with claim 6 wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of reformatting said data files in accordance with a predetermined arrangement.

8. The method in accordance with claim 7 further comprising the step of displaying control buttons for controlling the display of said data files.

9. The method in accordance with claim 8 further comprising the step of receiving control button commands for pausing said display of said data files, and for reversing the sequence of said display of said data files and for fast forwarding said display of said data files.

10. A method for displaying in a sequential arrangement on a user's terminal display, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

identifying at least one resource from a plurality of accessible resources via said

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communications network, wherein each of said resources is associated with a corresponding icon displayed on a first section of said user's terminal;

creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a corresponding resource by recording a sequence of said resources by dragging and dropping said icons on a second section of said user's terminal ;

without requiring user input, automatically accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes in accordance with said show structure;

automatically retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources; and

displaying each of said retrieved contents automatically in accordance with said show structure.

11. The method in accordance with claim 10, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

12. The method in accordance with claim 10, wherein said step of accessing further comprises the step of downloading a file from a server residing within said communications network.

13. The method in accordance with claim 12 further comprising the step of receiving a dynamic content from a predetermined server.

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Replacement pages

14. The method in accordance with claim 13 further comprising the step of displaying a persistent content window for receiving said dynamic content within said persistent content window.

15. The method in accordance with claim 13 further comprising the step of inserting resource identifiers interspersed within said show structure relating to said dynamic content.

16. The method in accordance with claim 15 wherein said dynamic content is an advertising message.

17. The method in accordance with claim 15 further comprising the step of providing said dynamic content in accordance with said user's profile.

18. The method in accordance with claim 17 further comprising the step of storing said content for each resource accessed.

19. The method in accordance with claim 18 wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of reformatting said content in accordance with a predetermined arrangement.

20. The method in accordance with claim 18 further comprising the step of

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displaying control buttons for controlling the display of said contents.

21. The method in accordance with claim 20 further comprising the step of receiving control button commands for pausing said display of said content, and for reversing the said display of said content and for fast forwarding said display of said content.

22. A method for transmitting in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

performing an on-line search, in response to which a plurality of search results and their corresponding URL resources are received;

automatically creating and storing a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources via said communications network wherein said show structure is created in response to said search results received in response to said on-line search;

without requiring user input accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes;

retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources; and

automatically delivering said content to said user for display on said user's computer in accordance with said show structure.

23. The method in accordance with claim 22, wherein said step of storing

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further comprises the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

24. The method in accordance with claim 22, wherein said step of accessing further comprises the step of downloading a file from a server residing within said communications network.

25. The method in accordance with claim 24 further comprising the step of transmitting to said user a dynamic content.

26. The method in accordance with claim 25 further comprising the step of formatting said dynamic content for displaying within a persistent content window on said user's terminal.

27. The method in accordance with claim 26 further comprising the step of inserting resource identifiers interspersed within said show structure relating to said dynamic content.

28. The method in accordance with claim 27 wherein said dynamic content is an advertising message.

29. The method in accordance with claim 28 further comprising the step of

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providing said dynamic content in accordance with said user's profile.

30. The method in accordance with claim 29 further comprising the step of storing said content for each resource accessed.

31. The method in accordance with claim 30 wherein said step of delivering further comprises the step of reformatting said content in accordance with a predetermined arrangement.

32. The method in accordance with claim 31 further comprising the step of transmitting information to said user for displaying control buttons for controlling the display of said contents.

33. The method in accordance with claim 32 further comprising the step of receiving control button commands for pausing said display of said content, and for reversing the said display of said content and for fast forwarding said display of said content.

34. The method in accordance with claim 32 further comprising the step of monitoring said user's instructions corresponding to interruption of said show structure within said duration.

35. The method in accordance with claim 32 further comprising the step of

inserting advertisement displays between display of said contents corresponding to each of said nodes.

36. The method in accordance with claim 35 further comprising the step of selecting said advertisement displays based on said users' profiles.

40. A method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement comprising the steps of:

creating a multidimensional show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources;

without requiring user input accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes wherein at least two of said nodes are spanned concurrently;

automatically displaying a content corresponding to each of said resources in accordance with said show structure, wherein contents of said at least two nodes are displayed during an overlapping time period.

41. The method in accordance with claim 40 further comprising the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to each of said resources is being displayed.

42. A method for displaying in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method

Replacement pages

comprising the steps of:

selecting a category from a predefined list of categories;

performing an on-line search related to said selected category, in response to which a plurality of search results and their corresponding URL resources are received;

automatically creating and storing a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources via said communications network wherein said show structure is created in response to said search results received in response to said on-line search;

without requiring user input retrieving each of said resources identified by each of said nodes; and

automatically delivering said content to said user for display on said user's computer in accordance with said show structure.

43. The method in accordance with claim 42, wherein prior to said step of automatically delivering the method further comprises the step of filtering the retrieved plurality of said resources to determine which of the retrieved resources are to be displayed.

44. The method in accordance with claim 42, further comprises the step of automatically replacing each of said displayed content to said user with a following retrieved resource, after a specified period of time.

45. The method in accordance with claim 42, further comprising the step of

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allowing an option to bookmark each of the resources being displayed for later viewing.

46. The method in accordance with claim 42, further comprising the step of allowing an option to bookmark each of the resources being displayed for printing a selected subset of said retrieved resources.

47. The method in accordance with claim 42, wherein each of said retrieved resources is a World Wide Web page.

48. The method in accordance with claim 47, further comprising the step of displaying a schedule window, for displaying a set of chosen line-up of show structures and time of their display, each corresponding to one of said categories.

49. A method for transmitting in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

creating a user profile by specifying a plurality of user preferences;

conducting an online search to locate a plurality of of web pages and their associated URL addresses corresponding to said user profile;

without requiring user input retrieving each of said web pages located by said search; and

automatically delivering said content to said user for display on said user's computer in accordance with said show structure.

Replacement pages

50. The method in accordance with claim 49, wherein prior to said step of automatically delivering said content the method further comprises the step of filtering the retrieved plurality of said resources to determine which of the retrieved resources are to be displayed.

51. The method in accordance with claim 49, further comprises the step of automatically replacing each of said displayed content to said user with a following retrieved resource, after a specified period of time, wherein said period of time is interactively variable by said user.

52. The method in accordance with claim 49, wherein said step of filtering further comprises the step of reviewing each of said web pages in accordance with a predefined rating system.

53. The method in accordance with claim 52, wherein said rating system is MPAA rating system.

54. The method in accordance with claim 49, further comprising the step of censoring each of said retrieved web pages in accordance to a specified censor level.

55. The method in accordance with claim 49, further comprising the step of allowing an option to bookmark each of the resources being displayed for later viewing.

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Replacement pages

56. The method in accordance with claim 49, further comprising the step of allowing an option to bookmark each of the resources being displayed for printing a selected subset of said retrieved resources.

57. The method in accordance with claim 49, further comprising the step of displaying a schedule window, for displaying a set of chosen line-up of show structures corresponding to one of said categories, and their corresponding display time.

58. An automated content displayer which is used to sequentially present, to a remote user, information content derived from selected websites, comprising:

means for storing at least one list of websites, each website of said at least one list having a corresponding address and an amount of time for which information content from said website is to be displayed to said remote user;

means for receiving from said remote user a selection of said list;

means, responsive to said selection of said list, for automatically retrieving information content from the websites in said list, without a user input;

means, for automatically providing the retrieved information content to said remote user;

means, for caching and queuing content from subsequent websites within said list, while a content corresponding to a current website is being displayed; and

a timer for controlling the duration that said information content is displayed to said user in accordance with the stored amount of time and for determining a time for retrieving

information content corresponding to a next item in the list, wherein said duration that said information content is displayed is also interactively variable so as to enable a user to vary said duration.

59. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 58, further comprising means to determine whether one of said remote users requesting information is capable of receiving dynamic content.

60. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 58, further comprising means to dynamically modify said stored addresses based on sites skipped by said user before expiration of said timer .

61. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 59, further comprising means for determining a profile of said remote user, when said user is capable of receiving dynamic content.

62. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 61, further comprising means for transmitting the type of dynamic content sent to said remote user based on said profile of said user.

63. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 60, further comprising means for transmitting advertising content to each one of said users in response to

said dynamic modification.

64. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 63, wherein said advertising content is based on preferences of each one of said users.

65. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 58, further comprising means to monitor whether one of said users has selected a new site before expiration of said timer.

66. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 65, further comprising means to determine whether said new site is within said stored list of selected sites.

67. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 66, further comprising a database configured to store decisions made by said user while viewing contents of said sites corresponding to said stored list of selected sites.

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JAN 03 2001
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JAN 10 2002
Technology Center 2100

UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION

FOR

AN AUTOMATED BROWSING SYSTEM FOR PUBLISHERS AND USERS ON NETWORKS SERVING INTERNET AND REMOTE DEVICES

Inventor:

Damon C. Torres

Replacement Page

Related Application

This is a continuation-in part application of a currently pending application serial no. 08/922,063 filed September 2, 1997 which in turn is based on U.S. Provisional Application 60/025360 filed September 3, 1996, both of which applications are incorporated herein by reference.

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Field Of The Invention

This invention relates generally to computer networks, and specifically to a method of sequencing and scheduling web pages, via a suite of software applications.

Background Of The Invention

The worldwide network of computers commonly known as the "Internet" has grown tremendously since the creation of a subset known as the "World Wide Web" (WWW or Web), popularized in 1993. The emergence of the Web, and its accompanying standards enabled users to move beyond traditional on-line data exposure, which required knowledge of protocols and other low-level computer constructs, to a much more filtered and full-featured interface in the form of a "Web Browser." The Web Browser filters out the computer constructs, displaying only pertinent content, such as text, images, animations and sounds, while hiding from the user the computer codes that are used to negotiate access, generate and display this content.

Some of the standards popularized by the web are Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP), Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) and the Uniform Resource Locator (URL). HTTP allows HTML documents, which carry many forms of information, from text and images, to audio and video, to be easily found via a URL from a collection of networks known as the Internet. These networks have public and private files which are accessed via routing tables. The routing tables

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PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

2177
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A.W.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OIPE JC184 JAN 0 3 2002 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Torres

Examiner: L. Wassum

Serial No. : 09/144,906

Group Art Unit: 2177

Filed : September 1, 1998

For : AN AUTOMATED BROWSING SYSTEM FOR PUBLISHERS AND USERS ON A NETWORKS SERVING INTERNET AND REMOTE DEVICES

OIPE JC184 DATE CANCELLED JAN 0 3 2001 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED JAN 1 0 2002 Technology Center 2100

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

HON. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on Form PTO-1449, a copy of which is enclosed, may be deemed to be pertinent to the above-identified application and are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. These references correspond to references cited in a pending Office Action for co-pending application serial no. 08/922,063 filed September 2, 1997, the parent application for this continuation-in part application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items and to independently ascertain their teaching.

1. [ ] For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, an English language translation of that item or a portion thereof or a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is enclosed:
   A:
   B:

2. [ ]For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application.

3. [ ]Any copy of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement was previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in the prior [ ] Continuation, [ ] Divisional or [ ] Continuation-In-Part application under 37 C.F.R. §1.60, U.S. Serial No. _____, filed _____.

4. [ ]No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

[ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application.

[ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application.

01/09/2002 FFANAEIA 00000032 192825 09144906
01 FC:126 180.00 CH

[ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits.

5. [ ] No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below.

6. [X] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance (where there has been no prior final action):

[ ] A check in the amount of $.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee.

[X] Charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 19-2825. Order No. 735-002. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

7. [X] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance, whichever comes first, but before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:

a. one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below; and

b. the attached petition requesting consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement; and

c. the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) which is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.

8. [ ] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

a. [ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(3), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement may render at least one claim unpatentable and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue;

b. [ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(5), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is to be considered in a Continuation application upon abandonment of the instant application and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue.

c. The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.

9. [ ] I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

[ ] I hereby certify that no item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

10. [ ] A check in the amount of $180.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1).

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Page 00259

[X] Charge the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1) to Deposit Account No.19-2825. Order No. 735-002 .
A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

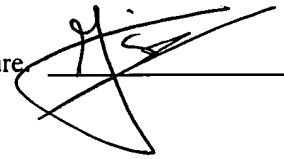
[X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2825, Order No. 735-002 .
A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

By: Joseph Sofer
Registration No. 34,438

Dated: Decmber 18, 2001

Signature: 

Mailing Address:

Joseph Sofer, Esq.
SOFER & HAROUN, LLP
342 Madison Avenue, Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173

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DATE CANCELLED
JAN 03 2001
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JAN 03 2002
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

2177

PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Torres
Serial No. : 09/144,906 Examiner: L. Wassum
Filed : September 1, 1998 Group Art Unit: 2177
For : AN AUTOMATED BROWSING SYSTEM FOR PUBLISHERS AND USERS ON A NETWORKS SERVING INTERNET AND REMOTE DEVICES

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. 1.8a)

RECEIVED
JAN 10 2002
Technology Center 2100

HON. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

I hereby certify that the attached Amendment w/ Replacement Pages, Return Postcard, Amendment Transmittal, Petition for Three Months Extension, Information Disclosure Statement w/ ref., Checks for $289.00 and $460.00 along with any paper(s) referred to as being attached or enclosed and this Certificate of Mailing are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Respectfully submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

By: _____
Greg Antrim

Date: 12/28/01

Mailing Address:

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.
342 Madison Avenue, Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173
Tel:(212) 697-2800
Fax:(212) 697-3004

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DATE CANCELED
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#16
1/14/02
A.W.

PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Torres
Serial No. : 09/144,906
Filed : September 1, 1998 Examiner: L. Wassum
For : AN AUTOMATED BROWSING SYSTEM FOR PUBLISHERS AND USERS ON A NETWORKS SERVING INTERNET AND REMOTE DEVICES

PETITION AND FEE FOR EXTENSION OF TIME (37 C.F.R. §1.136(a))

RECEIVED
JAN 1 0 2002
Technology Center 2100

HON. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
Sir:

1. This is a petition for an extension of time for filing an Amendment

2. The communication in connection with the matter for which this extension is requested

[X] is filed herewith.

[ ] has been filed on _____.

3. [X] Applicant is a small-entity -- verified statement is attached [ ], or has already been filed. [X].

4.

		Total Months Requested	Fee for Other than Small Entity	Fee for Small Entity
a.	[ ]	one month	$110.00	$55.00
b.	[ ]	two months	$400.00	$200.00
c.	[X]	three months	$920.00	$460.00
d.	[ ]	four months	$1440.00	$720.00
e.	[ ]	five months	$1960.00	$980.00

f. [ ] An extension for _____ months has already been secured for filing the above-identified communication and the fee paid therefor of $ _____ is deducted from the total fee due for the total months of extension now requested. The fee for this extension ($ _____), minus the fee previously paid ($ _____) equals $ _____ (total fee due).

5. [X] A check in the amount of $460.00 to cover the extension fee is attached.

6. [ ] Charge $.00 to Deposit Account No. 19-2825 Order No.__ DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

7. [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required by this paper, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2825. Order No. 735-002 A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

01/08/2002 FFANAEIA 00000015 192825 09144906
01 FC:217 460.00 OP
02 FC:202 84.00 OP
03 FC:203 [illegible] OP

Dated: December 18, 2001

Respectfully submitted,
SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P

By: _____
Joseph Sofer
Registration No. 34,438

Mailing Address:
342 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10173
(212) 697-2800;
Fax (212) 697-3004

09/144906

	Type	Hits	Search Text	DBs	Time Stamp	Comments	Error Definition	Errors
1	BRS	11	"slide show" and ((variable or vary) near2 (time or duration or delay))	USPAT	2002/01/28 08:51			0
2	BRS	102	"slide show" and (display$3 near4 (time or duration or delay))	USPAT	2001/06/12 16:26			0
3	BRS	23	"slide show" same (display$3 near4 (time or duration or delay))	USPAT	2001/06/12 17:04			0
4	BRS	8	hauck near franz	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2001/06/13 10:28			0
5	BRS	33	"slide show" and node	USPAT	2001/06/13 11:52			0
6	BRS	17	345/$.ccls. and ((icon$5 with (set$4 or configur$4)) same (drag adj drop))	USPAT	2001/06/13 12:59			0
7	BRS	713	705/$.ccls. and (internet or "world wide web") and (advertisement$1 or ad$1)	USPAT	2001/06/13 13:01			0
8	BRS	1	705/$.ccls. and (internet or "world wide web") and (advertisement$1 or ad$1) and "slide show"	USPAT	2001/06/13 13:03			0
9	BRS	251	705/$.ccls. and (internet or "world wide web") and advertisement$1	USPAT	2001/06/13 13:03			0
10	BRS	0	705/$.ccls. and (internet or "world wide web") and advertisement$1 and "slide show"	USPAT	2001/06/13 13:04			0
11	BRS	2	705/$.ccls. and "slide show" and advertisement$1	USPAT	2001/06/13 13:18			0
12	BRS	19	705/$.ccls. and (target$3 with advertisement$1) same (attribut$3 or profil$4)	USPAT	2001/06/13 13:56			0
13	BRS	0	"slide show" and ((cach$4 with queu$4) with slide)	USPAT	2001/06/13 13:58			0
14	BRS	1	"slide show" and (cach$4 with queu$4)	USPAT	2001/06/13 14:03			0
15	BRS	1	"slide show" and (queu$4 with slide)	USPAT	2001/06/13 14:00			0
16	BRS	66	cach$4 with queu$4 and 345/$.ccls.	USPAT	2001/06/13 15:20			0
17	BRS	8	("6233591" "6182072" "5799292" "6084582" "5806077" "5287266" "5515490" "5760771").pn.	USPAT; US-PGPUB	2002/01/25 15:44			0
18	BRS	1	("6084582").pn.	USPAT; US-PGPUB	2002/01/25 15:45			0
19	BRS	10	("3712723" | "3809467" | "4009331" | "5164839" | "5363482" | "5500936" | "5515490" | "5664087" | "5781186" | "5917480").PN.	USPAT	2002/01/25 16:27			0
20	BRS	20	(slide adj show) same (web or URL$2)	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2002/01/25 16:32			0
21	BRS	10	("5572643" | "5701451" | "5710918" | "5712979" | "5721908" | "5742768" | "5749075" | "5752246" | "5794259" | "5809247").PN.	USPAT	2002/01/25 17:16			0
22	BRS	2	("5363482" | "5640522").PN.	USPAT	2002/01/25 17:22			0
23	BRS	8	("4575579" | "5305195" | "5347632" | "5491820" | "5530852" | "5572643" | "5654886" | "5659729").PN.	USPAT	2002/01/25 17:23			0

	Type	Hits	Search Text	DBs	Time Stamp	Comments	Error Definition	Errors
24	BRS	7	("5014125" | "5508754" | "5589892" | "5606655" | "5640193" | "5649186" | "5655117").PN.	USPAT	2002/01/25 17:27			0
25	BRS	2	("5760838" "6108042").pn.	USPAT; US-PGPUB	2002/01/28 11:02			0
26	BRS	4	((vary or configur$6 or set$6) near2 duration) and (slide adj show)	USPAT; US-PGPUB	2002/01/28 11:04		Truncation overflow.	1
27	BRS	5	((vary or configur$6 or set$5) near2 duration) and (slide adj show)	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2002/01/28 11:40			0
28	BRS	5	((vary or configur$6 or set$5) near2 duration) and (slide adj show)	USPAT; US-PGPUB	2002/01/28 11:40			0
29	BRS	45	powerpoint and ((windows adj "95") or windows95)	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2002/01/28 11:41			0
30	BRS	16	powerpoint and ((windows adj "95") or windows95) and (duration or (amount adj time))	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2002/01/28 11:42			0
31	BRS	144	pointcast	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2002/01/28 14:03			0
32	BRS	54	pointcast and profile	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2002/01/28 15:31			0
33	BRS	7	(pointcast and profile) and MPAA	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2002/01/28 15:32			0
34	BRS	16	(pointcast and profile) and rating	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2002/01/28 15:35			0
35	BRS	8	(pointcast and profile) and censor$3	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2002/01/28 15:35			0

NM.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/144,906	09/01/1998	DAMON C. TORRES	735-002	5334

7590 02/07/2002

JOSEPH SOFER
SOFER & HAROUN
342 MADISON AVENUE
SUITE 1921
NEW YORK, NY 10173

EXAMINER	
WASSUM, LUKE S	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2177	

DATE MAILED: 02/07/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

NM.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/144,906	TORRES, DAMON C.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Luke S. Wassum	2177	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *18 December 2001* .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-36 and 40-67* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-36 and 40-67* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) *15* .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

Google/YouTube Exhibit 1024/1124
Page 00266

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Receipt of Applicant's Amendment, filed 18 December 2001, is acknowledged.

2. As a result of the Amendment, claims 1, 10, 22 and 40 have been amended, claims 37-39 have been cancelled, and new claims 42-67 have been added. Claims 1-36 and 40-67 are now presented for examination.

Priority

3. The Applicant's claim to priority based on parent application number 08/922,063, filed 2 September 1997, and on provisional application 60/025,360, filed 3 September 1996, is acknowledged. A priority date of 3 September 1996 is established for the instant application.

4. As a result, rejections based on **Qureshi et al.** (U.S. Patent 6,084,582), filed 2 July 1997, are withdrawn by the examiner.

Information Disclosure Statement

5. Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement filed 18 December 2001 has been received and considered. See attached form PTO-1449.

Specification

6. In view of the Amendment to the Title of the Invention, the examiner withdraws the pending objection to the Specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 1-15, 34, 40 and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hauck** ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") in view of **Microsoft Press** ("Microsoft PowerPoint Handbook").

9. Regarding claims 1 and 40, **Hauck** teaches a method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement substantially as claimed, comprising the steps of:

a) creating a multidimensional show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources (see 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4; see also Figure 2.1);

b) accessing a plurality of said resources each of said resources identified by each of said nodes (see 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4); and

c) displaying a content corresponding to each of said resources automatically in accordance with said show structure (see discussion of the 'guided tour' in 1.0 Introduction, pages 2-3).

Hauck does not teach a method wherein the step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary said duration.

Microsoft Press, however, teaches a method wherein the step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary said duration (see Slide Sorter View on page 490).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate a mechanism for adjusting the duration of time of display for each content, since allowing a user to modify the duration of the display of a resource provides the ability to customize the display of said resources to the preference of the viewer.

Furthermore, "slide show" type applications (such as Microsoft's PowerPoint) were well known in the art at the time, and slide duration was a well known configuration item for said slide shows.

10. Regarding claim 10, Hauck teaches a method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement substantially as claimed, comprising the steps of:

a) identifying at least one resource from a plurality of accessible resources via said communications network (see 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4);

b) creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources (see 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4; see also Figure 2.1);

c) accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes automatically in accordance with said show structure (see 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4);

d) retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources (see discussion of the 'guided tour' in 1.0 Introduction, pages 2-3); and

e) displaying each of said retrieved contents automatically in accordance with said show structure (see discussion of the 'guided tour' in 1.0 Introduction, pages 2-3).

Hauck does not teach a method wherein the steps of identifying and creating are accomplished through the use of dragging and dropping icons, said icons representative of said resources.

Microsoft Press, however, teaches a method wherein the steps of identifying and creating are accomplished through the use of dragging and dropping icons, said icons representative of said resources (see Reordering Slides in Slide Sorter View, pages 41-43; see also Rearranging Slides in Outline View, pages 282-283).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate a drag and drop interface for use in creating the show structure of nodes, since the use of drag and drop serves to facilitate the manipulation of data items in a very visually intuitive manner, and allows the recording of a display sequence without the need for the user to perform such operations through a more explicitly 'manual' procedure.

Furthermore, "slide show" type applications (such as Microsoft's PowerPoint) were well known in the art at the time, and the "drag and drop" method of reordering slides was well known in such applications at the time of the invention.

11. Regarding claims 2, 11 and 41, **Microsoft Press** teaches a method wherein the step of creating further comprises the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed (see Timing a Slide Show, pages 488-490).

12. Regarding claim 3, **Hauck** teaches a method wherein said step of accessing further comprises the step of executing an application file residing on the user's computer (see discussion of the Perplex server software, sections 3 Implementation and 3.1 The Perplex Server, pages 6-7).

13. Regarding claims 4-6, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of generating, storing and retrieving a data file for each resource from said executing step (see discussion of the tour structures, sections 2 Structuring Web Documents and 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4).

14. Regarding claims 7-9, **Hauck** teaches a method wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of reformatting said data files in accordance with a predetermined arrangement, and displaying control buttons for pausing, reversing and fast forwarding said display (see section 2.2 Decoration, pages 4-5).

15. Regarding claim 12, **Hauck** teaches a method wherein the step of accessing further comprises the step of downloading a file from a server residing within said communications network (see section 3.1 The Perplex Server, page 7).

16. Regarding claim 13, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of receiving a dynamic content from a predetermined server (see section 2.3 Meta Nodes, pages 5-6; see also sections 3.2 The Tour DFS and 3.3 Decoration and Configuration, pages 7-9).

17. Regarding claim 14, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of displaying a persistent content window for receiving said dynamic content within said persistent content window (see section 3.4 Frames, pages 9-10).

18. Regarding claim 15, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of inserting resource identifiers interspersed within said show structure relating to said dynamic content (see section 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4).

19. Regarding claim 34, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of monitoring said user's instructions corresponding to interruption of said show structure within said duration (see discussion of the forward-trace logs, section 3.2 The Tour DFS).

20. Claims 16-21, 35 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hauck** ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") in view of **Microsoft**

Press ("Microsoft PowerPoint Handbook") as applied to claims 1-15, 34, 40 and 41 above, and further in view of **Malec et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,287,266).

21. Regarding claims 16 and 35, **Hauck** and **Microsoft Press** teach a method for displaying on a user's computer substantially as claimed.

Neither **Hauck** nor **Microsoft Press** teaches a method further comprising the step of inserting advertisement displays between display of said contents corresponding to each of said nodes.

Malec et al., however, teaches a method further comprising the step of inserting advertisement displays between display of said contents corresponding to each of said nodes (see col. 2, lines 30-40; see also col. 26, lines 12-31).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to display advertisements between the display of each node, since advertisements would constitute a valuable revenue source for the provider of the show. Furthermore, the display of advertisements over the Internet was well known in the art at the time of the invention.

22. Regarding claims 17 and 36, Malec et al. teaches a method further comprising the step of providing said dynamic content based on said user's profiles (see col. 24, lines 28-45).

23. Regarding claim 18, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of storing a data file for each resource from said executing step (see discussion of the tour structures, sections 2 Structuring Web Documents and 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4).

24. Regarding claims 19-21, **Hauck** teaches a method wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of reformatting said data files in accordance with a predetermined arrangement, and displaying control buttons for pausing, reversing and fast forwarding said display (see section 2.2 Decoration, pages 4-5).

25. Claims 22 and 42-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hauck** ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") in view of **Richardson et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,809,247).

26. Regarding claims 22, 42, 43 and 47, **Hauck** teaches a method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement substantially as claimed, comprising the steps of:

a) creating and storing a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources (see 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4; see also Figure 2.1);

b) accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes automatically in accordance with said show structure (see 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4);

c) retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources (see discussion of the 'guided tour' in 1.0 Introduction, pages 2-3); and

d) delivering said content to said user for display on said user's computer in accordance with said show structure (see discussion of the 'guided tour' in 1.0 Introduction, pages 2-3).

Hauck does not teach a method comprising the step of selecting a category and performing an on-line search, in response to which a plurality of search results and their corresponding URL resources are received.

Richardson et al., however, teaches as prior art a method of selecting a category and performing an on-line search, in response to which a plurality of search results and their corresponding URL resources are received (see coo. 1, lines 10-33).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate an on-line search to obtain desired URLs for use in the creation of the show structure, since there is no other reasonable method of assembling a group of desired URLs for inclusion in a show structure. Performing an on-line search is a fast and efficient method of gathering a list of URLs of interest.

27. Regarding claim 44, **Richardson et al.** additionally teaches a method comprising the step of automatically replacing each of the displayed content to said user with a following retrieved resource, after a specified period of time (see col. 5, lines 27-36).

28. Regarding claims 45 and 46, **Richardson et al.** additionally teaches the use of a browser, such as Netscape (see col. 4, lines 59-64)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to allow an option to bookmark resources being displayed for later viewing or printing, since industry standard web browsers, including Netscape, provide such a capability to bookmark web pages being displayed.

29. Regarding claim 48, **Richardson et al.** additionally teaches a method further comprising the step of displaying a schedule window, for displaying a set of chosen line-up of show structures and time of their display, each corresponding to a category (see col. 7, lines 19-20; see also col. 9, lines 44-54; see also Figure 14).

30. Claims 23-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hauck** ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") in view of **Richardson et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,809,247) as applied to claims 22 and 42-48 above, and further in view of **Microsoft Press** ("Microsoft PowerPoint Handbook").

31. Regarding claim 23, **Hauck** and **Richardson et al.** teach a method for transmitting in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via communications network from a plurality of resources substantially as claimed.

Neither **Hauck** nor **Richardson et al.** teach a method wherein the step of creating further comprises the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

Microsoft Press, however, teaches a method wherein the step of creating further comprises the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed (see Timing a Slide Show, pages 488-490).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide duration information, since incorporating a mechanism for adjusting the duration of time of display for each content would allow a user to modify the duration of the display of a resource provides the ability to customize the display of said resources to the preference of the viewer.

Furthermore, "slide show" type applications (such as Microsoft's PowerPoint) were well known in the art at the time, and slide duration was a well known configuration item for said slide shows.

32. Regarding claim 24, **Hauck** teaches a method wherein the step of accessing further comprises the step of downloading a file from a server residing within said communications network (see section 3.1 The Perplex Server, page 7).

33. Regarding claim 25, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of receiving a dynamic content from a predetermined server (see section 2.3 Meta Nodes, pages 5-6; see also sections 3.2 The Tour DFS and 3.3 Decoration and Configuration, pages 7-9).

34. Regarding claim 26, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of displaying a persistent content window for receiving said dynamic content within said persistent content window (see section 3.4 Frames, pages 9-10).

35. Regarding claim 27, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of inserting resource identifiers interspersed within said show structure relating to said dynamic content (see section 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4).

36. Claims 28-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hauck** ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") in view of **Richardson et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,809,247) in view of **Microsoft Press** ("Microsoft PowerPoint Handbook") as applied to claims 23-27 above, and further in view of **Malec et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,287,266).

37. Regarding claim 28, **Hauck**, **Richardson et al.** and **Microsoft Press** teach a method for displaying on a user's computer substantially as claimed.

None of **Hauck**, **Richardson et al.** nor **Microsoft Press** teaches a method further comprising the step of inserting advertisement displays between display of said contents corresponding to each of said nodes.

Malec et al., however, teaches a method further comprising the step of inserting advertisement displays between display of said contents corresponding to each of said nodes (see col. 2, lines 30-40; see also col. 26, lines 12-31).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to display advertisements between the display of each node, since advertisements would constitute a valuable revenue source for the provider of the show. Furthermore, the display of advertisements over the Internet was well known in the art at the time of the invention.

38. Regarding claim 29, **Malec et al.** teaches a method further comprising the step of providing said dynamic content based on said user's profiles (see col. 24, lines 28-45).

39. Regarding claim 30, **Hauck** teaches a method further comprising the step of storing a data file for each resource from said executing step (see discussion of the tour structures, sections 2 Structuring Web Documents and 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4).

40. Regarding claims 31-33, **Hauck** teaches a method wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of reformatting said data files in accordance with a predetermined arrangement, and displaying control buttons for pausing, reversing and fast forwarding said display (see section 2.2 Decoration, pages 4-5).

41. Claims 49-51 and 55-57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hauck ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") in view of Richardson **et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,809,247) in view of **Reilly et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,740,549).

42. Regarding claims 49 and 50, **Hauck** teaches a method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement substantially as claimed, comprising the steps of:

a) creating and storing a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources (see 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4; see also Figure 2.1);

b) accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes automatically in accordance with said show structure (see 2.1 Tour Structures, pages 3-4);

c) retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources (see discussion of the 'guided tour' in 1.0 Introduction, pages 2-3); and

d) delivering said content to said user for display on said user's computer in accordance with said show structure (see discussion of the 'guided tour' in 1.0 Introduction, pages 2-3).

Hauck does not teach a method comprising the step of selecting a category and performing an on-line search, in response to which a plurality of search results and their corresponding URL resources are received.

Richardson et al., however, teaches as prior art a method of selecting a category and performing an on-line search, in response to which a plurality of search results and their corresponding URL resources are received (see col. 1, Lines 10-33).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate an on-line search to obtain desired URLs for use in the creation of the show structure,

since there is no other reasonable method of assembling a group of desired URLs for inclusion in a show structure. Performing an on-line search is a fast and efficient method of gathering a list of URLs of interest.

Neither **Hauck** nor **Richardson et al.** teaches a method comprising the creation of a user profile by specifying a plurality of user preferences.

Reilly et al., however, teaches a method comprising the creation of a user profile by specifying a plurality of user preferences (see col. 2, lines 47-53).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use a profile indicative of user preferences, since this would facilitate the display of web pages that are of interest to the user.

43. Regarding claim 51, **Richardson et al.** additionally teaches a method comprising the step of automatically replacing each of the displayed content to said user with a following retrieved resource, after a specified period of time (see col. 5, lines 27-36).

44. Regarding claims 55 and 56, **Richardson et al.** additionally teaches the use of a browser, such as Netscape (see col. 4, lines 59-64)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to allow an option to bookmark resources being displayed for later viewing or printing, since industry

standard web browsers, including Netscape, provide such a capability to bookmark web pages being displayed.

45. Regarding claim 57, **Richardson et al.** additionally teaches a method further comprising the step of displaying a schedule window, for displaying a set of chosen line-up of show structures and time of their display, each corresponding to a category (see col. 7, lines 19-20; see also col. 9, lines 44-54; see also Figure 14).

46. Claims 52-54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hauck** ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") in view of **Richardson et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,809,247) in view of **Reilly et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,740,549) as applied to claims 49-51 and 55-57 above, and further in view of **Abecassis** (U.S. Patent 6,289,165).

47. Regarding claims 52-54, **Hauck, Richardson et al.** and **Reilly et al.** teach a method for transmitting in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources substantially as claimed.

None of **Hauck, Richardson et al.** nor **Reilly et al.** teaches a method wherein retrieved content is filtered in accordance with a predefined rating, such as the MPAA rating system, said content being censored in accordance with a censor level.

Abecassis, however, teaches a method wherein content retrieved is filtered in accordance with a predefined rating, such as the MPAA rating system, said content being censored in

accordance with a censor level (see Figure 1D; see also col. 4, lines 5-10; see also col. 7, line 66 through col. 8, line 14; see also col. 8, lines 40-50; see also col. 10, lines 38-62; see also col. 18, lines 5-30).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate MPAA ratings and a filtering/censoring mechanism into the invention, since the easy availability on the Internet of material that may not be appropriate for all people has been a concern since its advent; the ability to filter information based on, for example, MPAA ratings, would allow guardians to ensure that children in their care are not exposed to material that they deem inappropriate.

48. Claims 58, 59, 61, 62, and 65-67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Blonder et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,760,771) in view of **Buchanan et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,515,490).

49. Regarding claim 58, **Blonder et al.** teaches an automated content displayer which is used to sequentially present, to a remote user, information content derived from selected websites substantially as claimed, comprising:

a) means for storing at least one list of websites, each website of said at least one list having a corresponding address (see col. 5, lines 40-42; see also itinerary page in Figure 8a; see also Figure 12, illustrating a list of N web pages belonging to a particular tour);

b) means for receiving from said remote user a selection of said list (see Figures 4, 5 and 7, illustrating choices of different tours; see also discussion of a user's choice of tours, col. 5, line 63 through col. 6, line 45);

c) means, responsive to said selection of said list, for retrieving information content from websites in said list (see discussion of the display of web pages, col. 7, lines 1-29); and

d) means for providing retrieved content to said remote user (see discussion of the display of web pages, col. 7, lines 1-29).

Blonder et al. does not teach an automated content displayer comprising

a) means for storing an amount of time for which information content from said website is to be displayed to said remote user; nor

b) a timer for controlling the duration that said information content is displayed to said user in accordance with the stored amount of time and for determining a time for retrieving information content corresponding to the next item on the list; wherein said duration that said information content is displayed is also interactively variable so as to enable a user to vary said duration.

Buchanan et al., however, teaches an automated content displayer comprising

a) means for storing an amount of time for which information content from said website is to be displayed to said remote user (see col. 19, lines 35-65); nor

b) a timer for controlling the duration that said information content is displayed to said user in accordance with the stored amount of time and for determining a time for retrieving information content corresponding to the next item on the list (see col. 5, lines 38-50), wherein said duration that said information content is displayed is also interactively variable so as to enable a user to vary said duration (see col. 30, lines 1-7).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate temporal functionality, since scheduling the presentation of different information to occur at specific times would serve to convey information more effectively (see col. 1, lines 34-39).

50. Regarding claims 59, 61 and 62, **Buchanan et al.** additionally teaches a means to determine whether one of said remote users requesting information is capable of receiving dynamic content through the use of a profile (see use of environmental specification in making such a determination, col. 2, line 64 through col. 3, line 1).

51. Regarding claims 65-67 **Blonder et al.** additionally teaches a means to monitor whether one of said users has selected a new site before expiration of the timer, determining whether said new site is within said stored list of selected sites, and a database to store decisions made by a user while viewing contents of said sites corresponding to said stored list of selected sites (see col. 9, lines 40-43).

52. Claims 60, 63 and 64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Blonder et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,760,771) in view of **Buchanan et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,515,490) as applied to claims 58, 59, 61, 62, and 65-67 above, and further in view of **Gerace** (U.S. Patent 5,848,396).

53. Regarding claim 60, Blonder et al. and Buchanan et al. teach an automated content displayer substantially as claimed.

Neither **Blonder et al.** nor **Buchanan et al.** teach the displayer further comprising means to dynamically modify said stored addresses based on sites skipped by said user before expiration of said timer.

Gerace, however, teaches the displayer further comprising means to dynamically modify said stored addresses based on sites skipped by said user before expiration of said timer (see discussion of a system for displaying a customized home page to a user based on said user's profile of information viewed and time spent viewing, col. 4, lines 1-29).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to customize content of the automated content displayer based on the viewing habits of the user, since this allows the displayer to present information that is more likely to appeal or interest the user (see col. 2, lines 1-23).

54. Regarding claims 63 and 64, **Gerace** additionally teaches a means for transmitting advertising content to each of the users, said content based on the user profile (see col. 2, lines 30-60; see also col. 4, lines 29-47).

Response to Arguments

55. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-41 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

56. Regarding the Applicant's arguments regarding the automatic aspect of the invention, the examiner respectfully points out that any system exhibiting "slide-show" type functionality necessarily retrieves a plurality of resources automatically without requiring user input, as claimed.

57. The Applicant's arguments regarding claim 37 were not considered, since claim 37 was cancelled by the Amendment.

Conclusion

58. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Gossman et al. (U.S. Patent 6,317,594) teaches a method for exchanging information between a wireless network and an external system.

Greer et al. (U.S. Patent 6,009,429) teaches a system of conducting a guided tour of some portion of the World Wide Web.

Bretschneider et al. (U.S. Patent 6,008,807) teaches a system and method for viewing an electronic slide show presentation.

Straub et al. (U.S. Patent 5,905,492) teaches a graphical user interface with a view port that plays live or locally cached information from the Internet in each of a plurality of categories.

Jennings (U.S. Patent 5,781,186) teaches a new type of message component that allows presentations to be specified in a message.

Portuesi (U.S. Patent 5,774,666) teaches a system and method for displaying a uniform network resource locator embedded in a time-based medium.

Zereski, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent 5,654,886) teaches a system for providing multimedia presentations of outdoor information, such as weather information and ski reports.

Victor et al. (U.S. Patent 5,363,482) teaches a means for defining a slide, means for defining two portals in the slide, means for defining data to be displayed in the second portal, and a means for specifying a function to be performed by the first portal when activated.

Pointcast, Inc. (European Patent Application EP-0,749,081-A1) teaches an information and advertising distribution system.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Luke S. Wassum whose telephone number is 703-305-5706. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-5:30, alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene can be reached on 703-305-9790. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

In addition, INFORMAL or DRAFT communications may be faxed directly to the examiner at 703-746-5658. .

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Luke S. Wassum
Art Unit 2177

lsw
January 28, 2002

JEAN R. HOMERE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 09/144,906	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination TORRES, DAMON C.	
	Examiner Luke S. Wassum	Art Unit 2177	Page 2 of 2

U.S. PATENT DOGUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
	A	US-5,363,482-A	11-1994	Victor et al.	345/804
*	B	US-5,287,266-A	02-1994	Malec et al.	705/1
	C	US-			
	D	US-			
	E	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
	H	US-			
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 09/144,906	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination TORRES, DAMON C.	
	Examiner Luke S. Wassum	Art Unit 2177	Page 1 of 2

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
	A	US-6,317,594-B1	11-2001	Gossman et al.	455/414
	B	US-6,038,367-A	03-2000	Abecassis, Max	386/46
	C	US-6,009,429-A	12-1999	Greer et al.	707/10
	D	US-6,008,807-A	12-1999	Bretschneider et al.	345/732
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	M	US-5,515,490-A	05-1996	Buchanan et al.	707/500.1

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	N	EP-0,749,081-A1	12-1996	EP	Pointcast Inc.	G06F 17/60
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
*	U	Hauck, F. "Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web", Fifth International World Wide Web Conference, 6-10 May 1996.
	V	Microsoft Press, "Microsoft Powerpoint Handbook", Redmond:Microsoft Press, 1992, pp. 30-43, 274-285,479-496.
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
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(71) Applicant: **POINTCAST INC.**
Cupertino, California 95014 (US)

(72) Inventors:
- **Reilly, James P.**
  San Francisco, California 95014 (US)
- **Hassett, Gregory P.**
  Cupertino, California 95014 (US)

(74) Representative: **Cross, Rupert Edward Blount et al**
BOULT WADE TENNANT
27 Furnival Street
London EC4A 1PQ (GB)

(54) Information and advertising distribution system and method

(57) In summary, the present invention is an information and advertising distribution system. A data server stores and updates a database of information items and advertisements. The information items and advertisements are each categorized so that each has an associated information category. Workstations remotely located from the data server each include a display device, a communication interlace for receiving at least a subset of the information items and advertisements in the data server's database and local memory for storing the information items and advertisements received from the data server. An information administrator in each workstation establishes communication with the data server from time to time so as to update the information items and advertisements stored in local memory with at least a subset of the information items and advertisements stored by the data server. An information display controller in each workstation displays on the workstation's display device at least a subset of the information items and advertisements stored in local memory when the workstation meets predefined idleness criteria. At least a subset of the workstations include a profiler for storing subscriber profile data. The subscriber profile data represents subscriber information viewing preferences, indicating information categories for which the subscriber does and does not want to view information items. The information display controller includes a filter for excluding from the informati n items displayed on the display device those information items inconsistent with the subscriber profile data.

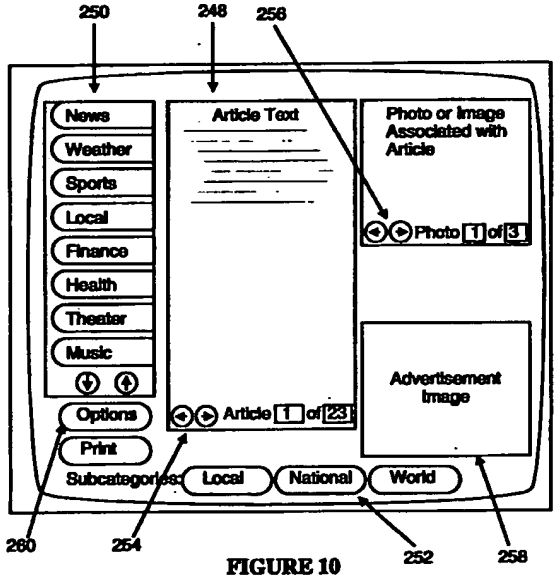


FIGURE 10

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Description

The present invention relates generally to computer based informati n distribution systems, and particularly to a system for distributing to a set of subscribers' computers information matching each subscriber's interests as well as advertising, and for distributing the information and advertising to each subscriber's computer during time periods in which the subscriber's computer is otherwise inactive.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The use of advertising revenues to pay for information dissemination is well established in domains such as television and radio in which end users are tuned to a continuous signal over a lengthy period of time. In such systems, due to the continuous nature of the signal being monitored by the end users, the end users are sufficiently similar to a "captive audience" that many or most end users remain tuned to the same signal even when the main program to which they are listening or viewing is interrupted by advertisements.

Another example of advertising mixed with information dissemination is the use of scrolled text at the bottom of a television of computer screen, where the main program occupies most of the end user's visual field and a smaller portion is occupied by advertisements and the like on a "scroll bar" or similar visual device along the periphery of the screen. In some contexts, such as cable television channels that display a "stock ticker tape," this relationship is reversed: the information portion of the screen occupies a small part of the screen, such as horizontally scrolling image region at the top or bottom of the display and the remainder of the screen is occupied by advertisements, "infomercials" and the like.

Yet another example of mixing advertisements with information dissemination are newspapers and magazines.

Most, and perhaps all such examples of mixing advertisements with information content are based on systems in which the end user has actively elected to view or listen to a program or to otherwise receive information. Furthermore, in virtually all such systems or media, the juxtaposition or placement of advertisements and information content is explicitly programmed or determined by human beings working as "editors" or in a similar content and/or presentation editing capacity.

Up until the present, distributing information via the Internet or other publicly accessible computer communication networks has been largely unsupported by advertising revenues due to the lack of good mechanisms for mixing advertising and information content in such a way as to be acceptable to both end users and advertisers. There are, of course, some exceptions where advertising/content mixtures from other contexts, such as newspapers and television, have been simply replicated on the Internet. For instance, some newspapers have been "published" at least in part on the Internet, and include advertisements along with information content. In fact, some newspapers sell advertising space on an associated World Wide Web (WWW) site, which often includes extensive listings of certain types of advertisements such as real estate advertisements, personal advertisements, and so on. Similarly, the scroll bar type advertis ment at the bottom of a computer screen is based on similar advertising techniques used in cable television and other television contexts.

There are also examples of computer programs which contain advertisements. In all such examples known to the inventors, the advertisements are either permanently embedded in the computer programs or reside permanently with computer programs such that they cannot be easily updated.

Embodiments of the present invention address a problem prevalent in electronic information distribution systems. In particular, "on line" newspapers and magazines are notoriously difficult and tedious to read. Graphics and animation and full motion video, all techniques widely used in television news programs, require substantial data transmission bandwidth. Such data transmission is expensive both in terms of communications bandwidth (capacity) and time. In non-computer publishing such as printed magazines and newspapers, graphics are often used to make reading less difficult and tedious. In television the majority of information is delivered with movement (animation), although graphics are also often used.

The use of large bandwidth data transmissions is not economically practical in the context of data dissemination via the Internet and other computer networks, although the cost of such data transmissions will undoubtedly continue t decrease. As a result, graphics and animation have typically received relatively little use in computer network based information dissemination systems.

Embodiments of the present invention mix advertising and information content dissemination in a manner unlike the examples mentioned above.

Embodiments of the present invention disseminate information and advertisements to subscribers' computers in a system where the information and advertisements are automatically displayed when the subscriber's computer is on but meets predefined idleness criteria. For example, the predefined idleness criteria could be the failure to receive any input for a period of at least five minutes.

Embodiments of the present invention automatically update each subscriber's local database of news stories at least once per day, and preferably multiple times per day so as to present subscribers with timely information.

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Embodiments of the present invention present news stories and advertisements in a dynamic and easy to read manner.

Embodiments of the present invention categorize news stories and advertisements, and to display advertisements associated with each category at the same time that new stories associated with same category are displayed, thereby providing a "targeted" audience for advertisers.

Embodiments of the present invention provide each subscriber with the ability to set up and change a user profile indicating categories and subcategories of topics which are of interest and not of interest to the subscriber, and to select the news stories displayed on the subscriber's computer accordingly.

Embodiments of the present invention divide news stories into at least two portions, a preliminary portion and a secondary portion, where the preliminary portions of news stories are automatically displayed during idle periods, and the secondary portions are displayed only upon subscriber request.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In summary, the present invention is an information and advertising distribution system. A information server stores and updates a database of information items and advertisements. The information items and advertisements are each categorized so that each has an associated information category. Workstations remotely located from the information server each include a display device, a communication interface for receiving at least a subset of the information items and advertisements in the information server's database and local memory for storing the information items and advertisements received from the information server. An information administrator in each workstation establishes communication with the information server from time to time so as to update the information items and advertisements stored in local memory with at least a subset of the information items and advertisements stored by the information server. An information display controller in each workstation displays on the workstation's display device at least a subset of the information items and advertisements stored in local memory when the workstation meets predefined idleness criteria.

At least a some of the workstations include a profiler for storing subscriber profile data. The subscriber profile data represents subscriber information viewing preferences, indicating information categories for which a subscriber associated with the workstation does and does not want to view information items. The information display controller includes a filter for excluding from the information items displayed on the display device those information items inconsistent with the subscriber profile data.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Additional objects and features of embodiments of the invention will be more readily apparent from the following detailed description and appended claims when taken in conjunction with the drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a block diagram of an information and advertising distribution system in accordance with an embodiments of the present invention.

Figure 2 is a block diagram of a subscriber's computer in the information and advertising distribution system of Figure 1.

Figure 3 schematically depicts the procedures and data structures in a set of category managers.

Figure 4 schematically depicts a user profile data structure stored in a subscriber's computer to store status and configuration information for a particular subscriber and workstation.

Figure 5 schematically depicts the dialog box used to define the user profile for one information category.

Figure 6 schematically depicts a display generated on a subscriber's display device using the screen saver procedure in a preferred embodiment of the present invention.

Figures 7A and 7B schematically depicts the dialog box used to define a display script and the resulting data structure.

Figures 8 and 9 schematically depict data structures stored in a subscriber's computer to indicate advertisements and news stories available for display in vari us information categories.

Figure 10 schematically depicts a display generated on a subscriber's display device using a data viewer procedure in a preferred embodiment of the present invention.

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Figure 11 depicts the relationships between various processes in the information server.

Figure 12 is a flow chart depicting the procedure for updating the local database and software modules of a subscriber's computer.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring to Figure 1, there is shown a computer based information and advertising distribution system 100 having many client computers 102 and at least one information server computer 104. Client computers are often called "subscribers' computers" in the present document, and the terms "subscriber computer" and "client computer" will be used synonymously. In many instances, a set of subscribers 102 will be located within a common local area network (LAN) 106, and are connected to a LAN server 108.

In the preferred embodiment, each subscriber's computer 102 is connected to the information server 104 via the Internet 119 for a small fraction of each day. Other forms of electronic communication connections, including private wide area networks similar to CompuServe, America OnLine or Prodigy, can be used to connect subscribers' computers to the information server 104 in alternate embodiments of the invention.

While most client computers are desktop computers, such as IBM compatible computers and Macintosh computers, virtually any type of computer can be a client computer so long as it can support the "screen saver" mode of operation of the preferred embodiment.

Information Server

The information server 104 includes a central processing unit 110, primary memory 112 (i.e., fast random access memory) and secondary memory 114 (typically disk storage), a user interface 116, an Internet interface 118 for communication with the client computers 102 via the Internet 119, and one or more news wire interfaces 120 for receiving news feeds from information transmission services such as the AP news feed, the DOW news feed and various sports news feeds. An information editor 130 is used, typically under the direction of a person using the user interface 116, to select news stories received from the new feeds and to edit and format the news stories into a form suitable to dissemination to subscribers' computers using the present invention. The selected and edited news stories 132 are stored in an information database 134 in the information server 104.

In the preferred embodiment, the information editor 130 is used to assign each news story to an information category and, where appropriate, to also assign the news story to one or more sub-categories. The information editor maintains a list of the currently defined categories and sub-categories. The category list can be updated by the personnel operating the information server, typically to add and delete special new categories associated with major news events such as a famous trial or event which generates many news stories. The category to which each news story is assigned is represented in one or more Data Access Tables 136.

The information editor 130 is also used to divide most news stories into two components or portions: a primary component or portion and a secondary component or portion. The primary component is what is displayed on a subscriber's workstation when the subscriber's workstation is turned on but has been idle, while the secondary component is what is displayed, along with the primary components only upon a subscriber's request. For instance, as will be described below, there are number of ways in which a subscriber can request the display of the "full text" of a news item (which may include photographs and the like). For convenience, the primary component of each news story is sometimes herein called the "headline", even though it will often contain more information than just the headline of the news item, and the secondary component of each news story will sometimes be called the "body."

Advertisements 138 are also stored in the information database 134 and each advertisement is assigned to at least one of the predefined information categories. Each advertisement is displayed on subscribers' workstations simultaneously with news items assigned to the same category as the advertisement. When an advertisement is assigned to multiple categories, it is treated in most respects as several advertisements each assigned to one category, except that only one copy of the advertisement is actually stored.

Next, the information database in the server computer includes a set of images 140 used during the display of news items and advertisements. For instance, different "wallpaper" or background images may be useful when displaying news items in various types of informati n categories. As an example, the images 140 include three fixed images for indicating that the stock market has risen, fallen or stayed largely unchanged. Then, depending on what has happened to the stock market on any particular day, information concerning the amount of change in the stock market during the relevant time period, and sometimes other associated information, is superimposed on a selected one of those fixed images. Other images stored in the information database include various "actors" that can be moved around the display with the news items when the system is in screen saver mode.

The information database 134 also stores a set of "display scripts" 142. A script controls the display of news items and advertisements, typically displaying a s lected number of news items and one advertisement for a period of 30 sec-

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onds. A script determines the number of news items displayed, determines the positions of the news items and advertisement on the display, determines any movement of the news items around the displayed image, and determines what background image r images are displayed in conjunction with the news items.

An important concept associated with the present embodiment is that constantly varying the presentation of news items and advertisements, through the use of a rotating set of scripts, makes it easier for subscribers to read the news headlines and advertisements being presented. In a preferred embodiment, at least two distinct scripts, and preferably three or more distinct scripts are provided for most information categories, with a total of at least ten different scripts being used. Most scripts can be used with multiple categories of news items. The procedure for defining display scripts and the associated data structure are described below with reference to Figure 7A.

The information database 134 also stores software modules 144 for downloading to subscribers' computers. The information administration management procedures and information viewing procedures in subscribers' computers will need updating and upgrading from time to time. The new versions of these software procedures are stored in the information server's information database 134 for downloading into the computers of subscribers at the same time that the information items or advertisements in the subscriber computers' information database 184 is updated. Since numerous types of subscriber computers are supported, the server's information database 134 will typically store a set of updated software modules for each of the supported types of computers.

Finally, the information database 134 includes advertising display statistics 148 and news item display statistics 149. The display statistics are collected from the subscribers' computers when the subscribers' computers call in for updated news stories and the like. Advertising display statistics indicate how many times each advertisement has been displayed on subscribers' computers. In a preferred embodiment, display statistics for each advertisement are divided into a display count for displaying during data viewer usage, a display count for other display instances, and an indication of each advertisement the user has interacted with, such as by "clicking" on the advertisement to connect to the advertiser's World Wide Web page. News item display statistics 149 concern how much time the subscriber spent viewing each non-advertising item in the data viewer as well as the amount of time the screen saver was active for each information category.

Other procedures stored in the information server's secondary memory are a router procedure 150, application server procedures 152, and data server procedures 154. The utility of these procedures is explained below with reference to Figures 8 and 9.

Subscriber's Workstation

Figure 2 is a schematic representation of the subscriber's workstation or computer 102 that is not connected to the information server 104 via a LAN server. For subscribers' workstations connected to the information server 104 via a LAN server 108, Figure 2 is representative of the LAN server, but the display device used by each such subscriber's computer to view news items and advertisements is part of the subscriber's workstation rather than the LAN server 108.

The subscriber workstation 102 includes a central processing unit 170, primary memory 172 (i.e., fast random access memory) and secondary memory 174 (typically disk storage), a user interface 176, and an Internet interface 178 for communication with the information server 104 via the Internet 119. In this document, whenever the phrase "clicking on X" is used, that phrase means a subscriber selecting the X image on a display device by positioning a pointer image over the X image, using the subscriber computer's mouse or trackball device, and then depressing a button or key to indicate selection of the X image.

An administration manager 180 schedules and controls all communications with the information server 104. The administration manager 180 includes a connection scheduler 181 that initiates the execution of a connection manager 182 that handles communications with the information server as well as the integration of information and software procedures received from the information server into the information and software procedures stored in the client computer.

The workstation's secondary memory is used to store a local information database 184 that includes news stories 183, advertisements 188, images 190 and display scripts 192. In each case the workstation's secondary memory stores at least a subset of the corresponding items stored in the information server 104. The amount of information stored in the workstation's secondary memory depends on the amount of secondary memory available for storing such information, as well as a user profile 194 for the subscriber that indicates which categories and subcategories of news stories are of interest to the subscriber.

Data Access Tables 186, which are discussed in more detail below with reference to Figures 5 and 6, are used to access news stories, advertisements and display scripts associated with each of the categories of news items that are to be displayed on the subscriber's workstation.

Screen Saver and Viewer Procedures 200 are a set of procedures for controlling the display of news stories and advertisements. These procedures include a main screen saver procedure 201, category managers 202, an animation engine 204, a profiler 206, a data viewer 208 and an advertisement display statistics generator 210.

Each of the category managers 202 is a collection of programs and data associated with particular information cat-

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egories. In the preferred embodiment there is a separate category manager for each information category, although in some cases it may be more efficient to use the same category manager for two or more information categories.

Referring to Figure 3, each category manager 202 includes a category profiler 202A, a category profile data structure 202B, one or more display drivers 202C for viewing items in the corresponding information category with the data viewer, a sprite generator 202D generating images displayed by the screen saver procedure, and an update manager 202E.

The category profiler in each category presents a category profile dialog to the subscriber to determine the subscriber's interest in receiving information relating to particular subcategories. Subcategories may relate to specific companies, geographic regions, specific sports and sports teams, and so on, depending on the category. The result of the decisions made by the subscriber during the category profile dialog is stored as a category profile data structure.

The update manager in each category handles the process of updating the local information database with new items from the information server for that information category as well as the deletion of all items and the rebuilding of the portion of the data access tables used to control access to the information items, advertisements and display scripts in that information category.

The display drivers in each category manager are customized to generate images specifically needed in the corresponding categories. For instance, in the category manager for the sports category, the display driver includes instructions for generating a simulated scoreboard which is automatically updated every few seconds to show a sequence of game scores or contest outcomes in various sporting events. In another example, the display driver for the weather categ ry includes instructions specifically designed for efficiently displaying weather maps and other weather information.

Referring once again to Figure 2, the animation engine 204 interprets a currently selected display script and controls the display of a selected set of news stories and an advertisement in accordance with the instructions in the currently selected display script.

The profiler 206 is actually a set of procedures that define and update the subscriber's user profile 194. Referring to Figure 4, in the preferred embodiment, the user profile 194 includes:

a subscriber identifier 212;
a connection password 213 used in conjunction with the subscriber identifier when connecting to the information server to identify the calling computer as a registered subscriber;
subscriber hardware and software configuration information 214 that identifies for the information server hardware and software information needed to determine the type of software and image files that are compatible with the subscriber's computer;
a connection schedule 215 that specifies to the connection scheduler 181 within the administrative manager 180 how often the subscriber's computer should connect to the information server 104 to update its information database 184;
category and subcategory preferences information 216 that identifies categories and subcategories of news stories that the subscriber does not want to view, as well as a list of "special categories" of news stories of special interest to the subscriber which override any categories noted as not being of interest to the subscriber;
timestamps 217a - 217c indicating the time of the last updates to the subscriber computer's locally stored set of news stories, advertisements and administrative files (including scripts, images and software modules);
advertising and news item display statistics 218;
screen saver information 219 indicating the last displayed information category and the last displayed advertisement and news items in each information category are stored in a portion of the user profile 194 not transmitted to the information server; and
a screen saver exit mode indicator 220, indicating what actions cause the screen saver procedure to terminate and what actions cause the data viewer 208 to be executed.

The default connection schedule is for the subscriber's computer to initiate a connection to the information server once during the middle of the night (e.g., a randomly selected time between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. local time) for an "administrative update," and once every four hours during the rest of the day for "news story updates." During the administrative update connection, the set of advertisements, scripts and images in the subscriber computer's local information database are updated as necessary, and any software upgrades are also downloaded onto the subscriber's computer. During both "administrative update" and "news story update" connections, the news stories in the subscriber computer's local information database are updated. At the option of the information server's system operator, script and/or software updates can be made during "news story update" connections, especially when a malfunction has been detected in previously distributed scripts or software.

In one preferred embodiment, the profiler 206 can be used t specify a connection schedule other than the default schedule. For instance, if the subscriber's computer is typically turned off at night, the administrative update connection may be scheduled to occur (A) during the subscriber's typical lunch time, or (B) once per day when the subscriber's computer has not received any user input for a specified minimum period of time (e.g., ten minutes) that indicates the

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subscriber is away from his/her computer.

The downloading of advertisements (which are typically images), fixed images used by display scripts, and software modules is preferably performed during the night or long periods of user inactivity because images and software modules are typically much larger than the news items, which are primarily text data. Images, including advertisements, and software modules are compressed using well known data compression techniques to make the download transmissions as time efficient as possible. Even so, downloading images is a time consuming process. For instance, downloading two high resolution advertisement images having pixel sizes of, say, 400 x 300 pixels each, even when using data compression, will typically take over two minutes using conventional 14.4K baud modems. By way of contrast, downloading a dozen news stories and corresponding database base update instructions will typically take less than fifteen seconds of connection time using conventional 14.4K baud modems. Therefore, updating the local database's set of news items can be accomplished relatively unobtrusively even while the subscriber is using his/her workstation, while updates to the advertisements and fixed images in the local database take longer and are therefore more intrusive.

It is noted that the secondary portions of news items can also include images, such as photographs that accompany the text of a news story. The transmission of such news story images can significantly increase the amount of connection time required for news item updates, and thus most news stories in the preferred embodiment do not use images, and every effort is made to transmit those news stories that have images to subscribers' computers during the overnight administrative update rather than during the daytime news item updates.

The data viewer 208 is a program for viewing news items that the subscriber specifically wants to read. The data viewer 208 can be executed at the subscriber's explicit command, and can also be launched from the screen saver if the user indicates he/she wants to read a news story shown in the screen saver display. This is explained in more detail below.

The display statistics generator 210 keeps tracks of how many times each advertisement in the local information database has been displayed since the last time advertisement display statistics have been transferred to the information server. The display statistics generator 210 also keeps track of how many times each news item has been displayed in the same time period. These display statistics are stored in the user profile 194 at 218. In the preferred embodiment, the advertisement display statistics, and news items display statistics, are transferred to the information server once per day during a connection also used to update the subscriber computer's information database. In alternate embodiments, the advertisement display statistics could be transferred more often (e.g., every time the subscriber's computer connects to the information server) or less often (e.g., once per week).

Category Profiler Dialog

As mentioned earlier, each of the category managers includes a profiler procedure for defining the subscriber's interest in receiving news items within each information category. An example of the profile definition dialog generated by a category profiler, for the Sports category, is shown in Figure 5. In this example, the Sports Definition Profile dialog box 222 includes, on the left side, a scroll box 223 in which the user can select and deselect subcategories of sports information by clicking on boxes next to the listed subcategories. A "Select All" button in the dialog box can be used (i.e., by clicking the subscriber computer's mouse or trackball device on the image of the box) to select all subcategories, and a "Deselect All" button can be used to indicate that the subscriber does not want to receive any news items for the Sports category. For each subcategory, either an "include only" or an "exclude" filter (but not both) can be defined where the user types in key words to be used to select (for the include only) or deselect news items within that subcategory. For instance, if the subscriber types in the words "49ers, Rams" in the box for the include only filter for the "football news" subcategory, only news items using either of those words will be shown to the subscriber.

The category manager profile procedure generates a category profile data structure 202B that represents the subcategories of interest to the subscriber as well as any associated filters that have been defined.

Display Script Definition Procedure

Referring to Figure 6, there is shown in outline form a snapshot of typical display generated by the screen saver procedure of the present embodiment. On this particular exemplary display are shown three news story "headlines" 230a-232c and one advertisement image 232. Each of the headlines 230 is an image representing the text of the "primary component " of a news items, as explained above. While the image shown in Figure 6 appears static, in the preferred embodiment the display script that controls the display of the headlines and advertisement can and most often does contain instructions for continuously moving the headline images around the screen.

The display scripts also mix fixed images with the headline images to create varied and interesting displays. In one example of a display script, cartoon characters appear to move the headlines around. In another example of display script, the background behind and surrounding the headlines is a sequence of fixed images such as pictures of peaceful landscapes, while the headlines gently float around the portions of the display not occupied by the advertisement image 232.

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Referring to Figure 7A, the preferred embodiment provides an easy to use dialog 234 for display script definition. A display script consists of definitions for two or more actors, plus an optional definition of a background image, called the wallpaper image. Each "actor" represents a sprite, which is a displayable image, that can move around the screen and whose size can vary dynamically. An new actor is initially defined by selecting the "new actor" command in the Actor menu, as shown in Figure 7A, and then entering a text string (shown in box 235) that specifies (A) the sprite generator procedure to use to generate the image for the actor, (B) the source of the information to be displayed, (C) the nominal width and height of the sprite (e.g., in units of pixels), and (D) any optional parameters that are specific to the specified sprite generator (e.g., a font may be specified for the News information category's sprite generator, whereas a font designation parameter may be meaningless for other ones of the sprite generators).

In the preferred embodiment, the specified sprite generator must be either the static sprite generator that is part of the animation engine 204, or is any specified one of the sprite generators 202D in the category managers 202. In an alternate embodiment, additional sprite generators may be provided by the animation engine 204, such as an animated sprite generator for successively displaying a sequence of images to simulate a motion. The source of information to be displayed is either a static image, in the case of the static sprite generator, or information items in a specified information category. For instance, the parameter "NextHL" in an actor definition indicates that the information to be displayed in the corresponding sprite is the next headline in the information category corresponding to the specified sprite generator for the actor. In another example, the parameter "NextAd" in an actor definition indicates that the information to be displayed in the corresponding sprite is the next advertisement image for the information category corresponding to the specified sprite generator for the actor.

The second stage of defining a sprite is to define its position and size at one second intervals, for 30 seconds in the preferred embodiment. The position of the sprite for a particular time can be defined by either typing in an X,Y, or by s lecting a box representing the sprite with the user interface and then moving it to a position on a simulated display screen 236. The size specification for the sprite at each time is a percentage of the sprite's nominal size (e.g., "size=120" indicates the sprite is to be displayed at 120% of its nominal size). The full definition for a sprite includes thirty X,Y,size tuples for a thirty second screen saver display period. In a typical display script, nor more than one advertisement, three news items and two static images are used because the resulting display will be excessively busy, although the display script definition procedure allows a virtually unlimited number of sprites to be specified.

The data structure 237 representing each display script is shown in Figure 7A: a header specifying the script's name, the number of actors defined in the script, an optional Wallpaper definition, and a list of all static images referenced by the script; plus a set of Actor definition arrays.

The screen save procedures interpret each display script and generate an animated display for 30 seconds based on the script. During display, the image corresponding to each actor is moved and sized in a virtually continuous manner, where the position and size of each sprite is linearly interpolated between the instantaneous position and size specifications for each second. During the display definition process, the sequence X,Y,size parameters for a currently selected actor can be smoothed, to produce more fluid movement and size changes of the actor by selecting the "smooth path" command in the Actor menu.

Referring to Figures 7A and 7B, the person preparing a display script using the display script definition dialog 234 can see the movement and sizing of the actors in the simulated display screen 236 by selecting the simulate command in the File menu, which cause the boxes in the simulated display screen 236 to move and be sized in accordance with the sequence of X,Y,size parameters for each specified actor.

While in the preferred embodiment advertisements are always simultaneously displayed with news items, in other embodiments advertisements and news items could be displayed sequentially. Computer programmers of ordinary skill in the art could modify the script definition dialog of the preferred embodiment, as described above, to define display scripts with sequential display of advertisements and news items.

Screen Saver Procedures

In the preferred embodiment, the screen saver procedures for displaying news items and advertisements are invoked using the same types of criteria as are used by other types of screen saver procedures. Generally, whenever the system detects a lack of user inputs via either keyboard or pointer device (e.g., a mouse or trackball) for a user configurable or otherwise specified length of time (e.g., 5 minutes), the screen saver procedures of the present invention begin the display of news items and advertisements from the local information database. In the preferred embodiment, the screen saver procedures display news items and advertisements for a sequenc of information categories in a sequence of 30 second time slots.

More specifically, under the control of the screen saver procedures, news stories and an advertisement assigned to a first information category are displayed using a first display script for 30 seconds, then news stories and an advertisement assigned to a second information category are displayed using a second display script for the next 30 seconds, and so on until news stories and an advertisement have been displayed in all the information categories indicated in the subscriber's user profile 194 as being of interest to the subscriber, at which point the process repeats with the first infor-

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mation category.

Referring to Figure 8, news stories, advertisements and display scripts are stored in files or similar data structures which have assigned unique file names. Each news story (herein usually called a news item) is usually assigned to a single information category, although nothing in the system of the preferred embodiment would prevent a news story from being assigned to multiple information categories. Advertisements can be assigned to multiple information categories as can display scripts.

As shown in Figures 8 and 9, the advertisements assigned to each information category are organized, through the use of a set of data access tables 186, in a separate linked list so as to create a separate "queue" of advertisements for each information category. Similarly the news items and display scripts assigned to each information category are organized in separate linked lists so as to generate separate queues of news items and display scripts for each information category.

Figure 8 includes an example of an advertisement (A001) assigned to two information categories (News and Sports). This advertisement is stored only once in the workstation's local hard disk, but is included in two of the linked lists of advertisements.

The basic procedure for determining what display script, advertisement and news stories to display during each 30 second time slot is shown in pseudocode form in Table 1.

TABLE 1

Pseudocode Representation of Screen Saver Procedure

```
Store, indication of last information category displayed, and for each
    category an indication of the last advertisement, news story and
    display script used.
Do Until Screen Saver Mode is exited:
    {
    Select next information category (SIC).
    Select next display script (SDS) from queue of display scripts and
        next advertisement (SA) from queue of advertisements for the
        selected information category.
    Inspect selected display script to determine NN, the number of news
        items to be displayed.  Select the NN next news items (SNI)
        from queue of news items for the selected information category.
    Update User Profile to indicate the last selected information
        category, and to indicate for the selected information category,
        the selected display script, advertisement and last selected news
        story.
    Call Animation Engine (SDS, SA, SNI) to display for the next 30
        seconds the selected advertisement (SA) and news items (SNI)
        under the direction of the selected display script (SDS).
    Call Ad Display Statistics Generator to update displayed
        adv rtisement statistics to include th  advertisement displayed
        during current scr en sav r display period.
    }
```

Each time the Screen Saver procedure 201 is invoked, it starts with the next information category after the last one to have been used, and starts with the next advertisement and news stories after the last ones used in that information category. The screen saver status information 219 indicating the last displayed information category and the last displayed advertisement and news items in each information category are stored in a portion of the user profile 194 not transmitted to the information server.

Execution of the Screen Saver procedure 201, like other screen savers, is terminated and the subscriber's computer's display is returned to whatever was being displayed before the Screen Saver was executed, upon detection of certain types of user input. In the preferred embodiment, the user can use the profiler to select one of at least two exit modes: in a first mode, the Screen Saver procedure is terminated by hitting any key on the subscriber computer's user interface keyboard or by moving the user interface's mouse or trackball; in a second mode, the Screen Saver procedure is terminated by hitting any key on the subscriber computer's user interface keyboard, but movement of the mouse or trackball does not cause the Screen Saver procedure to terminate. Rather, in the second screen saver exit mode, the subscriber can use the mouse or trackball to point to any of the news items being displayed and upon clicking one of the mouse or trackball's buttons, the data viewer 208 is executed with the news item selected by the subscriber being displayed.

When using the second screen saver exit mode, if subscriber user clicks on an advertisement, the subscriber's computer is automatically connected to the an associated World Wide Web page on the Internet that provides additional information from the advertiser. This is accomplished by World Wide Web connection and viewer procedures 211 (see Figure 2) stored on subscriber's computer. Each advertisement is stored on both the information server and subscriber computers as a C++ data structure that includes (A) an image data array, typically representing a "GIF" format image, as well as (B) a list of static images (such as corporate logos and legends), if any, incorporated into the advertisement, and (C) a Web site address that is used by the World Wide Web connection and viewer procedures 211 to connect the subscriber to the advertiser's specified Web page when the subscriber clicks on the image of the associated advertisement.

Data Viewer

Referring to Figure 10, the data viewer 208 is a program for viewing news items that the subscriber specifically wants to read. The data viewer 208 can be executed at the subscriber's explicit command, and as just described in the immediately preceding section of this document, the data viewer can also be launched from the screen saver when the subscriber indicates that he/she wants to read a news story shown in the screen saver display by "clicking" the subscriber's computer's mouse or trackball on that news story.

The news stories shown in the center section 248 of the data viewer's display is selected by first selecting an information category by clicking on any of the category buttons 250 on the left margin of the display, and a subcategory button 252, if any, on the bottom margin of the display, and then clicking on the article advance backward and forward buttons 254 to scroll through the news items in the selected information category. When a news item has more than one photo image associated with it, the subscriber can click on the photo advance backward and forward buttons 256 to scroll through the photos.

Each news item displayed in the center section 248 of the data viewer's display includes both the primary and secondary portions of the news item, thereby providing the subscriber in most instances with access to a fuller version of the news item than was shown by the screen saver. In the case of very short news items, the entire news item may be contained in its primary component. Furthermore, in client computers with very limited hard disk space available for storing news items, as indicated by the user profile 194 for the client computer, the secondary component of news items may not be stored in the local information database in order to conserve disk space.

A portion of the data viewer screen is always occupied by an advertisement image 258. The advertisement image shown is selected on the basis of the information category associated with the news item being viewed. In a preferred embodiment, the advertisement shown in the data viewer screen is changed (A) every time the subscriber clicks on a cat gory button 250 so as to select a different information category than the one previously selected, and (B) every 30 seconds when subscriber continues to view news items in a single information category for more than 30 seconds. The advertisements are selected in rotating order among the advertisements assigned to each information category, as described above for the screen saver procedure.

When using the data viewer, if subscriber user clicks on the displayed advertisement, the subscriber's computer is automatically connected t the an associated World Wide Web page on the Internet that provides additional information from the advertiser.

The Options button 260 is used to invoke dialog procedures in which the subscriber specifies general preferences, such as how quickly data scr lls in the scrolling windows, and which mode of screen-saver termination the subscriber prefers.

Connecting the Subscriber's Computer to the Information Server

Referring to Figures 11 and 12, the informati n server is preferably a set of computers interconnected by a local area network that each operate under a multi-tasking, multi-threading operating system such as Microsoft's Windows NT. The information server 104 has multiple "application servers" 272, which are processes run on one or more computers. Each application server 272 preferably has multiple threads, each of which can service one connection with a client computer at any one time.

A primary concern with the architecture of the information server is that the information be able to handle a very large volume of connection requests from client computers. The information server may need to service thousands of connection requests per hour, and thus efficient handling of each connection request is important.

In a preferred embodiment, during each connection of a subscriber computer to the information server, the information server sends a "next recommended download time" to the subscriber computer along with the other information being downloaded onto the subscriber computer. The server computer selects the next recommended download times sent to the various subscriber computers so as to spread their connection requests fairly evenly over time. In an alternate embodiment, connection requests are spread over time by having the subscriber computers randomly select connection times within the general boundaries of a specified schedule of connections (e.g., a randomly selected time anywhere within a half hour, plus or minus, of each scheduled connection time).

When a client computer first initiates a connection to the information server, it sends a first message to the Internet address associated with a router process 270 in the information server. The router selects an application server 272 with at least one available thread and passes back to the client computer an Internet address associated with that application server.

The client computer then sends a portion of its user profile to the assigned application server. If an administrative update is being requested, the locally accumulated advertising display statistics 218 (see Figure 4) are also sent to the application server.

Based on the time of day and the information in the transmitted user profile, the application server determines (A) what type of update is to be performed (i.e., a news item update or an administrative update), and (B) what new information needs to be downloaded to the client computer and what items in the client computer's local information database should be deleted. The application server 272 then makes calls to one or more data servers 274 to collect all the information that needs to be sent to the client computer and then sends those items to the client computer, along with instructions on what items, if any, should be deleted from the client computer's local information database.

The client computer then loads the received information into its local database, and replaces software modules with received software modules, if any. It also deletes the items, if any, specified for deletion by the information server. Finally, it updates its data access tables 186 to incorporate all the changes to the information database so that the client computer is ready to display news items and advertisements in each information category.

A more detailed explanation of the local database update process is provided by a pseudocode representation of that process in Table 2.

In one preferred embodiment, when the "client" that is connected to the information server for an update is itself a local area network server, the client downloads all news items into its local database. In a second preferred embodiment, the client/LAN server generates a group profile that represents the union of all news category and subcategory preferences of the subscribers connected to the client computer, and news items are downloaded into the client's local database based on that union group profile. In either embodiment, the screen saver procedures filter out news items in the LAN server's local information database that are not consistent with each subscriber's user profile, thereby showing each subscriber only the subset of news items corresponding to the subscriber's user profile. In the preferred embodiments, the subscriber level news item filtering is accomplished by setting up the subscriber's data access tables 186 to include only news items corresponding to the subscriber's user profile. In the computers of stand alone subscribers, the filtering of news stories is handled during the data download process, by only downloading news items corresponding to the subscriber's user profile.

The subscriber level news item filtering function is also used to enable the information server to instruct the subscribers' computers to "black out" an advertisement, without deleting it from the local database. For example, a company may want to suspend its advertisements for a few days after a disaster involving the company. The black out function is achieved by simply removing the corresponding advertisement(s) from the advertisement queues in the data access tables. For this purpose, the information server and subscriber computers may temporarily define a "non-use" information category and a corresponding advertisement queue for keeping track of blacked out items.

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TABLE 2

Pseudocode Representation of Database Updat Procedur

```
Connect to Information Server
If Update Type=Administrative  /* i.e., not a news story only update */
    {
    Client sends display statistics to server, and clears display statistics
        upon confirmation that server has successfully received them

    /* Pool Synchronization */
    Server Sends list of items (i.e., advertisement and scripts) that should be
        included in the client's advertisement and script pools
    Client deletes items in its advertisement and script pools that are not
        included in the list received from the Server
    Client determines what items are missing from its advertisement and
        script pools
    Client sends requests to Server for advertisements and scripts
        determined to be missing from local pools
```

```
        Server sends requested items to Client
        Client stores received advertisements and scripts in their r spective disk
            directories
        Client opens all advertisement and script files to determine the static
            images referenced by those files, but not included in the local static
            image pool.
        Client sends requests to Server for static images determined to be
            missing from local pool
        Server sends requested items to Client
        Client stores received static images in their assigned disk directory

        /* Software Module Synchronization */
        Client sends message indicate it is ready for software synchronization,
            including date and time of last administrative update
        Server sends new software modules, if any, based on date and time of
            last administrative update
        }

    For each Category Manager (CMx)
        {
        /*  CMx.Fetch Procedure: */
        Client (CMx.Fetch procedure) sends profile data for CMx to Server,
            including subcategory data and filter data, if any
        Server sends items consistent with profile data
        Client (CMx.Fetch procedure) stores received items in data structures
            and files for that category
        Client (CMx.Fetch procedure) deletes items, in FIFO order, for current
            category which (A) exceed data storage limit in date, (B) exceed
            item count limit, or (C) exceed specified age limit
            /*  Item storage limits 221 for each category are defined in a portion
                of the user profile 194 (see Figure 4)  */
        }

    Client updates data access tables
    Return
```

ALTERNATE EMBODIMENTS AND EXTENSIONS

In an alternate embodiment of the present invention, the server's information database 134 also includes a client

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catalog which lists all subscribers authorized to receive news items and advertisements from the server, including a connection password that is checked whenever the subscriber's computer calls the information server for an update, and status information included the last time that each subscriber's computer received updated news items, advertisements, scripts, and software modules.

In another alternate embodiment, the information server broadcasts information updates to all the subscriber computers, for example by sending an e-mail message or a sequence of e-mail messages containing all news item, advertising, display script and software updates to all the computers of registered subscribers.

Claims

1. An information and advertising distribution system, comprising:

   a data server for storing and updating a database of information items and advertisements, at least a subset of said information items having an associated information category;
   a plurality of workstations remotely located from said data server for use by a corresponding set of subscribers; each workstation including:

      a display device;
      a communication interface for establishing a communication connection with said data server and for receiving at least a subset of said information items and advertisements in said data server's database;
      local memory for storing the information items and advertisements received from said data server;
      an information administrator that establishes communication with said data server from time to time so as to update the information items and advertisements stored in said local memory with at least a subset of said information items and advertisements stored by said data server; and
      an information display controller for displaying on said display device at least a subset of said information items and advertisements stored in said local memory when said workstation meets predefined idleness criteria.

2. The information and advertising distribution system of claim 1, wherein said information display controller also displays said information items and advertisements on said display device upon request by one of said subscribers using said workstation.

3. The information and advertising distribution system of claim 1, wherein

   said data server includes means for receiving new information, for updating said information items stored by said data server with new information items corresponding to said new information and for deleting older ones of said stored information items;
   said information administrator in at least a subset of said workstations includes a scheduler that prompts said information administrator to download said information items from said data server so as to update the information items stored in those workstations' local memory more often than said information administrator downloads said advertisements from said data server so as to update the advertisements stored in those workstations' local memory.

4. The information and advertising distribution system of claim 1, wherein

   at least a subset of said information items stored in said local memory and in said data server each have associated therewith at least one information category selected from a defined set of information categories;
   at least a subset of said workstations include a profiler for storing subscriber profile data, said subscriber profile data including data representing subscriber information viewing preferences for viewing information items associated with various ones of said defined set of information categories; and
   said information display controller includes a filter for excluding from the information items displayed on said display device those of said information items inconsistent with said subscriber information viewing preferences.

5. The informati n and advertising distribution system of claim 1, wherein

   at least a subset of said information items stored in said local memory and in said data server each have associated therewith at least one information category selected from a defined set of information categories;
   at least a subset of said workstations include a profiler for storing subscriber profile data, said subscriber profile

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data including data representing subscriber information viewing preferences for viewing information items associated with various ones of said defined set of information categories; and
said information administrator includes a filter for excluding from the information items stored in said local memory those of said information items inconsistent with said subscriber information viewing preferences.

6. The information and advertising distribution system of claim 1, wherein

at least a subset of said information items stored in said local memory and in said data server each have associated therewith at least one information category selected from a defined set of information categories;
said information display controller displays on said display device, in successive time periods, ones of said information items stored in said local memory associated with successively selected ones of said information categories.

7. The information and advertising distribution system of claim 1, wherein

said local memory of each said workstation stores a plurality of display scripts, each display script for controlling display of at least one information item in conjunction with display of at least one advertisement; and
said information display controller displays on said display device, in successive time periods, said information items stored in said local memory in conjunction with advertisements stored in said local memory, utilizing successive ones of said display scripts stored in said local memory during said successive time periods.

8. The information and advertising distribution system of claim 7, wherein

at least a subset of said information items stored in said local memory and in said data server each have associated therewith at least one information category selected from a defined set of information categories;
at least a subset of said advertisements stored in said local memory and in said data server each have associated therewith at least one information category selected from a defined set of information categories; and
said information display controller displays on said display device, during each of at least a subset of said successive time periods, ones of said information items and advertisements associated with a same one of said defined set of information categories.

9. The information and advertising distribution system of claim 7, wherein

said information items stored in said local memory and in said data server each have associated therewith an information category selected from a defined set of information categories;
said advertisements stored in said local memory and in said data server each have associated therewith at least one information category selected from a defined set of information categories; and
said information display controller displays on said display device, during each said successive time period, at least one of said locally stored advertisements and ones of the locally stored information items associated with a selected one of said defined set of information categories, wherein said selected one of said defined set of information categories changes during successive time periods.

10. The information and advertising distribution system of claim 1, wherein

said data server stores a set of display scripts, each display script for controlling display of at least one information item in conjunction with display of at least one advertisement;
said local memory of each said workstation stores at least a subset of said display scripts;
said information administrator updates the display scripts stored in said local memory with at least a subset of said display scripts stored by said data server; and
said information display controller displays on said display device, in successive time periods, said information items stored in said local memory in conjunction with advertisements stored in said local memory, utilizing successive ones of said display scripts stored in said local memory during said successive time periods.

11. The informati n and advertising distribution system of claim 10, wherein

at least a subset of said information items stored in said local memory and in said data server each have associated therewith at least one information category selected from a defined set of information categories;
at least a subset of said advertisements stored in said local memory and in said data server each have associated therewith at least one information category selected from a defined set of information categories; and

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said information display controller displays on said display device, during each of at least a subset of said successive time periods, ones of said information items and advertisements associated with a same one of said defined set of information categories.

12. The information and advertising distribution system of claim 10, wherein

said information items stored in said local memory and in said data server each have associated therewith an information category selected from a defined set of information categories;
said advertisements stored in said local memory and in said data server each have associated therewith at least one information category selected from a defined set of information categories; and
said information display controller displays on said display device, during each said successive time period, at least one of said locally stored advertisements and ones of the locally stored information items associated with a selected one of said defined set of information categories, wherein said selected one of said defined set of information categories changes during successive time periods.

13. An information and advertising distribution system, comprising:

a data server for storing and updating a database of information items and advertisements, at least a subset of said information items having an associated information category;
a plurality of workstations remotely located from said data server for use by a corresponding set of subscribers; each workstation including:

a display device;
a communication interface for establishing a communication connection with said data server and for receiving at least a subset of said information items and advertisements in said data server's database;
local memory for storing the information items and advertisements received from said data server;
an information administrator that updates the information items and advertisements stored in said local memory from time to time with at least a subset of said information items and advertisements stored by said data server; and
an information display controller for displaying on said display device at least a subset of said information items and advertisements stored in said local memory when said workstation meets predefined idleness criteria.

14. An information and advertising display system, comprising:

a display device;
local memory for storing information items and advertisements;
a plurality of display scripts, each display script for controlling display of at least one information item in conjunction with display of at least one advertisement; and
an information display controller for displaying on said display device at least a subset of said information items and advertisements stored in said local memory when said workstation meets predefined idleness criteria;
wherein said information display controller displays on said display device, in successive time periods, said information items stored in said local memory in conjunction with advertisements stored in said local memory, utilizing successive ones of said display scripts stored in said local memory during said successive time periods.

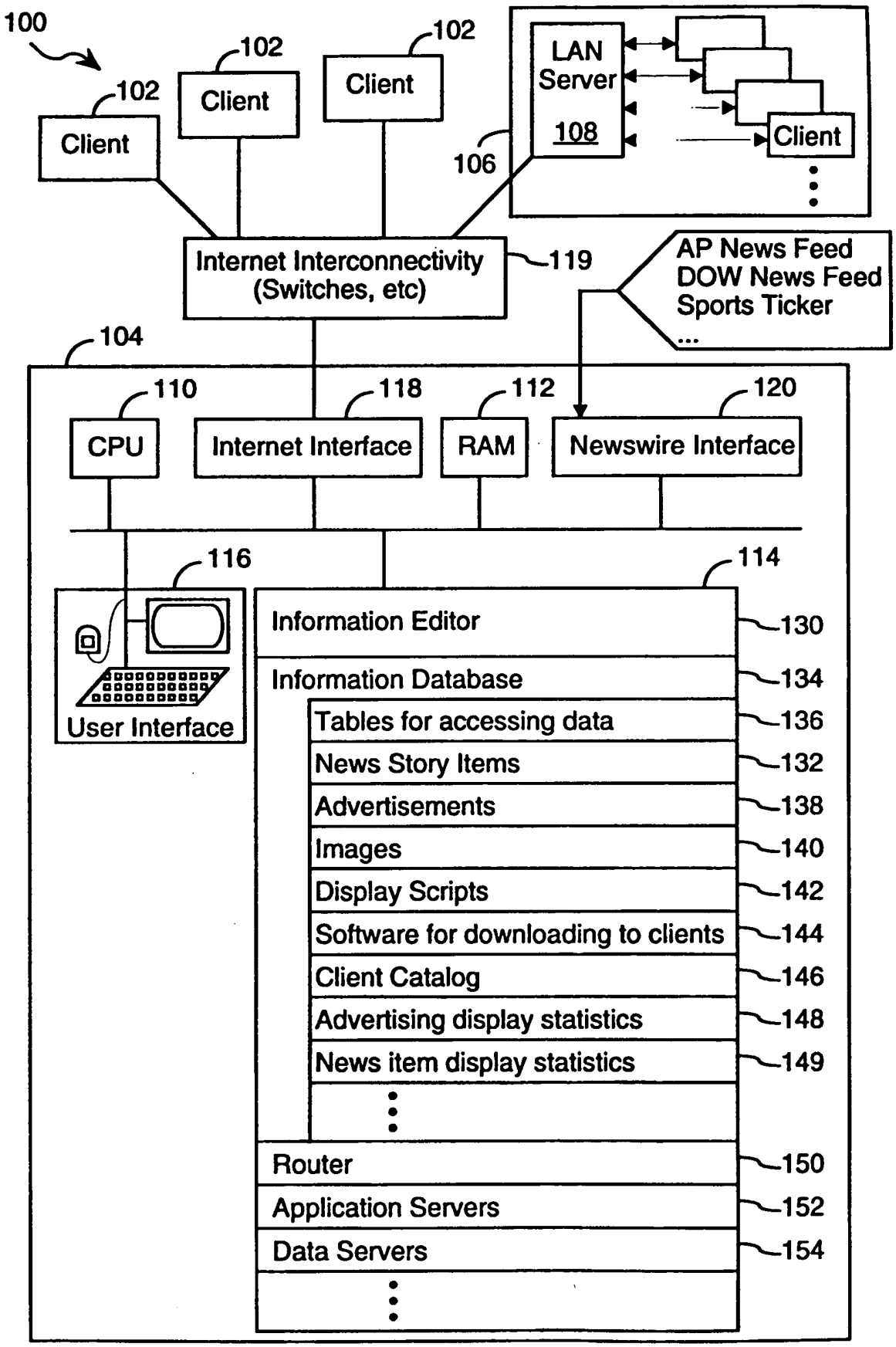

100
102
Client
102
Client
102
Client
Client
LAN
Server
108
106
Client
Internet Interconnectivity
(Switches, etc)
119
AP News Feed
DOW News Feed
Sports Ticker
...
104
110
CPU
118
Internet Interface
112
RAM
120
Newswire Interface
116
User Interface
114
Information Editor
130
Information Database
134
Tables for accessing data
136
News Story Items
132
Advertisements
138
Images
140
Display Scripts
142
Software for downloading to clients
144
Client Catalog
146
Advertising display statistics
148
News item display statistics
149
Router
150
Application Servers
152
Data Servers
154

FIGURE 1

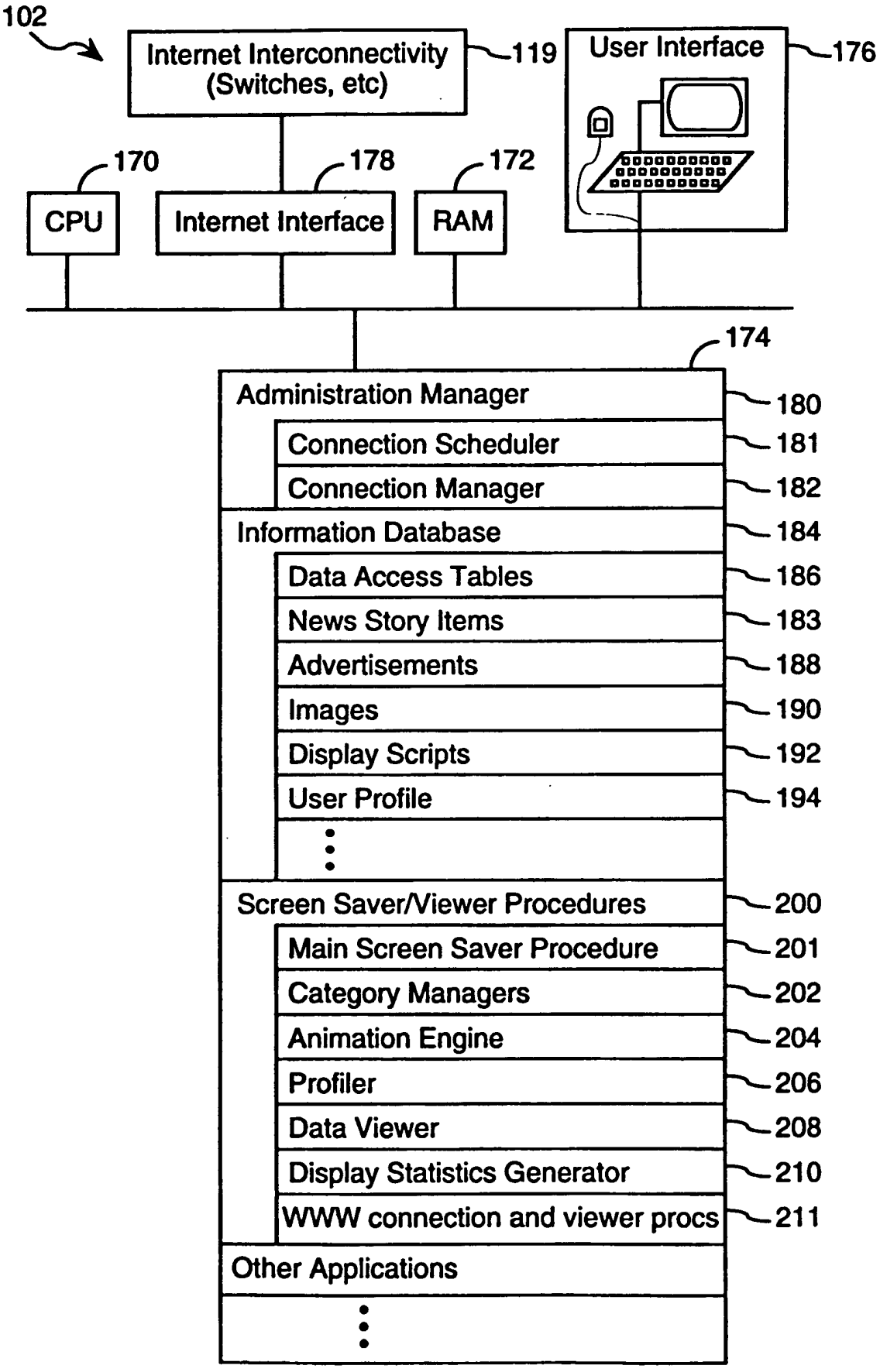

102
Internet Interconnectivity (Switches, etc)
119
User Interface
176
170
178
172
CPU
Internet Interface
RAM
174
Administration Manager
180
Connection Scheduler
181
Connection Manager
182
Information Database
184
Data Access Tables
186
News Story Items
183
Advertisements
188
Images
190
Display Scripts
192
User Profile
194
Screen Saver/Viewer Procedures
200
Main Screen Saver Procedure
201
Category Managers
202
Animation Engine
204
Profiler
206
Data Viewer
208
Display Statistics Generator
210
WWW connection and viewer procs
211
Other Applications

FIGURE 2

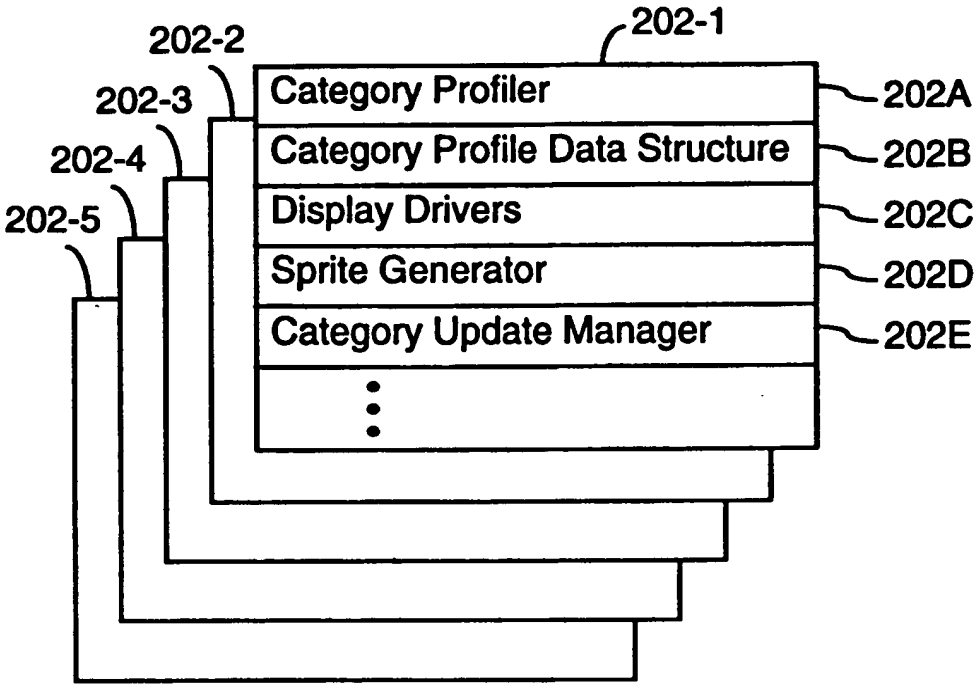


FIGURE 3

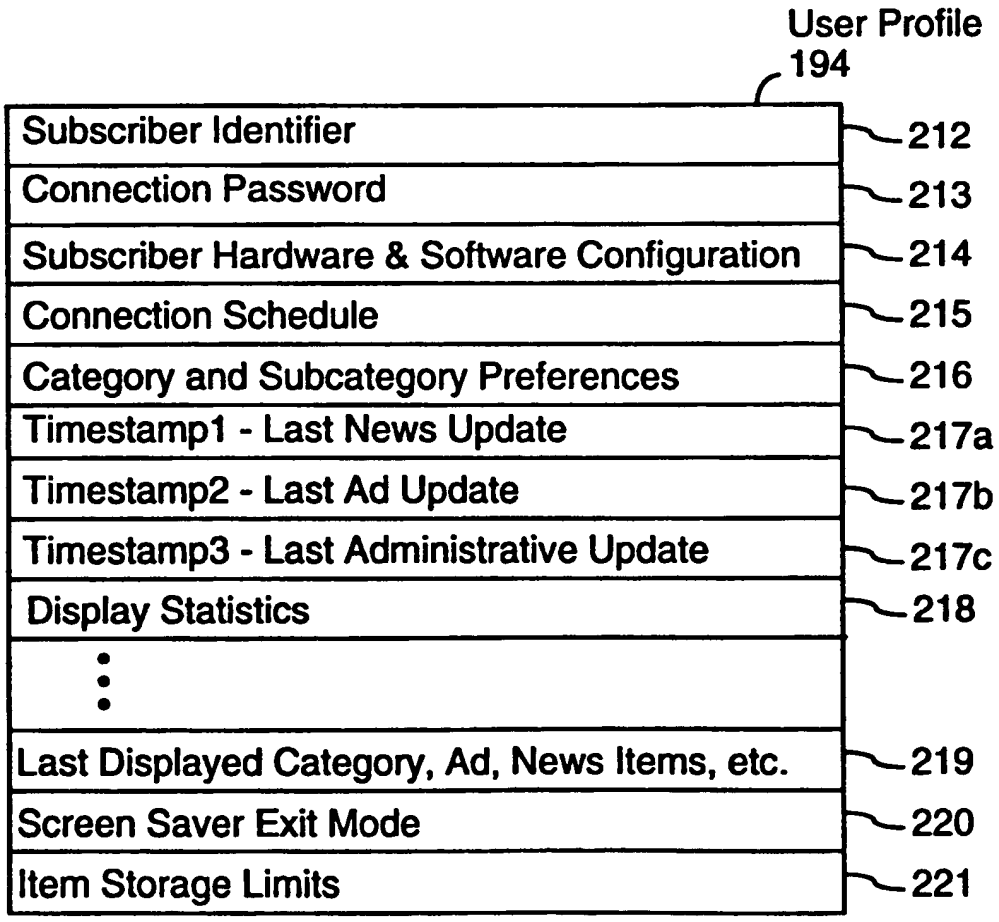


FIGURE 4

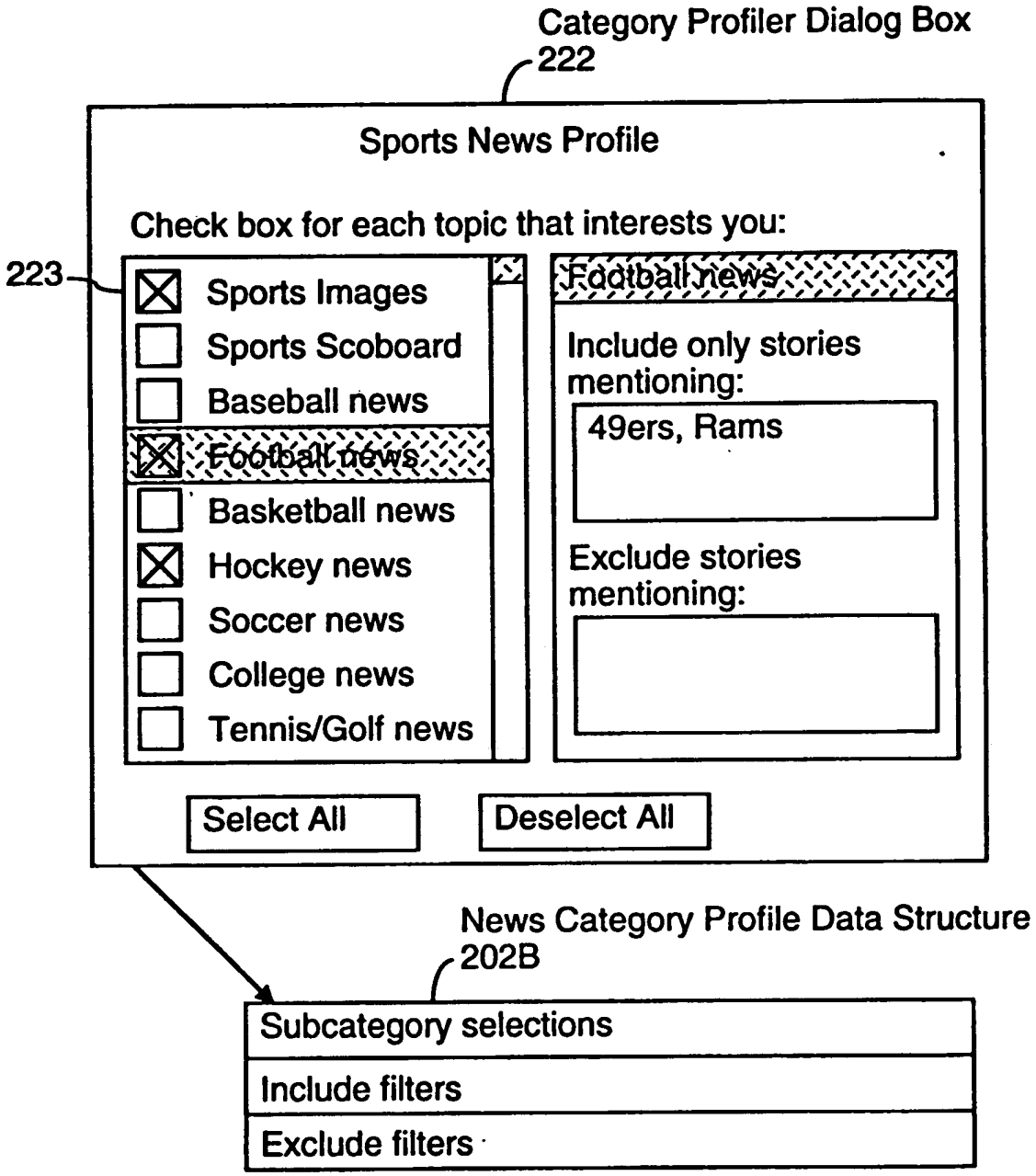

Category Profiler Dialog Box
222
Sports News Profile
Check box for each topic that interests you:
223
Sports Images
Sports Scoboard
Baseball news
Football news
Basketball news
Hockey news
Soccer news
College news
Tennis/Golf news
Football news
Include only stories mentioning:
49ers, Rams
Exclude stories mentioning:
Select All
Deselect All
News Category Profile Data Structure
202B
Subcategory selections
Include filters
Exclude filters

FIGURE 5

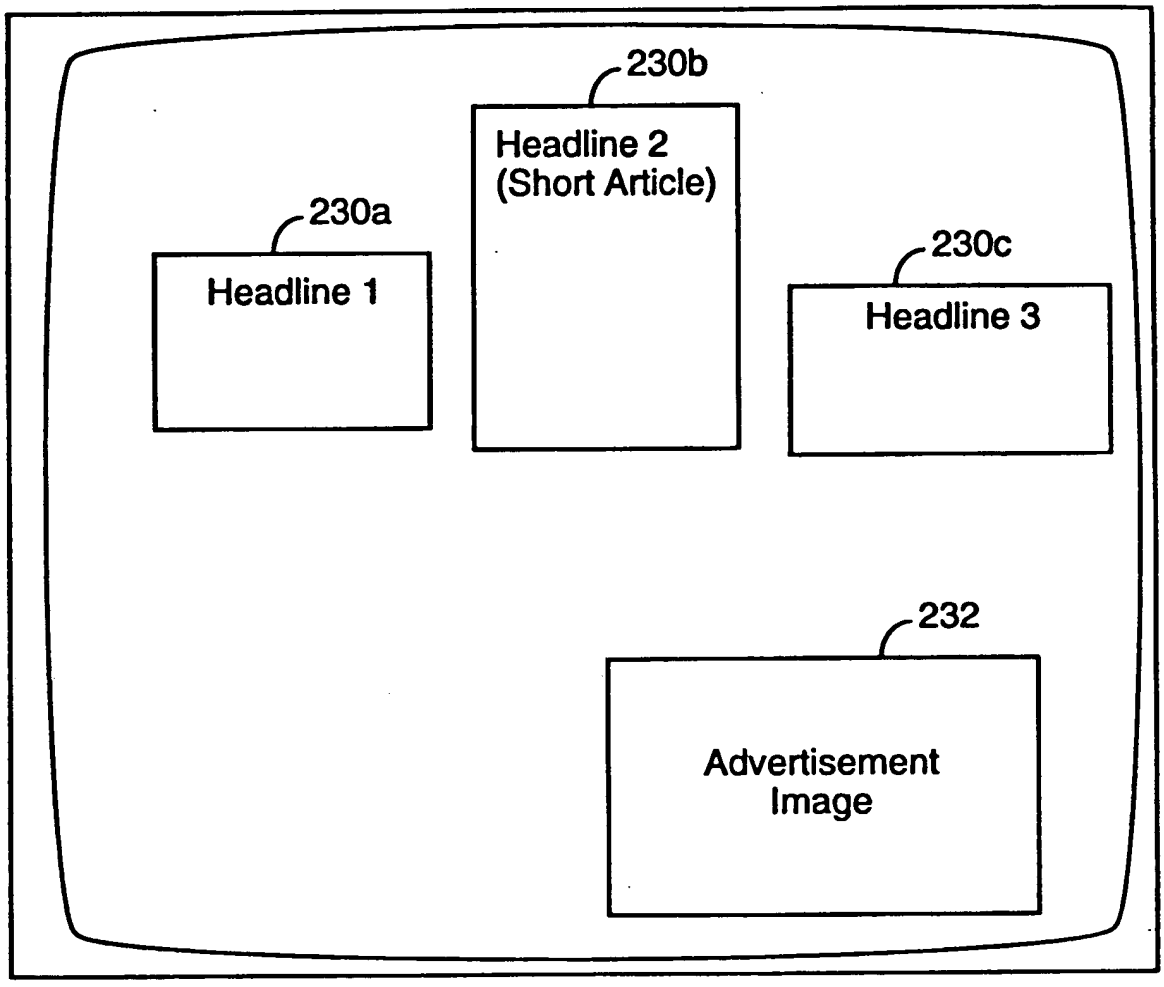

230b
Headline 2
(Short Article)
230a
Headline 1
230c
Headline 3
232
Advertisement
Image

FIGURE 6

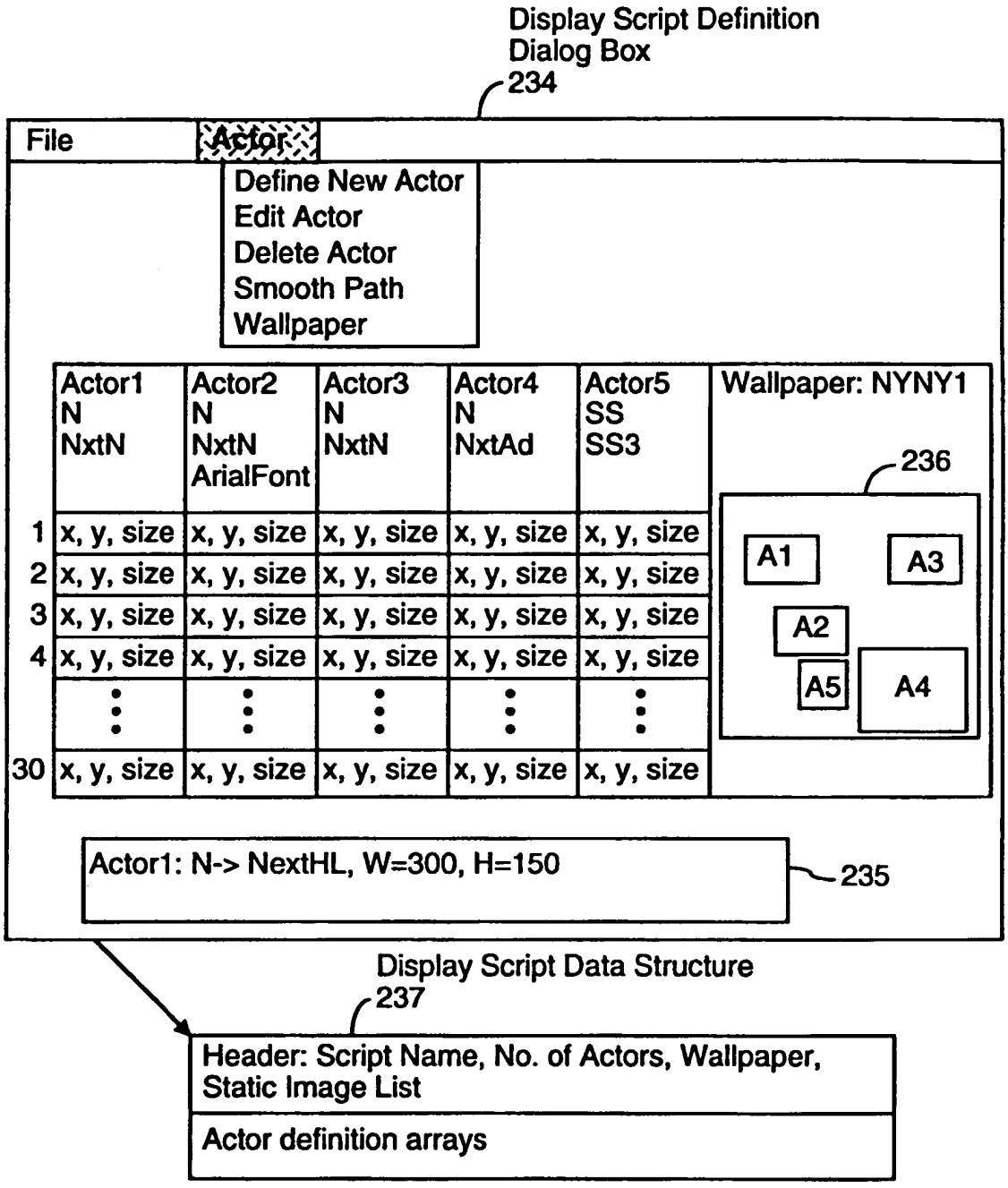


FIGURE 7A

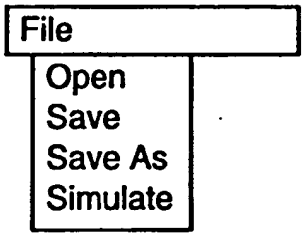


FIGURE 7B

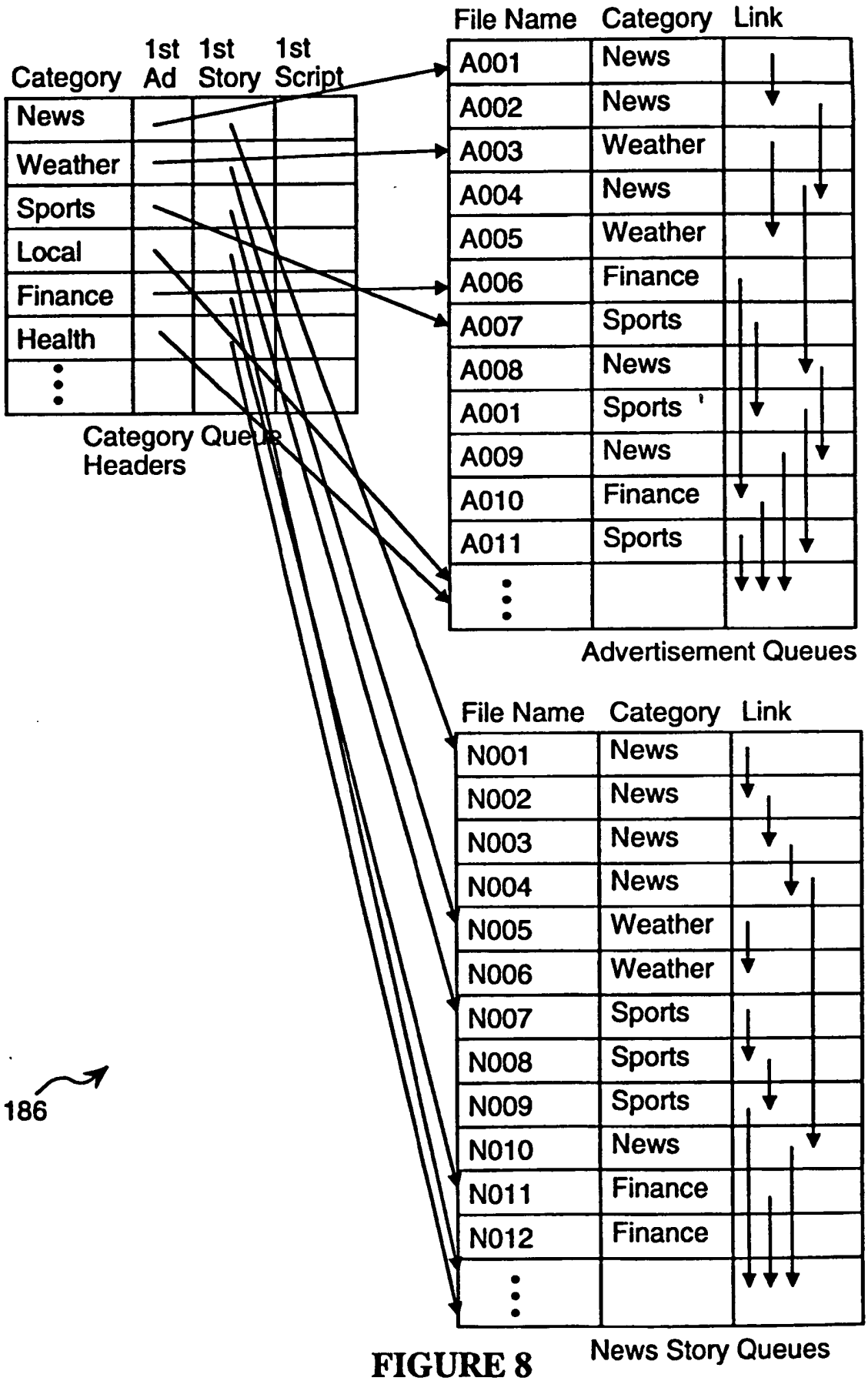

Category
1st Ad
1st Story
1st Script
News
Weather
Sports
Local
Finance
Health
Category Queue Headers
File Name
Category
Link
A001 News
A002 News
A003 Weather
A004 News
A005 Weather
A006 Finance
A007 Sports
A008 News
A001 Sports
A009 News
A010 Finance
A011 Sports
Advertisement Queues
File Name
Category
Link
N001 News
N002 News
N003 News
N004 News
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N006 Weather
N007 Sports
N008 Sports
N009 Sports
N010 News
N011 Finance
N012 Finance
News Story Queues
186

FIGURE 8

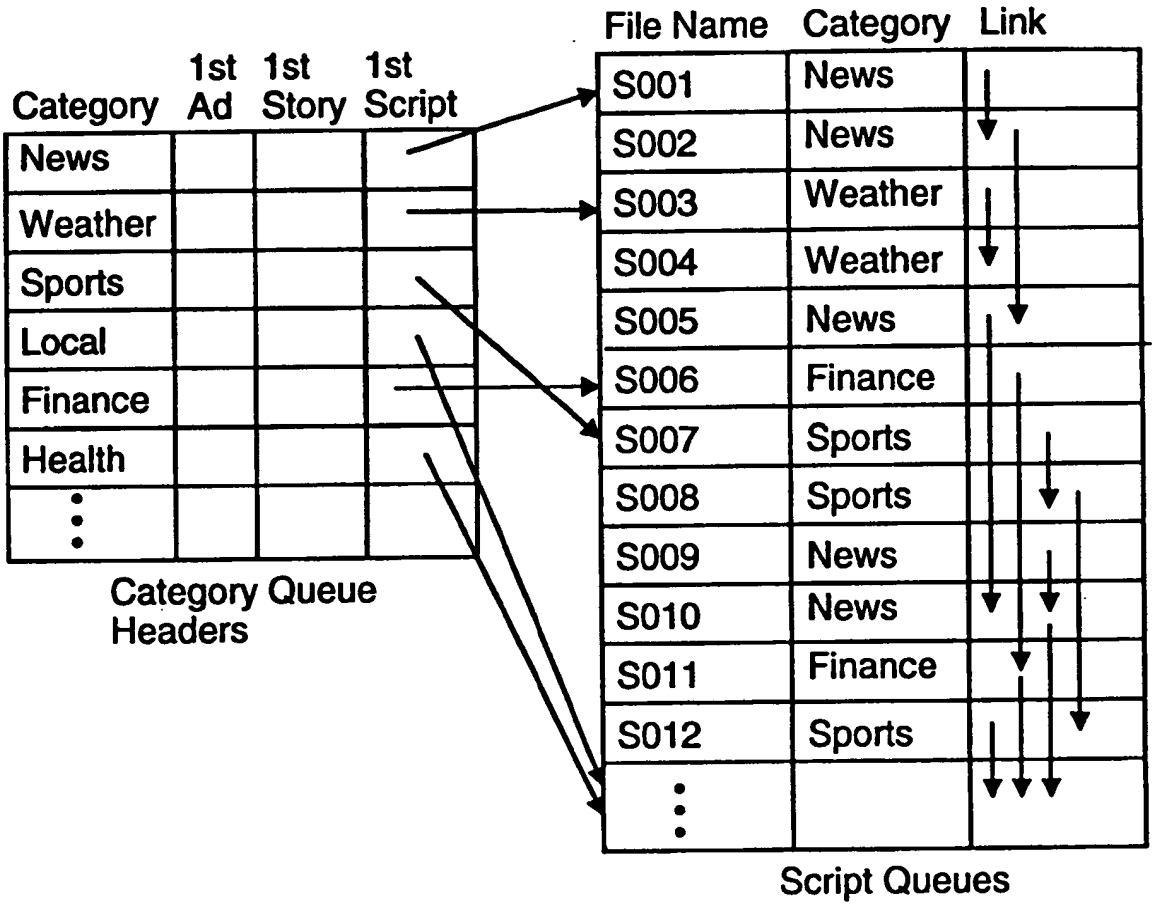

Category
1st Ad
1st Story
1st Script
News
Weather
Sports
Local
Finance
Health
Category Queue Headers
File Name
Category
Link
S001 News
S002 News
S003 Weather
S004 Weather
S005 News
S006 Finance
S007 Sports
S008 Sports
S009 News
S010 News
S011 Finance
S012 Sports
Script Queues

FIGURE 9

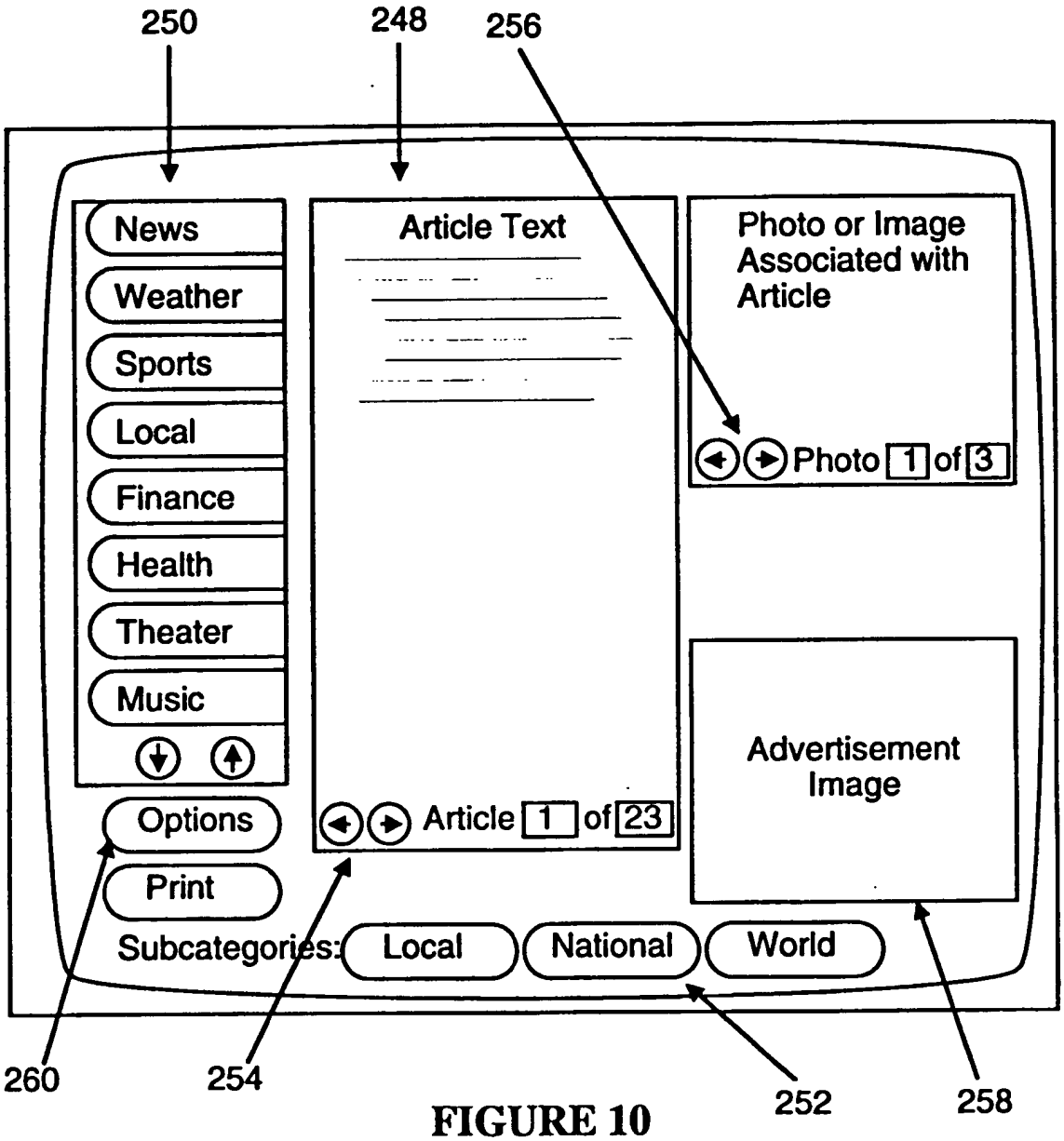

250
248
256
News
Weather
Sports
Local
Finance
Health
Theater
Music
Options
Print
Article Text
Article 1 of 23
Photo or Image Associated with Article
Photo 1 of 3
Advertisement Image
Subcategories:
Local
National
World
260
254
252
258

FIGURE 10

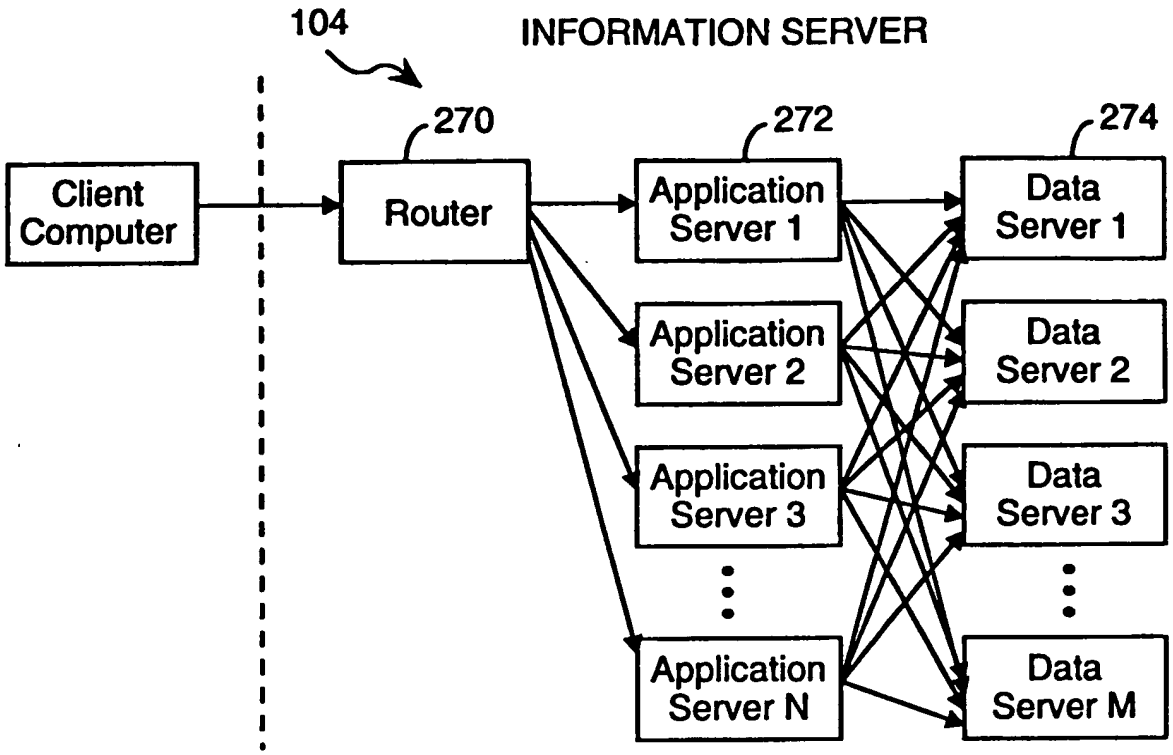


FIGURE 11

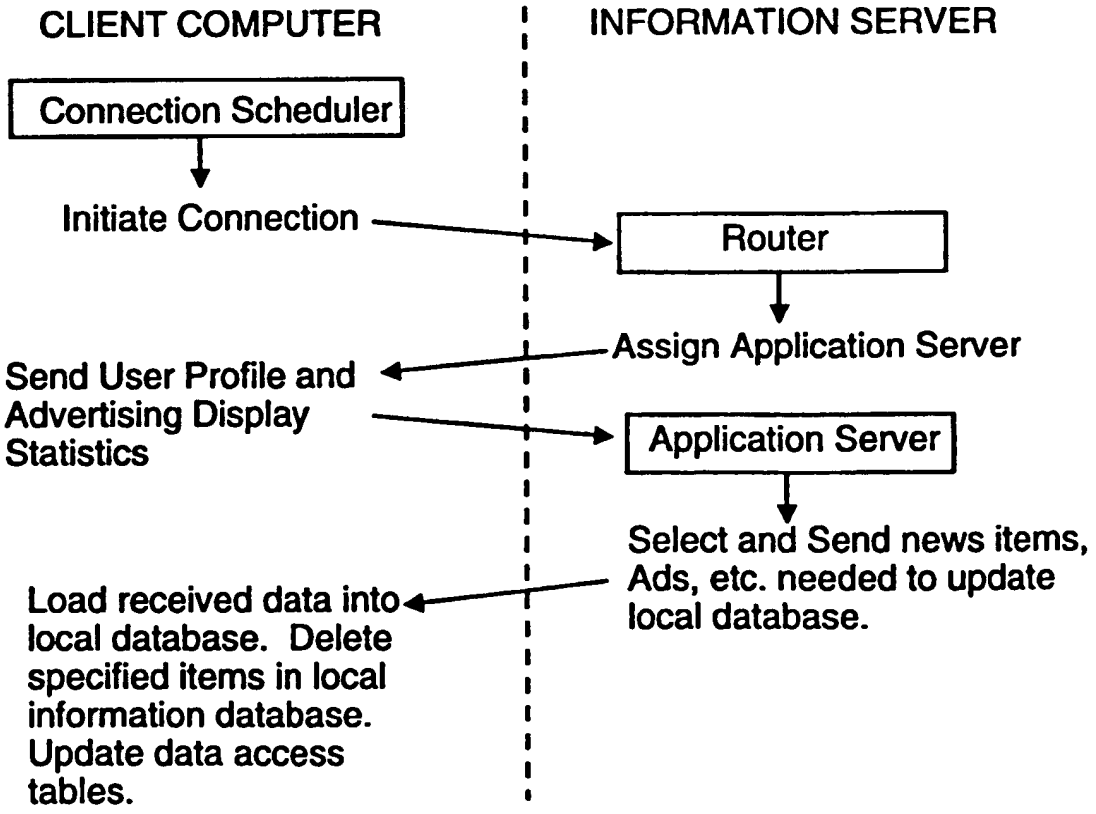


FIGURE 12

European Patent Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 96 30 3727

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	EP-A-0 113 022 (INT STANDARD ELECTRIC CORP ;STANDARD ELEKTRIK LORENZ AG (DE)) 11 July 1984	1,13,14	G06F17/60
Y	* page 2, line 3 - line 16; figure 1 *	4	
A	* page 5, line 23 - page 7, line 6 * * abstract *	2,3	
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 015, no. 476 (E-1140), 4 December 1991 & JP-A-03 204259 (NIPPON TELEGR & TELEPH CORP), 5 September 1991,	1,13,14	
Y	* abstract *	4	
A		2,3	
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 95, no. 2, 31 March 1995 & JP-A-06 314184 (KOKUSAI ELECTRIC CO LTD), 8 November 1994,	14	
A	* abstract *	1,7,8,13	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
X	GB-A-2 281 434 (YAMAHA CORP) 1 March 1995	1-3,13, 14	G06F G09F
Y	* page 6, line 22 - page 11, line 6; figures 1,2 * * abstract *	4,5	
X	WO-A-93 19427 (SINGER GERALD ;MURPHY ARTHUR J (US)) 30 September 1993	1-3	
Y	* page 7, line 12 - page 8, line 16; figure 1 * * abstract *	4,5	

-/--

The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
BERLIN	29 August 1996	Deane, E

CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

X : particularly relevant if taken alone
Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category
A : technological background
O : non-written disclosure
P : intermediate document

T : theory or principle underlying the invention
E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date
D : document cited in the application
L : document cited for other reasons

& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document

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Page 00319

European Patent Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 96 30 3727

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 017, no. 029 (P-1472), 20 January 1993 & JP-A-04 250591 (NEC ENG LTD), 7 September 1992, * abstract *	14	
Y	US-A-5 283 731 (LALONDE JAMES E ET AL) 1 February 1994 * abstract *	4,5	
A	GB-A-2 141 907 (GILMORE MICHAEL) 3 January 1985 * abstract; figure 2 *	14	
Y	DATABASE INSPEC INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, STEVENAGE, GB Inspec No. AN564074, XP002011881 * abstract * & NAUCHO-TEKH. INF. 2, no. 7, 1973, USSR, pages 25-27, ALEKPEROV V.P.: "An adaptation method for SDI"	4	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)

The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
BERLIN	29 August 1996	Deane, E

CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

X : particularly relevant if taken alone
Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category
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O : non-written disclosure
P : intermediate document

T : theory or principle underlying the invention
E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date
D : document cited in the application
L : document cited for other reasons

& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

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OIPE JC184 JAN 0 3 2002 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Rev.2-3) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 735-002	SERIAL NO. 09/144,906
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	APPLICANT Torres	
	FILING DATE September 1, 1998	GROUP 2777

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OIPE JC184 DATE CANCELLED JAN 0 3 2001 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
LSN	6 2 3 3 5 9 1	5/2001	Sherman et al.	707	501	May 6, 1997
	6 1 8 2 0 7 2	1/2001	Leak et al	707	10	Mar. 26, 1997
	5 7 9 9 2 9 2	8/2001	Hekmatpour	706	11	Sep. 25, 1995
	6 0 8 4 5 8 2	7/2000	Qureshi et al.	345	302	Jul. 2, 1997
	5 8 0 6 0 7 7	9/1998	Wecker	707	501	Jan. 15, 1993
	5 2 8 7 2 6 6	2/1994	Malec et al.	364	401	Apr. 12, 1993
	5 5 1 5 4 9 0	5/1996	Buchanan et al	395	154	Nov. 5, 1993
V	5 7 6 0 7 7 1	7/1998	Blonder et al.	345	336	Jul. 2, 1996

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES	TRANSLATION NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

LSN	"*Guided Tours and On-Line Presentation: How Authors make Existing Hypertext Intelligible for Readers*" Catherine C. Marshall and Pessy M. Irish. ACM Hypertext '89 Proceedings p. 15-26 Nov. 1989.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
Luke S Wassum	25 Jan 2002

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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Page 00321

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8/21/02
A.V.

PTO/SB/31 (02-01)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

NOTICE OF APPEAL FROM THE EXAMINER TO THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES	Docket Number (Optional) 735-002

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231" on_____.

Signature_____.

Typed or printed name_____.

In re Application of Torres	
Application Number 09/144,906	Filed 09/01/98
For Automated Internet Content Scheduler and Displayer	
Group Art Unit 2171	Examiner Wassum

Applicant hereby **appeals** to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the last decision of the examiner.

The fee for this Notice of Appeal is (37 CFR 1.17(b)) $320.00.

☒ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Therefore, the fee shown above is reduced by half, and the resulting fee is: $160.00

☐ A check in the amount of the fee is enclosed.

☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

☐ The Commissioner has already been authorized to charge fees in this application to a Deposit Account. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No._____. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

☒ A petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (PTO/SB/22) is enclosed. 3 months

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WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

I am the

☐ applicant/inventor.

☐ assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71. Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96)

☐ attorney or agent of record.

☒ attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34(a). Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34(a) 34,348.

Signature

Joseph SOfer, Esq.
Typed or printed name

8/7/02
Date

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below*.

☐ *Total of _____ forms are submitted.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

08/16/2002 CNGUYEN 00000021 09144906
01 FC:219 160.00 OP

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AUG 15 2002
JC48
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

AF/2700

PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Torres
Serial No. : 09/144,906
Filed : September 1, 1998 Group Art Unit: 2781
For : AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. 1.8a)

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HON. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

I hereby certify that the attached Notice to Appeal, Petition for Three Months Extension of Time, two Checks for $160.00 and $460.00, and Return Postcard along with any paper(s) referred to as being attached or enclosed and this Certificate of Mailing are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Respectfully submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

By: _____
Ester Aronova

Date: 8/07/02

Mailing Address:

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.
317 Madison Avenue, Suite 910
New York, New York 10017
Tel:(212) 697-2800
Fax:(212) 697-3004

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#19 8/20/02 A.W.

PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Torres
Serial No. : 09/144,906
Filed : September 1, 1998
For : AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DIPSLAYER

PETITION AND FEE FOR EXTENSION OF TIME (37 C.F.R. §1.136(a))

HON. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
Sir:

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1. This is a petition for an extension of time for filing an Appeal

2. The communication in connection with the matter for which this extension is requested

[X] is filed herewith.

[ ] has been filed on _____.

3. [X] Applicant is a small-entity -- verified statement is attached [ ], or has already been filed. [X].

4.

		Total Months Requested	Fee for Other than Small Entity	Fee for Small Entity
a.	[ ]	one month	$110.00	$55.00
b.	[ ]	two months	$380.00	$190.00
c.	[X]	three months	$920.00	$460.00
d.	[ ]	four months	$1360.00	$680.00
e.	[ ]	five months	$1850.00	$925.00

f. [ ] An extension for _____ months has already been secured for filing the above-identified communication and the fee paid therefor of $ _____ is deducted from the total fee due for the total months of extension now requested. The fee for this extension ($ _____), minus the fee previously paid ($ _____) equals $ _____ (total fee due).

5. [X] A check in the amount of $460.00 to cover the extension fee is attached.

6. [ ] Charge $.00 to Deposit Account No. 19-2825 Order No.__ DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

7. [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required by this paper, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2825. Order No. 735-002 A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

08/16/2002 CNGUYEN 00000021 09144906
02 FC:217 460.00 OP

Respectfully submitted,
SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P

Dated: August 7, 2002

By: _____
Joseph Sofer
Registration No. 34,438

Mailing Address:
317 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10017
(212) 697-2800;
Fax (212) 697-3004

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/144,906	09/01/1998	DAMON C. TORRES	735-002	5334

7590 08/23/2002

JOSEPH SOFER
SOFER & HAROUN
342 MADISON AVENUE
SUITE 1921
NEW YORK, NY 10173

EXAMINER	
WASSUM, LUKE S	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2177	

DATE MAILED: 08/23/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

Advisory Action	Application No. 09/144,906	Applicant(s) TORRES, DAMON C.	
	Examiner Luke S. Wassum	Art Unit 2177	

--The MAILING DATE of this communication app ars on the cover she t with th correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 07 August 2002 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.

b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.
ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1.☒ A Notice of Appeal was filed on 07 August 2002. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.

2.☐ The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:

(a) ☐ they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);

(b) ☐ they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);

(c) ☐ they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or

(d) ☐ they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____.

3.☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.

4.☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

5.☐ The a)☐ affidavit, b)☐ exhibit, or c)☐ request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: _____.

6.☐ The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.

7.☒ For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a)☐ will not be entered or b)☒ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____.

Claim(s) objected to: _____.

Claim(s) rejected: 1-36 and 40-67.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

JEAN R. HOMERE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

8.☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is a)☐ approved or b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

9.☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s)(PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.

10.☐ Other: _____

Luke S. Wassum

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Page 00326

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PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)	:	Torres
Serial No.	:	09/144,906
Filed	:	September 1, 1998
For	:	AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

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Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

I hereby certify that the attached a copy of the Appeal Brief with references (in triplicate) Petition for Five- Month Extension of Time, two Checks for $985 and $160, and Return Postcard along with any paper(s) referred to as being attached or enclosed and this Certificate of Mailing are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Respectfully submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

By: _____
Greg Antrim

Date: 3/7/03

Mailing Address:

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.
317 Madison Avenue, Suite 910
New York, New York 10017
Tel:(212) 697-2800
Fax:(212) 697-3004

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PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)	:	Torres
Serial No.	:	09/144,906
Filed	:	September 1, 1998
For	:	AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

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Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

I hereby certify that the attached a copy of the Appeal Brief with references (in triplicate) Petition for Five- Month Extension of Time, two Checks for $985 and $160, and Return Postcard along with any paper(s) referred to as being attached or enclosed and this Certificate of Mailing are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Respectfully submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

By: _____
Greg Antrim

Date: 3/7/03

Mailing Address:

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317 Madison Avenue, Suite 910
New York, New York 10017
Tel:(212) 697-2800
Fax:(212) 697-3004

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Damon C. Torres

Group Art Unit: 2177

Serial No.: 09/144,906

Examiner: Luke S. Wassum

Filed: September 1, 1998

For: **AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER**

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

BRIEF ON APPEAL

S I R:

This Brief on Appeal is submitted in response to the Advisory Action dated August 23, 2002 and from the Examiner's continued rejection of Claims 1-36 and 40-41 in the Office Action dated February 7, 2002. A Notice of Appeal was timely filed on August 7, 2002. A check for $160.00, to cover the appeal brief fee, is enclosed. A Petition for a Five-Month extension of Time is attached hereto.

REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is Applicant, Damon C. Torres.

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Page 00329

RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

There are no related appeals or interferences which will directly affect or be affected by or have a bearing on the decision in this appeal.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-36 and 40-67 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1-36 and 40-67 are rejected. The rejection of claims 1-36 and 40-67 are being appealed.

As a result of an Amendment dated December 18, 2001, claims 37-39 were canceled.

STATUS OF AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

There are currently no claims under final rejection. In an Advisory Action dated August 23, 2002, the Examiner has stated that 1-36 and 40-67 are rejected. The Examiner also indicated that the claims have been entered for appeal. These claims remain rejected as indicated in the Office Action dated February 27, 2002 in which the rejection of claims 1-36, 40 and 41 was continued and rejection of the newly added claims 42-67 was issued. The grounds for the rejections are discussed in detail below.

Google/YouTube Exhibit 1024/1124
Page 00330

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

The present invention relates to a presentation software and system employed in a web browser. As discussed on page 5 of the specification, a triggering event such as a mouse click on a single "link" commences the automatic access to a series of resources and displays content related to these resources to a user in a show arrangement. This arrangement of resources, is defined as a "show structure" or "structure," which contains references to a set of nodes. Each node represents a resource such as a web page, an executable file or a data file stored at a predetermined location and accessed via its corresponding address.

This structure allows access to one or several topics of information from several sources in a continuous arrangement. The topics of information include multimedia data such as audio, video, graphics and text that together define a presentation show to a user.

As discussed on Page 12 of the specification, the present invention allows a user to create and/or organize and manage the arrangement of the nodes and ultimately the corresponding resources that may be implemented as a user specific operating system. The operating system then allows access to the nodes to be selected and arranged in accordance with interactive user specifications or in accordance with predefined criteria. Thus, the operating system, among other things, organizes and arranges the available resources as identified by available nodes; allows end users to select and interact with files and applications; and make certain files and/or resources available to be shared by all of the other resources.

In view of the forging, independent claim 1 is directed to a method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement where a show structure of nodes is created, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of

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accessible resources. Without requiring user input, a plurality of the resources each of the resources identified by each of the nodes is automatically accessed.

A content is displayed corresponding to each of the resources automatically in accordance with the show structure, where the step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to the resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary the duration.

Further to the invention as claimed in claim 1, independent claim 10 is directed to a method for displaying in a sequential arrangement on a user's terminal display, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources where a show structure of nodes is created, where each node identifies a corresponding resource by recording a sequence of the resources by dragging and dropping the icons on a second section of the user's terminal.

Specifically, the present invention, in accordance with this embodiment, provides a system wherein a first section of a user's terminal comprises a list of nodes corresponding to resources. The user may then create a show structure of nodes by selectively dragging and dropping these icons to a second section of the user's terminal. Once the show structure is created on the second section of the user's terminal, the resources corresponding to the selected icons are retrieved and displayed to the user, without any user input.

This arrangement provides a convenient way to create a show structure of nodes from a plurality of available resources, without the need to write a particular program code such as those cited in the prior art. The additional advantage of this arrangement is its flexibility. The user can now pick and choose, modify, add and remove various resources conveniently and without having any knowledge in programming.

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One of the drawbacks associated with the prior art is that when surfing the web during a research session, often times a series of useless paths are navigated wasting a significant amount of time. Many times, a user may completely loose track of the useful sites they visited and how those sites were actually encountered. However, using the present invention, all of the sites navigated by a user may be tracked. By using that list of sites the user may create a show structure that will allow the user to re-visit the sites automatically by proceeding through a series of resources, displaying each resource for an amount of time specified by the user. This configuration greatly increases research efficiency by allowing a user to scan through a series of selected useful resources, at their own pace.

Claims 11-21 depend from claim 10.

Independent claim 22 is further directed to a method for transmitting in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources where an on-line search is performed, in response to which a plurality of search results and their corresponding URL resources are received. A show structure of nodes is automatically created and stored, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources via the communications network where the show structure is created in response to the search results received in response to the on-line search.

As is evident by any one who has conducted an on-line search, the process of obtaining a plurality of URLs and thereafter retrieving the contents of each URL, one at a time is very cumbersome and time consuming. The present invention has solved this problem by assembling the list of retrieved URLs into a show structure that retrieves and displays each of the contents corresponding to a URL automatically and without a user input.

For example, if a user is conducting an online search for patents, the typical search results will manifest as a listing of all of the patents that contain the desired search criterion. To view each listing for relevance, the user will have to review each listing by clicking on a listing, reviewing and then clicking back to the general results list.

However, in the present invention, a user could enter a search criterion and immediately upon retrieving the results, a show structure will be created where each resource corresponds to a one of the listings on the results. Each resource on the list will be automatically displayed to the user in sequence and displayed for a user define amount of time before proceeding to the next resource. All of this is done automatically, without the user having to click on the various navigation buttons. Additionally, the user can control the speed of the show structure by increasing or decreasing the time that each resource is displayed for.

Claim 23-36 depend from claim 22.

Independent claim 40 is directed to a method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement where a multidimensional show structure of nodes is created, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources. Without requiring user input, each of the resources identified by each of the nodes are accessed wherein at least two of the nodes are spanned concurrently. The content corresponding to each of the resources is automatically displayed in accordance with the show structure, where contents of the at least two nodes are displayed during an overlapping time period.

Thus, a multidimensional show structure may include one or more paths that can be presented sequentially and/or concurrently to be viewed by the user at the same time. The path may include portions that are presented sequentially and other portions that are presented

concurrently. The operating system allows the paths to be selected and arranged in accordance with interactive user specifications or in accordance with predefined criteria.

For example, in this configuration a series of show structures may include on set of lists related to various stock quotes and news from their corresponding URLs. Another set of lists may relate to various weather information from their corresponding sets of URLs. A third set of lists may relate to news information from their corresponding URLs. Each of these show structures can be displayed simultaneously on the user's screen according the display settings input by the user. The user's screen may be divided equally in space or it may give prominence to one show structure. Additionally, the display duration and/or time before updating each screen can be set independently for each show structure so that the stock show structure is displayed for example, at a longer time than the weather or news URL resources.

Claim 41 depends from claim 40.

Independent claim 42 is directed to a method for displaying in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources where a category is selected from a predefined list of categories and an on-line search is performed related to the selected category, in response to which a plurality of search results and their corresponding URL resources are received.

In this arrangement, in addition to converting the results of a search directly into the sequential arrangement, the search itself may be conducted based on categories within established information resources in order to make selections within the specified sites. Such a configuration allows for better results when conducting the search increasing the focus of the created sequential display arrangement.

For example, the user may select categories within established information resources in order to make selections within the specified sites. So if a user is interested in searching for a particular news event to have converted into a show structure, the user may choose initially to search with a predefined new category or resources rather than having the show structure created based on a search that is conducted across the entire web. Such a narrow category search increases the chances that the search results obtained, to be converted into the show structure will contain relevant information.

Claims 43-48 depend from claim 42.

Claim 49 is directed to a method for transmitting in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources where a user profile is created by specifying a plurality of user preferences and an online search is conducted to locate a plurality of web pages and their associated URL addresses corresponding to the user profile.

In this arrangement, in addition to converting the results of a search directly into the sequential arrangement, the search itself may be conducted based on a predefined user profile in order to assist in making selections with better tailored results. Such a configuration allows for better results when conducting the search increasing the focus of the created sequential display arrangement.

Claims 50-57 depend from claim 49.

Claim 58 is directed to an automated content displayer which is used to sequentially present, to a remote user, information content derived from selected websites comprised of a means for storing at least one list of websites, where each website of the at least one list having a

corresponding address and an amount of time for which information content from the website is to be displayed to the remote user. A means for receiving from the remote user a selection of the list is provided.

A means, responsive to the selection of the list, is provided for automatically retrieving information content from the websites in the list, without a user input. A means, for automatically providing the retrieved information content to the remote user as well as a means, for caching and queuing content from subsequent websites within the list, while a content corresponding to a current website is being displayed.

A timer is provided for controlling the duration that the information content is displayed to the user in accordance with the stored amount of time and for determining a time for retrieving information content corresponding to a next item in the list, where the duration that the information content is displayed is also interactively variable so as to enable a user to vary the duration.

Claims 59-67 depend from claim 58.

ISSUES PRESENTED FOR REVIEW

The issues presented herein for review on appeal are as follows:

Whether pending claims 1-15, 34, 40 and 41 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as not being obvious over Hauck ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") in view of Microsoft Press ("Microsoft PowerPoint Handbook");

Whether pending claims 16-21, 35 and 36 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as not being obvious over Hauck in view of Microsoft Press as applied to claims 10-15, 34, 40 and 41 above, further in view of Malec et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,287,266);

Whether pending claims 22 and 42-48 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as not being obvious over Hauck in view of Richardson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,809,247);

Whether pending claims 23-27 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as not being obvious over Hauck in view of Richardson et al. as applied to claims 22 and 42-48 above, further in view of Microsoft Press;

Whether pending claims 28-33 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as not being obvious over Hauck in view of Richardson et al, and in view of Microsoft Press as applied to claims 23-27 above, further in view of Malec;

Whether claims 49-51 and 55-57 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as not being obvious over Hauck in view of Richardson et al. in view of Reilly et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,740,549);

Whether claims 52-54 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as not being obvious over Hauck in view of Richardson et al. in view of Reilly et al. as applied to claims 55-57 above, and further in view of Abecassis (US Patent No. 6,289,165);

Whether claims 58, 59, 61, 62 and 65-67 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as not being obvious over Blonder et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,760,771) in view of Buchanan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,515,490); and

Whether claims 60, 63 and 64 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as not being obvious over Blonder et al. in view of Buchanan et al as applied to claims 58, 59, 61, 62 and 65-

67 above, further in view of Gerace (U.S. Patent No 5,848,396).

GROUPING OF CLAIMS

Applicant states that claims 1-9 consist of a first group that on appeal stand or fall together. Applicant states that claims 10-21 consist of a second group that on appeal stand or fall together. Applicant states that claims 22-36 consist of a third group that on appeal stand or fall together. Applicant states that claims 40 and 41 consist of a fourth group that on appeal stand or fall together. Applicant states that claims 42-48 consist of a fifth group that on appeal stand or fall together. Applicant states that claims 49-57 consist of a sixth group that on appeal stand or fall together. Applicant states that claims 58-67 consist of a seventh group that on appeal stand or fall together.

PRIOR ART OF RECORD

The following is a list of the prior art of record relied upon in the rejection of claims under appeal:

Publication Title	Author	Date of Publication
Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web	Hauck	May 6-10 1996

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Microsoft PowerPoint Handbook Version 3.0	Microsoft Press	1987-1992

U.S. Patent Number	**Patentee**	**Patent Date**
5,287,266	Malec et al.	February 15, 1994
5,809,247	Richardson et al.	September 15, 1998
5,740,549	Reilly et al.	April 14, 1998
6,289,165	Abecassis	September 11, 2001
5,760,771	Blonder et al.	June 2, 1998
5,515,490	Buchanan et al.	May 7, 1996
5,848,396	Gerace	December 8, 1998

Copies of all of the references listed above are enclosed with each of the three copies of the appeal brief.

ARGUMENT

Examiner's grounds for rejecting claim 1:

In paragraph 8 of the Office Action dated February 7, 2002 from which this appeal is taken, The Examiner has rejected claims 1-15, 34, 40 and 41 as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Hauck ("Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web") in view of Microsoft Press ("Microsoft PowerPoint Handbook"). A Copy of the Office Action is attached to all three copies of this appeal brief.

Regarding independent claim 1, the Examiner states that Hauck teaches all of the elements of the claim except for the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to the resource is being displayed so as to allow the user to vary the duration. However, the Examiner goes to assert that Microsoft Press teaches such an element and that it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Microsoft press with the teachings of Hauck to arrive at the present invention as claimed.

Examiner's grounds for rejecting claim 10:

Regarding independent claim 10, the Examiner states that Hauck teaches all of the elements of the claim except for the step of identifying and creating being accomplished through the use of dragging and dropping of icons, where the icon are representative of the resources. However, the Examiner goes to assert that Microsoft Press teaches such an element and that it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Microsoft press with the teachings of Hauck to arrive at the present invention as claimed.

Examiner's grounds for rejecting claims 22 and 42:

In paragraph 26 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 22 and 42-48 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Hauck in view of Richardson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,809,247).

Specifically, regarding independent claims 22 and 42, the Examiner states that Hauck teaches all of the elements of the claim except for the step of selecting a category (claim 42) and performing an on-line search (claim 22), in response to which a plurality of search results and their corresponding URL resources are retrieved. However, the Examiner goes to assert that Richardson et al. teaches such an element and that it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Richardson with the teachings of Hauck to arrive at the present invention as claimed.

Examiner's grounds for rejecting claim 40:

Regarding independent claim 40, the Examiner does not specifically address the element that two of the nodes are spanned concurrently and that the content corresponding to each of the resources is automatically displayed in accordance with the show structure, where contents of the at least two nodes are displayed during an overlapping time period. However, it is generally asserted that the combination of Hauck and Microsoft Press teach all of the elements of this claim.

Examiner's grounds for rejecting claim 49:

In paragraph 42 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 49-51 and 55-57 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Hauck in view of Richardson et al. in view of Reilly et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,740,549).

Regarding independent claim 49, the Examiner states that Hauck teaches all of the elements of the claim except for the step of performing an on-line search nor does it teach a method for creating a user profile by specifying a plurality of preferences. However, the Examiner goes to assert that Richardson et al. teaches searching and Reilly teaches user profiles and that it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Richardson and Reilly with the teachings of Hauck to arrive at the present invention as claimed.

Examiner's grounds for rejecting claim 58:

In paragraph 48 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 58, 59, 61, 62 and 65-67 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Blonder et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,760,771) in view of Buchanan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,515,490).

Regarding independent claim 58, the Examiner states that Blonder teaches all of the elements of the claim except for the a means for storing an amount of time for which information content from a website is to be displayed and a timer for controlling the duration that the information content is to be displayed to the user. However, the Examiner goes to assert that

Buchanan teaches such elements and that it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Buchanan with the teachings of Blonder to arrive at the present invention as claimed.

Applicant disagrees with the Examiner's rejections and respectfully requests the Board to reverse the Examiner's decision.

First, the Examiner has failed to establish prima facie obviousness in each case because there is no suggestion, motivation or teaching in the prior art to combine the references as suggested by the Examiner. The present invention can not be used as a blueprint to find prior art references. Second, even if the references are combined as suggested by the Examiner, the resulting structure still fails to include the claimed features of the present invention.

Arguments for patentability:

Law applicable to all claims:

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections of independent claims 10, 22, 40, 42, 49 and 58 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) are in error. Specifically, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has failed to establish a prima facie case of obviousness as set forth in Graham v. John Deere Co., 383 U.S. 1, 148 U.S.P.Q. 459 (1966) and MPEP §706.02. To establish a prima facie case of obviousness the Examiner must show the following steps:

(1) set forth the differences in the claim over the applied reference;

(2) set forth the proposed modifications of the references which would be

necessary to arrive at the claimed subject matter; and

(3) explain why the proposed modification would be obvious.

To satisfy step (3), the Examiner must identify where the prior art provides a motivating suggestion to make the modifications proposed in step (2). In re Jones, 958 F. 2d 347, 21 U.S.P.Q.2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). Obviousness cannot be established by combining the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention, absent some teaching or suggestion or incentive to combine them. In re Bond, 910 F.2d 831, 834, 15 U.S.P.Q.2d 1566, 1568 (Fed. Cir. 1990). The mere fact that the prior art may be modified as suggested by the Examiner does not make the modification obvious, unless the prior art suggests the desirability of the modification. In re Fritch, 922 F.2d 1260, 23 U.S.P.Q.2d 1780 (Fed. Cir. 1992). As explained in more detail below, there is no motivating suggestion to modify these references, nor any suggestion as to how they can be modified, no matter how they are applied.

Obviousness cannot be established by combining the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention, absent some teaching or suggestion or incentive to combine them, In re Bond, 910 F.2d 831, 834; 15 U.S.P.Q. 2d 1566, 1568 (Fed Cir. 1990). Instead the Examiner appears to have used the present invention as a blueprint to find the features of the present invention, without showing where in the cited prior art references a suggestion, motivation or teaching to combine the references.

Furthermore, if the references are combined and it is determined that the references contain some teaching, suggestion or incentive to combine themselves with one another, it is still required by the Examiner to show how each and every element of the claim is taught by the

combination of the references. In the present case, the Examiner has failed to meet this burden.

Claims 1-9 are patentable in view of the cited references:

With respect to independent claim 1 in the present application the Examiner contends that the claim is obvious over Hauck in view of Microsoft Press.

The Examiner has used the present invention as a blueprint to find prior art that discloses the features of the present invention, without showing where in the cited prior art references there exists a suggestion, motivation or teaching to combine the references. The Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit has expressly stated that it is impermissible for the Examiner to do so.

In an attempt to comply with the third requirements of the John Deere test, the Examiner conclusively states that "it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention to incorporate a mechanism for adjusting time of display for each content" because doing so would allow the user to customize the display of the resources. Additionally, the Examiner noted that, "'slide show' type applications (such as Microsoft's PowerPoint) were well known in the art at the time and slide duration was a well know configuration item for said slide shows."

The Hauck reference discloses an arrangement for authoring of hypertext documents. According to Hauck, as stated in introduction, paragraph 3, a guided tour is a sequence of nodes with "schema links" which allow readers to follow the sequence of these nodes back and forth. These schema links are links that are provided by the author to guide the user back and forth

along the sequence of nodes. The entire purpose of Hauck's paper is to elaborate on a server-side mechanism that creates the schema links automatically for each node within the sequence.

The server-side mechanism of Hauck is employed mainly to retrieve an original document corresponding to a website, and add some decorations to it – referred to as the schema links. The decorated page with the appropriate schema links is then sent to the client. Some examples of these decorations include clickable arrow images as illustrated in Fig. 2.3 which refer to for example, "previous," "up," "down," and "next."

Turning to Microsoft Press, the cited PowerPoint handbook reference deals with timing the display of pre-saved frames for a slide show, as described on Page 490 of Microsoft Press. Each frame is created and stored in a file for display in a slide show presentation. See overview pages 31-32 of Microsoft Press.

However, the cited references do not teach or suggest the present invention as claimed. For example, Hauck does not provide any motivation to employ an interactive variable duration information that represents the duration within which a content is displayed. Hauck, in fact, teaches away from the present invention because it specifically employs forward and backward buttons as illustrated in Fig. 2.3, indicating that the progression through the tour is controlled manually rather than in an automated fashion as is claimed in claim 1 of the present invention. The whole purpose of the Hauck teaching is to provide a way to decorate each content by the navigation buttons as each page is accessed for the user's view.

In another example, the timing of the slides, in Microsoft Press does not teach an arrangement for displaying content derived from a plurality of resources where, without user input the resources are automatically accessed and then displayed based on an interactive

variable duration. Rather, the Microsoft Press reference merely suggests the timed display duration of pre-saved frames that are stored in a presentation slide show file.

As such, Applicant submits that the combination of Hauck and Microsoft Press references in the manner done by the Examiner without indicating the motivation or teaching in either reference to combine them with one another is in error.

The only way to combine Hauck with Microsoft Press is through hindsight. Adding navigation buttons to allow the user to go from one page to the other does not even remotely suggest an arrangement for providing an automatic display of pages with variable duration.

Furthermore, even if the Hauck and Microsoft Press reference are combined together the resulting method still fails to read on the invention as claimed. Specifically, the combined method would require the user to retrieve web pages from a source and store the content in a slide show file and then display those stored pages one at a time. This is contrary to the present invention where resources are being accessed and displayed, including any newly updated content at the resources each time the show structure is played.

Turning to claim 3, the claimed invention relates to a show structure where the elements in the structure include access to resources for executing an application file residing in the user's computer. As described in page 34 of the specification, an example of application files includes the operation of accounting software, on-line banking software, e-mail programs and calendar programs. A show structure may include an arrangement where a first resource accessed and executed is an e-mail program displaying a user's e-mail with the second resource being an on-line banking software to display a user's banking information and so forth. Thus, a whole routine of accessing various application files and web pages by a user, can be automated

including executing files that the user locally accesses and obtains on-line contents that the user accesses such as weather sites, news sites and financial information sites.

Again, the cited references do not teach or suggest the features provided in claim 3. For example, neither the Hauck nor the Microsoft Press reference teach or suggest the step of accessing and executing an application file residing in the user's computer. No similar teaching or suggestion is found in either Hauck or Microsoft Press to utilize the execution of application files as claimed in claim 3 of the present application.

Turning to claims 4 and 5, the claimed invention relates to a method for creating a show structure that includes the step of generating and storing a data file based on the execution file. Such an arrangement allows for the user to create and save data files generated by the applications automatically, as part of an automated show structure.

The cited references do not teach or suggest the step of generating and storing a data file based on the execution file. As discussed above with respect to claim 3, neither Hauck nor Microsoft Press teach an arrangement for utilizing and executing as a part of the show structure, application files in the first place and, as such, they do not teach the generating or saving of data files associated with those application files.

Claims 10-21 are patentable in view of the cited references:

With respect to independent claim 10 in the present application the Examiner contends that the claim is obvious over Hauck in view of Microsoft Press.

As mentioned before, the Examiner has used the present invention as a blueprint to find

prior art that discloses the features of the present invention, without showing where in the cited prior art references there exists a suggestion, motivation or teaching to combine the references. In an attempt to comply with the third requirements of the John Deere test, the Examiner conclusively states that, "it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention to incorporate a drag and drop interface for use in creating the show structure nodes, since the use of drag and drop serves to facilitate the manipulation of data items."

As discussed above in relation to claim 1, the Hauck reference discloses an arrangement for authoring of hypertext documents and is directed to a guided tour as a sequence of nodes with "schema links" which allow readers to follow the sequence of these nodes back and forth. These schema links are links that are provided by the author to guide the user back and forth along the sequence of nodes.

As discussed above in relation to claim 1, the Microsoft Press reference teaches the display of pre-saved frames for a slide show. In this respect, as discussed on pages 282 and 283 of Microsoft Press, the PowerPoint handbook indicates that icons can be arranged in order by clicking on the slide and moving it to the appropriate location.

However, the cited references do not teach or suggest the present invention as claimed in claim 10. For example, Hauck does not provide any motivation to employ a drag and drop functionality to develop the sequential display arrangement by dragging and dropping nodes icons when creating the structure of nodes. In fact, as described on page 3 of the Hauck reference, the addition of nodes by URL is described by adding nodes, one at a time by URL. Adding nodes one at a time to a guided web tour by entering their URLs does not suggest an arrangement for listing a series of resources or URL's on first section of a user terminal and to

transfer by dragging and dropping the icon to second section of the user terminal in order to create a show structure.

Furthermore, the arrangement provided in Microsoft Press for the order of slides, does not suggests its combination with displaying of content derived from a plurality of resources where, without user input the resources are automatically accessed. Rather, the Microsoft Press reference merely suggests the pre-saved slides may be arranged in order of presentation.

As such, Applicant submits that the combination of Hauck and Microsoft Press references in the manner done by the Examiner without indicating the motivation or teaching in either reference to combine them with one another is in error.

Again, the only way to combine Hauck with Microsoft Press as attempted by the Examiner in claim 10, is through hindsight. Adding navigation buttons to allow the user to go from one page to the other does not even remotely suggest an arrangement for providing an automatic display of pages with variable duration.

Furthermore, even if the Hauck and Microsoft Press references are combined together the resulting method still fails to read on the invention as claimed. Specifically, the combined structure would require the user to retrieve web content from a source and store the content in a slide show file and then display those stored content one at a time. The slides as stored could be moved by icon so that stored slides may be presented in alternative orders. However, this is contrary to the present invention where a show structure is created from a list of available resources, and those resources are desired, by a drag and drop arrangement.

Claims 22-36 are patentable in view of the cited references:

With respect to independent claim 22 in the present application the Examiner contends that the claim is obvious over Hauck in view of Richardson.

Claim 22 is directed to a show structure where an on-line search is performed, in response to which a plurality of search results and their corresponding URL resources are received. A show structure of nodes is automatically created and stored, where the show structure is created in response to the search results received in response to the on-line search.

Again, the Examiner has used the present invention as a blueprint to find prior art that discloses the features of the present invention, without showing where in the cited prior art references there exists a suggestion, motivation or teaching to combine the references.

Again, in an attempt to comply with the third requirements of the John Deere test, the Examiner conclusively states that "it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention to incorporate an on-line search to obtain desirable URLs for use in the creation of the show structure."

As discussed above in relation to claim 1, the Hauck reference discloses an arrangement for authoring of hypertext documents and is directed to a guided tour as a sequence of nodes with "schema links" which allow readers to follow the sequence of these nodes back and forth. These schema links are links that are provided by the author to guide the user back and forth along the sequence of nodes.

Turning to Richardson, a method and apparatus for guided touring of internet websites is provided. In order to overcome the drawbacks associated with simple search and reviews the Richardson apparatus describes a means for navigating the web with the assistance of a virtual

tour guide by way a following a pre-generated tour.

However, the cited references do not teach or suggest the present invention as claimed. For example, Hauck does not provide any motivation to employ show structure where an on-line search is performed, and the show structure of nodes is *automatically created* and stored, where the show structure is created in response to the search results received in response to the on-line search. Hauck, makes no mention of such an arrangement and instead talks of developing the guided tour structure by way of entering URL's directly, indicating no automatic derivation of a guided tour, from search results or otherwise.

The Examiner contends that Richardson teaches the searching set forth in the present invention. For that, the Examiner cites, column 1 lines 10-33 which state,

> "Under the prior art, to locate and view information on the Internet or an Intranet (hereinafter simply "net"), a user would instruct a web browser to connect his/her computer system to a search site, e.g. Yahoo or Alta Vista in the case of the Internet. Through the web browser, the user would then provide certain keywords to the search site, and initiate the search, with or without limiting the search context, e.g. to certain subject category, depending on the nature of the search."
>
> "At such time, the user would start connecting to the web sites identified, and view their web pages. The whole process is repeated if another user wants to do the same search or if the user wants to re-do the same search again at a later time."

The search results discussed in Richardson simply refer to the fact that searches produce a result lists which can be navigated. However, Richardson does not provide any motivation to employ show structure where an on-line search is performed, and the show structure of nodes is *automatically created* and stored, where the show structure is created in response to the search results received in response to the on-line search.

In fact, Richardson teaches away from the present invention by discussing searches in the background section as drawbacks that the apparatus of Richardson is attempting to overcome, but never discusses a suggestion to automate the display of the search results. See, columns 1 and 2 or Richardson. The simple suggestion of searches producing a list of results, does not even remotely suggest an arrangement for providing a show structure where the structure is automatically derived from a search result.

As such, Applicant submits that the combination of Hauck and Richardson references in the manner done by the Examiner without indicating the motivation or teaching in either reference to combine them with one another is in error. The only way to combine Hauck with Richardson is through hindsight.

Claims 40-41 are patentable in view of the cited references:

With respect to independent claim 40 in the present application the Examiner contends that the claim is obvious over Hauck in view of Microsoft Press.

Once more, the Examiner has used the present invention as a blueprint to find prior art that discloses the features of the present invention, without showing where in the cited prior art references there exists a suggestion, motivation or teaching to combine the references. The Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit has expressly stated that it is impermissible for the Examiner to do so.

Once more, in an attempt to comply with the third requirements of the John Deere test, the Examiner simply states that the cited references discloses the features of the present

invention, without showing where in the cited prior art references there exists a suggestion, motivation or teaching to combine the references. In fact, the Examiner does not even state where such a teaching for running multidimensional show structures, where two or more resources are run concurrently on a single screen having overlapping time periods, is found in either reference.

However, for all of the reasons assert above in support of the patentability of claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 40 is patentable as well.

Furthermore, in addition to those reasons, claim 40 teaches a multidimensional show structure of nodes. Without requiring user input, each of the resources are accessed where at least two of the nodes are spanned concurrently and the content corresponding to each of the resources is automatically displayed, where contents of the at least two nodes are displayed during an overlapping time period.

As discussed above in relation to claim 1, the Hauck reference discloses an arrangement for authoring of hypertext documents and is directed to a guided tour as a sequence of nodes with "schema links" which allow readers to follow the sequence of these nodes back and forth. These schema links are links that are provided by the author to guide the user back and forth along the sequence of nodes.

As discussed above in relation to claim 1, the Microsoft Press reference teaches the display of pre-saved frames for a slide show. In this respect, as discussed on pages 282 and 283 of Microsoft Press, the PowerPoint handbook indicates that icons can be arranged in order by clicking on the slide and moving it to the appropriate location.

However, the cited references do not teach or suggest the present invention as claimed.

For example, Hauck does not contain nor does it provide any motivation to employ a multidimensional show structure, running displays concurrently. The Hauck reference simply employs one URL at a time arrangement, and at no time suggests concurrent displays.

Likewise, Microsoft Press, does not contain nor does it provide any motivation to employ a multidimensional show structure, running displays concurrently. Although, the PowerPoint program described in Microsoft Press may allow a plurality of images to be displayed on a single slide, this is not analogous to the present invention where multiple *show structures, each having a list of resources,* including application files, URLs, or other displayable items may be run simultaneously on user's screen.

As such, Applicant submits that the combination of Hauck and Microsoft Press references in the manner done by the Examiner without indicating the motivation or teaching in either reference to combine them with one another is in error.

Furthermore, even if the Hauck and Microsoft Press reference are combined together the resulting method still fails to read on the invention as claimed. Specifically, the combined method would require the user to retrieve web pages from a source and store the content in a slide show file and then display those stored pages one at a time. This is contrary to the present invention where various show structures can be played and displayed concurrently.

Claims 42-57 are patentable in view of the cited references:

With respect to independent claims 42 and 49 in the present application the Examiner contends that the claim is obvious over Hauck in view of Richardson (claim 42) and further in

view of Reilly (claim 49).

Furthermore, in addition to those reasons, claims 42 and 49 teach a show structure where on-line search is performed, and the show structure of nodes is *automatically created* and stored, where the show structure is created in response to the search results received in response to the on-line search. Claim 42 further notes that the on-line search may be conducted according to categories and claim 49 further notes that the on-line search may be conducted according to a user profile.

The Examiner has used the present invention as a blueprint to find prior art that discloses the features of the present invention, without showing where in the cited prior art references there exists a suggestion, motivation or teaching to combine the references. In an attempt to comply with the third requirements of the John Deere test, the Examiner uses the present invention as a blueprint to find prior art that discloses the features of the present invention, without showing where in the cited prior art references there exists a suggestion, motivation or teaching to combine the references.

Regarding claim 42, for the identical reason cited above for claim 22, the Examiner conclusively states that "it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention to incorporate an on-line search to obtain desirable URLs for use in the creation of the show structure."

Regarding claim 49, for similar reasons as discussed above for claim 22, the Examiner conclusively states that "it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention to incorporate an on-line search to obtain desirable URLs for use in the creation of the show structure."

However, for all of the reasons assert above in support of the patentability of claim 22, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 42 and 49 are patentable as well.

As discussed above in relation to claim 1, the Hauck reference discloses an arrangement for authoring of hypertext documents and is directed to a guided tour as a sequence of nodes with "schema links" which allow readers to follow the sequence of these nodes back and forth. These schema links are links that are provided by the author to guide the user back and forth along the sequence of nodes.

As discussed above in relation to claim 22, the Richardson reference teaches a method and apparatus for guided touring of internet websites. The Reilly reference, cited by the Examiner in relation to claim 49 is directed to a information and advertising distribution system and method that makes use of user profiles.

However, the cited references do not teach or suggest the present invention as claimed. For example, Hauck does not provide any motivation to employ show structure where an on-line search is performed, and the show structure of nodes is *automatically created* and stored irrespective of whether or not the search is performed within a category or based on a user-profile or not. Hauck, makes no mention of such an arrangement and instead talks of developing the guided tour structure by way of entering URL's directly, indicating no automatic derivation of a guided tour, from search results or otherwise.

In another example, the search results discussed in Richardson simply refer to the fact that searches produce a result lists which can be navigated. However, Richardson does not provide any motivation to employ show structure where an on-line search is performed, and the show structure of nodes is *automatically created* and stored irrespective of whether or not the

search is performed within a category or based on a user profile or not.

Likewise, regarding the Reilly reference, although user profiles are discussed, it does not provide any motivation to employ show structure where an on-line search is performed, and the show structure of nodes is *automatically created* and stored.

As such, Applicant submits that the combination of Hauck and Richardson and Reilly (claim 49) references in the manner done by the Examiner without indicating the motivation or teaching in either reference to combine them with one another is in error. The only way to combine Hauck, Richardson and Reilly is through hindsight.

Furthermore, even if the Hauck, Richardson and Reilly reference are combined together the resulting method still fails to read on the invention as claimed. For example, the combined method would still fail to include a show structure automatically derived from search results based on category searches or user profile searches. No such teaching or suggestion is found in either reference.

Claims 58-67 are patentable in view of the cited references:

With respect to independent claim 58 in the present application the Examiner contends that the claim is obvious over Blonder in view of Buchanan.

Claim 58 is directed to an automated content displayer which is used to sequentially present, to a remote user, information content derived from selected websites having a means, for caching and queuing content from subsequent websites within said list, while a content corresponding to a current website is being displayed and a timer where the duration that the

information content is displayed is also interactively variable so as to enable a user to vary the duration.

Yet again, the Examiner has used the present invention as a blueprint to find prior art that discloses the features of the present invention, without showing where in the cited prior art references there exists a suggestion, motivation or teaching to combine the references.

Yet again, in an attempt to comply with the third requirements of the John Deere test, the Examiner conclusively states that " it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention to incorporate temporal functionality, since scheduling the presentation of different information to occur at specific times would serve to convey information more effectively."

The Blonder reference teaches a system and method for providing structured tours of hypertext files. Once a particular pathway is selected by a user, they are shown a predetermined number of URLs for a predetermined amount of time as designated by the author of the tour. See, columns 7-8 of Blonder.

The Buchanan reference teaches a method and system for temporally formatting data presentations in time-dependent documents. As discussed in column 19, the Buchanan reference states that the temporal constraints are set by the author. In creating such a document the time durations of frames are calculated by the apparatus and method of Buchanan and incorporated into the time dependent program.

However, the cited references do not teach or suggest the present invention as claimed. For example, Blonder does not provide any motivation to employ a means, for caching and queuing content from subsequent websites within said list, while a content corresponding to a

current website is being displayed. Rather, the Blonder reference simply discloses a system for providing structured tours through hypernet files. There is no mention of caching a second site while a first site is being displayed.

Furthermore, the Blonder reference does not provide any motivation to employ a timer for controlling the duration that said information content is displayed to said user in accordance with the stored amount of time, wherein said duration that said information content is displayed is also interactively variable so as to enable a user to vary said duration. Rather the Blonder reference provides for a guided tour of series of URL's as determined by the author but makes no mention of a display, interactively variable so as to enable a user to vary said duration.

In yet another example, Buchanan does not provide any motivation to employ a means, for caching and queuing content from subsequent websites within said list, while a content corresponding to a current website is being displayed. Rather, the Buchanan reference simply discloses the running of a time dependent document where initial temporal parameters are entered and the program operates according to those constraints.

Likewise, the Buchanan reference does not provide any motivation to employ a timer for controlling the duration that said information content is displayed to said user in accordance with the stored amount of time, wherein said duration that said information content is displayed is also interactively variable so as to enable a user to vary said duration. Rather the Buchanan reference provides for a time duration between displays that is calculated by the apparatus and method and embedded into the code. Such an arrangement is contrary to the interactive quality of timer as claimed in the present invention.

As such, Applicant submits that the combination of Blonder and Buchanan references in

the manner done by the Examiner without indicating the motivation or teaching in either reference to combine them with one another is in error. The only way to combine Blonder with Buchanan is through hindsight.

Furthermore, even if the Blonder and Buchanan reference are combined together the resulting structure still fails to read on the invention as claimed. Specifically, the combined structure would still not provide for either the caching of a second website while a first website is being displayed nor would the resulting structure provide for a timer that the user may interactively adjust the display durations.

For the above-stated reasons, Applicant maintains that independent claims 1, 10, 22, 40, 42, 49 and 58 are patentable under 35 USC §103(a) contrary to the Examiner's suggestion. Furthermore, Applicant submits that the claims that depend therefrom, are also patentable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that:

Claims 1-15, 34, 40 and 41 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a);

Claims 16-21, 35 and 36 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a);

Claims 22 and 42-48 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a);

Claims 23-27 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a);

Claims 28-33 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a);

Claims 49-51 and 55-57 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a);

Claims 52-54 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a);

Claims 58, 59, 61, 62 and 65-67 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a); and

Claims 60, 63 and 64 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Thus, Applicant submits that the present claims are allowable over the references relied on by the Examiner and this Board is respectfully requested to reverse the Examiner's decision.

FEES

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with this application may be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-2825, order number 735-002.

Respectfully Submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN, LLP

Dated: March 7, 2003

By: _____
Joseph Sofer
Reg. No. 34,438

Sofer & Haroun, LLP
317 Madison Avenue, Suite 910
New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 697-2800
Fax: (212) 697-3004

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APPENDIX

Claims on Appeal

1) A method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement comprising the steps of:

creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources;

without requiring user input, automatically accessing a plurality of said resources each of said resources identified by each of said nodes; and

displaying a content corresponding to each of said resources automatically in accordance with said show structure, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary said duration.

2. The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

3. The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said step of accessing further comprises the step of executing an application file residing in the user's computer.

4. The method in accordance with claim 3 further comprising the step of

generating a data file resulting from said executing step.

5. The method in accordance with claim 4 further comprising the step of storing said data file for each resource accessed.

6. The method in accordance with claim 5, further comprises the step of retrieving each of said data files.

7. The method in accordance with claim 6 wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of reformatting said data files in accordance with a predetermined arrangement.

8. The method in accordance with claim 7 further comprising the step of displaying control buttons for controlling the display of said data files.

9. The method in accordance with claim 8 further comprising the step of receiving control button commands for pausing said display of said data files, and for reversing the sequence of said display of said data files and for fast forwarding said display of said data files.

10. A method for displaying in a sequential arrangement on a user's terminal display, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

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identifying at least one resource from a plurality of accessible resources via said communications network, wherein each of said resources is associated with a corresponding icon displayed on a first section of said user's terminal;

creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a corresponding resource by recording a sequence of said resources by dragging and dropping said icons on a second section of said user's terminal;

without requiring user input, automatically accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes in accordance with said show structure;

automatically retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources; and

displaying each of said retrieved contents automatically in accordance with said show structure.

11. The method in accordance with claim 10, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

12. The method in accordance with claim 10, wherein said step of accessing further comprises the step of downloading a file from a server residing within said communications network.

13. The method in accordance with claim 12 further comprising the step of receiving a dynamic content from a predetermined server.

14. The method in accordance with claim 13 further comprising the step of displaying a persistent content window for receiving said dynamic content within said persistent content window.

15. The method in accordance with claim 13 further comprising the step of inserting resource identifiers interspersed within said show structure relating to said dynamic content.

16. The method in accordance with claim 15 wherein said dynamic content is an advertising message.

17. The method in accordance with claim 15 further comprising the step of providing said dynamic content in accordance with said user's profile.

18. The method in accordance with claim 17 further comprising the step of storing said content for each resource accessed.

19. The method in accordance with claim 18 wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of reformatting said content in accordance with a predetermined arrangement.

20. The method in accordance with claim 18 further comprising the step of

displaying control buttons for controlling the display of said contents.

21. The method in accordance with claim 20 further comprising the step of receiving control button commands for pausing said display of said content, and for reversing the said display of said content and for fast forwarding said display of said content.

22. A method for transmitting in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

performing an on-line search, in response to which a plurality of search results and their corresponding URL resources are received;

automatically creating and storing a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources via said communications network wherein said show structure is created in response to said search results received in response to said on-line search;

without requiring user input accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes;

retrieving a content corresponding to each of said accessed resources; and

automatically delivering said content to said user for display on said user's computer in accordance with said show structure.

23. The method in accordance with claim 22, wherein said step of storing further comprises the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a

corresponding content to said resource is being displayed.

24. The method in accordance with claim 22, wherein said step of accessing further comprises the step of downloading a file from a server residing within said communications network.

25. The method in accordance with claim 24 further comprising the step of transmitting to said user a dynamic content.

26. The method in accordance with claim 25 further comprising the step of formatting said dynamic content for displaying within a persistent content window on said user's terminal.

27. The method in accordance with claim 26 further comprising the step of inserting resource identifiers interspersed within said show structure relating to said dynamic content.

28. The method in accordance with claim 27 wherein said dynamic content is an advertising message.

29. The method in accordance with claim 28 further comprising the step of providing said dynamic content in accordance with said user's profile.

30. The method in accordance with claim 29 further comprising the step of storing said content for each resource accessed.

31. The method in accordance with claim 30 wherein said step of delivering further comprises the step of reformatting said content in accordance with a predetermined arrangement.

32. The method in accordance with claim 31 further comprising the step of transmitting information to said user for displaying control buttons for controlling the display of said contents.

33. The method in accordance with claim 32 further comprising the step of receiving control button commands for pausing said display of said content, and for reversing the said display of said content and for fast forwarding said display of said content.

34. The method in accordance with claim 32 further comprising the step of monitoring said user's instructions corresponding to interruption of said show structure within said duration.

35. The method in accordance with claim 32 further comprising the step of inserting advertisement displays between display of said contents corresponding to each of said nodes.

36. The method in accordance with claim 35 further comprising the step of selecting said advertisement displays based on said users' profiles.

40. A method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement comprising the steps of:

creating a multidimensional show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources;

without requiring user input accessing each of said resources identified by each of said nodes wherein at least two of said nodes are spanned concurrently;

automatically displaying a content corresponding to each of said resources in accordance with said show structure, wherein contents of said at least two nodes are displayed during an overlapping time period.

41. The method in accordance with claim 40 further comprising the step of providing a duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to each of said resources is being displayed.

42. A method for displaying in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

selecting a category from a predefined list of categories;

performing an on-line search related to said selected category, in response to which a plurality of search results and their corresponding URL resources are received;

automatically creating and storing a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources via said communications network wherein said show structure is created in response to said search results received in response to said on-line search;

without requiring user input retrieving each of said resources identified by each of said nodes; and

automatically delivering said content to said user for display on said user's computer in accordance with said show structure.

43. The method in accordance with claim 42, wherein prior to said step of automatically delivering the method further comprises the step of filtering the retrieved plurality of said resources to determine which of the retrieved resources are to be displayed.

44. The method in accordance with claim 42, further comprises the step of automatically replacing each of said displayed content to said user with a following retrieved resource, after a specified period of time.

45. The method in accordance with claim 42, further comprising the step of allowing an option to bookmark each of the resources being displayed for later viewing.

46. The method in accordance with claim 42, further comprising the step of allowing an option to bookmark each of the resources being displayed for printing a selected subset of said retrieved resources.

47. The method in accordance with claim 42, wherein each of said retrieved resources is a World Wide Web page.

48. The method in accordance with claim 47, further comprising the step of displaying a schedule window, for displaying a set of chosen line-up of show structures and time of their display, each corresponding to one of said categories.

49. A method for transmitting in a sequential arrangement to a user's computer, content derived via a communications network from a plurality of resources the method comprising the steps of:

creating a user profile by specifying a plurality of user preferences;

conducting an online search to locate a plurality of web pages and their associated URL addresses corresponding to said user profile;

without requiring user input retrieving each of said web pages located by said search; and

automatically delivering said content to said user for display on said user's computer in accordance with said show structure.

50. The method in accordance with claim 49, wherein prior to said step of automatically delivering said content the method further comprises the step of filtering the retrieved plurality of said resources to determine which of the retrieved resources are to be displayed.

51. The method in accordance with claim 49, further comprises the step of automatically replacing each of said displayed content to said user with a following retrieved resource, after a specified period of time, wherein said period of time is interactively variable by said user.

52. The method in accordance with claim 49, wherein said step of filtering further comprises the step of reviewing each of said web pages in accordance with a predefined rating system.

53. The method in accordance with claim 52, wherein said rating system is MPAA rating system.

54. The method in accordance with claim 49, further comprising the step of censoring each of said retrieved web pages in accordance to a specified censor level.

55. The method in accordance with claim 49, further comprising the step of allowing an option to bookmark each of the resources being displayed for later viewing.

56. The method in accordance with claim 49, further comprising the step of allowing an option to bookmark each of the resources being displayed for printing a selected subset of said retrieved resources.

57. The method in accordance with claim 49, further comprising the step of

displaying a schedule window, for displaying a set of chosen line-up of show structures corresponding to one of said categories, and their corresponding display time.

58. An automated content displayer which is used to sequentially present, to a remote user, information content derived from selected websites, comprising:

means for storing at least one list of websites, each website of said at least one list having a corresponding address and an amount of time for which information content from said website is to be displayed to said remote user;

means for receiving from said remote user a selection of said list;

means, responsive to said selection of said list, for automatically retrieving information content from the websites in said list, without a user input;

means, for automatically providing the retrieved information content to said remote user;

means, for caching and queuing content from subsequent websites within said list, while a content corresponding to a current website is being displayed; and

a timer for controlling the duration that said information content is displayed to said user in accordance with the stored amount of time and for determining a time for retrieving information content corresponding to a next item in the list, wherein said duration that said information content is displayed is also interactively variable so as to enable a user to vary said duration.

59. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 58, further comprising means to determine whether one of said remote users requesting information is

capable of receiving dynamic content.

60. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 58, further comprising means to dynamically modify said stored addresses based on sites skipped by said user before expiration of said timer .

61. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 59, further comprising means for determining a profile of said remote user, when said user is capable of receiving dynamic content.

62. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 61, further comprising means for transmitting the type of dynamic content sent to said remote user based on said profile of said user.

63. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 60, further comprising means for transmitting advertising content to each one of said users in response to said dynamic modification.

64. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 63, wherein said advertising content is based on preferences of each one of said users.

65. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 58, further comprising means to monitor whether one of said users has selected a new site before expiration

of said timer.

66. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 65, further comprising means to determine whether said new site is within said stored list of selected sites.

67. An automated content displayer in accordance with claim 66, further comprising a database configured to store decisions made by said user while viewing contents of said sites corresponding to said stored list of selected sites.

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Page 00377

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PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)	:	Torres et al.
Serial No.	:	09/144,906
Filed	:	September 1, 1998
For	:	AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. 1.8a)

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Respectfully submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

By: Sandria Cirillo
Sandria Cirillo

Date: 5/15/03

Mailing Address:

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.
317 Madison Avenue, Suite 910
New York, New York 10017
Tel:(212)697-2800
Fax:(212)697-3004

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Attorney Docket No. 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
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In re Application of

Torres Group Art Unit: 2171

Serial No. 09/144,906

Filed: September 1, 1998

For: AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER
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Applicants wish to notify the Examiner that as of March 4, 2002 all communications directed to the Applicants should be mailed to:

SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.
317 Madison Avenue
Suite 910
New York, NY 10017
Phone (212) 697-2800
Facsimile (212) 697-3004

Joseph Sofer
Reg. No.: 34,438
Dated: 5/15/03

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/144,906	09/01/1998	DAMON C. TORRES	735-002	5334

7590 05/22/2003

JOSEPH SOFER
SOFER & HAROUN
317 Madison Avenue
Room 910
NEW YORK, NY 10017

EXAMINER	
WASSUM, LUKE S	
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2177	

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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7590 05/06/2003

JOSEPH SOFER
SOFER & HAROUN
342 MADISON AVENUE
SUITE 1921
NEW YORK, NY 10173

EXAMINER	
WASSUM, LUKE S	
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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Paper No. 23

Application Number: 09/144,906
Filing Date: September 01, 1998
Appellant(s): TORRES, DAMON C.

MAILED
MAY 06 2003
Technology Center 2100

Joseph Sofer
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed 7 March 2003.

(1) Real Party in Interest

A statement identifying the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

A statement identifying the related appeals and interferences which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the decision in the pending appeal is contained in the brief.

(3) Status of Claims

The statement of the status of the claims contained in the brief is correct.

(4) Status of Amendments After Final

No amendment after final has been filed.

(5) Summary of Invention

The summary of invention contained in the brief is correct.

(6) Issues

The appellant's statement of the issues in the brief is correct.

(7) Grouping of Claims

Appellant's brief includes a statement that claims 1-36 and 40-67 do not stand or fall together and provides reasons as set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(c)(7) and (c)(8).

(8) Claims Appealed

Claims 34 and 35 contain(s) substantial errors as presented in the Appendix to the brief. Accordingly, claims 34 and 35 are correctly written in the Appendix to the Examiner's Answer.

(9) Prior Art of Record

Hauck, F.J. "Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web", Proceedings of the 5th International World Wide Web Conference, 6-10 May 1996.

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(10) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

Claims 1-36 and 40-67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). This rejection is set forth in prior Office Action, Paper No. 18.

(11) Response to Argument

This Examiner's answer will address the arguments in the order in which they appear in the appeal brief.

A. Group 1

The claims of Group I (as represented by exemplary independent claim 1) are properly rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over HAUCK in view of Microsoft Press.

Regarding the claim of Group I (claims 1-9), Appellants argue that (1) there is no motivation to combine the cited references, and that any combination must be based on impermissible hindsight, that (2) **HAUCK** teaches away from the claimed employment of variable duration because it employs forward and backward buttons, that (3) **Microsoft Press** fails to teach the display of content derived from a plurality of resources, and that (4) the combined method would require the user to retrieve web pages from a source and store the content in a slide show file.

In response to these arguments, the Examiner presents the following arguments.

Regarding argument (1), the examiner respectfully submits that the motivation for combining the references, as stated in the rejection of record, is sufficient to establish a prima facie case of obviousness.

Specifically, both references are from the same field of endeavor, that is, the display of information to a user in a 'slide-show' type presentation. The **HAUCK** reference teaches a system wherein the 'slides' are derived from web pages, while the **Microsoft Press** reference teaches the conventional slide presentation, as embodied in their PowerPoint product.

At the time of the claimed invention (the priority date is September 1997), Microsoft's PowerPoint product was over a decade old. The PowerPoint features relied upon in the rejection of record, involving the variable duration of display of slides, was incorporated no later than 1992, the date of the reference. This was a full 5 years prior to the claimed invention.

Given the phenomenal success of the PowerPoint product and its predominance in the market, the examiner submits that the variable duration features were well known in the art, and furthermore that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate such features into any slide-show type product, such as a world wide web guided tour, at the time of the invention.

Furthermore, it must be recognized that any judgment on obviousness is in a sense necessarily a reconstruction based upon hindsight reasoning. But so long as it takes into account only knowledge which was within the level of ordinary skill at the time the claimed invention was made, and does not include knowledge gleaned only from the applicant's disclosure, such a reconstruction is proper. See *In re McLaughlin*, 443 F.2d 1392, 170 USPQ 209 (CCPA 1971).

Regarding argument (2), the examiner respectfully responds that the fact that the **HAUCK** reference uses forward and backward arrows does not teach away from the incorporation of variable display duration features. PowerPoint, which is herein relied upon for the teaching of said variable

display duration features, has a manual mode including forward and backward arrows. Such use of forward or backward arrows has not precluded it from also teaching variable display duration features. Thus, the combination of **HAUCK** and **Microsoft Press** teaches the claimed invention, including the variable display duration features.

Regarding argument (3), the examiner respectfully responds that one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

Specifically, the **HAUCK** reference was relied upon to the claimed display of content derived from a plurality of resources. However, the **Microsoft Press** reference was relied upon to complement **HAUCK** through it's teaching of the variable display duration features only. Thus, the combination of references teaches the claimed invention.

Regarding argument (4), the examiner respectfully submits that the appellant has misinterpreted the reference.

The **HAUCK** reference clearly teaches that execution of the web tour involves the downloading of web pages dynamically. For instance, on page 2, second to last paragraph, the reference teaches that the structure comprises a list of schema *links*, that enumerate arbitrary WWW documents on arbitrary servers. Furthermore, on page 3, under section 2 'Structuring Web Documents', it is disclosed that the schema links connect ordinary WWW documents, and that

documents used in a tour structure need not be aware of being used. Also, the last sentence of page 3 points out that each node of the tour structure is mapped to its original URL, which is sufficient to allow the retrieval of the original document. Finally, on page 7, last paragraph, it is disclosed that during the tour, the original document is retrieved.

For these reasons, the Examiner maintains that the rejection of the claims of Group I are proper, and should be sustained.

B. Group 2

The claims of Group II (as represented by exemplary independent claim 10) are properly rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over HAUCK in view of Microsoft Press.

Regarding the claim of Group II (claims 10-21), Appellants argue that (1) there is no motivation to combine the cited references, and that any combination must be based on impermissible hindsight, that (2) **HAUCK** fails to teach listing a series of resources or URLs on a first section of a user terminal and transfer by dragging and dropping the icon to second section of the user terminal in order to create a show structure, that (3) **Microsoft Press** fails to teach the display of content derived from a plurality of resources, and that (4) the combined method would require the user to retrieve web pages from a source and store the content in a slide show file.

In response to these arguments, the Examiner presents the following arguments.

Regarding argument (1), the examiner respectfully submits that the motivation for combining the references, as stated in the rejection of record, is sufficient to establish a prima facie case of obviousness.

Reiterating the points made above, the examiner submits that the features upon which the **Microsoft Press** reference is relied, that is, the use of icons in a drag-and-drop operation, were taught by 1992, at least five years prior to the appellant's invention. The market dominance of the PowerPoint product makes plain that the incorporation of icons in drag-and-drop operations was extremely well known in the art at the time, and it would have been obvious to incorporate such features in the creation of guided web tours at the time of the invention.

Regarding argument (2), the examiner respectfully submits that the features cited in the appellant's argument are not supported by the claimed invention. Specifically, the claimed invention does not recite the features of listing a series of resources or URLs on a first section of a user terminal and dragging and dropping the icon to a second section of the user terminal in order to create a show structure. Therefore, it is irrelevant whether or not the prior art of record teaches such features.

Regarding arguments (3) and (4), these arguments have been addressed above with regard to the claims of Group I.

For these reasons, the Examiner maintains that the rejection of the claims of Group II are proper, and should be sustained.

C. Group 3

The claims of Group III (as represented by exemplary independent claim 22) are properly rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over HAUCK in view of RICHARDSON et al.

Regarding the claim of Group III (claims 22-36), Appellants argue that (1) there is no motivation to combine the cited references, and that any combination must be based on impermissible hindsight, that (2) **HAUCK** fails to teach the automatic creation of a show structure based on the results of an on-line search, and that (3) **RICHARDSON et al.** also fails to teach the automatic creation of a show structure based on the results of an on-line search.

In response to these arguments, the Examiner presents the following arguments.

Regarding argument (1), the examiner respectfully submits that the motivation for combining the references, as stated in the rejection of record, is sufficient to establish a prima facie case of obviousness.

Specifically, both references are from the same field of endeavor, that is, the creation and display of guided tours of the World Wide Web. The **HAUCK** reference teaches a system wherein the 'slides' are derived from web pages, while the **RICHARDSON et al.** reference teaches a web tour director for connecting a client system with a number of web sites in accordance with a web tour stop vector identifying the web sites as tour stops of a web guided tour.

Furthermore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate on-line searching in the automatic creation of the show structure of nodes, since mechanisms for searching the World Wide Web were well known in the art at the time of the invention, and furthermore since there would be no other method for a web tour creator to identify desired URLs other than by performing a search to identify web sites of interest.

Regarding argument (2), the examiner respectfully responds that one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

Specifically, the **HAUCK** reference was relied upon to teach the claimed creation of a show structure. However, the **RICHARDSON et al.** reference was relied upon to complement **HAUCK** for it's teaching of the *automatic* creation of a show structure. Thus, the combination of

HAUCK and **Microsoft Press** teaches the claimed invention, including the automatic creation of a show structure.

Regarding argument (3), the examiner respectfully responds that **RICHARDSON et al.** teaches the automatic creation of the show structure of nodes with regard to the web tour configurator which automatically generates the web tour stop vector, said vector identifying the one or more web sites as tour stops on a web guided tour (see col. 2, lines 5-9 and 28-35). Furthermore, **RICHARDSON et al.** additionally teaches that the conventional searching of web sites and examination of the results is burdensome to a user, and that the same processes is repeated when different users perform the same search, or when a user performs the same search at a different time (see col. 1, lines 10-35). Finally, it is taught that under a streamlined scenario, web page owners who might have common interests and having done similar searches before, would provide links to related web sites (see col. 1, lines 40-43). These teachings suggest the claimed limitations of performing an on-line search, and automatically creating a show structure based on the results of said search.

Further regarding this argument, the examiner points out that the mere automation of a manual process does not render an invention patentable. In *In re Venner and Bowser* 120 USPQ 192 (CCPA 1958), the Court concluded that

> "...it is well settled that it is not "invention" to broadly provide a mechanical or automatic means to replace manual activity which has accomplished the same result. In re Rundell, 18 CCPA 1290, 48F.2d 958, 9 USPQ 220."

For these reasons, the Examiner maintains that the rejection of the claims of Group III are proper, and should be sustained.

D. Group 4

The claims of Group IV (as represented by exemplary independent claim 40) are properly rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over HAUCK in view of Microsoft Press.

Regarding the claim of Group IV (claims 40 and 41), Appellants argue that (1) there is no motivation to combine the cited references, and that any combination must be based on impermissible hindsight, that (2) the references fail to teach the display of two or more resources running concurrently on a single screen having overlapping time periods, and that (3) the combined method would require the user to retrieve web pages from a source and store the content in a slide show file.

In response to these arguments, the Examiner presents the following arguments.

Regarding argument (1), the examiner has addressed motivation for combining the two references above with respect to Groups 1 and 2.

Regarding argument (2), the examiner respectfully points out that **HAUCK** teaches that, through the use of frames, different documents can be displayed in different frames on the same screen (see section 3.4 Frames, first paragraph, on page 9), and furthermore that there are parallel sequences and subsequences of tour nodes illustrated in Figure 2.2, page 4. Therefore, the references do teach the claimed feature of two or more resources running concurrently on a single screen having overlapping time periods.

Regarding argument (3), the examiner has addressed this argument above with respect to Group 1.

For these reasons, the Examiner maintains that the rejection of the claims of Group IV are proper, and should be sustained.

E. Group 5

The claims of Group V (as represented by exemplary independent claim 42) are properly rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over HAUCK in view of RICHARDSON et al.

Regarding the claim of Group V (claims 42-48), Appellants argue that (1) there is no motivation to combine the cited references, and that any combination must be based on impermissible hindsight, that (2) **HAUCK** fails to teach the automatic creation of a show structure based on the results of an on-line search, that (3) **RICHARDSON et al.** also fails to teach the automatic creation of a show structure based on the results of an on-line search, and that (4) **RICHARDSON et al.** fails to teach conducting an on-line search according to categories.

In response to these arguments, the Examiner presents the following arguments.

Regarding arguments (1), (2) and (3), the examiner has addressed these arguments above with respect to the claims of Group 3.

Regarding claim (4), the examiner respectfully submits that the practice of performing an on-line search according to categories is well-known in the art. For instance, Yahoo, one of the first widely-utilized mechanisms for searching the World Wide Web, and still a popular web portal, performs searches based on categories. Evidence to this fact is supplied by PATCH in a PC Week article from 21 November 1994, citing Yahoo's use of subject categories for on-line searching, and also by U.S. Patent 5,625,781, having a priority date of 31 October 1995, wherein the on-line search categories are displayed in Figure 3. Given these facts, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to perform on-line searches according to

categories, since the most popular on-line search engine of its time performed searches according to categories.

For these reasons, the Examiner maintains that the rejection of the claims of Group V are proper, and should be sustained.

F. Group 6

The claims of Group VI (as represented by exemplary independent claim 49) are properly rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over HAUCK in view of RICHARDSON et al. in view of REILLY et al.

Regarding the claim of Group VI (claims 49-57), Appellants argue that (1) there is no motivation to combine the cited references, and that any combination must be based on impermissible hindsight, that (2) **HAUCK** fails to teach the automatic creation of a show structure based on the results of an on-line search, that (3) **RICHARDSON et al.** also fails to teach the automatic creation of a show structure based on the results of an on-line search, and that (4) **REILLY et al.** fails to teach conducting an on-line search according to user preferences.

In response to these arguments, the Examiner presents the following arguments.

Regarding arguments (1), (2) and (3), the examiner has addressed these arguments above with respect to the claims of Group 3.

Regarding argument (4), the examiner respectfully submits that **REILLY et al.** teaches a system wherein information is supplied to a user based on the user's interests as reflected in the user's preferences (see col. 2, lines 48-53; see also col. 3, lines 15-24). Such a limitation would allow the system to select news stories to be displayed on the subscriber's terminal according to topics of interest to the user (col. 2, lines 50-53). Therefore, **REILLY et al.** does teach the claimed limitation of conducting on-line searching according to user preferences.

For these reasons, the Examiner maintains that the rejection of the claims of Group VI are proper, and should be sustained.

G. Group 7

The claims of Group VII (as represented by exemplary independent claim 58) are properly rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over BLONDER et al. in view of BUCHANAN et al.

Regarding the claim of Group VII (claims 58-67), Appellants argue that (1) there is no motivation to combine the cited references, and that any combination must be based on impermissible hindsight, that (2) neither reference teaches the means for caching and queuing content from subsequent websites within said list, and that (3) **BUCHANAN et al.** fails to teach the use of a timer that is interactively variable so as to enable a user to vary said duration.

In response to these arguments, the Examiner presents the following arguments.

Regarding argument (1), the examiner respectfully submits that the motivation for combining the references, as stated in the rejection of record, is sufficient to establish a prima facie case of obviousness.

Specifically, both references are from the same field of endeavor, that is, the presentation of multimedia documents. **BLONDER et al.** teaches a system for providing structured tours of hypertext documents, while **BUCHANAN et al.** teaches a method of temporally formatting the data presentation of a time-dependent document.

Furthermore, **BUCHANAN et al.** teaches the advantages of incorporating temporal formatting in the presentation of a document, since scheduling the presentation of different information to occur at specific times would serve to convey information to the user more effectively (see col. 1, lines 34-39).

Regarding argument (2), the examiner respectfully submits that the concept of caching future content prior to its display to a user is deemed to be old in the art and that caching and queuing content from subsequent websites within said list would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention. Early analogous implementations of a cache memory are exemplified by microprocessors that prefetched instructions from a disk to memory in anticipation of their execution. Evidence that such a processor is old in the art is supplied by U.S. Patent 3,577,189, having a priority date of 15 January 1969, for a processor that prefetches instructions from a storage system in advance of the time at which they are processed, taught in claim 5.

Algorithms for predictive caching of database records are likewise old in the art, as evidenced by U.S. Patent 5,305,389, having a priority date of 30 August 1991.

Evidence that the use of cache memory to prefetch on-line content prior to its display is supplied by U.S. Patent 5,802,292, having a priority date of 28 April 1995, which teaches a system for prefetching objects over a computer network such that the object is received before the user actually requests it, which makes retrieval latency appear to be zero (Abstract). Additional evidence can be derived from U.S. Patent 5,485,609, having a priority date of 20 May 1994, and teaching prefetching. Hypertext systems users spend a significant amount of time processing a page, time during which the computer and I/O are essentially idle. If the computer can predict which page the user will request next, it can fetch that page into cache if it is not already in cache before the user asks for it. Thus, when the user actually asks for the page, the page is available instantaneously, and the user perceives a faster response time. (col. 1, lines 19-29).

Given this evidence, the examiner asserts that the practice of caching, as exemplified by prefetching, is old in the art and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to include it in the claimed invention, especially in light of the fact that *prediction* of future desired content is not necessary, the to-be-displayed content nodes having been predefined.

Regarding argument (3), the examiner respectfully submits that **BUCHANAN et al.** does indeed teach the use of a timer that is interactively variable so as to enable a user to vary said duration, for instance, at col. 1, lines 43-44, and at col. 30, lines 1-7.

For these reasons, the Examiner maintains that the rejection of the claims of Group VII are proper, and should be sustained.

Conclusion

Claims 1-36 and 40-67 are properly rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

In light of the foregoing arguments, the Examiner respectfully requests the Honorable Board of Appeals to sustain the rejections.

Respectfully submitted,

Luke S. Wassum
Art Unit 2177

Conferees
Frantz Coby FC
Jean R. Homere

lsw
May 2, 2003

JOSEPH SOFER
SOFER & HAROUN
342 MADISON AVENUE
SUITE 1921
NEW YORK, NY 10173

JEAN R. HOMERE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Appendix

This appendix includes the following:

a) the correct text of the current claims 34 and 35;

b) a copy of the document 'Absolute PowerPoint", documenting the history of the PowerPoint application;

c) the full text of the CCPA decision *In re Verner and Bowser* 120 USPQ 192;

d) a copy of PATCH, an article from the 21 November 1994 issue of PC Week, presented as evidence that performing on-line searching according to categories is old in the art;

e) a copy of U.S. Patent 5,625,781 (CLINE et al.), presented as evidence that performing on-line searching according to categories is old in the art; and

f) copies of U.S. Patents 3,577,189 (COCKE et al.), 5,305,389 (PALMER), 5,485,609 (VITTER et al.) and 5,802,292 (MOGUL), presented as evidence that the concept of caching content prior to its display, also known as prefetching, was old in the art at the time of the invention.

Claims 34 and 35

The correct text for claims 34 and 35:

34. The method in accordance with claim 2 further comprising the step of monitoring said user's instructions corresponding to interruption of said show structure within said duration.

35. The method in accordance with claim 2 further comprising the step of inserting advertisement displays between display of said contents corresponding to each of said nodes.

Absolute Powerpoint

Can a software package edit our thoughts
by Ian Parker

Before there were presentations, there were conversations, which were a little like presentations but used fewer bullet points, and no one had to dim the lights. A woman we can call Sarah Wyndham, a defense-industry consultant living in Alexandria, Virginia, recently began to feel that her two daughters weren't listening when she asked them to clean their bedrooms and do their chores. So, one morning, she sat down at her computer, opened Microsoft's PowerPoint program, and typed:

Family Matters
An approach for positive change to the
Wyndham family team

On a new page, she wrote:

- Lack of organization leads to confusion and frustration among all family members.
- Disorganization is detrimental to grades and to your social life.
- Disorganization leads to inefficiencies that impact the entire family.

Instead of pleading for domestic harmony, Sarah Wyndham was pitching for it. Soon she had eighteen pages of large type, supplemented by a color photograph of a generic happy family riding bicycles, and, on the final page, a drawing key-the key to success. The briefing was given only once, last fall. The experience was so upsetting to her children that the threat of a second showing was enough to make one of the Wyndham girls burst into tears.

PowerPoint, which can be found on two hundred and fifty million computers around the world, is software you impose on other people. It allows you to arrange text and graphics in a series of pages, which you can project, slide by slide, from a laptop computer onto a screen, or print as a booklet (as Sarah Wyndham did). The usual metaphor for everyday software is the tool, but that doesn't seem to be right here. PowerPoint is more like a suit of clothes, or a car, or plastic surgery. You take it out with you. You are judged by it-you insist on being judged by it. It is by definition a social instrument, turning middle managers into bullet-point dandies.

But PowerPoint also has a private, interior influence. It edits ideas. It is, almost surreptitiously, a business manual as well as a business suit, with an opinion-an oddly pedantic, prescriptive opinion-about the way we should think. It helps you make a case, but it also makes its own case: about how to organize information, how much information to organize, how to look at the world. One feature of this is the AutoContent Wizard, which supplies templates-"Managing Organizational Change" or "Communicating Bad News," say-that are so close to finished presentations you barely need to do more then add your company logo. The "Motivating a Team" template, for example, includes a slide headed "Conduct a Creative Thinking Session":

Ask: In what ways can we...?

- -Assess the situation. Get the facts.
- -Generate possible solutions with green light, nonjudgmental thinking.
- -Select the best solution.

The final injunction is "Have an inspirational close."

It's easy to avoid these extreme templates-many people do-as well as embellishments like clip art, animations, and sound effects. But it's hard to shake off AutoContent's spirit: even the most easygoing PowerPoint template insists on a heading followed by bullet points, so that the user is shepherded toward a staccato, summarizing frame of mind, of the kind parodied, for example, in a PowerPoint Gettysburg Address posted on the Internet:"Dedicate portion of field-fitting!"

Because PowerPoint can be an impressive antidote to fear-converting public-speaking dread into moviemaking pleasure-there seems to be no great impulse to fight this influence, as you might fight the unrelenting animated paperclip in Microsoft Word. Rather, PowerPoint's restraints seem to be soothing-so much so that where Microsoft has not written rules, businesses write them for themselves. A leading U.S. computer manufacturer has distributed guidelines to its employees about PowerPoint presentations, insisting on something it calls the "Rules of Seven": "Seven (7) bullets or lines per page, seven (7) words per line."

Today, after Microsoft's decade of dizzying growth, there are great tracts of corporate America where to appear at a meeting without PowerPoint would be unwelcome and vaguely pretentious, like wearing no shoes. In darkened rooms at industrial plants and ad agencies, at sales pitches and conferences, this is how people are communicating: no paragraphs, no pronouns-the world

condensed into a few upbeat slides, with seven or so words on a line, seven or so lines on a slide. And now it's happening during sermons and university lectures and family arguments, too. A New Jersey PowerPoint user recently wrote in an online discussion, "Last week I caught myself planning out (in my head) the slides I would need to explain to my wife why we couldn't afford a vacation this year." Somehow, a piece of software designed, fifteen years ago, to meet a simple business need has become a way of organizing thought at kindergarten show-and-tells. "Oh, Lord," one of the early developers said to me. "What have we done?"

Forty years ago, a workplace meeting was a discussion with your immediate colleagues. Engineers would meet with other engineers and talk in the language of engineering. A manager might make an appearance-acting as an interpreter, a bridge to the rest of the company-but no one from the marketing or production or sales department would be there. Somebody might have gone to the trouble of cranking out mimeographs-that would be the person with purple fingers.

But the structure of American industry changed in the nineteen-sixties and seventies. Clifford Nass, who teaches in the Department of Communication at Stanford, says, "Companies weren't discovering things in the laboratory and then trying to convince consumers to buy them. They were discovering-or creating-consumer demand, figuring out what they can convince consumers they need, then going to the laboratory and saying, 'Build this!' People were saying, 'We can create demand. Even if demand doesn't exist, we know how to market this.' SpaghettiOs is the great example. The guy came up with the jingle first: 'The neat round spaghetti you can eat with a spoon.: And he said, 'Hey! Make spaghetti in the shape of small circles!'"

As Jerry Porras, a professor of organizational behavior and change at Stanford Graduate School of Business, says, "When technologies no longer just drove the product out but the customer sucked it out, then you had to know what the customer wanted, and that meant a lot more interaction inside the company." There are new conversations: Can we make this? How do we sell this if we make it? Can we do it in blue?

America began to go to more meetings. By the early nineteen-eighties, when the story of PowerPoint starts, employees had to find ways to talk to colleagues from other departments, colleagues who spoke a different language, brought together by SpaghettiOs and by the simple fact that technology was generating more information. There was more to know and, as the notion of a job for life eroded, more reason to know it.

In this environment, visual aids were bound to thrive. In 1975, fifty thousand overhead projectors were sold in America. By 1985, that figure had increased to more than a hundred and twenty thousand. Overheads, which were developed in the mid-forties for use by the police, and were then widely used in bowling alleys and schools, did not fully enter business life until the mid seventies, when a transparency film that could survive the heat of a photocopier became available. Now anything on a sheet of paper could be transferred to an overhead slide. Overheads were cheaper than the popular alternative, the 35-mm slide (which needed graphics professionals), and they were easier to use. But they restricted you to your typewriter's font-rather, your secretary's typewriter's font-or your skill with Letraset and a felt-tipped pen. A businessman couldn't generate a handsome, professional-looking font in his own office.

In 1980, though, it was clear that a future of widespread personal computers-and laser printers and screens that showed the very thing you were about to print-was tantalizingly close. In the Mountain View, California, laboratory of Bell-Northern Research, computer-research scientists had set up a great mainframe computer, a graphics workstation, a phototypesetter, and the earliest Canon laser printer, which was the size of a bathtub and took six men to carry into the building-together, a cumbersome approximation of what would later fit on a coffee table and cost a thousand dollars. With much trial and error, and jogging from one room to another, you could use this collection of machines as a kind of word processor.

Whitfield Diffie had access to this equipment. A mathematician, a former peacenik, and an enemy of exclusive government control of encryption systems, Diffie had secured a place for himself in computing legend in 1976, when he and a colleague, Martin Hellman, announced the discovery of a new method of protecting secrets electronically-public-key cryptography. At Bell-Northern, Diffie was researching the security of telephone systems. In 1981, preparing to give a presentation with 35-mm. slides, he wrote a little program, tinkering with some graphics software designed by a B.N.R. colleague, that allowed you to draw a black frame on a piece of paper. Diffie expanded it so that the page could show a number of frames, and text inside each frame, with space for commentary around them. In other words, he produced a storyboard-a slide show on paper-that could be sent to the designers who made up the slides, and that would also serve as a script for his lecture. (At this stage, he wasn't photocopying what he had produced to make overhead transparencies, although scientists in other facilities were doing that.) With a few days' effort, Diffie had pointed the way to PowerPoint.

Diffie has long gray hair and likes to wear English suits. Today, he works for Sun Microsystems, as an internal consultant on encryption matters. I recently had lunch with him in Palo Alto, and for the first time he publicly acknowledged his presence at the birth of PowerPoint. It was an odd piece of news: as if Lenin had invented the stapler. Yes, he said, PowerPoint was "based on" his work at B.N.R. This is not of great consequence to Diffie, whose reputation in his own field is so high that he is one of the few computer scientists to receive erotically charged fan mail. He said he was "mildly miffed" to have made no money from the PowerPoint connection, but he has no interest in beginning a feud with an old friend. "Bob was the one who had the vision to

understand how important it was to the world," he said. "And I didn't."

Bob is Bob Gaskins, the man who has to take final responsibility for the drawn blinds of high-rise offices around the world and the bullet points dashing across computer screens inside. His account of PowerPoint's parentage does not exactly match Diffie's, but he readily accepts his former colleague as "my inspiration." In the late nineteen-seventies and early eighties, Gaskins was B.N.R.'s head of computer-science research. A former Berkeley Ph.D. student, he had a family background in industrial photographic supplies and grew up around overhead projectors and inks and gels. In 1982, he returned for a six-month overseas business trip and, with a vivid sense of the future impact of the Apple Macintosh and of Microsoft's Windows (both of which were in development), he wrote a list of fifty commercial possibilities-Arabic typesetting, menus, signs. And then he looked around his own laboratory and realized what had happened while he was away: following Diffie's lead, his colleagues were trying to make overheads to pitch their projects for funding, despite the difficulties of using the equipment. (What you saw was not at all what you got.) "Our mainframe was buckling under the load," Gaskins says.

He now had his idea: a graphics program that would work with Windows and the Macintosh, and that would put together, and edit, a string of single pages, or "slides." In 1984, he left B.N.R., joined an ailing Silicon Valley software firm, Forethought, in exchange for a sizeable share of the company, and hired a software developer, Dennis Austin. They began work on a program called Presenter. After a trademark problem, and an epiphany Gaskins had in the shower, Presenter became PowerPoint.

Gaskins is a precise, bookish man who lives with his wife in a meticulously restored and furnished nineteenth-century house in the Fillmore district of San Francisco. He has recently discovered an interest in antique concertinas. When I visited him, he was persuaded to play a tune, and he gave me a copy of a forthcoming paper he had co-written:"A Wheatstone Twelve-Sided 'Edeophone' Concertina with Pre-MacCann Chromatic Duet Fingering." Gaskins is skeptical about the product that PowerPoint has become-AutoContent and animated fades between slides-but he is devoted to the simpler thing that it was, and he led me through a well-preserved archive of PowerPoint memorabilia, including the souvenir program for the PowerPoint reunion party, in 1997, which had a quiz filled with in-jokes about font size and programming languages. He also found an old business plan from 1984. One phrase-the only one in italics- read, "Allows the content-originator to control the presentation." For Gaskins, that had always been the point: to get rid of the intermediaries-graphic designers-and never mind the consequences. Whenever colleagues sought to restrict the design possibilities of the program (to make a design disaster less likely), Gaskins would overrule them, quoting Thoreau:"I came into this world, not chiefly to make this a good place to live in, but to live in it, be it good or bad."

PowerPoint 1.0 went on sale in April, 1987-available only for the Macintosh, and only in black-and-white. It generated text-and-graphics pages that a photocopier could turn into overhead transparencies. (This was before laptop computers and portable projectors made PowerPoint a tool for live electronic presentations. Gaskins thinks he may have been the first person to use the program in the modern way, in a Paris hotel in 1992-which is like being the first person ever to tap a microphone and say, "Can you hear me at the back?") The Macintosh market was small and specialized, but within this market PowerPoint-the first product of its kind-was a hit. "I can't describe how wonderful it was," Gaskins says. "When we demonstrated at trade shows, we were mobbed." Shortly after the launch, Forethought accepted an acquisition offer of fourteen million dollars from Microsoft. Microsoft paid cash and allowed Bob Gaskins and his colleagues to remain partly self-governing in Silicon Valley, far from the Microsoft campus, in Redmond, Washington. Microsoft soon regretted the terms of the deal; PowerPoint workers became known for a troublesome independence of spirit (and for rewarding themselves, now and then, with beautifully staged parties-caviar, string quartets, Renaissance-period fancy dress).

PowerPoint had been created, in part, as a response to the new corporate world of interdepartmental communication. Those involved with the program now experienced the phenomenon at first hand. In 1990, the first PowerPoint for Windows was launched, alongside Windows 3.0. And PowerPoint quickly became what Gaskins calls "a cog in the great machine." The PowerPoint programmers were forced to make unwelcome changes, partly because in 1990 Word, Excel, and PowerPoint began to be integrated into Microsoft Office-a strategy that would eventually make PowerPoint invincible-and partly in response to market research. AutoContent was added in the mid-nineties, when Microsoft learned that some would-be presenters were uncomfortable with a blank PowerPoint page-it was hard to get started. "We said, 'What we need is some automatic content!'" a former Microsoft developer recalls, laughing. "'Punch the button and you'll have a presentation.'" The idea, he thought, was "crazy." And the name was meant as a joke. But Microsoft took the idea and kept the name-a rare example of a product named in outright mockery of its target customers.

Gaskins left PowerPoint in 1992, and many of his colleagues followed soon after. Now rich from Microsoft stock, and beginning the concertina-collecting phase of their careers, they watched as their old product made its way into the heart of American business culture. By 1993, PowerPoint had a majority share of the presentation market. In 1995, the average user created four and a half presentations a month. Three years later, the monthly average was nine. PowerPoint began to appear in cartoon strips and everyday conversation. A few years ago, Bob Gaskins was at a presentations-heavy conference in Britain. The organizer brought the proceedings to a sudden stop, saying, "I've just been told that the inventor of PowerPoint is in the audience-will he please identify himself so we can recognize his contribution to the advancement of science?" Gaskins stood up. The audience laughed and applauded.

Cathleen Belleville, a former graphic designer who worked at PowerPoint as a product planner from 1989 to 1995, was amazed to see a clip-art series she had created become modern business icons. The images were androgynous silhouette stick figures (she called them Screen Beans), modelled on a former college roommate: a little figure clicking its heels; another with an inspirational light bulb above its head. One Screen Bean. the patron saint of PowerPoint-a figure that stands beneath a question mark, scratching its head in puzzlement-is so popular that a lawyer at a New York firm who has seen many PowerPoint presentations claims never to have seen one without the head-scratcher. Belleville herself has seen her Beans all over the world, reprinted on baseball caps, blown up fifteen feet high in a Hamburg bank. "I told my mom, 'You know, my artwork is in danger of being more famous than the "Mona Lisa."'" Above the counter in a laundromat on Third Avenue in New York, a sign explains that no responsibility can be taken for deliveries to doorman buildings. And there, next to the words, is the famous puzzled figure. It is hard to understand the puzzlement. Doorman? Delivery? But perhaps this is simply how a modern poster clears its throat: Belleville has created the international sign for "sign."

According to Microsoft estimates, at least thirty million PowerPoint presentations are made every day. The program has about ninety-five per cent of the presentations-software market. And so perhaps it was inevitable that it would migrate out of business and into other areas of our lives. I recently spoke to Sew Meng Chung, a Malaysian research engineer living in Singapore who got married in 1999. He told me that, as his guests took their seats for a wedding party in the Goodwood Park Hotel, they were treated to a PowerPoint presentation: a hundred and thirty photographs-one fading into the next every four or five seconds, to musical accompaniment. "They were baby photos, and courtship photos, and photos taken with our friends and family," he told me.

I also spoke to Terry Taylor, who runs a Web site called eBibleTeacher.com, which supplies materials for churches that use electronic visual aids. "Jesus was a storyteller, and he gave graphic images," Taylor said. "He would say, 'Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow,' and all indications are that there were lilies in the field when he was talking, you know. He used illustrations." Taylor estimates that fifteen per cent of American churches now have video projectors, and many use PowerPoint regularly for announcements, for song lyrics, and to accompany preaching. (Taylor has seen more than one sermon featuring the head-scratching figure.) Visitors to Taylor's site can download photographs of locations in the Holy Land, as well as complete PowerPoint sermons-for example,"Making Your Marriage Great":

- Find out what you are doing to harm your marriage and heal it.
- Financial irresponsibility
- Temper
- Pornography
- Substance abuse
- You name it!

When PowerPoint is used to flash hymn lyrics, or make a quick pitch to a new client, or produce an eye-catching laundromat poster, it's easy to understand the enthusiasm of, say, Tony Kurz, the vice-president for sales and marketing of a New York-based Internet company, who told me, "I love PowerPoint. It's a brilliant application. I can take you through at exactly the pace I want to take you." There are probably worse ways to transmit fifty or a hundred words of text, or information that is mainly visual-ways that involve more droning, more drifting. And PowerPoint demands at least some rudimentary preparation: a PowerPoint presenter is, by definition, not thinking about his or her material for the very first time. Steven Pinker, the author of "The Language Instinct" and a psychology professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, says that PowerPoint can give visual shape to an argument. "Language is a linear medium: one damn word after another," he says. "But ideas are multidimensional...When properly employed, PowerPoint makes the logical structure of an argument more transparent. Two channels sending the same information are better than one."

Still, it's hard to be perfectly comfortable with a product whose developers occasionally find themselves trying to suppress its use. Jolene Rocchio, who is a product planner for Microsoft Office (and is upbeat about PowerPoint in general,) told me that, at a recent meeting of a nonprofit organization in San Francisco, she argued against a speaker's using PowerPoint at a future conference. "I said, 'I think we just need her to get up and speak.'" On an earlier occasion, Rocchio said, the same speaker had tried to use PowerPoint and the projector didn't work, "and everybody was, like, cheering. They just wanted to hear this woman speak, and they wanted it to be from her heart. And the PowerPoint almost alienated her audience."

This is the most common complaint about PowerPoint. Instead of human contact, we are given human display. "I think that we as a people have become unaccustomed to having real conversations with each other, where actually give and take to arrive at a new answer. We present to each other, instead of discussing," Cathy Belleville says. Tad Simons, the editor of the magazine "Presentations" (whose second-grade son used PowerPoint for show-and-tell), is familiar with the sin of triple delivery, where precisely the same text is seen on the screen, spoken aloud, and printed on the handout in front of you (the "leave-behind," as it is known in some circles). "The thing that makes my heart sing is when somebody pressed the 'B' button and the screen goes black and you can actually talk to the person," Simons told me.

In 1997, Sun Microsystems' chairman and C.E.O., Scott McNealy, "banned" PowerPoint (a ban widely disregarded by his staff).

The move might have been driven, in part, by Sun's public-relations needs as a Microsoft rival, but, according to McNealy, there were genuine productivity issues. "Why did we ban it? Let me put it this way: If I want to tell my forty thousand employees to attack, the word 'attack' in ASCII is forty-eight bits. As a Microsoft Word document, it's 90,112 bits. Put that same word in a PowerPoint slide and it becomes 458,048 bits. That's a pig through the python when you try to send it over the Net." McNealy's concern is shared by the American military. Enormously elaborate PowerPoint files (generated by presentation-obsessives--so-called PowerPoint Rangers) were said to be clogging up the military's bandwidth. Last year, to the delight of many under his command, General Henry H. Shelton, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, issued an order to U.S. bases around the world insisting on simpler presentations.

PowerPoint was developed to give public speakers control over design decisions. But it's possible that those speakers should be making other, more important decisions. "In the past, I think we had an inefficient system, where executives passed all of their work to secretaries," Cathy Belleville says. "But now we've got highly paid people sitting there formatting slides-spending hours formatting slides-because it's more fun to do that than concentrate on what you're going to say. It would be much more efficient to offload that work onto someone who could do it in a tenth of the time, and be paid less. Millions of executives around the world are sitting there going, 'Arial? Times Roman? Twenty-four point? Eighteen point?'"

In the glow of a PowerPoint show, the world is condensed, simplified, and smoothed over--yet bright and hyperreal--like the cityscape background in a PlayStation motor race. PowerPoint is strangely adept at disguising the fragile foundations of a proposal, the emptiness of a business plan; usually, the audience is respectfully still (only venture capitalists dare to dictate the pace of someone else's slide show), and, with the visual distraction of a dancing pie chart, a speaker can quickly move past the laughable flaw in his argument. If anyone notices, it's too late--the narrative presses on.

Last year, three researchers at Arizona State University, including Robert Cialdini, a professor of psychology and the author of "Influence: Science and Practice," conducted an experiment in which they presented three groups of volunteers with information about Andrew, a fictional high-school student under consideration for a university football scholarship. One group was given Andrew's football statistics typed on a piece of paper. The second group was shown bar graphs. Those in the third group were given a PowerPoint presentation, in which animated bar graphs grew before their eyes.

Given Andrew's record, what kind of prospect was he? According to Cialdini, when Andrew was PowerPointed, viewers saw him as a greater potential asset to the football team. The first group rated Andrew four and a half on a scale of one to seven; the second rated him five; and the PowerPoint group rated him six. PowerPoint gave him power. The experiment was repeated, with three groups of sports fans that were accustomed to digesting sports statistics; this time, the first two groups gave Andrew the same rating. But the group that saw the PowerPoint presentation still couldn't resist it. Again, Andrew got a six. PowerPoint seems to be a way for organizations to turn expensive, expert decision-makers into novice decision-makers. "It's frightening," Cialdini says. He always preferred to use slides when he spoke to business groups, but one high-tech company recently hinted that his authority suffered as a result. "They said, 'You know what, Bob? You've got to get into PowerPoint, otherwise people aren't going to respond.' So I made the transfer."

Clifford Nass has an office overlooking the Oval lawn at Stanford, a university where the use of PowerPoint is so widespread that to refrain from using it is sometimes seen as a mark of seniority and privilege, like egg on one's tie. Nass once worked for Intel, and then got a Ph.D. in sociology, and now he writes about and lectures on the ways people think about computers. But, before embarking on any of that, Professor Nass was a professional magician-Cliff Conjure-so he has some confidence in his abilities as a public performer.

According to Nass, who now gives PowerPoint lectures because his students asked him to, PowerPoint "lifts the floor" of public speaking: a lecture is less likely to be poor if the speaker is using the program. "What PowerPoint does is very efficiently deliver content," Nass told me. "What students gain is a lot more information-not just facts but rules, ways of thinking, examples."

At the same time, PowerPoint "lowers the ceiling," Nass says. "What you miss is the process. The classes I remember most, the professors I remember most, were the ones where you could watch how they thought. You don't remember what they said, the details. It was 'What an elegant way to wrap around a problem!' PowerPoint takes that away. PowerPoint gives you the outcome, but it removes the process."

"What I miss is, when I used to lecture without PowerPoint, every now and then I'd get a cool idea," he went on. "I remember once it just hit me. I'm lecturing, and all of a sudden I go, 'God! "The Wizard of Oz"! The scene at the end of "The Wizard of Oz"!'" Nass, telling this story, was almost shouting. (The lecture, he later explained, was about definitions of "the human" applied to computers.) "I just went for it--twenty-five minutes. And to this day students who were in that class remember it. That couldn't happen now: 'Where the hell is the slide?'"

PowerPoint could lead us to believe that information is all there is. According to Nass, PowerPoint empowers the provider of simple content (and that was the task Bob Gaskins originally set for it), but it risks squeezing out the provider of process--that is

to say, the rhetorician, the storyteller, the poet, the person whose thoughts cannot be arranged in the shape of an AutoContent slide. "I hate to admit this," Nass said,"but I actually removed a book from my syllabus last year because I couldn't figure out how to PowerPoint it. It's a lovely book called 'Interface Culture,' by Steven Johnson, but it's very discursive; the charm of it is the throwaways. When I read this book, I thought, My head's filled with ideas, and now I've got to write out exactly what those ideas are, and-they're not neat." He couldn't get the book into bullet points; every time he put something down, he realized that it wasn't quite right. Eventually, he abandoned the attempt, and instead of a lecture, he gave his students a recommendation. He told them it was a good book, urged them to read it, and moved on to the next bullet point.

From the New Yorker - May 28, 2001

FULL TEXT OF CASES (USPQ FIRST SERIES)
In re VENNER AND BOWSER, 120 USPQ 192 (CCPA 1958)

In re VENNER AND BOWSER

(CCPA)
120 USPQ 192

Decided Dec. 19, 1958
Appl. No. 6391
U.S. Court of Customs and Patent Appeals

Headnotes

PATENTS

1. Patentability — Anticipation — Patents — On copending applications (§ 51.2219)

It is proper to predicate rejection of claims solely on admitted state of prior art as disclosed in applicants' patent issued on application copending with parent application of instant application.

2. Patentability—Aggregation or combination—Of old elements (§ 51.159)

New combination of old elements is patentable under certain circumstances; however, elements must cooperate in such manner as to produce new, unobvious, and unexpected result; combination must amount to invention.

3. Patentability—Invention—In general (§ 51.501)

Patentability—Utility (§ 51.75)

In absence of invention, utility and novelty are not sufficient to support allowance of claims.

4. Patentability — Invention — Definition (§ 51.503)

Invention is difficult to define positively.

5. Patentability—Invention—In general (§ 51.501)

It is not invention to produce device within realm of performance of skilled mechanic in ordinary progress of producing device required to effectuate given result.

6. Patentability—Invention—In general (§ 51.501)

It is not invention to broadly provide mechanical or automatic means to replace manual activity which accomplished same result.

7. Patentability—Subject matter for patent monopoly — Mental processes (§ 51.609)

Patentability cannot be predicated upon mental step.

8. Patentability—Evidence of—Commercial success—Doubtful cases (§ 51.4557)

Commercial success is of no moment unless patentability is in doubt.

Particular patents — Molding Pistons

Venner and Bowser, Apparatus for Molding Trunk Pistons, claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 10, 13 and 20 of application refused.

Case History and Disposition:

Appeal from Board of Appeals of the Patent Office.

Application for patent of William M. Venner and Percy L. Bowser, Jr., Serial No. 309,966; Patent Office Division 3. From decision rejecting claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 10, 13, and 20, applicants appeal. Affirmed.

Attorneys:
JOHN H. BRUNINGA, St. Louis, Mo., and RICHARD G. RADUE, Washington, D.C., for appellants.

CLARENCE W. MOORE (GEORGE C. ROEMING of counsel) for Commissioner of Patents.

Judge:
Before O'CONNELL, Acting Chief Judge, and WORLEY, RICH, and MARTIN, Associate Judges.

Opinion Text

Opinion By:
MARTIN, Judge.

This is an appeal from the decision of the Board of Appeals of the Patent Office affirming the final rejection by the examiner of claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 10, 13 and 20, all of the claims remaining, of application serial No. 309,966, for "Apparatus for Molding Trunk Pistons." The subject matter of the claims on appeal was disclosed in a parent application of the same inventors, serial No. 789,124, filed December 1, 1947, and copending with the instant application.

The appealed claims relate to a permanent mold casting apparatus for molding trunk pistons of aluminum and magnesium alloys wherein the mold comprises two external horizontally movable outer mold sections, a pair of internal horizontally displaceable side core sections which form the interior surfaces of the piston, and a vertically acting middle core section withdrawable from between the side core sections so as to permit the latter to collapse towards one another, thereby releasing the molded solidified piston. The outer mold sections in assembled position form a gate into which the molten metal may be fed by gravity to fill the mold cavity. The middle core section is positioned by a piston type fluid motor which withdraws the said section when actuated. The alleged invention resides in the provision of "time-controlled means" to actuate the said fluid motor in order to withdraw the middle core section at the proper time after pouring the metal into the mold so as to prevent slumping of the metal or excessive contraction thereof on the core members. The "time-controlled means" are initiated by the molder by depressing a foot operated

switch immediately after pouring the molten metal into the gate.

Claim 1, which is regarded as representative of the claims on appeal, reads as follows:

1. An apparatus for molding trunk pistons of aluminum and magnesium alloys having relatively high crystallization shrinkages and coefficients of thermal expansion, such piston embodying a head having a relatively thick cross-section and a cylindrical skirt of relatively thin cross-section provided with inwardly extending wrist pin bosses of relatively thick cross-section, comprising, a pair of separable mold sections shaped to the outside of the piston and provided with a gate at the top adapted to cast the piston with the head up, a sectional core shaped to the inside of the piston and embodying a middle section movable downwardly between and below side sections which are shaped to form the bosses and are freely movable laterally into the space when vacated by said middle section, power-operated means connected to move said middle section downwardly below said side sections, time-controlled means set to the period between the completion of the pouring of the metal in the mold and solidification of the metal of the piston therein, means controlled by said time-controlled means and controlling said power-operated means in order to move said middle section downwardly at the end of said period to release it from the casting and to permit the side sections to freely move laterally away from the casting, and means accessible to the molder when pouring for initiating the starting of said time-controlled means after the completion of such pouring.

The references relied on are:

Nichols, 1,925,496, Sept. 5, 1933.

Stern, 2,145,956, Feb. 7, 1939.

Wagner, 2,190,496, Feb. 13, 1940.

Flammang et al., 2,204,407, June 11, 1940.

Waldie, 2,363,759, Nov. 28, 1944.

Venner et al., 2,588,898, Mar. 11, 1952.

Venner et al., a patent issued to the same inventors as those herein, was copending with appellants' parent application. The said patent discloses a permanent molding apparatus for aluminum alloy trunk pistons comprising exterior mold sections, side core parts, and a power operated central core part, which parts are said to "be of any suitable construction as shown in the various patents enumerated above." The admitted prior art disclosure included the Flammang et al. patent, discussed, infra. The claims of the Venner et al. patent set forth a multiple mold apparatus supported on a rotatable carrier, which is actuated by power operated means at the disposal of the molder to position the carrier and the molds together with their respective core sections for the alternate pouring and solidification steps.

The Flammang et al, reference relates to a trunk piston permanent molding machine of the same general class as applicants' including a pair of mold sections, two side core sections, and a center core section capable of being vertically withdrawn to permit inward movement of the side core sections and removal of the formed casting. Flammang et al. teach freeing the casting from the side core sections "as soon as the operator is satisfied that the casting has cooled to a sufficient state of hardness."

Stern discloses a die casting machine wherein molten metal is injected into the die cavity and a timer controls the operation of an ejector pin which pin ejects the casting from the die subsequent to the formation thereof and in timed sequence therewith.

The Waldie patent discloses a die casting machine for aluminum and other metals in which a timer is actuated to open the die and discharge the casting therefrom. No core is removed from the die; instead, the die members are merely separated from one another.

The Nichols reference discloses a permanent molding apparatus for the manufacture of castings from metal, such as cast iron. The core is retracted automatically from the mold "after the castings have solidified around the cores and before the castings begin to contract." The said mold is mounted on a rotatable carrier which moves intermittently to position each mold successively for pouring of the molten metal, core withdrawal, and ejection of the finished casting. The said patent discloses that:

* * * the amount of time which should elapse between the filling of the mold and the withdrawing of the cores depends upon the time required for chilling that portion of the casting adjacent the core sufficiently to solidify it. As this time is variable depending on the size of the casting and the material used it is necessary to vary the time required to pass between the stations. * * *

The Wagner patent shows a permanent molding apparatus for manufacturing engine blocks in which a plurality

of core members are withdrawn from the mold automatically upon closing an electrical circuit.

The rejection of claims 1, 2, and 5 as "lacking invention over Venner et al. in view of either Stern or Waldie, when viewed in the light of the art as evidenced by Wagner and Nichols," was affirmed by the Board of Appeals. The basic features of these claims are found in claim 1 and the differences therefrom recited in the other enumerated claims do not patentably distinguish over the reference combination cited; accordingly, the patentability of these claims will be considered in connection with that of claim 1.

[1] Appellants object to the board's reliance on the Venner et al. patent, No. 2,588,898, as a reference since the said patent was co-pending with the parent application of that herein. The board, in its opinion on reconsideration, indicated that the rejection of those claims was predicated solely on the admitted state of the prior art as disclosed in said Venner et al. patent. We find no reversible error in the use of such admissions. In re Rishoi et al., 39 CCPA 1004, 197 F.2d 342, 94 USPQ 71 .

It was conceded by counsel for appellants at the hearing that the molding apparatus without the timing device and associated means to initiate the withdrawal of the middle core section after a predetermined period of time is not patentable over the prior art. Counsel further agrees that the power operated valve means for vertically withdrawing the middle core section when manually initiated is shown by the patents of record; therefore, it is unnecessary to further discuss the references in this respect.

However, appellants do contend that the basis for allowance of the appealed claims resides in the combination of the old permanent-mold structures together with a timer and solenoid which automatically actuates the known pressure valve system to release the inner core after a predetermined time has elapsed.

Appellants have submitted an affidavit showing commercial success of the device set forth and indicating those factors which they deem illustrative of the unobviousness of the recited combination. They argue that this new combination has reduced the number of defective pistons formed by permanent molding by 15% and has increased production 35%. It is further claimed that the reduction of defects is caused by the use of the timer in withdrawing the inner core at the exact time required to avoid slumping of the metal when the inner core is withdrawn too soon and cracking in the thin skirt portions thereof, when withdrawn too late. Appellants state that previous to their asserted invention, the molder by noting the color and sinking of the gate, guessed when to withdraw the center core and that this course of action caused the large percentage of defective pistons.

Further, appellants stress the importance of the claimed combination in particular relation to the aluminum and magnesium alloy piston molding art which they argue has peculiar problems not found in the molding of pistons with other metals. The affidavit states that "pistons when made of aluminum and magnesium alloys have high crystallization shrinkages and coefficients of thermal expansion. * * * The crystallization shrinkage must be compensated for by the proper design and gating. If that is not done then a serviceable piston casting will not be produced."

[2] Unquestionably a new combination of old elements is patentable under certain circumstances. However, we believe that this principle is subject to the conditions stated in the case of In re Kaufman, 39 CCPA 769, 1952 C.D. 85, 656 O.G. 279, 193 F.2d 331, 92 USPQ 141 , wherein the court stated at 774, 92 USPQ at 144:

* * * if a new combination of old elements is to be patentable, the elements must cooperate in such manner as to produce a new, unobvious, and unexpected result. It must amount to an invention. In re Smith, 34 CCPA 1007, 73 USPQ 394 , cited supra. In

[3] the absence of invention, utility and novelty are not sufficient to support the allowance of claims for a patent. In re Levin, 37 CCPA 791, 178 F.2d 945, 84 USPQ 232 ; In re Hass et al., 31 CCPA 895, 141 F.2d 122,

[4] 60 USPQ 544 . It is trite to say that invention is difficult to define positively.

[5] However, we believe it to be a settled rule that it is not invention to produce a device which is within the realm of performance of a skilled mechanic in the ordinary progress of producing a device required to effectuate a given result.

[6] Furthermore, it is well settled that it is not "invention" to broadly provide a mechanical or automatic means to replace manual activity which has accomplished the same result. In re Rundell, 18 CCPA 1290, 48 F.2d 958, 9 USPQ 220 .

With respect to the paramount contention of appellants that the timing device of their combination establishes patentability, we are of the opinion that the prior art and the logical deductions

of anyone skilled in the art would preclude the determination that the recitation of "time-controlled means set to the period between the completion of the pouring of the metal in the mold and solidification of the metal of the piston therein" constitutes "invention." The need for withdrawal of the middle core section upon solidification is recognized by Flammang et al.; Waldie and Stern teach the advantages of timing devices used in conjunction with pressure valves to cause the withdrawal of various parts at predetermined times after pouring in the operation of molding devices. Therefore it would be obvious to any person skilled in this art to equip the mold structure of Flammang et al. with the timing devices of Waldie or Stern.

Appellants claim that because of the peculiar characteristics of aluminum and magnesium alloys it is imperative that the center core be withdrawn at exactly the right moment. Assuming this to be so, this precise moment must be determined by one who has the knowledge of the properties of the metals involved and can calculate the required time to produce those castings which will be devoid of defects. This determination involves the consideration of many variables including the composition of the raw material and the alloy formed, the melting temperature, the temperature of pouring the molten metals, the mechanical construction of the mold, the temperature gradient and the absolute temperatures within the mold, and the speed of pouring. [1]

[7] The timer itself does not compute the molding period. A mental process is invoked and the timer is set accordingly. Patentability cannot be predicated upon a mental step. In re Shao Wen Yuan, 38 CCPA 967, 188 F.2d 377, 89 USPQ 324. It follows naturally that if the timers are employed the instantaneous reaction which appellants deem so important, would result. Furthermore, using a floor switch to activate the timer detracts from appellants' contention that the automatic timer relieves the operation from the mistakes and inertia of the human mind.

We are further of the opinion that the instant element recited herein as "means controlled by said time controlled means and controlling said power operated means" does not add patentability to this combination. Venner et al. together with the Nichols and Wagner patents show the automatic means to initiate withdrawal of a core from a piston molding apparatus; this would preclude applicants from predicating patentability on this feature. The fact that these references pertain to iron castings or engine blocks and other products does not prevent their use as references to show mechanical means for initiating the withdrawal of core members.

[8] Moreover, even though the use of the instant machine is asserted to have decreased the percentage of defective pistons cast and increased the rate of production thereof, these features alone do not create patentability. Commercial success is of no moment unless patentability is in doubt. In re Jaeger et al., 44 CCPA 767, 241 F.2d 723, 112 USPQ 477. In the instant case, we find all the elements of appellants' combination in the prior art cited by Venner et al. together with Waldie, Stern, Nichols and Wagner.

Appellants have asserted that their alleged invention was not obvious to the many persons skilled in the instant art since for many years the industry "has relied on the molder's guess as to solidification." It is sufficient to say in answer to this argument that appellants' combination would not stop the guesswork. What did, was the more accurate determination of the proper molding period and the application of the prior art to utilize the knowledge thus obtained.

There is nothing in appellants' affidavit which bolsters their contention that this industry either recognized or was endeavoring to resolve the problem set forth; the mere fact that the percentage of defective pistons produced was deceased by the instant apparatus, after a long period of use of other devices, does not necessarily show that the combination at bar was unobvious. So far as it appears from this record, the number of defects produced by the use of prior art molding apparatus may have been merely nominal, and therefore, the said decrease would not be significant, nor would any need for change be apparent.

Therefore, we find no patentable distinctions recited over the prior art of record in claims 1, 2, or 5, and accordingly affirm the board's rejection of those claims.

Claims 8, 10, 13 and 20 differ from claim 1 in reciting a multiple mold apparatus and carrier therefor, the latter actuated by power-operated means at the disposal of the molder to move so as to position the several molds for the alternate pouring and solidification steps. The board affirmed the rejection of these claims as failing to patentably distinguish over the *claims* of Venner et al.,

in view of the various secondary references cited above. The Venner et al. patent claims a "plurality of piston molds * * *, a carrier for said molds * * *, and power-operated mechanism under control of the molder at the molder's station for rapidly shifting said carrier and with it said molds * * * to positions: first contiguous the molder's station for pouring of the metal * * *, second away from the station for setting of the metal, and third back to the station for * * * removal of the casting * * * and closing of the mold * * * for repouring." It would be considered obvious for any person in the piston molding art to equip the multiple mold apparatus thus defined by the claims of Venner et al. with time controlled means to withdraw the middle core section after a predetermined period for solidification, in accordance with the disclosures of the secondary references, as discussed hereinabove in connection with claim 1. Therefore, the rejection of claims 8, 10, 13 and 20 is affirmed.

For the above reasons, we *affirm* the decision of the Board of Appeals.

Footnotes

Footnote 1. These factors are recognized in the excerpt from "The Metallurgy of Aluminium and Aluminium Alloys," Robert I. Anderson, 1925, page 632, cited as an authority in the record before us.

- End of Case -

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?t s3/9/5

3/9/5 (Item 3 from file: 148)
DIALOG(R)File 148:Gale Group Trade & Industry DB
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07577886 SUPPLIER NUMBER: 16265615 (THIS IS THE FULL TEXT)
Lists of lists emerge to organize Internet sites. (EINet Galaxy, Harvest, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Open Market, PC Index, W3 search engines, Yahoo - A Guide to WWW, Yellow Pages) (PC Week Navigator) (Brief Article)
Patch, Kim
PC Week, v11, n46, p17(1)
Nov 21, 1994
DOCUMENT TYPE: Brief Article ISSN: 0740-1604 LANGUAGE: ENGLISH
RECORD TYPE: FULLTEXT
WORD COUNT: 384 LINE COUNT: 00032

TEXT:

In the two years since the first World-Wide Web server made its debut, its hypertext capabilities -- which allow users to link documents across the world -- have served as good list facilitators.

Products and services offered by the Internet 's more than 1 million commercial servers have been parsed into hundreds of lists. Several are part of marketplace-type sites like Open Market Inc., accessible via the Web at http:// www .openmarket.com. Its index of 1,000 commercial sites is growing at a clip of several dozen new sites per week.

Stanford University's Yahoo server (http://akebono.stanford.edu/yahoo /) harbors perhaps the most comprehensive list of Web sites -- it numbered 18,700 at last count. It is organized into subject categories and includes more than 5,000 business sites, 1,700 regional information sites, 120 law sites, 631 sites on the economy, 907 government sites, 2,000 computer company sites, and 4,700 entertainment servers. Like Open Market, the Yahoo site contains a search engine that allows for keyword searches.

EINet Galaxy, available at http:// www .einet.net/, has hundreds of hierarchical subject categories and allows users to search across Web, Gopher, and Hytelnet servers.

The PC Index includes a list of Web sites as well as a list of PC-related E-mail discussion groups with titles like Building PC Hardware and Windows News Straight From Microsoft. It is located at http://ici.proper.com/1/pc.

The Internet Yellow Pages (http:// www .yellow.com/) contains information on hundreds of companies that can be sliced and diced according to subject name and location.

Some Web lists don't waste time with linear listings, but stick strictly to one or more of the half-dozen indexing servers -- like WebCrawler and Harvest -- that let users search text across Web servers.

The Harvest Web site, found at http://harvest.cs.colorado.edu/harvest/, lets users search for keywords contained in more than 17,000 Web servers. It also parses by product, allowing for keyword searches through the descriptions of 28,600 PC software titles from six public archives.

Inevitably, lists of lists have formed as well. Lawrence Livermore National Labs' Advanced Telecommunications Program Web server, for instance, lists 25 lists of lists as well as a list of hot links to more

than 900 telecommunications companies' Web sites. You can reach the site at http:// www .llnl.gov/atp/ companies.html.

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SPECIAL FEATURES: illustration; table
INDUSTRY CODES/NAMES: CMPT Computers and Office Automation
DESCRIPTORS: Online searching--Services; Information services industry--Services
PRODUCT/INDUSTRY NAMES: 4811521 (Home TV Data Service)
SIC CODES: 4899 Communication services, not elsewhere classified
TRADE NAMES: Internet (Computer network)--Services
FILE SEGMENT: CD File 275
?

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

MAILED

MAR 2 4 2005

PAT & T.M OFFICE
BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte DAMON C. TORRES

Application No. 09/144,906

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was electronically received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on February 25, 2005. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below.

A review of the file reveals that the Appeal Brief filed on March 10, 2003, appears to be missing pages 12 and 13. The pages must be scanned in IFW with the brief before further prosecution of this application.

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Page 00418

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that this application be returned to the examiner for: 1) entry of pages 12 and 13 of the Appeal Brief; and 2) for such further action as may be appropriate.

It is important that the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences be informed promptly of any action affecting the status of this appeal (i.e., abandonment, issue, reopening prosecution).

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

By: _____

Dale M. Shaw
Program and Resource Administrator
(571)272-9797

cc: Sofer & Haroun LLP
317 Madison Avenue
Room 910
New York, NY 10017

DMS/tdl

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Page 00419

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SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.
317 Madison Avenue
Room 910
NEW YORK, NY 10017

Paper No:
Appeal No: 2005-1198
Application: 09/144,906
Appellant: DAMON C. TORRES

MAILED

APR 27 2005

U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences
Docketing Notice

Application 09/144,906 was received from the Technology Center at the Board on April 06, 2005 and has been assigned Appeal No: 2005-1198.

A review of the file indicates that the following documents have been filed by appellant:

Appeal Brief filed on:	March 10, 2003
Reply Brief filed on:	NONE
Request for Hearing filed on:	NONE

In all future communications regarding this appeal, please include both the application number and the appeal number.

The mailing address for the Board is:

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
P.O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313-1450

The facsimile number of the Board is 571-273-0052. Because of the heightened security in the Washington D.C. area, facsimile communications are recommended. Telephone inquiries can be made by calling 571-272-9797 and should be directed to a Program and Resource Administrator.

By order of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences

The opinion in support of the decision being entered today was not written for publication and is not binding precedent of the Board.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

MAILED

JUL 21 2005

U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte DAMON C. TORRES

Appeal No. 2005-1198
Application No. 09/144,906

ON BRIEF

Before HAIRSTON, SAADAT, and MACDONALD, Administrative Patent Judges.

HAIRSTON, Administrative Patent Judge.

DECISION ON APPEAL

This is an appeal from the final rejection of claims 1 through 36 and 40 through 67.

The disclosed invention relates to a method and apparatus for automatically accessing information content from a plurality of resource websites, and for automatically displaying the information content on a user's computer without user input.

Claims 1 and 58 are illustrative of the claimed invention, and they read as follows:

1. A method for displaying on a user's computer, content derived from a plurality of resources in an organized arrangement comprising the steps of:

creating a show structure of nodes, each node identififying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources;

without requiring user input, automatically accesing a plurality of said resources each of said resources identified by each of said nodes; and

displaying a content corresponding to each of said resources automatically in accordance with said show structure, wherein said step of creating further comprises the step of providing an interactively variable duration information, representing the duration within which a corresponding content to said resource is being displayed so as to enable a user to vary said duration.

58. An automated content displayer which is used to sequentially present, to a remote user, information content derived from selected websites, comprising:

means for storing at least one list of websites, each website of said at least one list having a corresponding address and an amount of time for which information content from said website is to be displayed to said remote user;

means, for receiving from said remote user a selection of said list;

means, responsive to said selection of said list, for automatically retrieving information content from the websites in said list, without a user input;

means, for automatically providing the retrieved information content to said remote user;

means for caching and queuing content from subsequent websites within said list, while a content corresponding to a current website is being displayed; and

a timer for controlling the duration that said information content is displayed to said user in accordance with the stored amount of time and for determining a time for retrieving information content corresponding to a next item in the list, wherein said duration that said information content is displayed is also interactively variable so as to enable a user to vary said duration.

The references relied on by the examiner are

Malec et al. (Malec)	5,287,266	Feb. 15, 1994
Buchanan et al. (Buchanan)	5,515,490	May 7, 1996
Reilly et al. (Reilly)	5,740,549	Apr. 14, 1998
Blonder et al. (Blonder)	5,760,771	June 2, 1998
Richardson et al. (Richardson)	5,809,247	Sept. 15, 1998 (filed July 12, 1996)
Gerace et al. (Gerace)	5,848,396	Dec. 8, 1998 (filed Apr. 26, 1996)
Abecassis	6,289,165	Sept. 11, 2001 (effective filing date Nov. 12, 1998)[1]

Hauck, "Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web," Fifth International World Wide Web Conference, May 6-10, 1996.

"Microsoft PowerPoint Handbook," Version 3.0, 1992, pages 30-43, 274-285 and 479-496 (hereinafter Microsoft Press).

Claims 1 through 15, 34, 40 and 41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hauck in view of Microsoft Press.

Claims 16 through 21, 35 and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hauck in view of Microsoft Press and Malec.

Claims 22 and 42 through 48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hauck in view of Richardson.

Claims 23 through 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hauck in view of Richardson and Microsoft Press.

---

[1] The effective filing date of this reference is after the September 1, 1998 filing date of the subject application.

Claims 28 through 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hauck in view of Richardson, Microsoft Press and Malec.

Claims 49 through 51 and 55 through 57 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hauck in view of Richardson and Reilly.

Claims 52 through 54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hauck in view of Richardson, Reilly and Abecassis.

Claims 58, 59, 61, 62 and 65 through 67 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Blonder in view of Buchanan.

Claims 60, 63 and 64 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Blonder in view of Buchanan and Gerace.

Reference is made to the final rejection and the brief for the appellant's positions, and the answer for the examiner's positions.

OPINION

We have carefully considered the entire record before us, and we will reverse the obviousness rejections of claims 1 through 36 and 40 through 67.

Each of claims 1 through 36 and 40 through 57 retrieves and displays the contents of a plurality of resources automatically without user input. The examiner's primary reference to Hauck retrieves and displays the contents of a plurality of resources (e.g., hypertext nodes or WWW pages) (Figure 2.1), but the guided tour system in Hauck requires user input to move to the next node or to the previous node (Abstract; Section 2).

Stated differently, we agree with the appellant's argument (brief, page 19) that the guided tour through the nodes in Hauck is manually controlled by the user. Turning to the secondary references, neither the variable duration of a presentation teachings of Microsoft Press, the on-line search teachings of Richardson nor the user profile creation teachings of Reilly teaches or would have suggested to the skilled artisan the automatic retrieval and display of the contents of a plurality of resources automatically without user input as required by the noted claims on appeal. The teachings of Malec and Abecassis also lack such a teaching. Thus, the obviousness rejections of claims 1 through 36 and 40 through 57 are reversed.

Turning to the obviousness rejection of claim 58, and the claims that depend therefrom, we agree with the appellant's arguments (brief, pages 32 through 34) that neither Blonder nor Buchanan teaches or would have suggested to the skilled artisan means for caching and queuing content from subsequent websites while content from a current website is being displayed. Blonder, like Hauck, requires the user to manually select links during the structured tour of hypertext links (Abstract; column 5, lines 21 through 29; column 7, line 41 through column 8, line 1). If content from each website in Blonder is individually selected by the user, then Blonder does not have any content to either cache or queue before it is displayed as required by claim 58. The adjustable playback time of a document teachings of Buchanan do not cure this shortcoming in the

teachings of Blonder. The same holds true for the user profile teachings of Gerace. Accordingly, the obviousness rejections of claims 58 through 67 are reversed.

DECISION

The decision of the examiner rejecting claims 1 through 36 and 40 through 67 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is reversed.

REVERSED

KENNETH W. HAIRSTON
Administrative Patent Judge

MAHSHID D. SAADAT
Administrative Patent Judge

ALLEN R. MACDONALD
Administrative Patent Judge

) BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

KWH/lp

SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.
317 MADISON AVENUE
ROOM 910
NEW YORK, NY 10017

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	Time Stamp
S6	102	"slide show" and (display$3 near4 (time or duration or delay))	USPAT	OR	OFF	2001/06/12 16:26
S7	23	"slide show" same (display$3 near4 (time or duration or delay))	USPAT	OR	OFF	2001/06/12 17:04
S8	8	hauck near franz	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2001/06/13 10:28
S9	33	"slide show" and node	USPAT	OR	OFF	2001/06/13 11:52
S10	17	"345"/$.ccls. and ((icon$5 with (set$4 or configur$4)) same (drag adj drop))	USPAT	OR	OFF	2001/06/13 12:59
S11	713	"705"/$.ccls. and (internet or "world wide web") and (advertisement$1 or ad$1)	USPAT	OR	OFF	2001/06/13 13:01
S13	251	"705"/$.ccls. and (internet or "world wide web") and advertisement$1	USPAT	OR	OFF	2001/06/13 13:03
S12	1	"705"/$.ccls. and (internet or "world wide web") and (advertisement$1 or ad$1) and "slide show"	USPAT	OR	OFF	2001/06/13 13:03
S14	0	"705"/$.ccls. and (internet or "world wide web") and advertisement$1 and "slide show"	USPAT	OR	OFF	2001/06/13 13:04
S15	2	"705"/$.ccls. and "slide show" and advertisement$1	USPAT	OR	OFF	2001/06/13 13:18
S16	19	"705"/$.ccls. and (target$3 with advertisement$1) same (attribut$3 or profil$4)	USPAT	OR	OFF	2001/06/13 13:56
S17	0	"slide show" and ((cach$4 with queu$4) with slide)	USPAT	OR	OFF	2001/06/13 13:58
S19	1	"slide show" and (queu$4 with slide)	USPAT	OR	OFF	2001/06/13 14:00
S18	1	"slide show" and (cach$4 with queu$4)	USPAT	OR	OFF	2001/06/13 14:03
S20	66	cach$4 with queu$4 and "345"/$.ccls.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2001/06/13 15:20
S21	8	("6233591" "6182072" "5799292" "6084582" "5806077" "5287266" "5515490" "5760771").pn.	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2002/01/25 15:44
S22	1	("6084582").pn.	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2002/01/25 15:45

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S23	10	("3712723" | "3809467" | "4009331" | "5164839" | "5363482" | "5500936" | "5515490" | "5664087" | "5781186" | "5917480").PN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2002/01/25 16:27
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S25	10	("5572643" | "5701451" | "5710918" | "5712979" | "5721908" | "5742768" | "5749075" | "5752246" | "5794259" | "5809247").PN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2002/01/25 17:16
S26	2	("5363482" | "5640522").PN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2002/01/25 17:22
S27	8	("4575579" | "5305195" | "5347632" | "5491820" | "5530852" | "5572643" | "5654886" | "5659729").PN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2002/01/25 17:23
S28	7	("5014125" | "5508754" | "5589892" | "5606655" | "5640193" | "5649186" | "5655117").PN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2002/01/25 17:27
S29	2	("5760838" "6108042").pn.	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2002/01/28 11:02
		((vary or configur$6 or set$6) near2 duration) and (slide adj show)	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2002/01/28 11:04
S31	5	((vary or configur$6 or set$5) near2 duration) and (slide adj show)	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2002/01/28 11:40
S30	5	((vary or configur$6 or set$5) near2 duration) and (slide adj show)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2002/01/28 11:40
S32	45	powerpoint and ((windows adj "95") or windows95)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2002/01/28 11:41
S33	16	powerpoint and ((windows adj "95") or windows95) and (duration or (amount adj time))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2002/01/28 11:42

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S34	144	pointcast	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2002/01/28 14:03
S35	54	pointcast and profile	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2002/01/28 15:31
S36	7	(pointcast and profile) and MPAA	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2002/01/28 15:32
S38	8	(pointcast and profile) and censor$3	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2002/01/28 15:35
S37	16	(pointcast and profile) and rating	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2002/01/28 15:35
S39	4254	(cache$7 or caching) with (media or multimedia or web or www or internet or html or hyper$8)	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2003/04/30 14:45
S40	1689	(cache$7 or caching) near2 (media or multimedia or web or www or internet or html or hyper$8)	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2003/04/30 15:20
S41	788	(cache$7 or caching) near2 record$2	USPAT	OR	OFF	2003/04/30 15:24
S42	1702	(cache$7 or caching) near2 (future or next)	USPAT	OR	OFF	2003/04/30 15:29
S44	3181	prefetch	USPAT	OR	OFF	2003/04/30 15:38
S43	236	((cache$7 or caching) near2 (future or next)) and (internet or web or www)	USPAT	OR	OFF	2003/04/30 15:38
S46	7	("4885778" | "5134563" | "5287487" | "5305389" | "5485609" | "5553276" | "5566315").PN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2003/04/30 15:42
S47	7	("4885778" | "5134563" | "5287487" | "5305389" | "5485609" | "5553276" | "5566315").PN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2003/04/30 15:47
S45	131	prefetch and web	USPAT	OR	OFF	2003/04/30 15:49
S48	2065	prefetch$2 with instruction$1	USPAT	OR	OFF	2003/04/30 15:50

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S50	1	"5305389".pn.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2003/04/30 16:14
S49	1705	prefetch$2 near2 instruction$1	USPAT	OR	OFF	2003/04/30 16:14
S1	476	yahoo	USPAT	OR	OFF	2003/05/02 08:51
S3	31	yahoo with categor$6	USPAT	OR	OFF	2003/05/02 08:52
S2	229	yahoo and categor$6	USPAT	OR	OFF	2003/05/02 08:55
S4	435	yahoo and (internat or web or www)	USPAT	OR	OFF	2003/05/02 08:56
S5	11	"slide show" and ((variable or vary) near2 (time or duration or delay))	USPAT	OR	OFF	2005/08/11 17:44
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L1	0	(707/104.1.ccls. or 715/501.1, 704.cc.s.) and "slide show" and ((variable or vary) near2 (time or duration or delay))	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2005/08/11 17:44

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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/144,906	TORRES, DAMON C.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Luke S. Wassum	2167	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *BPAI reversal, mailed 21 July 2005*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1-36 and 40-67*.

3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.

4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
   (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      1) ☒ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
   (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☒ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Luke S. Wassum
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2167

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DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-36 and 40-67 are allowed.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Luke S. Wassum whose telephone number is 571-272-4119. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-5:30, alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene can be reached on 571-272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

In addition, INFORMAL or DRAFT communications may be faxed directly to the examiner at 571-273-4119. Such communications must be clearly marked as INFORMAL, DRAFT or UNOFFICIAL.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Luke S. Wassum
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2167

lsw
11 August 2005

FORM PTO 948 (REV. 11-97) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE-Patent and Trademark Office Application No. 09/144906

NOTICE OF DRAFTPERSON'S PATENT DRAWING REVIEW

The drawing filied (insert date) 9/1/98 are:

A. _____ not objected to by the Draftperson under 37 CFR 1.84 or 1.152.

B. X _____ objected to by the Draftperson under 37 CFR 1.84 or 1.152 as indicated below. The Examiner will require submission of new, corrected drawings whe necessary. Corrected drawings must be submitted according to the instructions on the back of this notice.

1. DRAWINGS. 37 CFR 1.84(a): Acceptable categories of drawings: Black ink. Color.
   - _____ Color drawing are not acceptable until petition is granted. Fig.(s) _____
   - _____ Pencil and non black ink is not permitted. Fig(s)_____

2. PHOTOGRAPHS. 37 CFR 1.84(b)
   - _____ Photographs are not acceptable until petition is granted.
   - _____ 3 full-tone sets are required. Fig(s)_____
   - _____ Photographs not properly mounted (must brystol board or photographic double-weight paper). Fig(s)_____
   - _____ Poor quailty (half-tone). Fig(s)_____

3. TYPE OF PAPER. 37 CFR 1.84(e)
   - _____ Paper not flexible, strong, white and durable. Fig.(s)_____
   - X Erasures, alterations, overwritings, interlineations, folds, copy machine marks not acceptable. (too thin)
   - _____ Mylar, vellum paper is not acceptable (too thin). Fig(s)_____

4. SIZE OF PAPER. 37 CFR 1.84(F): Acceptable sizes:
   - _____ 21.0 cm by 29.7 cm (DIN size A4)
   - _____ 21.6 cm by 27.9 cm (8 1/2 x 11 inches)
   - _____ All drawings sheets not the same size. Sheet(s)_____

5. MARGINS. 37 CFR 18.4(g): Acceptable margins:
   - Top 2.5 cm Left 2.5 cm Right 1.5 cm Bottom 1.0 cm SIZE: A4 Size
   - Top 2.5 cm Left 2.5 cm Right 1.5 cm Bottom 1.0 cm SIZE: 8 1/2 x 11
   - _____ Margins not acceptable. Fig(s) 2B-7
   - X Top (T) X Left (L)
   - X Right (R) _____ Bottom (B)

6. VIEWS. CFR 1.84(h)
   REMINDER: Specification may require revision to correspond to drawing changes.
   - _____ Views connected by projection lines or lead lines. Fig.(s)_____

   Partial views. 37 CFR 1.84(h)(2)
   - _____ Brackets needed to show figure as one entity. Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Views not labeled separately or properly. Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Enlarged view not labeled separately or properly. Fig.(s)_____

7. SECTIONAL VIEWS. 37 CFR 1.84(h)(3)
   - _____ Hatching not indicated for sectional portions of an object. Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Sectional designation should be noted with Arabic or Roman numbers. Fig.(s)_____

8. ARRANGEMENT OF VIEWS. 37 CFR 1.84(i)
   - _____ Words do not appear on a horizontal, left-to-right fashion when page is either upright or turned, so that the top becomes the right side, except for graphs. Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Views not on the same plane on drawing sheet. Fig.(s)_____

9. SCALE. 37 CFR 1.84(k)
   - _____ Scale not large enough to show mechansim without crowding when drawing is reduced in size to two-thirds in reproduction. Fig.(s)_____

10. CHARACTER OF LINES, NUMBERS, & LETTERS. 37 CFR 1.84(l)
   - X Lines, numbers & letters not uniformly thick and well defined, clean, durable and black (poor line quality). Fig.(s) 1 - 7

11. SHADING. 37 CFR 1.84(m)
   - _____ Solid black areas pale. Fig.(s) _____
   - _____ Solid black shading not permitted. Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Shade lines, pale, rough and blurred. Fig.(s)

12. NUMBERS, LETTERS, & REFERENCE CHARACTERS. 37 CFR 1.48(p)
   - _____ Numbers and reference characters not plain and legible. Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Figure legends are poor. Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Numbers and reference characters not oriented in the same direction as the view. 37 CFR 1.84(p)(3) Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Engligh alphabet not used. 37 CFR 1.84(p)(3) Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Numbers, letters and reference characters must be at least .32 cm (1/8 inch) in height. 37 CFR 1.84(p)(3) Fig.(s)_____

13. LEAD LINES. 37 CFR 1.84(q)
   - _____ Lead lines cross each other. Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Lead lines missing. Fig.(s)_____

14. NUMBERING OF SHEETS OF DRAWINGS. 37 CFR 1.48(t)
   - _____ Sheets not numbered consecutively, and in Ababic numerals beginning with number 1. Fig.(s)_____

15. NUMBERING OF VIEWS. 37 CFR 1.84(u)
   - _____ Views not numbered consecutively, and in Abrabic numerals, beginning with number 1. Fig.(s)_____

16. CORRECTIONS. 37 CFR 1.84(w)
   - _____ Corrections not made from PTO-948 dated _____

17. DESIGN DRAWINGS. 37 CFR 1.152
   - _____ Surface shading shown not appropriate. Fig.(s)_____
   - _____ Solid black shading not used for color contrast. Fig.(s)_____

COMMENTS

REVIEWER Q.D DATE 2/16/99 TELEPHONE NO. _____

ATTACHMENT TO PAPER NO. 6

PTO COPY

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Issue Classification	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent under Reexamination
	09/144,906	TORRES, DAMON C.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Luke S. Wassum	2167

ISSUE CLASSIFICATION

ORIGINAL CLASS	ORIGINAL SUBCLASS	CLASS	CROSS REFERENCE(S) SUBCLASS (ONE SUBCLASS PER BLOCK)						
707	104.1	715	501.1	704					

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION
G06F 17/00
G06F 7/00
/
/
/

(Assistant Examiner) (Date)

A. White 8/17/05
(Legal Instruments Examiner) (Date)

Luke S Wassum 11 Aug 05
Luke S Wassum
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2167
(Primary Examiner) (Date)

Total Claims Allowed: 64

O.G. Print Claim(s)	O.G. Print Fig.
1	3

☐ Claims renumbered in the same order as presented by applicant ☐ CPA ☐ T.D. ☐ R.1.47

Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original
1	1	31	31	57	61		91		121		151		181
2	2	32	32	58	62		92		122		152		182
3	3	33	33	60	63		93		123		153		183
4	4	34	34	61	64		94		124		154		184
5	5	35	35	62	65		95		125		155		185
6	6	36	36	63	66		96		126		156		186
7	7		~~37~~	64	67		97		127		157		187
8	8		~~38~~		68		98		128		158		188
9	9		~~39~~		69		99		129		159		189
10	10	37	40		70		100		130		160		190
11	11	38	41		71		101		131		161		191
12	12	39	42		72		102		132		162		192
13	13	40	43		73		103		133		163		193
14	14	41	44		74		104		134		164		194
15	15	42	45		75		105		135		165		195
16	16	43	46		76		106		136		166		196
17	17	44	47		77		107		137		167		197
18	18	45	48		78		108		138		168		198
19	19	46	49		79		109		139		169		199
20	20	47	50		80		110		140		170		200
21	21	48	51		81		111		141		171		201
22	22	49	52		82		112		142		172		202
23	23	50	53		83		113		143		173		203
24	24	51	54		84		114		144		174		204
25	25	52	55		85		115		145		175		205
26	26	53	56		86		116		146		176		206
27	27	54	57		87		117		147		177		207
28	28	55	58		88		118		148		178		208
29	29	56	59		89		119		149		179		209
30	30	59	60		90		120		150		180		210

Google/YouTube Exhibit 1024/1124
Page 00436

[redacted]

SEARCHED

Class	Sub.	Date	Exmr.
707	10, 103	12/20/99	PK
707	104	12/20/99	PK
395	200.48 200.49	12/20/99	PK
707	501	12/20/99	PK
UPDATED		1/17/00	PK
345	340-342 349-350	12-13 June 01	LSW
Updated search		25-28 Jun 02	LSW

INTERFERENCE SEARCHED

Class	Sub.	Date	Exmr.
707	104.1	11 Aug 05	LSW
715	501.1 704	↓	↓
(plus Keywords)			

SEARCH NOTES
(INCLUDING SEARCH STRATEGY)

	Date	Exmr.
EAST Internet Searches attached	12/20/99	PK
Additional EAST search (see attached)	12-13 June 01	LSW
EAST Searching (see attached)	25-28 Jun 02	LSW

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(RIGHT OUTSIDE)

2167

IFW

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

7590 08/18/2005

SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.
317 Madison Avenue
Room 910
NEW YORK, NY 10017

EXAMINER	
WASSUM, LUKE S	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2167	

DATE MAILED: 08/18/2005

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/144,906	09/01/1998	DAMON C. TORRES	735-002	5334

TITLE OF INVENTION: AN AUTOMATED BROWSING SYSTEM FOR PUBLISHERS AND USERS ON NETWORKS SERVING INTERNET AND REMOTE DEVICES

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	$700	$0	$700	11/18/2005

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

RECEIVED
OIPE/IAP
SEP 01 2005

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PTOL-85 (Rev. 07/05) Approved for use through 04/30/2007.

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Page 00438

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
or Fax (571) 273-2885

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

7590 08/18/2005

SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.
317 Madison Avenue
Room 910
NEW YORK, NY 10017

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission
I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/144,906	09/01/1998	DAMON C. TORRES	735-002	5334

TITLE OF INVENTION: AN AUTOMATED BROWSING SYSTEM FOR PUBLISHERS AND USERS ON NETWORKS SERVING INTERNET AND REMOTE DEVICES

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	$700	$0	$700	11/18/2005

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
WASSUM, LUKE S	2167	707-001000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).
- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
- ☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list
(1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,
(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.
1 _____
2 _____
3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed:
- ☐ Issue Fee
- ☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
- ☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s):
- ☐ A check in the amount of the fee(s) is enclosed.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☐ The Director is hereby authorized by charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. **Change in Entity Status** (from status indicated above)
- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.
- ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

The Director of the USPTO is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above.
NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____ Date _____

Typed or printed name _____ Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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7590 08/18/2005

SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.
317 Madison Avenue
Room 910
NEW YORK, NY 10017

EXAMINER	
WASSUM, LUKE S	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2167	

DATE MAILED: 08/18/2005

Determination of Patent Term Extension under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)
(application filed after June 7, 1995 but prior to May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Extension is 1072 day(s). Any patent to issue from the above-identified application will include an indication of the 1072 day extension on the front page.

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Extension is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571) 272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (703) 305-8283.

PTOL-85 (Rev. 07/05) Approved for use through 04/30/2007.

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Page 00440

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/144,906	TORRES, DAMON C.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Luke S. Wassum	2167	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *BPAI reversal, mailed 21 July 2005*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1-36 and 40-67*.

3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.

4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
   (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      1) ☒ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
   (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☒ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Luke S. Wassum
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2167

Google/YouTube Exhibit 1024/1124
Page 00441

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-36 and 40-67 are allowed.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Luke S. Wassum whose telephone number is 571-272-4119. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-5:30, alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene can be reached on 571-272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Luke S. Wassum
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2167

lsw
11 August 2005

FORM PTO 948 (REV. 11-97) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE-Patent and Trademark Office Application No. 09/144906

NOTICE OF DRAFTPERSON'S PATENT DRAWING REVIEW

The drawing filied (insert date) 9/1/98 are:

A. _____ not objected to by the Draftperson under 37 CFR 1.84 or 1.152.

B. X objected to by the Draftperson under 37 CFR 1.84 or 1.152 as indicated below. The Examiner will require submission of new, corrected drawings whe necessary. Corrected drawings must be submitted according to the instructions on the back of this notice.

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Black ink. Color.
_____ Color drawing are not acceptable until petition is granted.
Fig.(s) _____
_____ Pencil and non black ink is not permitted. Fig(s)_____

2. PHOTOGRAPHS. 37 CFR 1.84(b)
_____ Photographs are not acceptable until petition is granted.
_____ 3 full-tone sets are required. Fig(s)_____
_____ Photographs not properly mounted (must brystol board or photographic double-weight paper). Fig(s)_____
_____ Poor quailty (half-tone). Fig(s)_____

3. TYPE OF PAPER. 37 CFR 1.84(e)
_____ Paper not flexible, strong, white and durable.
X Fig.(s)_____
Erasures, alterations, overwritings, interlineations, folds, copy machine marks not acceptable. ~~(too thin)~~
_____ Mylar, vellum paper is not acceptable (too thin).
Fig(s)_____

4. SIZE OF PAPER. 37 CFR 1.84(F): Acceptable sizes:
_____ 21.0 cm by 29.7 cm (DIN size A4)
_____ 21.6 cm by 27.9 cm (8 1/2 x 11 inches)
_____ All drawings sheets not the same size.
Sheet(s)_____

5. MARGINS. 37 CFR 18.4(g): Acceptable margins:
Top 2.5 cm Left 2.5 cm Right 1.5 cm Bottom 1.0 cm
SIZE: A4 Size
Top 2.5 cm Left 2.5 cm Right 1.5 cm Bottom 1.0 cm
SIZE: 8 1/2 x 11
_____ Margins not acceptable. Fig(s) 2B-7
~~X~~ Top (T) X Left (L)
~~X~~ Right (R) _____ Bottom (B)

6. VIEWS. CFR 1.84(h)
REMINDER: Specification may require revision to correspond to drawing changes.
_____ Views connected by projection lines or lead lines.
Fig.(s)_____
Partial views. 37 CFR 1.84(h)(2)
_____ Brackets needed to show figure as one entity.
Fig.(s)_____
_____ Views not labeled separately or properly.
Fig.(s)_____
_____ Enlarged view not labeled separately or properly.
Fig.(s)_____

7. SECTIONAL VIEWS. 37 CFR 1.84(h)(3)
_____ Hatching not indicated for sectional portions of an object.
Fig.(s)_____
_____ Sectional designation should be noted with Arabic or Roman numbers. Fig.(s)_____

8. ARRANGEMENT OF VIEWS. 37 CFR 1.84(i)
_____ Words do not appear on a horizontal, left-to-right fashion when page is either upright or turned, so that the top becomes the right side, except for graphs. Fig.(s)_____
_____ Views not on the same plane on drawing sheet. Fig.(s)_____

9. SCALE. 37 CFR 1.84(k)
_____ Scale not large enough to show mechansim without crowding when drawing is reduced in size to two-thirds in reproduction.
Fig.(s)_____

10. CHARACTER OF LINES, NUMBERS, & LETTERS. 37 CFR 1.84(l)
X _____ Lines, numbers & letters not uniformly thick and well defined, clean, durable and black (poor line quality).
Fig.(s) 1 - 7

11. SHADING. 37 CFR 1.84(m)
_____ Solid black areas pale. Fig.(s)_____
_____ Solid black shading not permitted. Fig.(s)_____
_____ Shade lines, pale, rough and blurred. Fig.(s)

12. NUMBERS, LETTERS, & REFERENCE CHARACTERS. 37 CFR 1.48(p)
_____ Numbers and reference characters not plain and legible.
Fig.(s)_____
_____ Figure legends are poor. Fig.(s)_____
_____ Numbers and reference characters not oriented in the same direction as the view. 37 CFR 1.84(p)(3) Fig.(s)_____
_____ Engligh alphabet not used. 37 CFR 1.84(p)(3) Fig.(s)_____
_____ Numbers, letters and reference characters must be at least .32 cm (1/8 inch) in height. 37 CFR 1.84(p)(3) Fig.(s)_____

13. LEAD LINES. 37 CFR 1.84(q)
_____ Lead lines cross each other. Fig.(s)_____
_____ Lead lines missing. Fig.(s)_____

14. NUMBERING OF SHEETS OF DRAWINGS. 37 CFR 1.48(t)
_____ Sheets not numbered consecutively, and in Ababic numerals beginning with number 1. Fig.(s)_____

15. NUMBERING OF VIEWS. 37 CFR 1.84(u)
_____ Views not numbered consecutively, and in Abrabic numerals, beginning with number 1. Fig.(s)_____

16. CORRECTIONS. 37 CFR 1.84(w)
_____ Corrections not made from PTO-948 dated _____

17. DESIGN DRAWINGS. 37 CFR 1.152
_____ Surface shading shown not appropriate. Fig.(s)_____
_____ Solid black shading not used for color contrast.
Fig.(s)_____

COMMENTS

REVIEWER QA D DATE 2/16/99 TELEPHONE NO._____

ATTACHMENT TO PAPER NO. 6

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REMINDER

Drawing changes may also require changes in the specification, e.g., if Fig. 1 is changed to Fig. 1A, Fig. 1B, Fig. 1C, etc., the specification, at the Brief Description of the Drawings, must likewise be changed. Please make such changes by 37 CFR 1.312 Amendment at the time of submitting drawing changes.

INFORMATION ON HOW TO EFFECT DRAWING CHANGES

1. Correction of Informalities–37 CFR 1.85

File new drawings with the changes incorporated therein. The application number or the title of the invention, inventor's name, docket number (if any), and the name and telephone number of a person to call if the Office is unable to match the drawings to the proper application, should be placed on the back of each sheet of drawings in accordance with 37 CFR 1.84(c). Applicant may delay filing of the new drawings until receipt of the Notice of Allowability (PTOL-37). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136. The drawing should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Drawing Review Branch.

2. Timing of Corrections

Applicant is required to submit acceptable corrected drawings within the three-month shortened statutory period set in the Notice of Allowability (PTOL-37). If a correction is determined to be unacceptable by the Office, applicant must arrange to have acceptable correction resubmitted within the original three-month period to avoid the necessity of obtaining as extension of time and paying the extension fee. Therefore, applicant should file corrected drawings as soon as possible.

Failure to take corrective action within set (or extended) period will result in ABANDONMENT of the Application.

3. Corrections other than Informalities Noted by the Drawing Review Branch on the Form PTO 948

All changes to the drawings, other than informalities noted by the Drawing Review Branch, MUST be approved by the examiner before the application will be allowed. No changes will be permitted to be made, other than correction of informalities, unless the examiner has approved the proposed changes.

*U.S. GPO: 1998-433-221/82100

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Page 00445

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Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

7590 10/03/2005

SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.
317 Madison Avenue
Room 910
NEW YORK, NY 10017

EXAMINER	
WASSUM, LUKE S	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2167	

DATE MAILED: 10/03/2005

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/144,906	09/01/1998	DAMON C. TORRES	735-002	5334

TITLE OF INVENTION: AN AUTOMATED BROWSING SYSTEM FOR PUBLISHERS AND USERS ON NETWORKS SERVING INTERNET AND REMOTE DEVICES

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	$700	$0	$700	01/03/2006

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PTOL-85 (Rev. 07/05) Approved for use through 04/30/2007.

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Page 00447

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
or Fax **(571) 273-2885**

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

7590 10/03/2005

SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.
317 Madison Avenue
Room 910
NEW YORK, NY 10017

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission
I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/144,906	09/01/1998	DAMON C. TORRES	735-002	5334

TITLE OF INVENTION: AN AUTOMATED BROWSING SYSTEM FOR PUBLISHERS AND USERS ON NETWORKS SERVING INTERNET AND REMOTE DEVICES

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	$700	$0	$700	01/03/2006

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
WASSUM, LUKE S	2167	707-001000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).
☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list
(1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,
(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.
1 _____
2 _____
3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed:
☐ Issue Fee
☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s):
☐ A check in the amount of the fee(s) is enclosed.
☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
☐ The Director is hereby authorized by charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. **Change in Entity Status** (from status indicated above)
☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.
☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

The Director of the USPTO is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above.
NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____ Date _____

Typed or printed name _____ Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/144,906	09/01/1998	DAMON C. TORRES	735-002	5334

7590 10/03/2005

SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.
317 Madison Avenue
Room 910
NEW YORK, NY 10017

EXAMINER	
WASSUM, LUKE S	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2167	

DATE MAILED: 10/03/2005

Determination of Patent Term Extension under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)
(application filed after June 7, 1995 but prior to May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Extension is 1072 day(s). Any patent to issue from the above-identified application will include an indication of the 1072 day extension on the front page.

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Extension is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571) 272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (703) 305-8283.

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/144,906	09/01/1998	DAMON C. TORRES	735-002	5334

7590 10/12/2005

SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.
317 Madison Avenue
Room 910
NEW YORK, NY 10017

EXAMINER	
WASSUM, LUKE S	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2167	

DATE MAILED: 10/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Interview Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/144,906	TORRES, DAMON C.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Luke S. Wassum	2167	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) *Luke S. Wassum*. (3)_____.

(2) *Sofer & Haroun*. (4)_____.

Date of Interview: *28 September 2005*.

Type: a)☒ Telephonic b)☐ Video Conference
c)☐ Personal [copy given to: 1)☐ applicant 2)☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d)☐ Yes e)☒ No.
If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: *N/A*.

Identification of prior art discussed: *N/A*.

Agreement with respect to the claims f)☐ was reached. g)☐ was not reached. h)☒ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments:
The examiner contacted the attorney to verify the address in PALM for this applications was correct, since the Post Office had returned the last Office action. It was confirmed that the current address is correct.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

Luke S. Wassum
Examiner's signature, if required

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Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record
A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews
Paragraph (b)
In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.
All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:
- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:
1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
2) an identification of the claims discussed,
3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
   (The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

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Page 00452

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

For Printing Purposes

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
or Fax (571) 273-2885

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

7590 10/03/2005

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NEW YORK, NY 10017

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission
I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/144,906	09/01/1998	DAMON C. TORRES	735-002	5334

TITLE OF INVENTION: AN AUTOMATED BROWSING SYSTEM FOR PUBLISHERS AND USERS ON NETWORKS SERVING INTERNET AND REMOTE DEVICES

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	$700	$0	$700	01/03/2006

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
WASSUM, LUKE S	2167	707-001000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).
☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.

2. For printing on the patent front page, list
(1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,
(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1 SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.
2
3

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed:
☐ Issue Fee
☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s):
☐ A check in the amount of the fee(s) is enclosed.
☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
☐ The Director is hereby authorized by charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)
☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.
☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

The Director of the USPTO is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above.
NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____ Date _____

Typed or printed name _____ Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.
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JAN 03 2006
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IFW 2167

PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)	:	Damon Torres
Serial No.	:	09/144,906
Filed	:	September 1, 1998
For	:	AN AUTOMATED BROWSING SYSTEM FOR PUBLISHERS AND USERS...

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. 1.8a)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I hereby certify that the attached Communication for drawings, Formal Drawings, and Return Postcard along with any paper(s) referred to as being attached or enclosed and this Certificate of Mailing are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Respectfully submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.

By: _____
Tiffany Foster

Date: 12/29/2006

Mailing Address:

SOFER & HAROUN, L.L.P.
342 Madison Avenue, Suite 1921
New York, New York 10173
Tel:(212)697-2800
Fax:(212)697-3004

OIPE IAP66
JAN 08 2006
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	
Damon Torres	
Serial No.: 09/144,906	Group Art Unit: 2167
Filed: September 1, 1998	
For: AN AUTOMATED BROWSING SYSTEM FOR...	

COMMUNICATION

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Responsive to the Notice of Allowance dated October 3, 2005, enclosed please find 9 sheets of formal drawings as requested.

In the event that any fees or charges are deemed necessary in connection with the application at the present time, the same may be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-2825; Order No.: 735-002.

Respectfully submitted,

SOFER & HAROUN, LLP

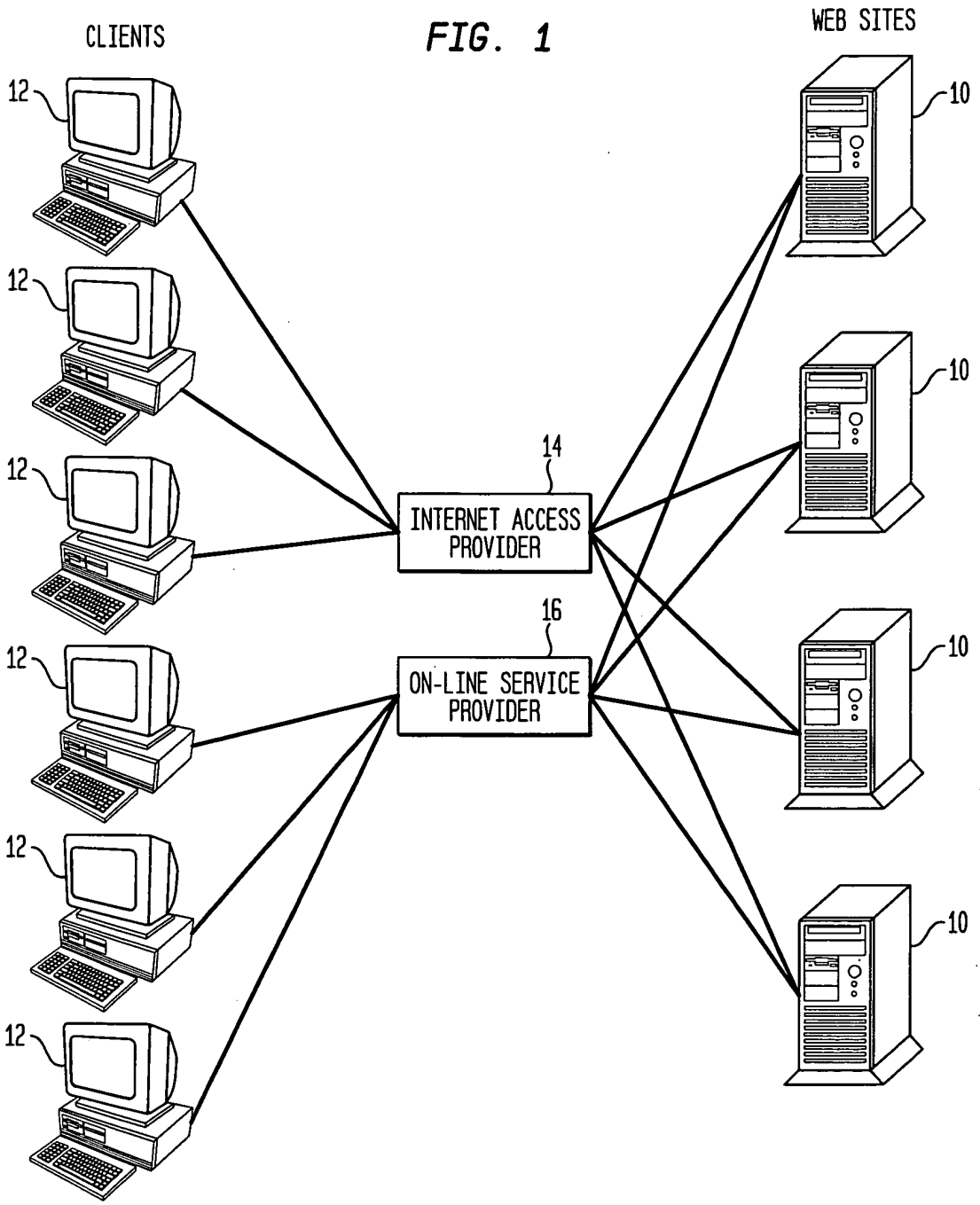
By_____

Joseph Sofer
Reg. No. 34,438
317 Madison Avenue, Suite 910
New York, New York 10017
(212) 697-2800

Dated: 12-29-05

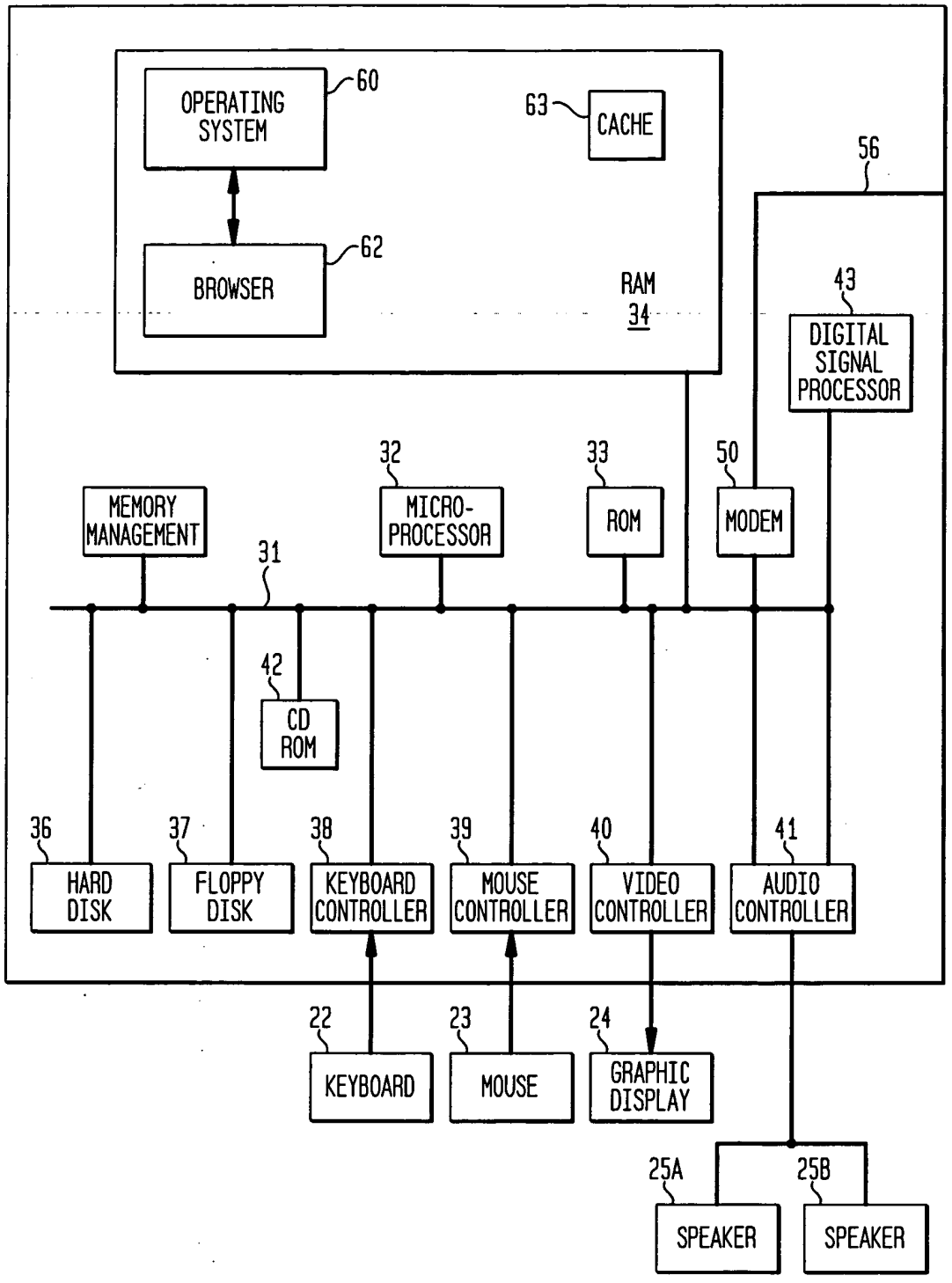
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FIG. 1



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FIG. 2

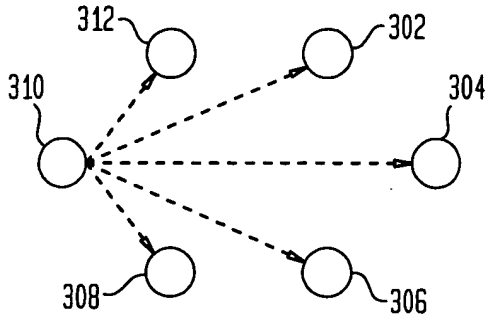


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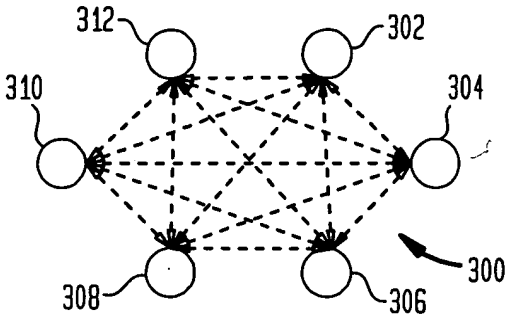
NODES AND PATHS THROUGH STRUCTURES

FIG. 2C



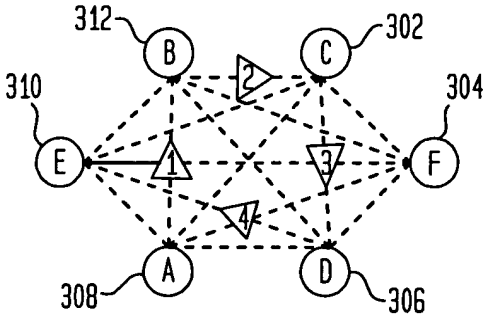
UNIQUE PATHS WITH THE SAME STARTING POINT AND A LENGTH OF ONE IN A NETWORK OF SIX RESOURCES

FIG. 2B



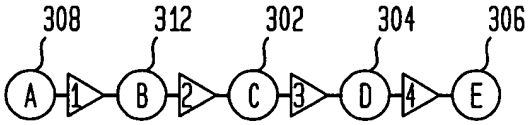
ALL POSSIBLE PATHS FROM ONE NODE TO ANOTHER IN A NETWORK OF SIX RESOURCES

FIG. 2D1



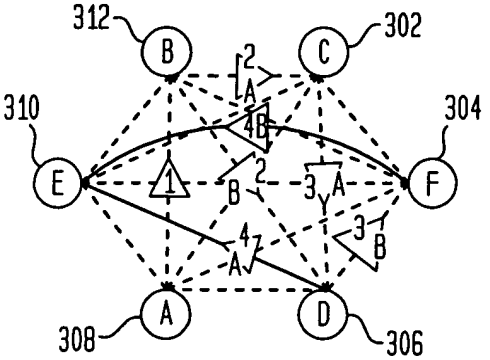
A PATH WITH A LENGTH OF FOUR IN A NETWORK OF SIX RESOURCES

FIG. 2D2



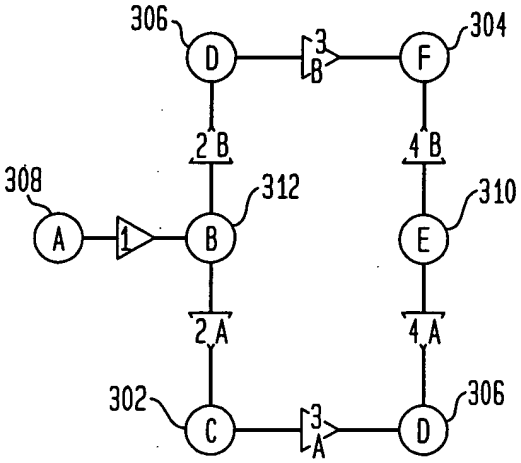
THE STATE MAP OF THE PREVIOUS PATH

FIG. 2E



A MULTIPATH WITH A LENGTH OF FOUR IN TWO POSSIBLE PATHS IN A NETWORK OF SIX RESOURCES

FIG. 2F

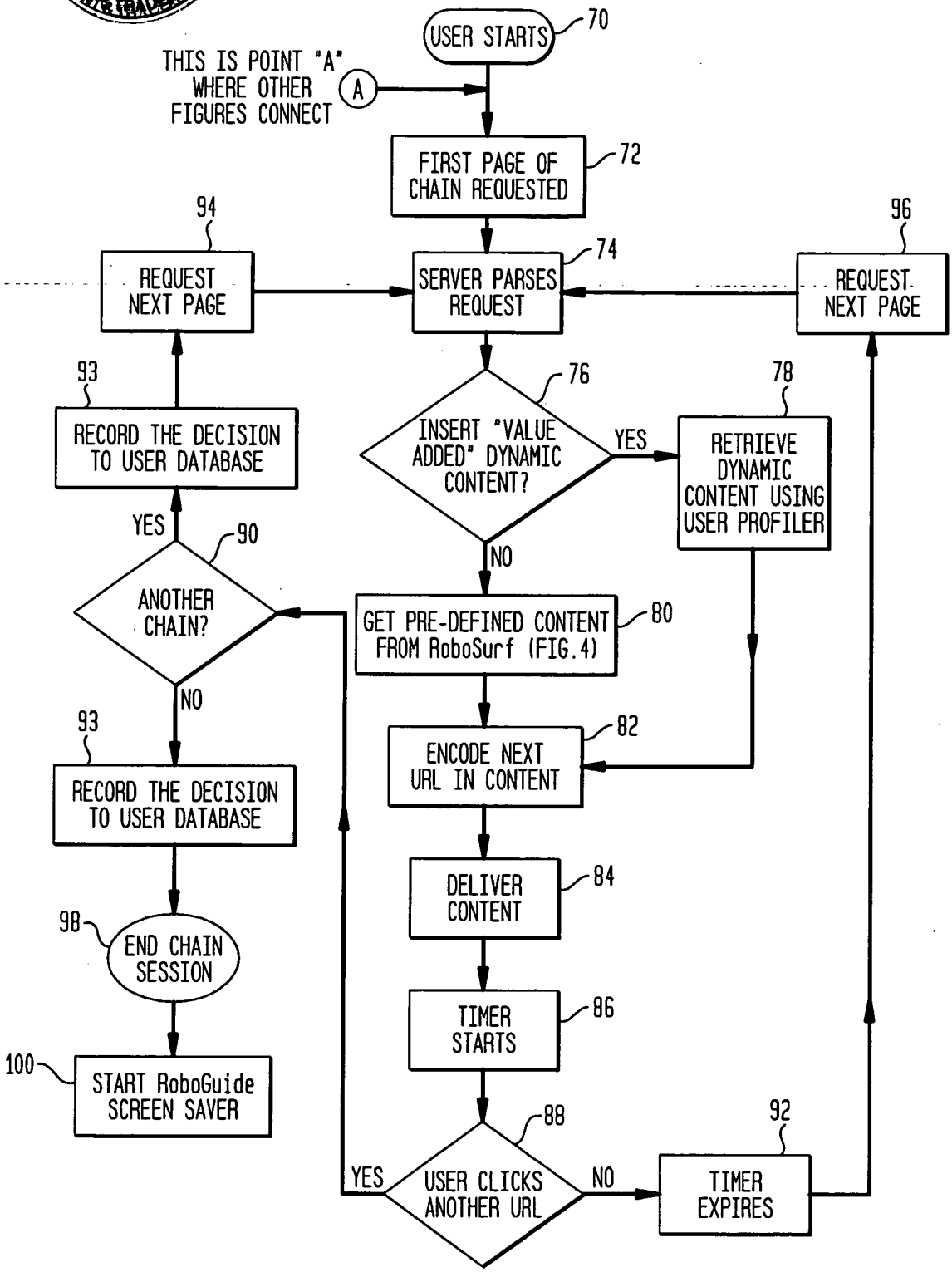


THE STATE MAP OF THE PREVIOUS PATH

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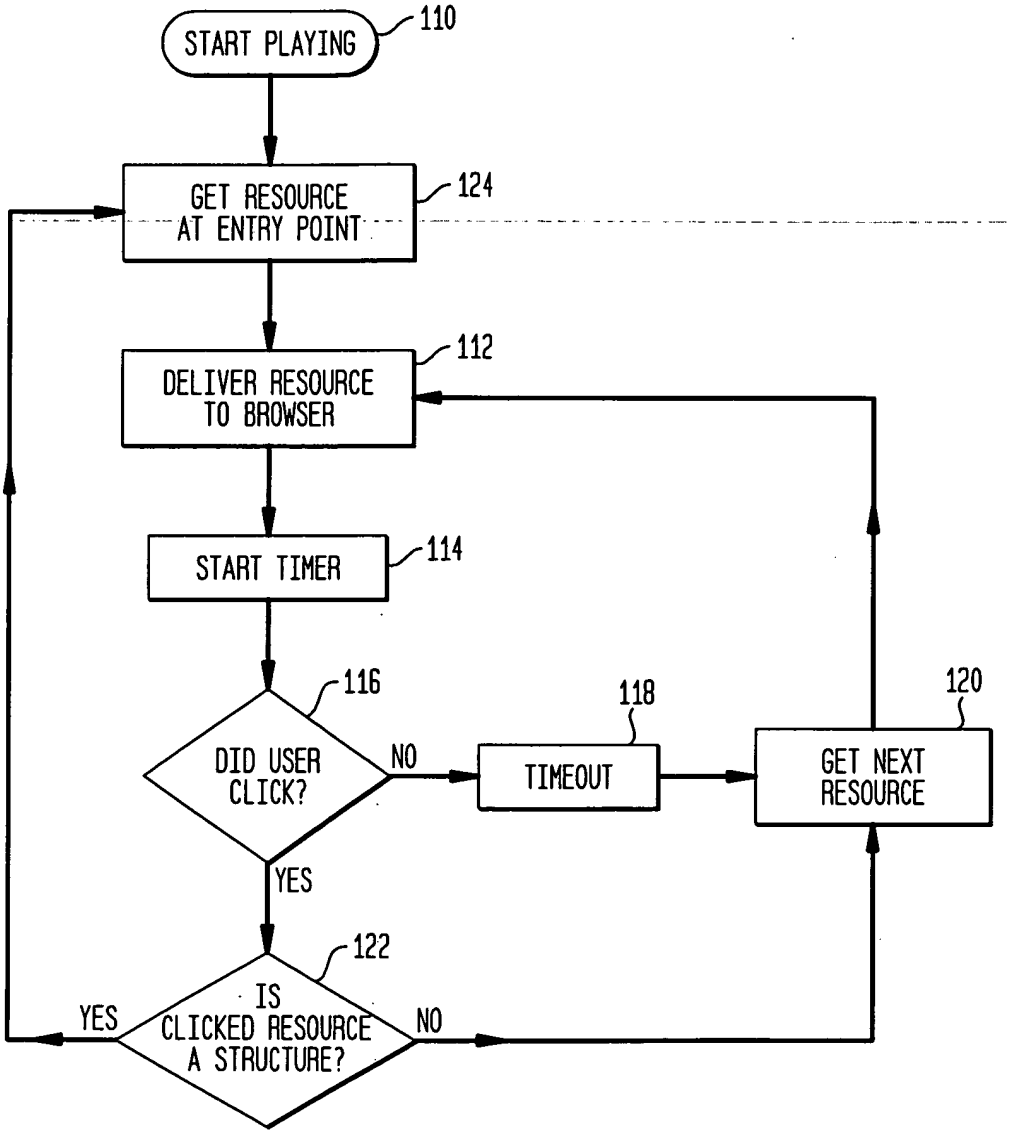
FIG. 3
RoboSend



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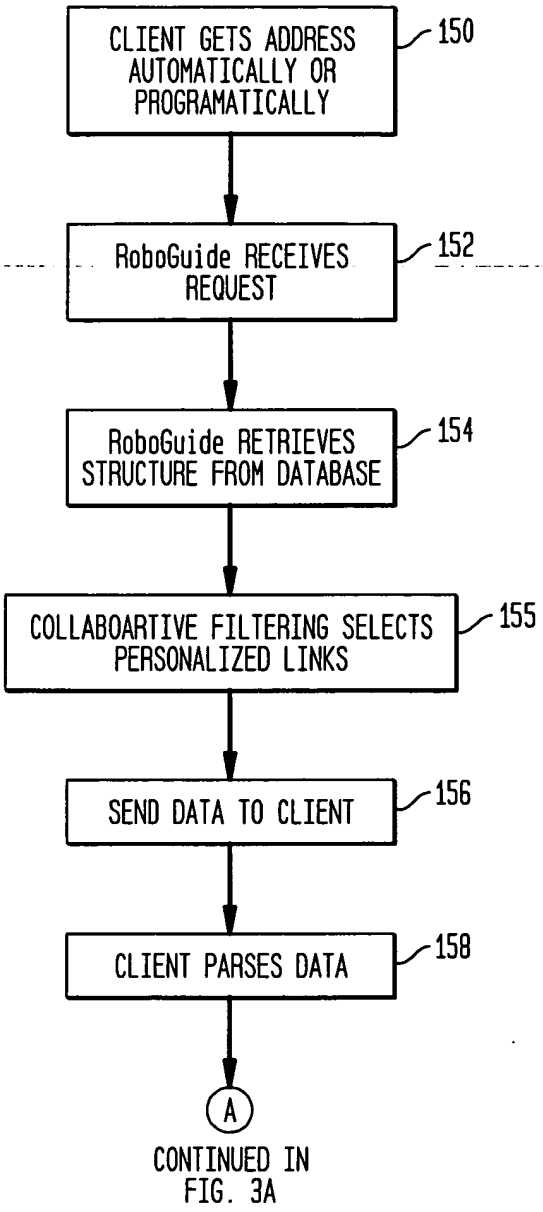
FIG. 4
RoboSurf



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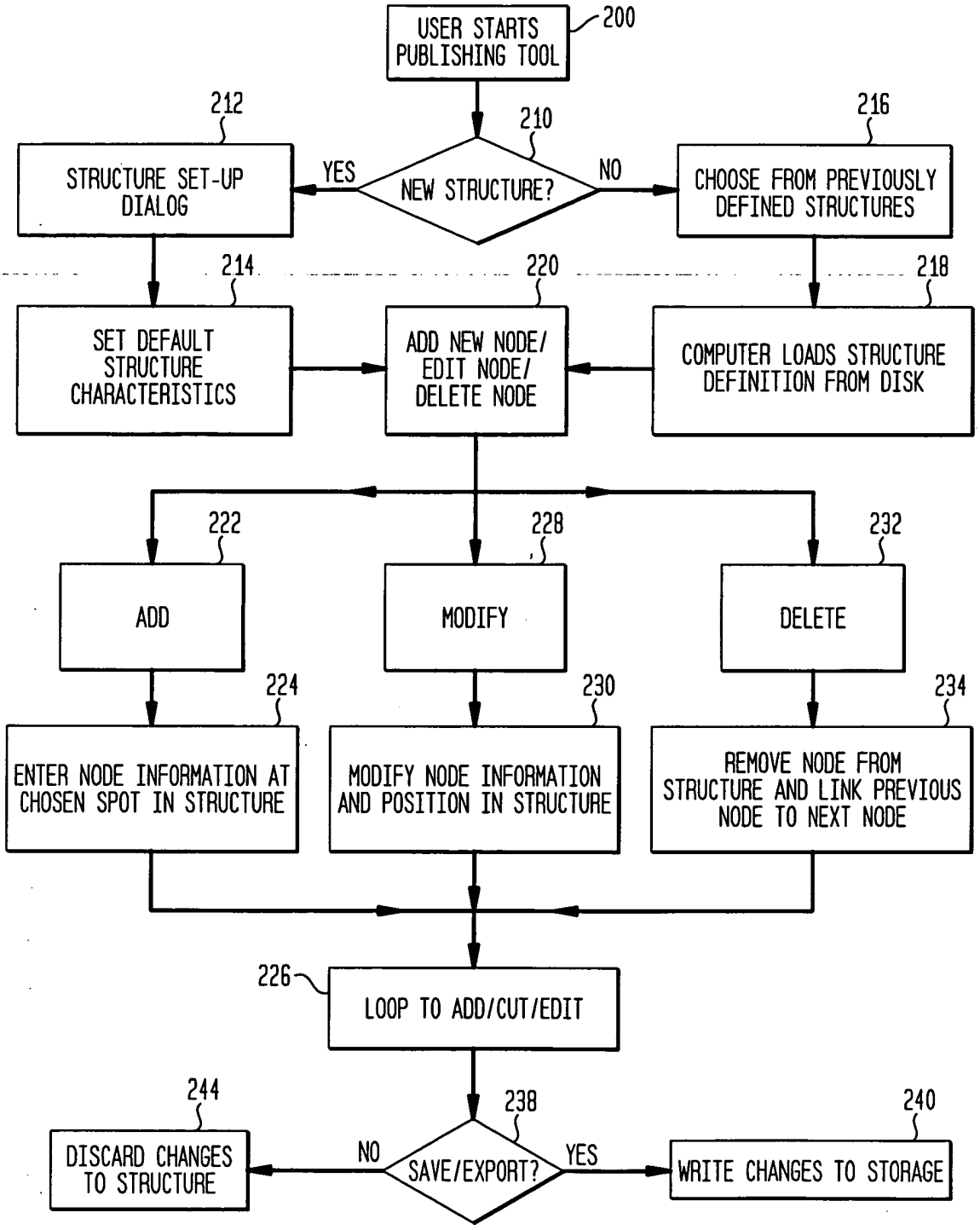
FIG. 5
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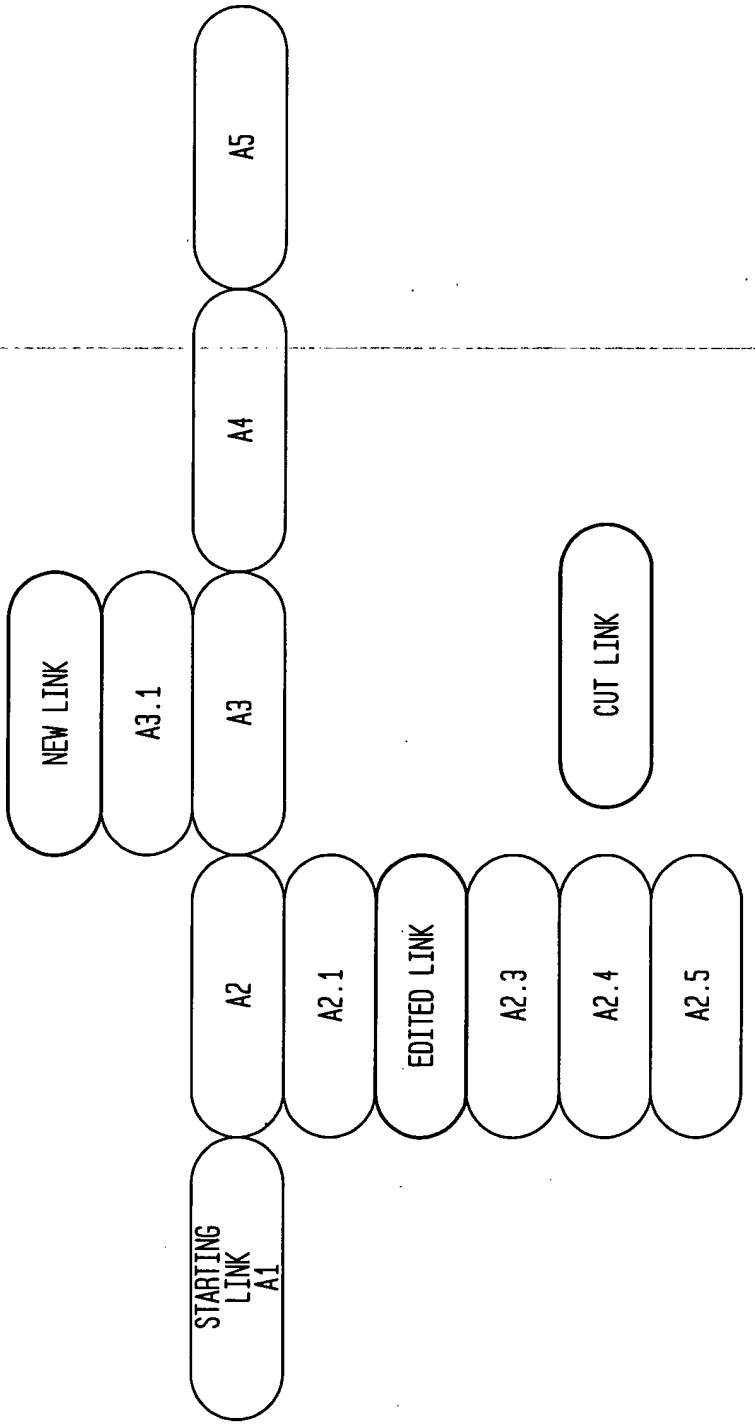
FIG. 6
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FIG. 6A



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FIG. 7

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09/144906 (1631)

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/144,906	09/01/1998	DAMON C. TORRES	735-002	5334

7590 05/05/2006

SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.
342 Madison Avenue
Suite 1921
NEW YORK, NY 10173

EXAMINER	
WASSUM, LUKE S	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2167	

DATE MAILED: 05/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

09/144906 (1631)

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NOTICE OF DRAWING INCONSISTENCY WITH SPECIFICATION

The drawings filed 01 – 03 – 2006 have been received. However, an inconsistency exists between the drawings and the Brief Description of the Drawings in the specification.

Figure 2A is listed in the Brief Description of the Drawings in the specification but not contained in the Drawings.

Figure 2 is contained in the Drawings but not listed in the Brief Description of the Drawings in the specification.

Applicant is required to correct the above-noted inconsistency within a time period of **ONE MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS, whichever is longer,** from the mailing date of this Notice, or within the time remaining in the time period set forth in the Notice of Allowability (Form PTOL-37) to file corrected drawings, whichever is longer. **NO EXTENSION OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER EITHER 37 CFR 1.136 (a) OR (b)**

Failure to correct the above noted inconsistency will result in **abandonment** of the application.

The file will be held in the Publishing Division to await the correction of the inconsistency.

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/144,906	09/01/1998	DAMON C. TORRES	735-002	5334

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/144,906	09/01/1998	DAMON C. TORRES	735-002	5334

7590 10/20/2006

SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.
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EXAMINER	
WASSUM, LUKE S	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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DATE MAILED: 10/20/2006

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Page 00471

10-23-06

1HW



PATENT

Docket No. 735-002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)	: Damon C. Torres	Group Art Unit: 2167
Serial No.	: 09/144,906	Examiner: Luke S. Wassum
Filed	: September 1m 1998	
TITLE	: AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER	

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

Express Mail Label No. EV 900990018 US

Date of Deposit October 20, 2006

I hereby certify that the following attached paper(s) or fee

1) Communication to Correct Formal Drawings
2) Copy of Notice of Drawing Inconsistency with Specification
3) Express Mail Certificate
4) Return Postcard
5) Figure 2A

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper(s) or fee)

(Signature of person mailing paper(s) or fee)

Mailing Address:
SOFER & HAROUN, LLP
317 Madison Avenue, Suite 910
New York, New York 10017
Tel:(212) 697-2800; fax (212) 697-3004

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Damon C. Torres

Group Art Unit: 2167

Serial No.: 09/144,906

Examiner: Luke S. Wassum

Filed: September 1, 1998

For: **AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER**

COMMUNICATION
CORRECTED FORMAL DRAWING IN RESPONSE TO
NOTICE OF DRAWING INCOSISTENCY WITH SPECIFICATION

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
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Dear Sirs:

In reference to the above identified application and further to the Notice of Drawing Inconsistency with Specification Dated October 20, 2006, enclosed please find a new formal figure 2. In particular the attached new figure is labeled "Fig. 2A" to be consistent with the specification in the Brief Description of the Drawings Section.

If the Publications Department or Examiner requires any additional information, they are invited to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,
SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.

By: _____

Joseph Sofer
Reg No. 34,438
317 Madison Avenue, Suite 910
New York, New York 10017
(212) 697-2800
Fax – (212) 697-3004
Customer Number – 39600

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/144,906	09/01/1998	DAMON C. TORRES	735-002	5334

7590 10/20/2006

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WASSUM, LUKE S	
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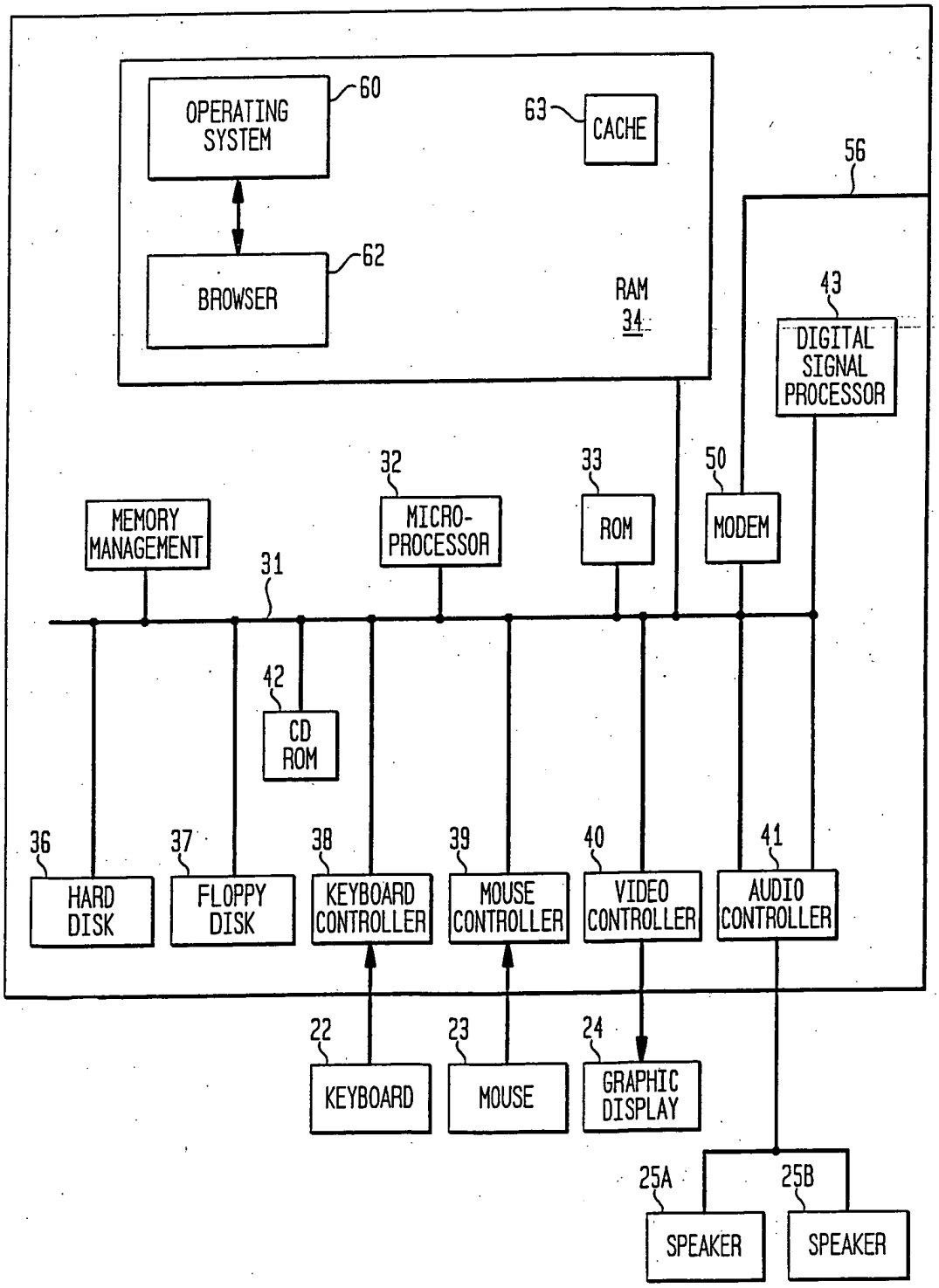
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FIG. 2A



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APPLICATION NO.	ISSUE DATE	PATENT NO.	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/144,906	12/26/2006	7155451	735-002	5334

7590 12/06/2006

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317 Madison Avenue
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NEW YORK, NY 10017

ISSUE NOTIFICATION

The projected patent number and issue date are specified above.

Determination of Patent Term Extension under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)
(application filed after June 7, 1995 but prior to May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Extension is 1072 day(s). Any patent to issue from the above-identified application will include an indication of the 1072 day extension on the front page.

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Extension is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (571)-272-4200.

APPLICANT(s) (Please see PAIR WEB site http://pair.uspto.gov for additional applicants):

DAMON C. TORRES, NEW YORK, NY;

AO 120 (Rev. 08/10)

TO:	REPORT ON THE FILING OR DETERMINATION OF AN ACTION REGARDING A PATENT OR TRADEMARK
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In Compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 290 and/or 15 U.S.C. § 1116 you are hereby advised that a court action has been filed in the U.S. District Court Delaware on the following

☐ Trademarks or ☑ Patents. (☐ the patent action involves 35 U.S.C. § 292.):

DOCKET NO.	DATE FILED	U.S. DISTRICT COURT
	12/6/2010	Delaware

PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT
Robocast, Inc.	Microsoft Corporation

	PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1	7,155,451	12/26/2006	Robocast, Inc.
2			
3			
4			
5			

In the above—entitled case, the following patent(s)/ trademark(s) have been included:

DATE INCLUDED	INCLUDED BY ☐ Amendment ☐ Answer ☐ Cross Bill ☐ Other Pleading	
PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1		
2		
3		
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5		

In the above—entitled case, the following decision has been rendered or judgement issued:

DECISION/JUDGEMENT

CLERK	(BY) DEPUTY CLERK	DATE

Copy 1—Upon initiation of action, mail this copy to Director Copy 3—Upon termination of action, mail this copy to Director
Copy 2—Upon filing document adding patent(s), mail this copy to Director Copy 4—Case file copy

AO 120 (Rev. 08/10)

TO:	REPORT ON THE FILING OR DETERMINATION OF AN ACTION REGARDING A PATENT OR TRADEMARK
Mail Stop 8 Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	

In Compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 290 and/or 15 U.S.C. § 1116 you are hereby advised that a court action has been filed in the U.S. District Court Delaware on the following

☐ Trademarks or ☑ Patents. (☐ the patent action involves 35 U.S.C. § 292.):

DOCKET NO.	DATE FILED	U.S. DISTRICT COURT Delaware
PLAINTIFF Robocast Inc.		DEFENDANT Apple Inc.

	PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1	7,155,451	12/26/2006	Robocast, Inc.
2			
3			
4			
5			

In the above—entitled case, the following patent(s)/ trademark(s) have been included:

DATE INCLUDED	INCLUDED BY ☐ Amendment ☐ Answer ☐ Cross Bill ☐ Other Pleading	
PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

In the above—entitled case, the following decision has been rendered or judgement issued:

DECISION/JUDGEMENT

CLERK	(BY) DEPUTY CLERK	DATE

Copy 1—Upon initiation of action, mail this copy to Director Copy 3—Upon termination of action, mail this copy to Director
Copy 2—Upon filing document adding patent(s), mail this copy to Director Copy 4—Case file copy

AO 120 (Rev. 3/04)

TO:	REPORT ON THE FILING OR DETERMINATION OF AN ACTION REGARDING A PATENT OR TRADEMARK
Mail Stop 8 Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	

In Compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 290 and/or 15 U.S.C. § 1116 you are hereby advised that a court action has been filed in the U.S. District Court Delaware on the following X Patents or Trademarks:

DOCKET NO.	DATE FILED	U.S. DISTRICT COURT
10cv1055-RGA	12/6/2010	DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT
Robocast Inc.	Microsoft Corporation

	PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1	7,155,451	12/26/2006	Robocast Inc.
2			
3			
4			
5			

In the above—entitled case, the following patent(s)/ trademark(s) have been included:

DATE INCLUDED	INCLUDED BY ☐ Amendment ☐ Answer ☐ Cross Bill ☐ Other Pleading	
PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1		
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In the above—entitled case, the following decision has been rendered or judgement issued:

DECISION/JUDGEMENT
See attached Order

CLERK	(BY) DEPUTY CLERK	DATE
JOHN A. CERINO, CLERK OF COURT		4/3/2014

Copy 1—Upon initiation of action, mail this copy to Director **Copy 3—Upon termination of action, mail this copy to Director**
Copy 2—Upon filing document adding patent(s), mail this copy to Director **Copy 4—Case file copy**

AO 120 (Rev. 3/04)

TO:	REPORT ON THE FILING OR DETERMINATION OF AN ACTION REGARDING A PATENT OR TRADEMARK
Mail Stop 8 Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	

In Compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 290 and/or 15 U.S.C. § 1116 you are hereby advised that a court action has been filed in the U.S. District Court Delaware on the following X Patents or Trademarks:

DOCKET NO.	DATE FILED	U.S. DISTRICT COURT
11cv235-RGA	3/21/2011	DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT
Robocast Inc.	Apple Inc.

	PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1	7,155,451	12/26/2006	Robocast Inc.
2			
3			
4			
5			

In the above—entitled case, the following patent(s)/ trademark(s) have been included:

DATE INCLUDED	INCLUDED BY ☐ Amendment ☐ Answer ☐ Cross Bill ☐ Other Pleading	
PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

In the above—entitled case, the following decision has been rendered or judgement issued:

DECISION/JUDGEMENT
See attached Order

CLERK	(BY) DEPUTY CLERK	DATE
JOHN A. CERINO, CLERK OF COURT		10/8/2014

Copy 1—Upon initiation of action, mail this copy to Director **Copy 3—Upon termination of action, mail this copy to Director**

Doc Code: PA..
Document Description: Power of Attorney

PTO/AIA/82A (07-13)
Approved for use through 11/30/2014. OMB 0651-0051
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

TRANSMITTAL FOR POWER OF ATTORNEY TO ONE OR MORE REGISTERED PRACTITIONERS

NOTE: This form is to be submitted with the Power of Attorney by Applicant form (PTO/AIA/82B) to identify the application to which the Power of Attorney is directed, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.5, unless the application number and filing date are identified in the Power of Attorney by Applicant form. If neither form PTO/AIA/82A nor form PTO/AIA82B identifies the application to which the Power of Attorney is directed, the Power of Attorney will not be recognized in the application.

Application Number	09/144,906
Filing Date	09/01/1998
First Named Inventor	DAMON C. TORRES
Title	AN AUTOMATED BROWSING SYSTEM FOR PUBLISHERS AND USERS ON NETWORKS SERVING INTERNET AND REMOTE DEVICES
Art Unit	2167
Examiner Name	WASSUM, LUKE S
Attorney Docket Number	735-002

SIGNATURE of Applicant or Patent Practitioner

Signature	/Joesph Sofer/	Date (Optional)	
Name	Joesph Sofer	Registration Number	34438
Title (if Applicant is a juristic entity)	Patent Practitioner		
Applicant Name (if Applicant is a juristic entity)			

NOTE: This form must be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33. See 37 CFR 1.4(d) for signature requirements and certifications. If more than one applicant, use multiple forms.

☐ *Total of _____ forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.131, 1.32, and 1.33. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Doc Code: PA..
Document Description: Power of Attorney

PTO/AIA/82B (07-13)
Approved for use through 11/30/2014. OMB 0651-0051
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number

POWER OF ATTORNEY BY APPLICANT

I hereby revoke all previous powers of attorney given in the application identified in either the attached transmittal letter or the boxes below.

Application Number	Filing Date
09/144,906	09/01/1998

(Note: The boxes above may be left blank if information is provided on form PTO/AIA/82A.)

☑ I hereby appoint the Patent Practitioner(s) associated with the following Customer Number as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s), and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith for the application referenced in the attached transmittal letter (form PTO/AIA/82A) or identified above: 135621

OR

☐ I hereby appoint Practitioner(s) named in the attached list (form PTO/AIA/82C) as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s), and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith for the patent application referenced in the attached transmittal letter (form PTO/AIA/82A) or identified above. (Note: Complete form PTO/AIA/82C.)

Please recognize or change the correspondence address for the application identified in the attached transmittal letter or the boxes above to:

☑ The address associated with the above-mentioned Customer Number

OR

☐ The address associated with Customer Number:

OR

Firm or Individual Name					
Address					
City		State		Zip	
Country					
Telephone		Email			

I am the Applicant (if the Applicant is a juristic entity, list the Applicant name in the box):

DAMON C. TORRES

☑ Inventor or Joint Inventor (title not required below)

☐ Legal Representative of a Deceased or Legally Incapacitated Inventor (title not required below)

☐ Assignee or Person to Whom the Inventor is Under an Obligation to Assign (provide signer's title if applicant is a juristic entity)

☐ Person Who Otherwise Shows Sufficient Proprietary Interest (e.g., a petition under 37 CFR 1.46(b)(2) was granted in the application or is concurrently being filed with this document) (provide signer's title if applicant is a juristic entity)

SIGNATURE of Applicant for Patent

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the applicant (e.g., where the applicant is a juristic entity).

Signature	/Damon C. Torres/	Date (Optional)	05/11/2018
Name	DAMON C. TORRES		
Title	INVENTOR		

NOTE: Signature - This form must be signed by the applicant in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33. See 37 CFR 1.4 for signature requirements and certifications. If more than one applicant, use multiple forms.

☐ Total of forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.131, 1.32, and 1.33. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

PTO/AIA/82C (07-13)
Approved for use through 11/30/2014. OMB 0651-0051
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number

POWER OF ATTORNEY BY APPLICANT

No more than ten (10) patent practitioners total may be appointed as set forth below by name and registration number. This page need not be submitted if appointing the Patent Practitioner(s) associated with a Customer Number (see form PTO/AIA/82B):

Name	Registration Number

Privacy Act Statement

The **Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579)** requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether the Freedom of Information Act requires disclosure of these records.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspections or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	32616277
Application Number:	09144906
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	5334
Title of Invention:	AN AUTOMATED BROWSING SYSTEM FOR PUBLISHERS AND USERS ON NETWORKS SERVING INTERNET AND REMOTE DEVICES
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	DAMON C. TORRES
Correspondence Address:	SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P. - 317 Madison Avenue Suite 910 NEW YORK NY 10017 US 2126972800 -
Filer:	Joseph Sofer/Elizabeth Fedna
Filer Authorized By:	Joseph Sofer
Attorney Docket Number:	735-002
Receipt Date:	14-MAY-2018
Filing Date:	01-SEP-1998
Time Stamp:	15:34:00
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Assignee showing of ownership per 37 CFR 3.73	735002Statement373B052018.pdf	423075 8e92bac63c8f85be16272c257964ecac83c71490	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
2	Power of Attorney	TorresPowerofAttorney05142018.pdf	948112 5b089d9349ce25da149a271fcf2586658f78216a	no	4
Warnings:					
Information:					
		Total Files Size (in bytes):	1371187		

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

PTO/SB/96 (07-09)
Approved for use through 07/31/2012. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)

Applicant/Patent Owner: ROBOCAST, INC.

Application No./Patent No.: 7,155,451 Filed/Issue Date: 12-26-2006

Titled: AN AUTOMATED BROWSING SYSTEM FOR PUBLISHERS AND USERS ON NETWORKS SERVING INTERNET AND REMOTE DEVICES

ROBOCAST, INC. , a Corporation

(Name of Assignee) (Type of Assignee, e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.

states that it is:

1. ☒ the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest in;

2. ☐ an assignee of less than the entire right, title, and interest in (The extent (by percentage) of its ownership interest is _____ %); or

3. ☐ the assignee of an undivided interest in the entirety of (a complete assignment from one of the joint inventors was made)

the patent application/patent identified above, by virtue of either:

A. ☒ An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application/patent identified above. The assignment was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 025801, Frame 0626, or for which a copy therefore is attached.

OR

B. ☐ A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the patent application/patent identified above, to the current assignee as follows:

1. From: _____ To: _____

The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at

Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

2. From: _____ To: _____

The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at

Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

3. From: _____ To: _____

The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at

Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

☐ Additional documents in the chain of title are listed on a supplemental sheet(s).

☒ As required by 37 CFR 3.73(b)(1)(i), the documentary evidence of the chain of title from the original owner to the assignee was, or concurrently is being, submitted for recordation pursuant to 37 CFR 3.11.

[NOTE: A separate copy (*i.e.*, a true copy of the original assignment document(s)) must be submitted to Assignment Division in accordance with 37 CFR Part 3, to record the assignment in the records of the USPTO. See MPEP 302.08]

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.

/Joesph Sofer/ 2018-05-14

Signature Date

Joesph Sofer Reg N. 34438 Agent for Assignee

Printed or Typed Name Title

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 3.73(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

Privacy Act Statement

The **Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579)** requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (*i.e.*, GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
09/144,906	09/01/1998	DAMON C. TORRES	WASS UM. LUKE S

CONFIRMATION NO. 5334

135621
IPSILON USA
215 Lexington Avenue
Suite 1301
New York, NY 10016

POA ACCEPTANCE LETTER

OC00000099805747

Date Mailed: 05/24/2018

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

This is in response to the Power of Attorney filed 05/14/2018.

The Power of Attorney in this application is accepted. Correspondence in this application will be mailed to the above address as provided by 37 CFR 1.33.

Questions about the contents of this notice and the requirements it sets forth should be directed to the Office of Data Management, Application Assistance Unit, at **(571) 272-4000** or **(571) 272-4200** or **1-888-786-0101**.

/deelliott/

Google/YouTube Exhibit 1024/1124
Page 00490

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
09/144,906	09/01/1998	DAMON C. TORRES	735-002

CONFIRMATION NO. 5334

SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.
317 Madison Avenue
Suite 910
NEW YORK, NY 10017

POWER OF ATTORNEY NOTICE

OC000000099805581

Date Mailed: 05/24/2018

NOTICE REGARDING CHANGE OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

This is in response to the Power of Attorney filed 05/14/2018.

- The Power of Attorney to you in this application has been revoked by the assignee who has intervened as provided by 37 CFR 3.71. Future correspondence will be mailed to the new address of record(37 CFR 1.33).

Questions about the contents of this notice and the requirements it sets forth should be directed to the Office of Data Management, Application Assistance Unit, at **(571) 272-4000** or **(571) 272-4200** or **1-888-786-0101**.

/deelliott/

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY.DOCKET NO./TITLE	REQUEST ID
09/144,906	09/01/1998	DAMON C. TORRES	WASS UM. LUKE S	64631

Acknowledgement of Loss of Entitlement to Entity Status Discount

The entity status change request below filed through Private PAIR on 05/25/2018 has been accepted.

CERTIFICATIONS:

Change of Entity Status:

X Applicant changing to regular undiscounted fee status.

NOTE: Checking this box will be taken to be notification of loss of entitlement to small or micro entity status, as applicable.

This portion must be completed by the signatory or signatories making the entity status change in accordance with 37 CFR 1.4(d)(4).

Signature:	/Joseph Sofer/
Name:	Joseph Sofer
Registration Number:	34438

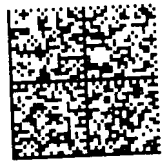
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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
09/144,906	09/01/1998	DAMON C. TORRES	735-002

CONFIRMATION NO. 5334

SOFER & HAROUN L.L.P.
317 Madison Avenue
Suite 910
NEW YORK, NY 10017

POWER OF ATTORNEY NOTICE

OC000000099805581

Date Mailed: 05/24/2018

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JUN 13 2018
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

NOTICE REGARDING CHANGE OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

This is in response to the Power of Attorney filed 05/14/2018.

- The Power of Attorney to you in this application has been revoked by the assignee who has intervened as provided by 37 CFR 3.71. Future correspondence will be mailed to the new address of record(37 CFR 1.33).

Questions about the contents of this notice and the requirements it sets forth should be directed to the Office of Data Management, Application Assistance Unit, at **(571) 272-4000** or **(571) 272-4200** or **1-888-786-0101**.

/deelliott/

AO 120 (Rev. 08/10)

TO:	Mail Stop 8 Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	REPORT ON THE FILING OR DETERMINATION OF AN ACTION REGARDING A PATENT OR TRADEMARK

In Compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 290 and/or 15 U.S.C. § 1116 you are hereby advised that a court action has been filed in the U.S. District Court the District of Delaware on the following

☐ Trademarks or ☑ Patents. (☐ the patent action involves 35 U.S.C. § 292.):

DOCKET NO.	DATE FILED	U.S. DISTRICT COURT
	3/7/2022	the District of Delaware

PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT
Robocast, Inc.	YouTube, LLC and Google LLC

	PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1	7,155,451	12/26/2016	Robocast, Inc.
2	8,606,819	12/10/2013	Robocast, Inc.
3	8,965,932	2/14/2015	Robocast, Inc.
4			
5			

In the above—entitled case, the following patent(s)/ trademark(s) have been included:

DATE INCLUDED	INCLUDED BY ☐ Amendment ☐ Answer ☐ Cross Bill ☐ Other Pleading	
PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

In the above—entitled case, the following decision has been rendered or judgement issued:

DECISION/JUDGEMENT

CLERK	(BY) DEPUTY CLERK	DATE

Copy 1—Upon initiation of action, mail this copy to Director **Copy 3—Upon termination of action, mail this copy to Director**
Copy 2—Upon filing document adding patent(s), mail this copy to Director **Copy 4—Case file copy**

AO 120 (Rev. 08/10)

TO:	REPORT ON THE FILING OR DETERMINATION OF AN ACTION REGARDING A PATENT OR TRADEMARK
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☐ Trademarks or ☑ Patents. (☐ the patent action involves 35 U.S.C. § 292.):

DOCKET NO.	DATE FILED	U.S. DISTRICT COURT
	3/7/2022	the District of Delaware

PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT
Robocast, Inc.	Netflix, Inc.

	PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1	7,155,451	12/26/2016	Robocast, Inc.
2	8,606,819	12/10/2013	Robocast, Inc.
3	8,965,932	2/14/2015	Robocast, Inc.
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In the above—entitled case, the following patent(s)/ trademark(s) have been included:

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