60/0253

Class	ISSUE CLASS

PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NUMBER

60/025360

SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	GROUP ART UNIT	EXAMINER
60/025,360 PROVISIONAL	09/02/96				

APPLICANTS

DAMON L. TURRRA, NEW YORK, NY.

CONTINUING DATA********
VERIFIED

FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATIONS********
VERIFIED

FOREIGN FILING LICENSE [illegible]

Foreign priority claimed 35 USC 119 conditions met	☐ yes ☐ no ☐ yes ☐ no	AS FILED →	STATE OR COUNTRY	SHEETS DRWGS.	TOTAL CLAIMS	INDEP. CLAIMS	FILING FEE RECEIVED	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.
Verified and Acknowledged	Examiner's Initials		NY	16			$150.00	IWY-010

ADDRESS

[illegible]
RATNER [illegible]
[illegible] WESTLAKES BERWYN
[illegible]
[illegible] FORGE PA 19482-0980

TITLE

INTERNET CONTENT SCHEDULER AND PLAYER

U.S. DEPT. of COMMERCE • Patent and Trademark Office-PCT-436L (rev. 7-94)

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U.S. PATENT APPLICATION

SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	CLASS	GROUP ART UNIT
60/025,360 PROVISIONAL	09/03/96		

APPLICANT

DAMON C. TORRES, NEW YORK, NY.

CONTINUING DATA********
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STATE OR COUNTRY	SHEETS DRAWING	TOTAL CLAIMS	INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	FILING FEE RECEIVED	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
NY	16			$150.00	IWY-010

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TITLE

INTERNET CONTENT SCHEDULER AND PLAYER

This is to certify that annexed hereto is a true copy from the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the application which is identified above.

By authority of the
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

Date

Certifying Officer

PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 60/025360

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
FEE RECORD SHEET

~~180 RP 02/12/97 60025360~~ ~~1 114~~ ~~150.00 CK~~
180 RP 02/12/97 60025360 1 214 150.00 CK

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214 OK refund 75.00 JAC

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(5/87)

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PTO/SB/16(6-95) [R&P] 60/025360

Approved for use ...h 04/11/98. OMB 0651-0037
Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. ...ARTMENT OF COMMERCE

PROVISIONAL APPLICATION COVER SHEET

This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION under 37 CFR 1.53(b)(2).

Docket Number	IWY-010	Type a plus sign (+) inside this box →	+

INVENTOR(s)/APPLICANT(s)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE INITIAL	RESIDENCE (CITY AND EITHER STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY)
1-00 Torres	Damon	C.	New York, New York NY

TITLE OF THE INVENTION (280 characters max)

INTERNET CONTENT SCHEDULER AND PLAYER

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

Kenneth N. Nigon
Ratner & Prestia
Suite 301, One Westlakes, Berwyn
P.O. Box 980
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STATE	PA	ZIP CODE	19482-0980	COUNTRY	U.S.A.

ENCLOSED APPLICATION PARTS (*check all that apply*)

☒ Specification	*Number of Pages*	3	☐ Small Entity Statement	
☒ Drawing(s)	*Number of Sheets*	16	☐ Other (specify)	

METHOD OF PAYMENT (*check one*)

☒ A check or money order is enclosed to cover the Provisional filing fees ☐ The Commisioner is hereby authorized to charge filing fees and credit Deposit Account Number **18-0350** ☒ The Commisioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the enclosed fees and credit Deposit Account Number **18-0350**		PROVISIONAL FILING FEE AMOUNT ($)	$150

The invention was made by an agency of the United States Government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.

☒ No.

☐ Yes. The name of the U.S. Government agency and the Government Contract number are:

Respectfully Submitted,

SIGNATURE [signature] Date 9/3/96

TYPED or PRINTED NAME and REGISTRATION NO. (*if appropriate*) Kenneth N. Nigon, Reg. No. 31,549
Anthony L. DiBartolomeo, Reg. No. 37,308

☐ Additional inventors are being named on separately numbered sheets attached hereto

EXPRESS MAIL Mailing Label Number: EH481279703US
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I Hereby certify that this paper and fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

[signature]
Lynn Pentz

PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FILING ONLY

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60/025360

1. TITLE OF INVENTION:
The invention will be referred to as "~~Pick and Play~~." ROBOSURF

2. OBJECTIVE OR PURPOSE OF INVENTION:
The purpose of Pick and Play is to provide a software-based tool that will allow an Internet user to "play" content from the World Wide Web (primarily). This "playing" action automatically links from one source of Website content to another, from static text, up through streaming audio and video, and beyond to cable and broadcast interactive TV programming. The problem that this solution addresses is shown by the example of a streaming audio website that has many music recordings to choose from: currently, the user can only select one, play one, stop, and play another. This device will allow a user to "program" an hour of personalized sequential listening without the demand for "prompting" the website to provide another song once the previous one has stopped. The same situation applies for all other Web content and future Interactive TV programming.

The Content Scheduler aspect of this invention takes the growing trend of "Personalized News Services" (PNS [see prior art]) one step farther. A Pick and Play user can not only gather content (like Freeloader or Pointcast) they can also Schedule it for maximized viewing enhancement. The Scheduling process example is as follows: a user picks from "channels" like News, Sports, Weather, Entertainment, etc. In each area they get content choices, such as Local News, Basketball, vacation weather, a serialized 'Net Sitcom, etc. They pick what they're interested in, perhaps only once a month, perhaps daily. A grid appears with the content choices and estimated viewing times, all configurable by the user. The user then can "play" their evening's entertainment choices or their morning's business news. The Content Scheduler can "Gather" the data at user-defined times of convenience, such as after work for the next morning's review or even an early morning auto-gather just prior to its use. The 'Net content can be viewed offline, saving considerable connection time currently spent reading online.

CLOSEST KNOWN PRIOR ART:
The core function of actively "Playing" internet data is not a feature of any of the known software on the market, according to our exhaustive research. Also, the user chooses what to play and when — unlike any other service currently available. However, there are several products which may be considered "prior art." The "PointCast Network," from PointCast, Inc., is one. Its URL is: www.pointcast.com. PointCast delivers news and information from established news services directly to the user's desktop via a screensaver. Another is "StarSight," from Starsight Telecast, Inc. an interactive on-screen TV program guide service. Its URL is: www.starsight.com. Another is Freeloader, another gathering tool for web content, with a screensaver component, but no active "play button". They can be found at Freeloader.com. Another is Airmedia, which broadcasts news reports, like PointCast, but does not give users the ability to select their own URLs for gathering information, nor does it have a "play" button. Its URL is www.airmedia.com. Newspage, from Individual, Inc., is another PNS that collects information from a number of sources and sorts them for individual users, but does not give users the ability to add unique URLs or to play back information. Its URL is www.newspage.com. CRAYON (CReAte Your Own Newspaper) is another program that provides a free service similar to Newspage.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF INVENTION:
~~Pick and Play~~ is a software product that comes in at least three forms: as a stand-alone software product, and as a plug-in for other Internet browser applications, such as Netscape Navigator or Microsoft Explorer and a client/server based multiuser distributed application for use with a "network computer" (NC). When running on a user's computer, the program projects onto the screen an interface (see attached) with several areas that include but are not limited to the following:

1. A menu for selecting categories for information gathering, including but not limited to: News, Sports, Weather, Markets, Companies, and Music;
2. A menu for establishing parameters for how the information is to be gathered, selected, and displayed, such as: at what time, at what speed and at what depth;
3. A menu of the information that has been gathered, with information describing it and options for determining when and how it is to be displayed;
4. A screen within the application for displaying information once it has been gathered. Information to be included in here includes but is not limited to: audio, video, HTML documents, hyperlinks, and graphics;
5. A smaller screen within the application that runs commercial advertisements targeted at the individual user.

DIFFERENCES FROM PRIOR ART: ROBOSURF ROBOSURF
The primary difference between ~~Pick and Play~~ and PointCast is that ~~Pick and Play~~ allows users to specify information sources and then play the information sequentially once they have gathered it.

SEARCH, PICK, GATHER, SCHEDULE AND PLAY

Specifically, w the menu establishing parameters for gather d presenting information, users can ~~Schedule, ... and Review~~ information by clicking on butt. with those names. Within the menu listing the information that has been gathered, users have the options of Play, Skip Backward, Skip Forward, Stop, Print, Mark, and Surf. In this respect, ~~Pick and Play~~ operates as a traditional recording device. PointCast, on the other hand, operates by broadcast metaphors, offering users information in a static format; they do not have display options once it has been received. PointCast does not offer users the option of playing information back ~~sequentially~~. The primary difference between ~~Pick and Play~~ and StarSight is that StarSight is designed for televisions, specifically taking advantage of cable broadcasting and videocassette recorders, not computers or the Internet.

ROBOSURF

ROBOSURF

ON DEMAND

ROBOSURF

6. ADVANTAGES OVER PRIOR ART:

ROBOSURF ~~Pick and Play~~ offers users substantially finer control over selecting, gathering, and presenting information than either PointCast or StarSight. ~~Pick and Play~~ users can select information in a wide variety of formats, including but not limited to HTML, streaming audio and video, and text, from any source on the Internet. PointCast users are restricted to the news feeds, from established organizations, that PointCast delivers. ~~Pick and Play~~ users can reduce the viewing process from up to 100 clicks per hour, to just one ~~or less~~. ROBOSURF CLICK.

INTERNET CONTENT SCHEDULER AND PLAYER

A Software Application

Invented and Developed by Damon C. Torres

Definitions and clarifications

CONFIGURATIONS HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE

Minimum configuration—hardware:

- 486 with 8 mb of RAM and 20 free MB of hard disk space
- 68040 Macintosh with 8 mb of RAM and 20 free MB of hard disk space
- Most Unix

Optimum configuration—hardware:

- Pentium, 75Mhz with 16 mb of RAM and 40+ free MB of hard disk space
- PowerPC Macintosh with 16 mb of RAM and 40+ free MB of hard disk space
- Unix systems are also planned for support

Minimum configuration—software:

- Windows 3.11 or greater
- Mac OS 7.x or greater
- Unix systems are also planned for support

Optimum configuration—software:

- The latest browser from Netscape (Navigator) or Microsoft (Internet Explorer), primarily
- The "Helper Applications" such as the Realaudio streaming audio player, the VDOnet streaming video player, Macromedia's Shockwave plug-in for animation and the suite of plug-ins that are bundled with the top browsers today and in the future, such as: Quicktime, VRML (Virtual Reality Modeling Language) and database access enhancements

COMMUNICATIONS PROTOCOL SPECIFICATIONS

RoboSurf will use all the standard Internet protocols for accessing, transferring, and controlling data, such as: TCP/IP (transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol), UDP (Unreliable Datagram Protocol), HTTP (Hypertext Transfer Protocol), SHTTP (Secure Hypertext Transfer Protocol), SMTP (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol), SSL and SET (Secure transfer protocols by Netscape and Visa), HTML (Hypertext Markup Language), CGI (Common Gateway Interface), URIs, URLs, and URNs (Universal Resource Identifiers, Locators and Names, that point to resources or groups of resources on the Internet), and others currently being researched and/or developed.

All requests to and from the clients and the servers will be handled with the use of the industry standard protocols named above.

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PROPRIETARY + CONFIDENTIAL

The I-WAY Company Inc.
Design, Consulting, Programming and Publishing for All Media
Interactive Information Services
245 East 11th Street, Suite 5J/5K
New York, NY 10003

9/3/96

Mr. Tony DiBartolomeo
Ratner & Prestia
Via Fax: Page 2 of 3

Re: RoboSurf Provisional Patent/Addition

This note is sent to confirm the use of the RoboSurf internet content scheduler and player as a Plug-In for popular Web Browsers, such as Netscape Navigator and Microsoft Internet Explorer.

Robosurf is shown in the illustrated diagrams sent 9/3/96 in its plug-in form, minus the browser that would contain it. ~~See Figure~~ 11 dated 9/3/96.
TWO PREVIOUS ILLUSTRATIONS IN FIGURE 11, ATTACHED.
The plug-in is programmed in such a way that it will appear, as shown, within the browsers "content window". This works in the same way as the PointCast Network plug-in.

When Robosurf is used as a "standalone application" it will incorporate a button bar similar to the Netscape buttons shown in Figure 11. They include: Back (already provided); Forward (already provided); Home; Reload; Images; Open; Print (already provided); find (already provided) and stop. It wil also incorporate a "location" field, shown in Fig. 11 as "Netsite". There will also potentially be a RoboSurf Icon in place of the Netscape Icon, shown in Fig. 11.

The I-Way Company, Inc. has been a Netscape Development Partner for close to a year. Plug-ins are developed using technical information provided through this program.

(Figure 11 sent as a separate page)

Thank you for your assistance in assuring today's filing of this application. Please call if you have questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Damon C. Torres,
President
The I-Way Company, Inc.

Voice: (212) 533-3233 • Fax: (212) 533-4348 • E-Mail: sales@iwayco.com • Web Site: http://www.i-wayco.com

Applicant or Patentee: Damon C. Torres
Serial or Patent No.: 60/025,360
Filed or Issued: September 3, 1996
For: INTERNET CONTENT SCHEDULER AND PLAYER

Attorney's Docket No.: IWY-010

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

I hereby declare that I am

☒ the owner of the small business concern identified below:

☐ an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF CONCERN The I-Way Company, Inc.

ADDRESS OF CONCERN 245 East 11th Street, Suite 5J/5K, New York, NY 10003

I hereby declare that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR 121.3-18. and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, 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, entitled INTERNET CONTENT SCHEDULER AND PLAYER by inventor(s) Damon C. Torres described in

☐ the specification filed herewith.

☒ application serial no. 60/025,360, filed September 3, 1996

☐ patent no. _____, issued _____

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights in the invention is listed below* and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) 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).

*NOTE: 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)

NAME N/A

ADDRESS _____

☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

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 business 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 245 East 11th Street, Suite 5J/5K, New York, NY 10003

SIGNATURE _____ DATE 10/16/96

MJS_SMENTITY.DOC

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Proprietary & Confidential

RoboSurf Flow Charts

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P ='s patent focus

ABSTRACT

P User accesses RoboSurf Web site or retailer, chooses kind of application to download/buy:
1. Stand-alone application
2. Browser plug-in
3. Distributed application for network computers (NC's) with no hard drive.

↓

User starts application (or logs into RoboSurf server from NC).

↓

Does user want to use preexisting profile or create their own?

- Use preexisting → User clicks on **User** pop-up menu in Profiler and selects preexisting **User Profile.** See Fig. 1.
- Create own → User goes to **Profiler** and creates their profile. See Fig. 1.

↓

Does user need to change any of **Profile** settings?

- Y → User sets **Schedule** by specifying desired viewing times and a start/end time. Changes **Review, Ratings** and **Censor** settings as desired, selects **Help** as needed. See Fig 1.
- N → From **Programming Bars**, user selects next action to be taken from using the remote or using a mouse onscreen. See Fig. 5.

↓

Gather

Application uses list generated via **"Pick"** tolocate content on the 'Net. One by one, **RoboSurf** uses its **RoboLoad** feature to FTP (download via File Transfer Protocol) web pages, downloadable media such as audio and video and to cue streaming media such as audio and video.

↓

P

Schedule

This command organizes gathered content in several ways:
1. Refers to the user profile(s) for minimum and maximum vieing times and start and finish limitations;
2. Analyzes gathered data and seperates into topics, i.e. News, Sports, Weather...;
3. Approximates drawing and viewing times;
4. Suggests amount of content to watch and depth of links followed (1-10)
5. Creates playlist for all media, including streaming content, for use by **Play** component P

↓

Continued

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ABSTRACT

Continued from page 1

Information is displayed in **Schedule Window** from selected sources with brief descriptions, estimated viewing times and check boxes. See Fig. 2.

P

User adjusts **Volume** and **Speed**, if desired, with **Setting Controls**. See Fig. 3. **Speed** determines how many seconds between content items are given. Content Items are everything from text, pictures, animations up to video.

P

User hits **Play** button in **Programming Bars**. See Fig. 5.

Play button does five main things:

1. Accesses playlist created by **Schedule**
2. Loads first destination into browser (Netscape Navigator or Microsoft Explorer)
3. Senses "Done" for page loading status
4. Begins timer
5. When timer hits user configured limit (speed settings), player module loads another location.

Playing streaming Media is slightly different:

1. Accesses playlist created by **Schedule**
2. Sends first destination into browser (Netscape Navigator or Microsoft Explorer)
3. Senses beginning of stream and estimated duration. Sends info to **Schedule Window**
4. Begins timer
5. When timer reaches estimated duration or stream, confirms ending and cues another location.

P

Program displays Content Items in **Content Window**. See Fig. 10. This content can be several things: including editorial, artisitic and advertising. Based on their user profile, it will play advertisements between scheduled content , showing products and services that are of interest to the user(s). These will be played along with other media. The current line-up of "sites" appears in the **Channel Display**. See Fig. 6.

User watches information being played in **Schedule Window**. See Fig. 2. They can print the screen or click on links to other sources of information. Users can also skip backwards and forwards through items or mark them for viewing or printing later using the **Control Buttons**. See Fig. 7. Time elapsed is shown in the **Progress Bar**. See Fig 4. They can access third-party **e-mail** and **video phone** programs. See Fig. 9.

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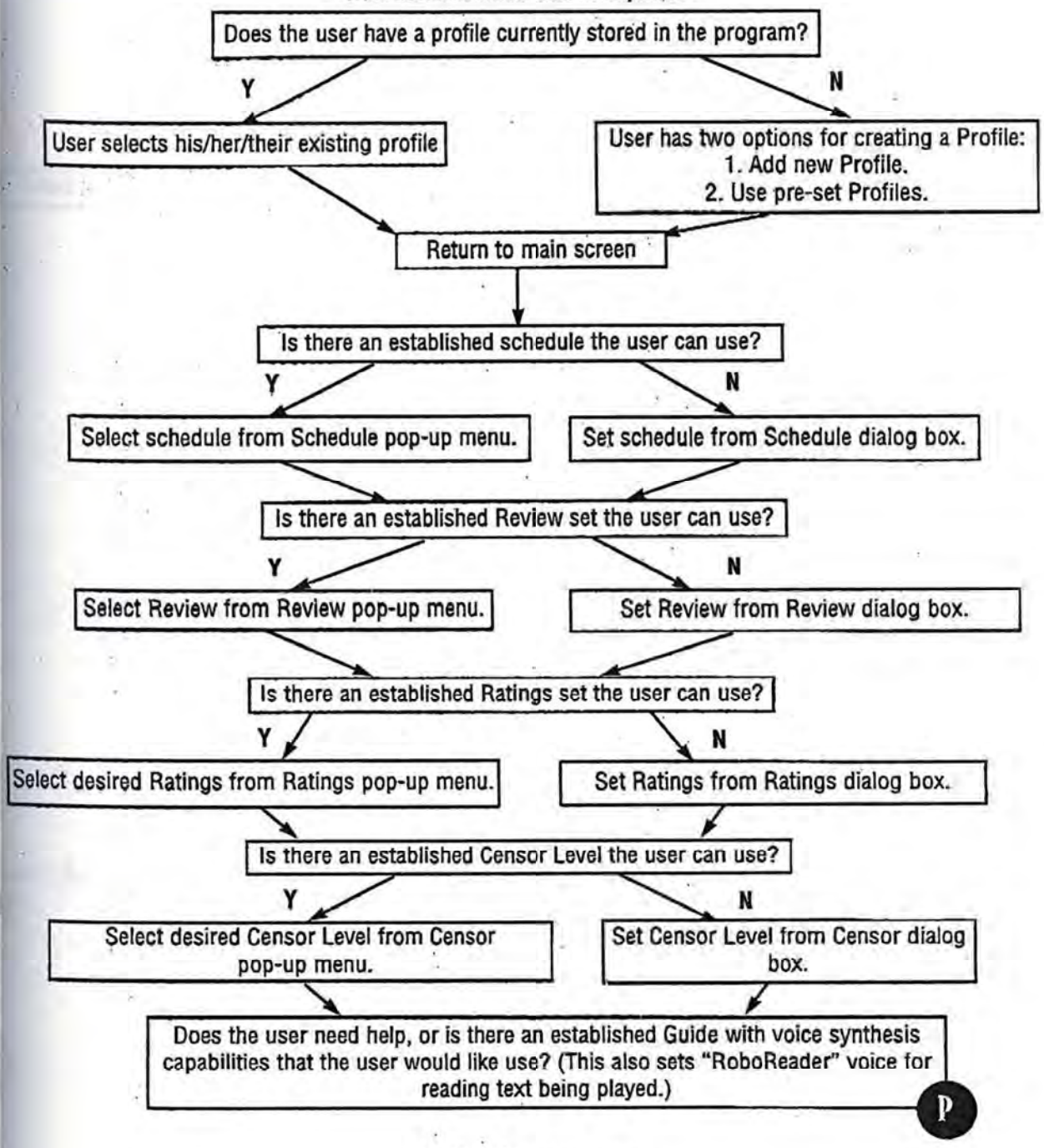
PROFILER: FIGURE 1

How users establish their user profile



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PROFILER: FIGURE 1 (CONTINUED)

How users establish their user profile

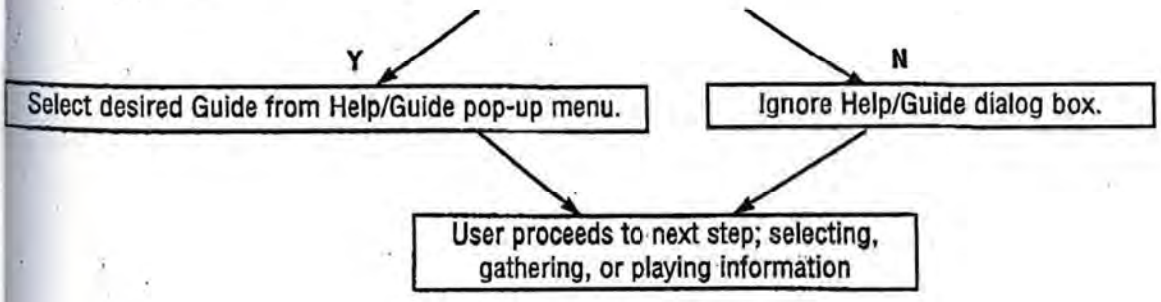

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FIGURE 2: SCHEDULE WINDOW

P

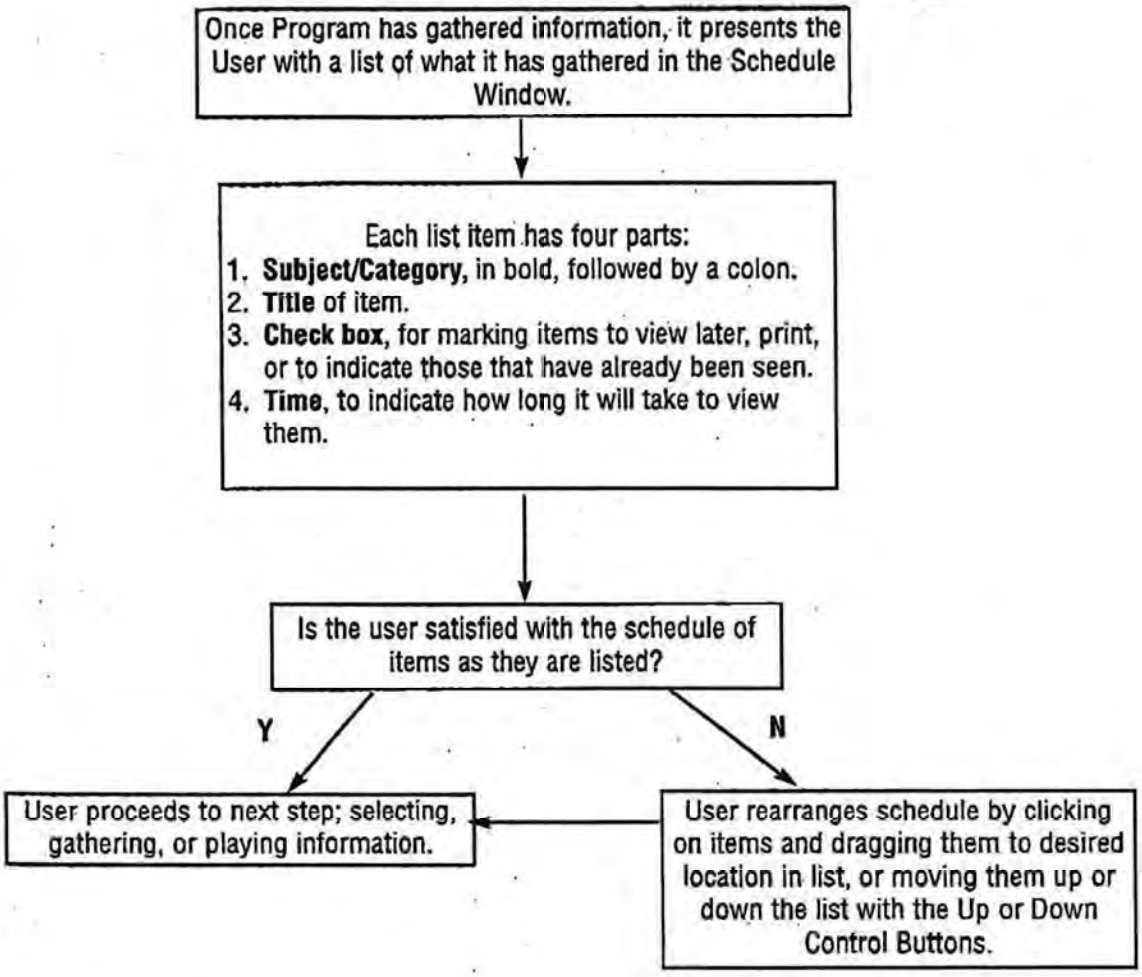

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FIGURE 3: SETTING CONTROLS

The **Speed** button is a new feature to the web, along with **Play**. It allows the user to define the amount of time spent between content items or pages. The user can configure the speed at which the content passes across the screen with this button.

Other than those distinctions, the **Volume**, **Channel**, and **Speed** buttons all function the same way: adjustments up or down are made with the respective arrows. Clicking on the asterisk brings up a separate dialog box for each, where specific entries can be made manually. Parameters for controlling video are set in the helper application or streamer (player added from a third party).

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Figure 4: Progress Bar

The **Progress Bar** shows the progress of:

1. Searches
2. Pick List builds
3. Gathering (from seconds to hours, showing percentage completed
4. Content played

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Figure 5: Programming Bars

The Programming Bars have several functions. Clicking on each one brings up a dialog box.

1. The **Search** bar establishes the criteria for a search.
2. The **Pick** bar lets the user select categories within established information sources for establishing selections within those sites.
3. Clicking on the **Gather** bar retrieves information from the selected sources according to the user's criteria at a specified time and frequency.
4. The **Schedule** bar lets the user group site content by topic and then sets the time when the specific groups will be played.
5. The **Play** bar begins the presentation of information. It also lets the user set parameters for the size of the content window, length of each item, **screensaver activation,** etc. Screensaver activation sets time 'til auto activation, sleep corners, and formats for pulling information from the playlist and for displaying this text, images and certain multimedia elements on the password protected screen.

P

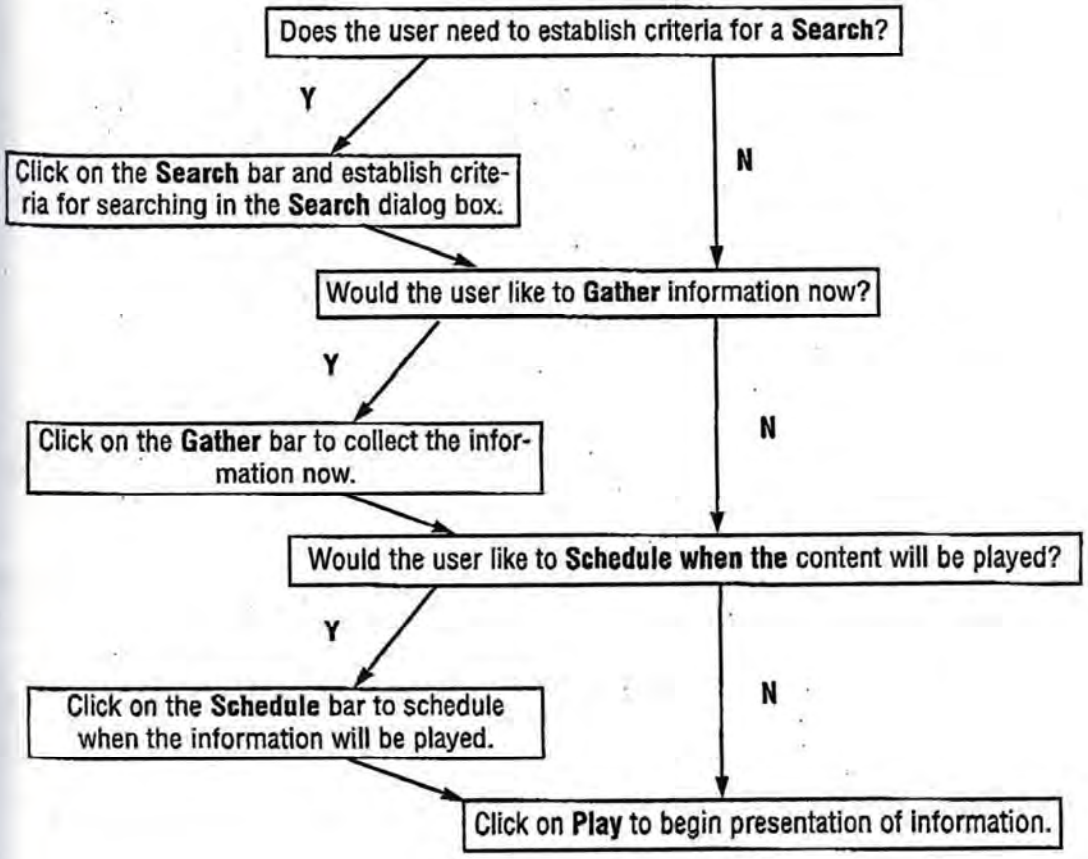

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Figure 6: Channel Display

The **Channel Display** lists the "sites," or channels, that have been selected by the user. The program provides a pre-selected list of content providers to which additional content services can be added from any accessible source on the 'Net. Within each site, information can be grouped according to keywords, such as News, Sports, Education, etc.

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Figure7: Control Buttons

The **Control Buttons** allow users the following capabilities:

1. The **Skip** buttons allow users to move backwards and forwards.
2. The **Play** button begins the presentation of information.
3. The **Stop** button stops the play process.
4. The **Print** button prints the information currently being viewed.
5. The **Mark** button selects pages for later viewing.
6. The **Add/Up** button has two functions: to add sites to the Schedule Window and to allow the user to move up the hypertext links being displayed on the screen
7. The **Surf** button pauses the information being played so that the user can browse through links on the screen and then return to the regularly scheduled program.
8. The **Cut/Down** button has two functions that are effectively the reverse of the Add/Up button: it allows users to delete sites from the Schedule Window and to move the down the currently displayed hypertext links being displayed on the screen.

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Figure 8: Remote Hardware

Users will have the option of purchasing a handheld remote control device that will give them the ability to control the operation of the program from this device, rather than from the computer. It will have the Programming Bars, the Channel Display, and the Control Buttons and potentially other features.
It will operate using IRDA Infrared* to trade commands with an IRDA* equipped computer, Internet-ready TV or a Network Computer.

Each Button has a pre-programmed function that will replace the need for pointing and clicking. A user can surf via their sense of touch, vs. precise and demanding eye-hand coordination.

* or similar technology.

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Figure 9: E-mail and Video Phone

The e-mail and video phone buttons provide links to third-party software packages. The video phone package will have a shared whiteboard option and a voice-only option. It has not yet been determined which packages will be used.

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Figure 10: Content Window

It is here that the information RoboSurf has gathered for the user is played. The **Content Window** can display information in a multimedia mix of text, pictures, animation, audio, video, (both streaming and downloading), Virtual Reality, such as VRML, and downloads of applets, plug-in content, and general use software.

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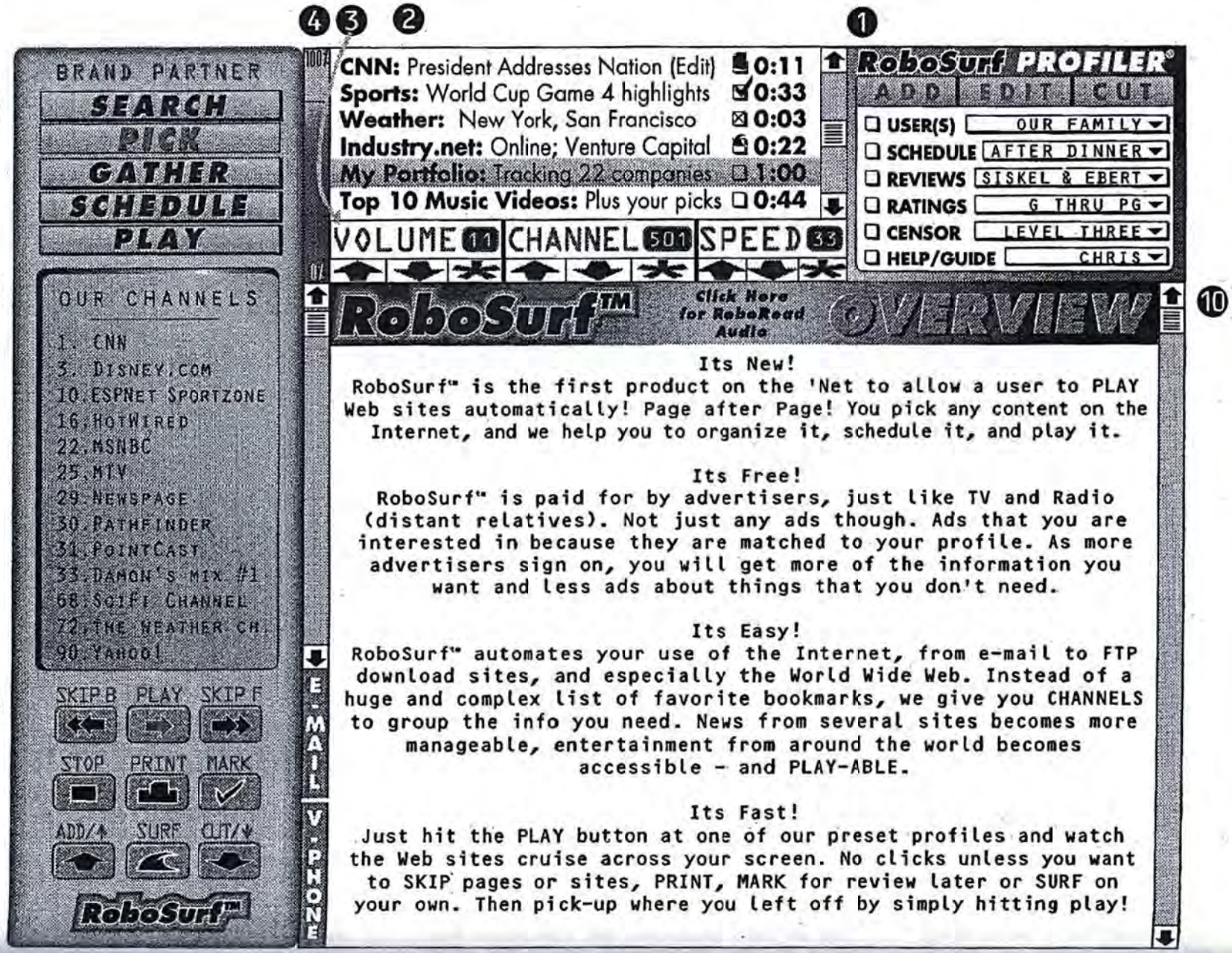

BRAND PARTNER
SEARCH
PICK
GATHER
SCHEDULE
PLAY
OUR CHANNELS
1. CNN
3. DISNEY.COM
10. ESPNET SPORTZONE
16. HOTWIRED
22. MSNBC
25. MTV
29. NEWSPAGE
30. PATHFINDER
31. POINTCAST
33. DAMON'S MIX #1
68. SCIFI CHANNEL
72. THE WEATHER CH.
90. YAHOO!
SKIP B
PLAY
SKIP F
STOP
PRINT
MARK
ADD/
SURF
CUT/
RoboSurf™
CNN: President Addresses Nation (Edit) 0:11
Sports: World Cup Game 4 highlights 0:33
Weather: New York, San Francisco 0:03
Industry.net: Online; Venture Capital 0:22
My Portfolio: Tracking 22 companies 1:00
Top 10 Music Videos: Plus your picks 0:44
VOLUME 11
CHANNEL 501
SPEED 33
RoboSurf PROFILER®
ADD
EDIT
CUT
USER(S) OUR FAMILY
SCHEDULE AFTER DINNER
REVIEWS SISKEL & EBERT
RATINGS G THRU PG
CENSOR LEVEL THREE
HELP/GUIDE CHRIS
RoboSurf™
Click Here for RoboRead Audio
OVERVIEW
Its New!
RoboSurf™ is the first product on the 'Net to allow a user to PLAY Web sites automatically! Page after Page! You pick any content on the Internet, and we help you to organize it, schedule it, and play it.
Its Free!
RoboSurf™ is paid for by advertisers, just like TV and Radio (distant relatives). Not just any ads though. Ads that you are interested in because they are matched to your profile. As more advertisers sign on, you will get more of the information you want and less ads about things that you don't need.
Its Easy!
RoboSurf™ automates your use of the Internet, from e-mail to FTP download sites, and especially the World Wide Web. Instead of a huge and complex list of favorite bookmarks, we give you CHANNELS to group the info you need. News from several sites becomes more manageable, entertainment from around the world becomes accessible - and PLAY-ABLE.
Its Fast!
Just hit the PLAY button at one of our preset profiles and watch the Web sites cruise across your screen. No clicks unless you want to SKIP pages or sites, PRINT, MARK for review later or SURF on your own. Then pick-up where you left off by simply hitting play!
E-MAIL
V-PHONE

PROGRAMMING BARS

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

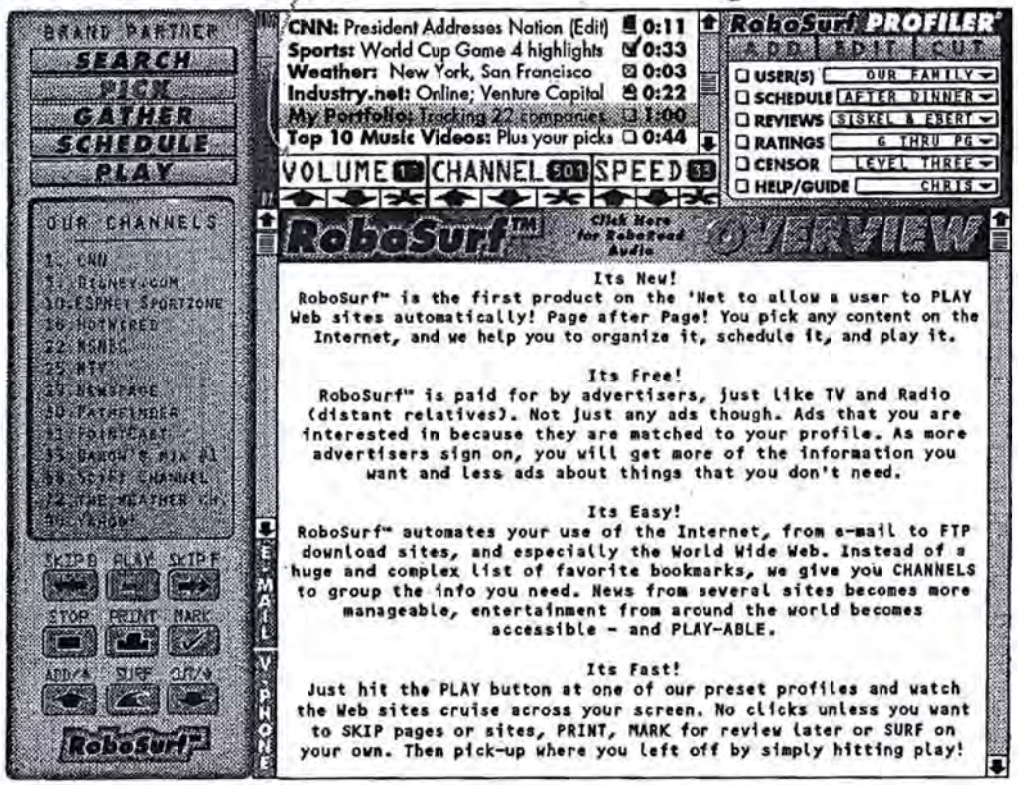
Shows progress for all RoboSurf items

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.



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 spawn third party software packages. One for E-MAIL and one for a VIDEO TELEPHONY product that will provide a shared whiteboard for top users and voice only for computers that do not have the proper specifications or a fast enough connection for videoconferencing.

RoboSurf™

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PROPRIETARY & HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL

CONTENT WINDOW

This window is where all the content Found, Picked, Gathered, Reviewed, Rated, Censored, Edited and Scheduled (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 session to an e-mail address.

PTO/SB/68 (11-04)
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Arlington, VA 22202-3514

Telephone: (703) 308-2733

In re Application of: TORRES

Application Number: 60/025360

Filed: 9/3/96

Paper No. #2

I hereby request access under 37 CFR 1.14(a)(1)(iv) to the application file record of the above-identified ABANDONED application, which is not within the file jacket of a pending Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) (37 CFR 1.53(d)) and which is identified in, or to which a benefit is claimed, in the following document (as shown in the attachment):

United States Patent Application Publication No. _____, page, _____ line _____,

United States Patent Number 7155451, column _____, line, _____ or

WIPO Pub. No._____, page _____, line _____.

Related Information About Access to Applications Maintained in the Image File Wrapper System (IFW) and Access to Pending Applications in General

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For **published** applications that are still pending, a member of the public may obtain **a copy** of:
the file contents; the pending application as originally filed; or any document in the file of the pending application.

For **unpublished** applications that are still pending:

(1) If the benefit of the pending application is claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119(e), 120, 121, or 365 in another application that has: (a) issued as a U.S. patent, or (b) published as a statutory invention registration, a U.S. patent application publication, or an international patent application publication in accordance with PCT Article 21(2), a member of the public may obtain **a copy** of: the file contents; the pending application as originally filed; or any document in the file of the pending application.

(2) If the application is incorporated by reference or otherwise identified in a U.S. patent, a statutory invention registration, a U.S. patent application publication, or an international patent application publication in accordance with PCT Article 21(2), a member of the public may obtain **a copy** of the pending application as originally filed.

[signature] — Signature

1/31/07 — Date

Tim Brown — Typed or printed name

Registration Number, if applicable

2/469-1525 — Telephone Number

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Unit: F.I.G.

9482

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In re Application of	
Application Number: 60/025360	Filed: 9-3-96

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Paper No. #3

I hereby request access under 37 CFR 1.14(a)(1)(iv) to the application file record of the above-identified ABANDONED application, which is not within the file jacket of a pending Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) (37 CFR 1.53(d)) and which is identified in, or to which a benefit is claimed, in the following document (as shown in the attachment):

United States Patent Application Publication No. _____, page, _____ line _____,

United States Patent Number 7,155,451, column _____, line, _____.

WIPO Pub. No. _____, page _____, line _____.

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For **published** applications that are still pending, a member of the public may obtain **a copy** of:
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Signature: [signature] Date: 2-2-11

Typed of printed name: Ingrid Arbuckle

Registration Number, if applicable: _____

Telephone Number: _____

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Telephone: (703) 756-1800

In re Application of: Torres

Application Number	Filed
60/025,360	9/3/96

Paper No. #14

I hereby request access under 37 CFR 1.14(a)(1)(iv) to the application file record of the above-identified ABANDONED application, which is not within the file jacket of a pending Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) (37 CFR 1.53(d)) and which is identified in, or to which a benefit is claimed, in the following document (as shown in the attachment):

United States Patent Application Publication No. _____, page, _____ line _____,

United States Patent Number 8606920, column 1, line, 1.

WIPO Pub. No. _____, page _____, line _____.

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Signature: [signature] Date: 9/2/14

Typed of printed name: Kenneth Slater

Registration Number, if applicable: _____

Telephone Number: 703 486 1150

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Telephone: (703) 756-1800

In re Application of
Torres

Application Number	Filed
60/025,360	9,3,96

Paper No. 75

I hereby request access under 37 CFR 1.14(a)(1)(iv) to the application file record of the above-identified ABANDONED application, which is not within the file jacket of a pending Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) (37 CFR 1.53(d)) and which is identified in, or to which a benefit is claimed, in the following document (as shown in the attachment):

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United States Patent Number 7155451, column _____, line, _____.

WIPO Pub. No. _____, page _____, line _____.

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Kelvin Rodriguez
Signature

1-9-17
Date

Kelvin Rodriguez
Typed of printed name

Registration Number, if applicable

(703) 519-2618
Telephone Number

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In re Application of

Application Number 60/025 360

Filed 9/3/96

Paper No. #6

I hereby request access under 37 CFR 1.14(a)(1)(iv) to the application file record of the above-identified ABANDONED application, which is not within the file jacket of a pending Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) (37 CFR 1.53(d)) and which is identified in, or to which a benefit is claimed, in the following document (as shown in the attachment):

United States Patent Application Publication No. _____, page, _____ line _____.

United States Patent Number 8965932, column _____, line, _____.

WIPO Pub. No. _____, page _____, line _____.

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For unpublished applications that are still pending:

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(2) If the application is incorporated by reference or otherwise identified in a U.S. patent, a statutory invention registration, a U.S. patent application publication, or an international patent application publication in accordance with PCT Article 21(2), a member of the public may obtain a copy of the pending application as originally filed.

Doreen Watson
Signature

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Date

Doreen Watson
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Registration Number, if applicable

103-867-6711
Telephone Number

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Unit: gpa

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FIG. 11

9/3/96

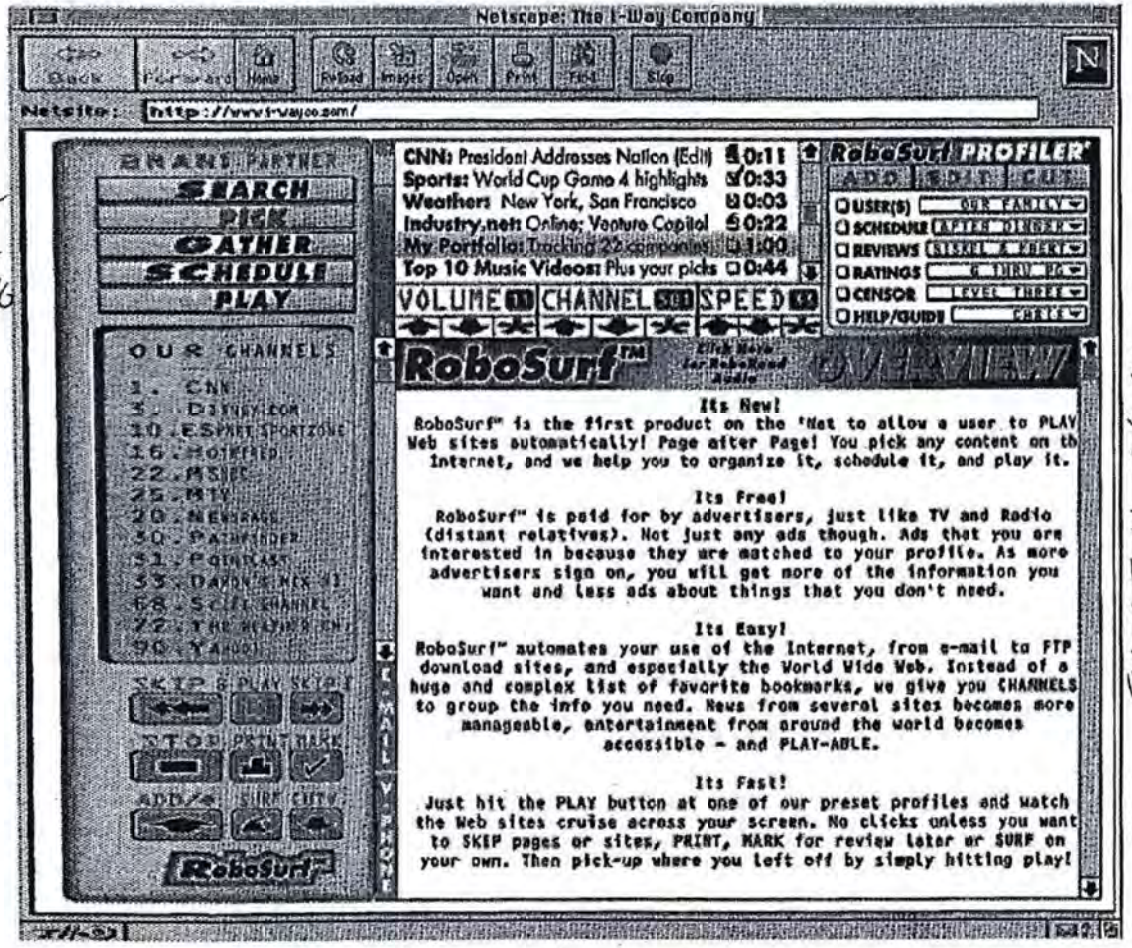

FIGURE 11, 9/3/96 to Meeting + Confidential

09/025,060

60/025360

PTO/SB/16(6-95) [R&P]
Approved for ... rough 04/11/98. OMB 0651-0037
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SEP 3

PROVISIONAL APPLICATION COVER SHEET

This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION under 37 CFR 1.53(b)(2).

Docket Number	IWY-010	Type a plus sign (+) inside this box →	+

INVENTOR(s)/APPLICANT(s)			
LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE INITIAL	RESIDENCE (CITY AND EITHER STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY)
Torres	Damon	C.	New York, New York

TITLE OF THE INVENTION (280 characters max)

INTERNET CONTENT SCHEDULER AND PLAYER

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

Kenneth N. Nigon
Ratner & Prestia
Suite 301, One Westlakes, Berwyn
P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge

STATE	PA	ZIP CODE	19482-0980	COUNTRY	U.S.A.

ENCLOSED APPLICATION PARTS (*check all that apply*)

☒ Specification	*Number of Pages*	3	☐ Small Entity Statement	
☒ Drawing(s)	*Number of Sheets*	16	☐ Other (specify)	

METHOD OF PAYMENT (*check one*)

☒ A check or money order is enclosed to cover the Provisional filing fees ☐ The Commisioner is hereby authorized to charge filing fees and credit Deposit Account Number **18-0350** ☒ The Commisioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the enclosed fees and credit Deposit Account Number **18-0350**		PROVISIONAL FILING FEE AMOUNT ($)	$150

The invention was made by an agency of the United States Government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.

☒ No.

☐ Yes. The name of the U.S. Government agency and the Government Contract number are:

Respectfully Submitted,

SIGNATURE Anthony L. DiBartolomeo Date 9, 3, 96

TYPED or PRINTED NAME and REGISTRATION NO. (*if appropriate*) Kenneth N. Nigon, Reg. No. 31,549
Anthony L. DiBartolomeo, Reg. No. 37,308

☐ Additional inventors are being named on separately numbered sheets attached hereto

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Lynn Pentz

PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FILING ONLY

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US008965932B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Torres

(10) **Patent No.: US 8,965,932 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent: *Feb. 24, 2015**

(54) **AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER**

(75) Inventor: **Damon Torres**, Staten Island, NY (US)

(73) Assignee: **Robocast, Inc.**, New York, NY (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 1195 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

(21) Appl. No.: **11/316,209**

(22) Filed: **Dec. 21, 2005**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2006/0218479 A1 Sep. 28, 2006

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 09/144,906, filed on Sep. 1, 1998, now Pat. No. 7,155,451, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/922,063, filed on Sep. 2, 1997, now abandoned.

(60) Provisional application No. 60/025,360, filed on Sep. 3, 1996.

(51) **Int. Cl.**

G06F 7/00	(2006.01)
G06F 17/30	(2006.01)
G06F 3/00	(2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC **707/795**; 707/805; 707/913; 715/704

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC 707/687
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

3,577,189	A	5/1971	Cocke et al.
5,109,482	A	4/1992	Bohrman

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Hauck, F.J. "Supporting Hierarchical Guided Tours in the World Wide Web", Proceedings of the 5th International World Wide Web Conference on Computer Networks and ISDN Systems, pp. 1233-1242, 1996.*

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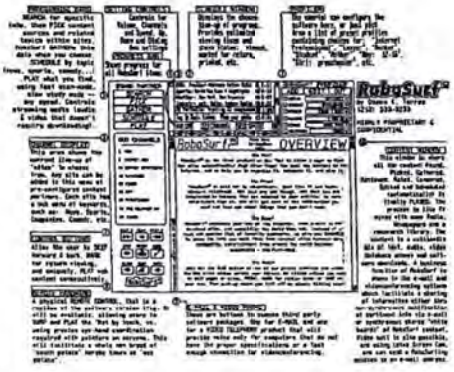
Primary Examiner — Kimberly Wilson
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Sofer & Haroun, LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

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.

67 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets



US008606820B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Torres

(10) **Patent No.: US 8,606,820 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent: *Dec. 10, 2013**

(54) **AUTOMATED CONTENT SCHEDULER AND DISPLAYER**

(75) Inventor: **Damon Torres**, New York, NY (US)

(73) Assignee: **Robocast, Inc.**, New York, NY (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

(21) Appl. No.: **13/495,172**

(22) Filed: **Jun. 13, 2012**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2012/0259699 A1 Oct. 11, 2012

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 11/316,209, filed on Dec. 21, 2005, which is a continuation of application No. 09/144,906, filed on Sep. 1, 1998, now Pat. No. 7,155,451, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/922,063, filed on Sep. 2, 1997, now abandoned.

(60) Provisional application No. 60/025,360, filed on Sep. 3, 1996.

(51) **Int. Cl.**

G06F 7/00	(2006.01)
G06F 17/30	(2006.01)
G06F 3/00	(2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

USPC **707/795**; 707/805; 707/913; 715/704

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

USPC 707/687

See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

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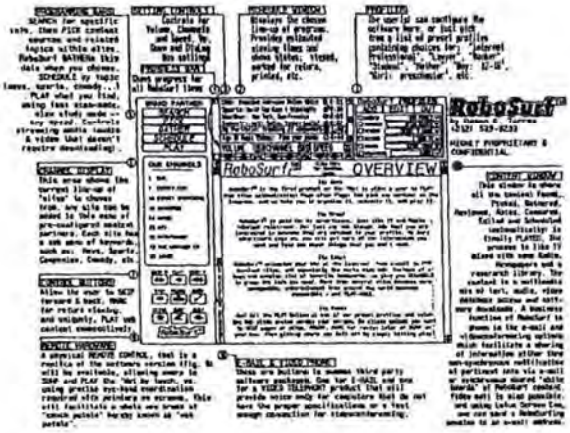
Primary Examiner — Kimberly Wilson
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Sofer & Haroun, LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method for providing content via a communications network on a user's computer, obtained from a plurality of resources in a organized arrangement, is provided. The method includes creating a show structure of nodes, each node identifying a resource from a plurality of accessible resources, at least some of which are network accessible resources. Without requiring user input, a plurality of the network accessible resources identified by a corresponding node, are automatically accessed. Content corresponding to each of the accessed resources are automatically presented through the user's computer in accordance with the show structure. Interactively variable duration information is provided, representing the duration that the content corresponding to the resource is presented so as to enable a user to vary the duration. Advertisement content is presented to the user in connection with the automatic presentation of the content through the user's computer.

22 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets



US007155451B1

(12) **United States Patent**
Torres

(10) **Patent No.: US 7,155,451 B1**
(45) **Date of Patent: Dec. 26, 2006**

(54) **AUTOMATED BROWSING SYSTEM FOR PUBLISHERS AND USERS ON NETWORKS SERVING INTERNET AND REMOTE DEVICES**

(76) Inventor: **Damon C. Torres**, 245 E. 11th St., Apt. 5J, New York, NY (US) 10003

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 1072 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **09/144,906**

(22) Filed: **Sep. 1, 1998**

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 08/922,063, filed on Sep. 2, 1997.

(60) Provisional application No. 60/025,360, filed on Sep. 3, 1996.

(51) **Int. Cl.**
G06F 17/00 (2006.01)
G06F 7/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **707/104.1**; 715/501.1; 715/704

(58) **Field of Classification Search** 707/10, 707/103, 104, 501; 395/200.48, 200.49; 345/340–342, 348–350
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

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5,654,886	A *	8/1997	Zereski et al.	702/3
5,717,923	A	2/1998	Dedrick	395/613
5,721,827	A *	2/1998	Logan et al.	395/200.47
5,732,216	A *	3/1998	Logan et al.	395/200.33
5,740,549	A *	4/1998	Reilly et al.	705/14
5,748,190	A	5/1998	Kjorsvik	345/329
5,758,151	A	5/1998	Milligan et al.	395/611
5,760,771	A *	6/1998	Blonder et al.	345/854
5,768,528	A	6/1998	Stumm	395/200.61
5,774,123	A	6/1998	Matson	345/357

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Alan Braverman, "CCI Slide Show," @ <http://www.ncs2.uiuc.edu/sdg/software/xmosaic/cci/cci-slide-show.html>, Accesssed Jul. 20, 1999, Sep. 22, 1994.*

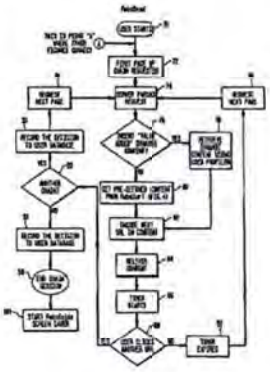
(Continued)

Primary Examiner—Luke S. Wassum
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Sofer & Haroun, L.L.P.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

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.

64 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets



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(51) **Int. Cl.**
G06F 17/00 (2006.01)
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(52) **U.S. Cl.** **707/104.1**; 715/501.1; 715/704

(58) **Field of Classification Search** 707/10, 707/103, 104, 501; 395/200.48, 200.49; 345/340–342, 348–350
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(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Sofer & Haroun, L.L.P.

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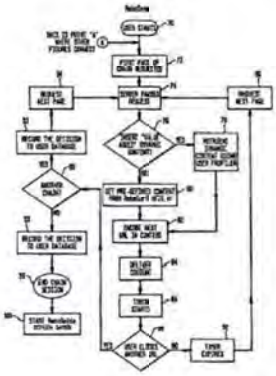

US007155451B1

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5,760,771 A * 6/1998 Blonder et al. 345/854
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(Continued)

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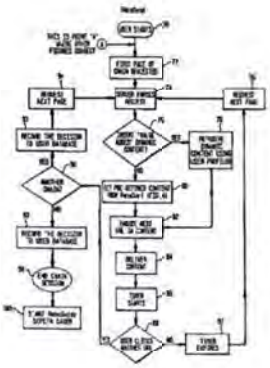

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

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1ST EXAMINER Cheryl Horsic DATE 10/18/96

2ND EXAMINER DATE

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60/025360	9	09 03 96	0			16

TOTAL CLAIMS	INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	SMALL ENTITY?	FILING FEE	FOREIGN LICENSE	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
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			PCT/ /		
			PCT/ /		

PCT/FOREIGN APPLICATION DATA

FOREIGN PRIORITY CLAIMED	COUNTRY CODE	PCT/FOREIGN APPLICATION SERIAL NUMBER	FOREIGN FILING DATE (MONTH DAY YEAR)

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POSITION		ID NO.	DATE
CLASSIFIER		8	10-9-96
EXAMINER		(Holme)	10/18/96
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VERIFIER		211	10/22
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Date Entered or Counted

CONTENTS

Date Received or Mailed

1. Application _____ papers.
2. Request for Access — 1-31-07
3. Request for Access — 2-2-11
4. Request for Access — 9-22-14
5. Copy of C — 1-9-6
6. Request for access — 3-9-18
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William Thompson
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