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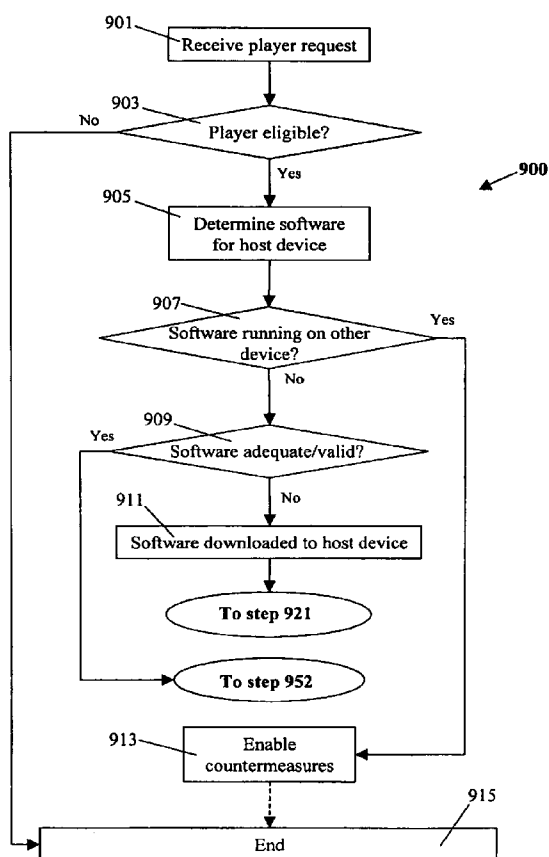
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: VIRTUAL PLAYER TRACKING AND RELATED SERVICES



(57) Abstract: Various gaming-related services are provided, including but not limited to security services, harm minimization services, player identification services, bonusing/progressive services, accounting services, financial/banking services, network tunneling services, cheating detection services, etc. Such services may be provided, at least in part, by software agents that can be configured for different platforms and/or operating systems. Some software-based player tracking methods of the invention can aggregate data from multiple devices used by a player for gaming.



FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL,
PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM,
GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2007/017121

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. G07F17/32

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)
G07F

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 practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2005/137016 A1 (ENZMINGER JOSEPH R [US] ET AL) 23 June 2005 (2005-06-23) abstract figures 1,2,4,5 paragraphs [0008], [0019], [0024] - [0031], [0034] - [0046], [0055], [0059], [0060] -----	1-35, 37-46
X	GB 2 392 276 A (HEWLETT PACKARD DEVELOPMENT CO [US]) 25 February 2004 (2004-02-25) abstract figures 1,2 page 2, paragraph 3 page 3, paragraph 3 - page 11, paragraph 4 -----	1-35, 37-46
X	US 2006/019749 A1 (MERATI BRUCE [US] ET AL) 26 January 2006 (2006-01-26) the whole document -----	1-35, 37-46

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ See patent family annex.

* 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 document 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.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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07/04/2008

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2007/017121

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.:
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:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers allsearchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an 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 reportcovers 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.:

1-35, 37-46

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.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-35,37-46

Method, network, computer program and server for combining information related to an player and obtained from at least a couple of different terminal devices, so that the player account is valid independently of the terminal used to access the game. Also, tracking software is installed on the client devices to collect information about the player.

2. claim: 36

Share gaming device that executes and manages a plurality of gaming processes.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2007/017121

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2005137016 A1	23-06-2005	AU 2004305525 A1 CA 2548955 A1 EP 1701771 A2 WO 2005061066 A1	07-07-2005 07-07-2005 20-09-2006 07-07-2005
GB 2392276 A	25-02-2004	GB 2391341 A US 2004078572 A1	04-02-2004 22-04-2004
US 2006019749 A1	26-01-2006	NONE	