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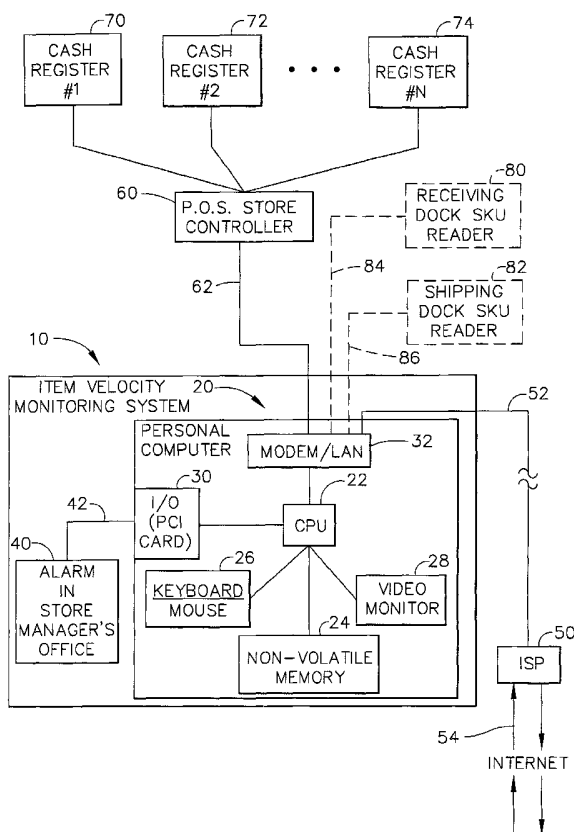
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MONITORING THE EFFECTIVE VELOCITY OF ITEMS THROUGH A STORE OR WAREHOUSE



(57) Abstract: An item velocity monitoring system is provided which interfaces with a consumer retail store that has several cash registers that are tied into a "point of sale" store controller. The item velocity monitoring system is capable of detecting when sales (or other movement activities) of an item are occurring too quickly, or too slowly. The item velocity monitoring system is first "trained" in a learning mode of operations, during which item patterns and group patterns are evaluated and placed into a pattern database. The system then compares the observed item velocity to its model probability velocity, and if the observed item velocity deviates beyond the statistical model, a "velocity event" is generated, declaring one of the above selling "too quick" or "too slow" conditions.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internal application No
PCT/US 01/11392A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G06F17/60

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)
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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, IBM-TDB, PAJ, WPI Data, INSPEC, COMPENDEX

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	BERNARD G D ET AL: "A neural network application - recognizing items which have reached their reorder threshold grocery wholesaling" NEURAL NETWORKS, 1994. IEEE WORLD CONGRESS ON COMPUTATIONAL INTELLIGENCE., 1994 IEEE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ORLANDO, FL, USA 27 JUNE-2 JULY 1994, NEW YORK, NY, USA, IEEE, 27 June 1994 (1994-06-27), pages 3655-3661, XP010127929 ISBN: 0-7803-1901-X page 3656 -page 3658 ----- -/--	1-30

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

 Interna Application No
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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