(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau





(10) International Publication Number WO 2014/059320 A3

(43) International Publication Date 17 April 2014 (17.04.2014)

- (51) International Patent Classification: *G06F 15/16* (2006.01)
- (21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2013/064615

(22) International Filing Date:

11 October 2013 (11.10.2013)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

13/650,401 12 October 2012 (12.10.2012)

US

- (71) Applicant: VICTORIA'S SECRET STORES BRAND MANAGEMENT, INC. [US/US]; Four Limited Parkway, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068 (US).
- (72) Inventors: DAVIDUK, Matthew, J.; 115 Arrowfeather Lane, Lewis Center, OH 43035 (US). EBBERS, Timothy, K.; 14966 Robins Road, Johnstown, OH 43031 (US).
- (74) Agents: MILLER, Richard, W. et al.; Ballard Spahr LLP, 999 Peachtree Street, Suite 1000, Atlanta, GA 30309 (US).
- (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, IR, IS, JP, KE, KG, 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, SA, 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.

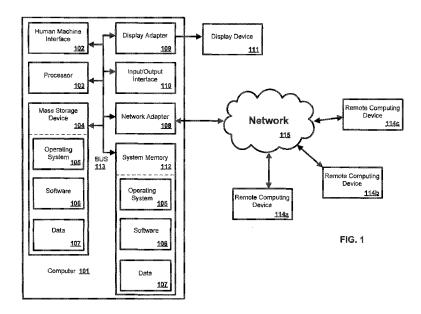
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, 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, KM, 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:

14 August 2014

(54) Title: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR DELIVERING INDIVIDUALIZED CONTENT



(57) Abstract: This disclosure relates to methods and systems for delivering content. In one aspect, a method is disclosed that receives a request for content from a requestor and searches for a trigger in the response to that request. In response to identifying a trigger in the content, the method inserts content that is individualized for the requestor into the response.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT PCT/US2013/064615-13.0 International application

| | | | PCT/US 13 | /64615 |
|---|--|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| IPC(8) - USPC - | ASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER G06F 15/16 (2014.01) 715/744 to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both r | national classification of | nd IPC | , |
| | DS SEARCHED | ational classification at | na ir C | - |
| Minimum d | ocumentation searched (classification system followed by | classification symbols) | | |
| Documentat USPC - 705 | ion searched other than minimum documentation to the ex/26.81, 715/234, 707/E17.116, 707/999.01, 709/217, 70 | xtent that such document 06/48 (See Keywords be | s are included in the elow) | fields searched |
| Thomsoninn Search Term | ata base consulted during the international search (name convation.com; Patbase; Google Scholar; Google Patents as: HTML, XML, markup, webpage, request, retrieve, interplace, insert, add, substitute, swap, personalize, custo | s; Gogole.com; Freepate tercept, scan, search, lo | entsonline; ProQues ook, parse, analyze, | st Dialog |
| C. DOCU | MENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |
| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where a | ppropriate, of the releva | ant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
| X Y | US 2008/0306816 A1 (MATTHYS et al.), 11 December 2008 (11.12.2008), entire document, especially Abstract; para [0017], [0019], [0045], [0051], [0093]-[0094], [0096] | | 1-6 | |
| × | US 2011/178973 A1 (LOPEZ et al.), 21 July 2011 (21.07.2011), entire document, especially Abstract; para [0016], [0020], [0026], [0034] | | | 1 |
| Υ . | US 2007/0271156 A1 (SARUSI et al.), 22 November 2 especially Abstract; para [0111]-[0113] | al.), 22 November 2007 (22.11.2007), entire document, [13] | | |
| Y | US 2001/0054012 A1 (NAYYAR), 20 December 2001 Abstract; para [0009], [0020]-[0022] | (20.12.2001), entire dod | 7 | |
| Α | US 2010/0318426 A1 (GRANT et al.), 16 December 2 | 010 (16.12.2010), entire | document | 1-7 |
| Α . | US 2005/0204276 A1 (HOSEA et al.), 15 September 2 | 2005 (15.09.2005), entir | e document | 1-7 |
| | | | | , |
| | | | , | |
| | | | | |
| | · | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| <u> </u> | er documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. | | | |
| "A" docume to be of | categories of cited documents: ent defining the general state of the art which is not considered f particular relevance | date and not in ec the principle or th | onflict with the applications underlying the | • |
| "E" carlier 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 | | "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 | | |
| 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 | | considered to involve an inventive step when the document is | | |
| "P" docume | ent published prior to the international filing date but later than ority date claimed | • | er of the same patent | |
| Date of the actual completion of the international search | | Date of mailing of the international search report | | |
| 27 May 2014 (27.05.2014) | | 1 3 J U N 2014 | | |
| Mail Stop PC | nailing address of the ISA/US T, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents 50, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 | Authorized officer | r: Lee W. Young | |

PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300 PCT OSP: 571-272-7774

Facsimile No. 571-273-3201

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 13/64615

| 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: This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be examined, the appropriate additional examination fees must be paid. | | | | |
| Group I: Claims 1-7 are directed to a method for delivering conditionally individualized content to a requestor. | | | | |
| Group II: Claims 8-20 are directed to a method and system for identifying a source of a requested content and delivering the content from the source. | | | | |
| See Continuation in Supplemental Box (Page 8) | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| 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.: 1-7 | | | |
| Remark | 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. | | | |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 13/64615

Continuation of:

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking

The inventions listed as Groups I and II do not relate to a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because under PCT Rule 13.2 they lack the same or corresponding technical features for the following reasons:

Special Technical Features

Group I includes the special technical feature of searching for a trigger in the response; and in response to identifying a trigger in the response, inserting content individualized for the requestor into the response, not required in the method or system of group II.

Group II includes the special technical feature a load balancer comprising an association between information pertaining to a request and each of the plurality of servers, the load balancer, in response to receiving a request, identifies the information pertaining to the request, and directs the request to the server associated with the information pertaining to the request and delivering content from the source to the requestor, not required in the method of group I.

Common Technical Features

Groups I and II share the technical features of a method for delivering content, comprising: receiving a request for content from a requestor and delivering content in a response to the requestor. However, these shared technical features fail to make a contribution over the prior art of US 7,827,170 B1 to Horling et al. (hereinafter 'Horling'), which discloses a method for delivering content, comprising (col 4, In 20-30 -receive a set of personalized search results, a user from the client 103 (for example) submits a search request to the information server 106): receiving a request for content from a requestor (col 4, In 28-40 - Within the information server 106, the front end server 120 is configured to handle search requests from the clients) and delivering content in a response to the requestor (Abstract, col 4, In 20-40).

Accordingly, Groups I-II lack unity under PCT Rule 13 because they do not share a same or corresponding special technical feature providing a contribution over prior art.