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(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 14 November 2002

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: PREVIEW SYSTEM FOR FLOOR COVERING INSTALLATIONS

(57) Abstract: A system whereby a prospective purchaser of floor coverings may be provided with a simulated view of various floor covering styles and patterns within the actual contemplated environment of use including furniture, walls, and other non-floor covering elements within the environment of use. A view of the proposed environment of installation is communicated to a floor covering manufacturer or other designated entity for manipulation of the image in digital form to display floor covering products of interest to the purchaser within the proposed environment of use. The generated images are thereafter communicated back to the potential purchaser for his or her review and consideration. A standardized product identification system is utilized to insure that the floor coverings of interest to the potential consumer are imported into the digitized view.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPCl(7) : G06F 17/60
US CL : 705/27
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
U.S. : 705/27

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category *</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>US 5,966,454 A (THOMAS et al.) 12 October 1999 (12.10.1999), see abstract.</td>
<td>1-44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>US 6,005,969 A (THOMAS et al.) 21 December 1999 (21.12.1999), see abstract.</td>
<td>1-44</td>
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1998)
Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:
JPO, EPO, DERWENT
simulate, environment, virtual, preview, customize, digitize, flooring, floor covering, visual, image