



- (51) **International Patent Classification:**
G06Q 30/06 (2012.01)
- (21) **International Application Number:**
PCT/IB2013/053667
- (22) **International Filing Date:**
7 May 2013 (07.05.2013)
- (25) **Filing Language:** English
- (26) **Publication Language:** English
- (30) **Priority Data:**
2012/03275 7 May 2012 (07.05.2012) ZA
- (71) **Applicant:** DIGITATA LIMITED [MU/MU]; c/o Appelby Management (Mauritius) Ltd, 8th Floor, Medine Mews, Le Chaussée Street, Port Louis, 56290 (MU).
- (71) **Applicant (for VC only):** DE BEER, Deon [ZA/ZA]; Dessington de Beer Attorneys PO Box 1238 Rivonia, 2128 Johannesburg (ZA).
- (72) **Inventors:** BARTLETT, Edward; 6 Hadedra Place, Gillits, 3610 Pinetown (ZA). NEETHLING, Marthinus Phillipus; 1069 Olivewood Estate, Christo Avenue, 2158 Randburg (ZA).
- (74) **Agent:** DE BEER, Deon; Dessington de Beer Attorneys PO Box 1238 Rivonia, 2128 Johannesburg (ZA).
- (81) **Designated States** (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,

AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

- (84) **Designated States** (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report (Art. 21(3))
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))

- (88) **Date of publication of the international search report:**
9 January 2014

(54) **Title:** METHOD OF NEGOTIATING A USER EQUIPMENT SERVICE CONTRACT

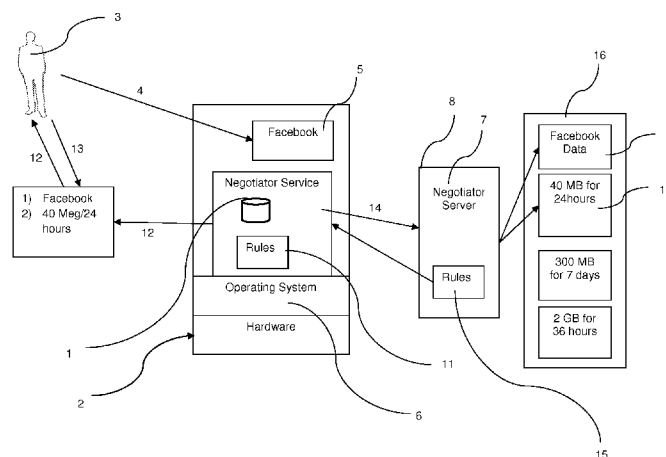


FIGURE 1

(57) **Abstract:** The invention provides a method of negotiating a contract for a consumption type service between a user equipment (UE) and a provider of the service, the method including the service provider operating a computer to formulate at least one offer for a service contract based on a set of usage requirements relating to the UE, the set of usage requirements including, without limitation, any one or more of duration, price, services offered, quality of service, geographical location, total volume of services, time of consumption, location of consumption, content type or call destination; transmitting a data carrying signal to the UE which includes data representing the offer, receiving from the UE a data carrying signal representing an acceptance or rejection of the offer, and activation of the service contract between the UE and the service provider upon acceptance of the offer by the UE.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IB2013/053667

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(8) - G06Q 30/06 (2013.01) USPC - 705/26.4 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) IPC(8) - G06Q10/00, 30/00, 30/06, 30/08 (2013.01) USPC - 705/26.1, 26.2, 26.25, 26.3, 26.4, 27.1 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched CPC - G06Q 30/0222, 30/0228, 30/0239, 30/0611, 30/0617 (2013.01) Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) PatBase, Google Patents, Google Scholar		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2002/0046157 A1 (SOLOMON) 18 April 2002 (18.04.2002) entire document	1-3, 27
Y	US 2002/0161655 A1 (BREDIN) 31 October 2002 (31.10.2002) entire document	1-3, 27
Y	US 6,269,157 B1 (COYLE) 31 July 2001 (31.07.2001) entire document	2-3
A	WO 01/19402 A1 (WALKER et al) 22 March 2001 (22.03.2001) entire document	1-3, 27
A	US 2004/0010592 A1 (CARVER et al) 15 January 2004 (15.01.2004) entire document	1-3, 27
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/>		
* Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art "&" document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 17 October 2013		Date of mailing of the international search report 05 NOV 2013
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. 571-273-3201		Authorized officer: Blaine R. Copenheaver PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300 PCT OSP: 571-272-7774

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IB2013/053667

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☒ Claims Nos.: 4-26
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.