

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
19 February 2004 (19.02.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/015531 A3

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A63F 9/24**
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2003/024694
- (22) International Filing Date: 8 August 2003 (08.08.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
60/401,801 8 August 2002 (08.08.2002) US
60/401,800 8 August 2002 (08.08.2002) US
- (71) Applicant: **VERSALY GAMES, INC.** [US/US]; 1065 1st Place S.E., Issaquah, WA 98027 (US).
- (72) Inventors: **DAVIS, J., Michael**; 20422 208th Ave. SE, Renton, WA 98058 (US). **FELDMAN, Matthew, J.**; 1065 1st Place SE, Issaquah, WA 98027 (US). **JOHANSEN, Bernard, John, II**; 3000 Azahar Street, Carlsbad, CA 92009 (US). **MADHOK, Anil**; C-102 Kalpa-Taru Regency, Kalyani Nagar, Pune, 411 006 Maharashtra (IN).
- (74) Agents: **GOPEL, James** et al.; 1750 Tysons Blvd., 12th Floor, McLean, VA 22102 (US).
- (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:**
— *with international search report*
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report:
10 June 2004
- 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.*



WO 2004/015531 A3

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR AUTOMATICALLY FINDING GAMING PARTNERS BASED ON PRE-ESTABLISHED CRITERIA

(57) Abstract: A system and methods for automatically and selectively matching prospective opponents to facilitate playing a game. The invention takes participant preferences and participant identification information into account in making such matches in an effort to make the game play enjoyable for all participants and to match prospective opponents with a minimum of participant input.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/24694

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A63F 9/24
US CL : 463/42

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. : 463/42, 39, 40, 41, 43, 23

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

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5,586,257 A (PERLMAN) 17 December 1996 (17.12.1996), abstract, column 17, lines 8-41; column 21, lines 26-67; column 22, lines 1-21; column 38, lines 42-65.	1-18
A	US 6,203,433 B1 (KUME) 20 March 2001 (20.03.2001), see entire document.	1-18
A,P	US 2002/0116263 A1 (GOUGE) 22 August 2002 (22.08.2002), see entire document.	1-18

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"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
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"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
"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)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"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	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 December 2003 (13.12.2003)

Date of mailing of the international search report

12 JAN 2004

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. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

Kim Nguyen

Telephone No. (703)308-1148

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US03/24694

Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

EAST

search terms: finding partners, matching opponents, network, server, database, storing participant information.