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- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*

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[Continued on next page]

- (54) **Title:** A METHOD AND AN APPARATUS FOR EVENT MANAGEMENT IN A PLANT AUTOMATION SYSTEM

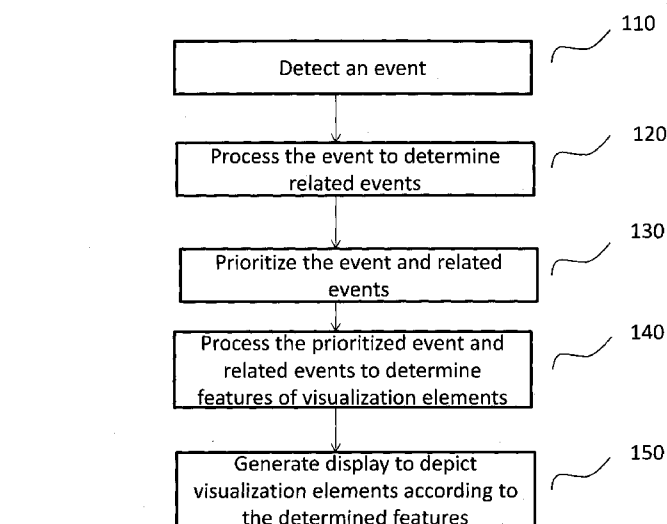


Figure 1

(57) **Abstract:** The invention relates to a method for event/alarm management in a plant automation system and more specifically a method to gather and process information from field devices in a process plant along with structural, historical and expert information to create a human machine interface for effective event/alarm management in a plant automation system. The method comprises the steps of detecting an event in the plant automation to produce event information that is then processed with a cause and effect analyzer to determine one or more related events information. The event information and one or more related events information are prioritized with a priority engine to obtain prioritized event and related events information. Further, the prioritized event and related events information are processed with a visualization engine to determine features of one or more visualization elements for the human machine interface and then the visual elements according to the determined features of one or more visualization elements are generated to have the human machine interface to manage events in the plant automation system. An apparatus based on the method is also provided.



— *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))*

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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ADD.

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)

G05B G06F

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)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2007/268122 A1 (KOW YONG MING [SG] ET AL) 22 November 2007 (2007-11-22) paragraphs [0001] - [0012], [0029] - [0039] abstract; figures 2-6 -----	1-10
X	US 7 200 774 B2 (VOLLMAR GERHARD [DE] ET AL) 3 April 2007 (2007-04-03) the whole document -----	1-10
X	EP 0 590 571 A1 (PRAXAIR TECHNOLOGY INC [US]) 6 April 1994 (1994-04-06) page 2, line 3 - page 3, line 46 page 4, line 46 - page 6, line 56 abstract; figures 6,7 ----- -/-	1-10



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

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Name and mailing address of the ISA/

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International 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.
X	US 2005/012608 A1 (HAVEKOST ROBERT B [US] ET AL) 20 January 2005 (2005-01-20) paragraphs [0001] - [0004], [0010] - [0011], [0030] - [0036], [0039] - [0044], [0049] - [0055], [0060], [0072] abstract; figures 2,13 -----	1-10
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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