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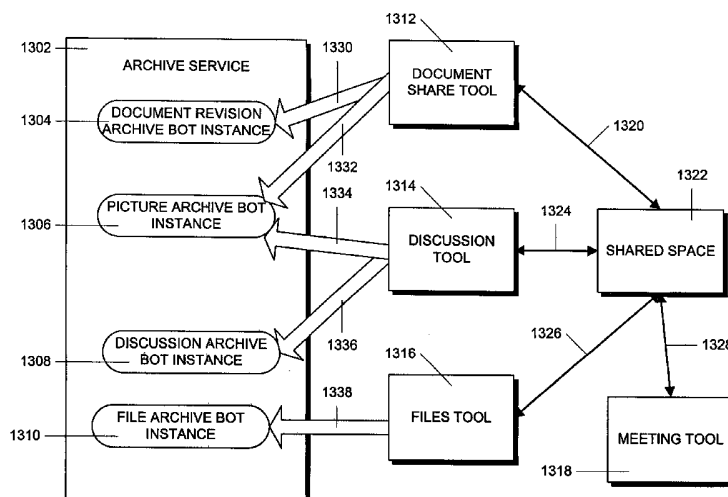
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONNECTING A SECURE PEER-TO-PEER COLLABORATION SYSTEM TO AN EXTERNAL SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A connection between a secure shared space and an external system is created with a connector tool. The connector tool code is included in an independent agent called a "bot" that is created by a software developer. Bots run in the background in an automated and unattended manner in a specialized enterprise integration server. Each bot has a unique identity and runs under an account assigned to the enterprise integration server. A bot can be invited to a shared space much as another collaborator. Bots can also invite others to shared spaces. All bots running in the enterprise integration server are administered by a centralized administrative control. This allows account and identity policies to be established and global behaviors, including authentication settings, startup options and scope to be determined centrally. The centralized control allows simple installation, configuration and deployment and administrative control of bot operation and access. It also allows for logging and monitoring of system behavior.

WO 2004/017601 A3

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b> Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 H04L H04N		
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		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 01 06361 A (GROOVE NETWORKS INC) 25 January 2001 (2001-01-25) the whole document ---	1-60
X	WO 01 27784 A (NETDIVE INC) 19 April 2001 (2001-04-19) the whole document ---	1-60
X	US 6 158 011 A (BROOK CHRISTOPHER T ET AL) 5 December 2000 (2000-12-05) the whole document -----	1-60
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.		
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Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016		Authorized officer <p align="center"><b>Horn, M.P.</b></p>

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PCT/US 03/15188

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