WIRELESS CONNECTION SETTING PROGRAM

Inventors: Sunao Kawai, Toyoake-shi (JP); Manabu Ishiki, Nagoya-shi (JP)

Correspondence Address:
BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.
ATTORNEYS FOR CLIENT NOS. 0166889, 006760
1001 G STREET, N.W., 11TH FLOOR
WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4597 (US)

Assignee: Brother Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha, Nagoya-shi (JP)

Appl. No.: 11/391,264
Filed: Mar. 29, 2006

Foreign Application Priority Data

Publication Classification

Int. Cl.
G06F 15/177 (2006.01)

U.S. Cl. ............................................ 709/220; 709/226

ABSTRACT

A computer program product includes computer readable instructions that cause a computer to execute a wireless connection setting process. The computer includes a communication interface configured to communicate with at least one device. The wireless connection setting process includes recognizing a state of the at least one device through the communication interface, displaying an input screen image sequentially for each of at least one setting item of wireless connection settings, configuring the wireless connection settings for the at least one device based upon the input, and controlling whether to display the input screen image by judging whether the input is required to be received for each of the at least one setting item based upon the state of the recognized at least one device. Said configuring includes determining the setting item for which the input is not judged required to be received.
FIG. 2

```
INITIAL SETTING PROCESS

S10

NO

S10

WIRELESS CONNECTION SELECTED?

YES

S15

SPECIFIED PRINTING DEVICE HAS JOINED WIRELESS NETWORK

NO

S20

SETUP WIZARD PROCESS

S25

INSTALL DRIVER INTO HDD

END

FIG. 2
```
SETUP WIZARD PROCESS

DISPLAY START SCREEN IMAGE S100

STORE SETTING IN RAM S105

CHANGE SETTING TO SETUP S110

SEARCH SPECIFIED TYPE OF PRINTING DEVICE S115

ONLY ONE PRINTING DEVICE RECOGNIZED? S120

NO CANCEL

DISPLAY PRINTING DEVICE SELECTING GUI S125

SELECT 1

MAIN SETTING PROCESS S130

RESTORE SETTING S135

END

FIG. 3
FIG. 5

SECURITY SETTING PROCESS

S300
DISPLAY SECURITY SETTING GUI

S305
DISPLAY DETAIL SETTING GUI

NO
ADVANCED

BACK

S310
EAP SELECTED?

NO

YES

S315
DISPLAY EAP SETTING GUI

BACK

NEXT

END

FIG. 6

Wireless Device Setup Wizard

for Windows 98/98SE/Me/NT4.0/2000/XP or later (for Windows)
for Mac OS X 10.2.4 or later (for Mac)
Available Wireless Devices

Multiple Wireless Devices found.
Select the device you wish to configure and click (Next).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Node Name</th>
<th>IP Address</th>
<th>MAC Address</th>
<th>Printer Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>907800</td>
<td>?????????</td>
<td>001177567890</td>
<td>9070N series</td>
<td>????????</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>907801</td>
<td>?????????</td>
<td>001177567891</td>
<td>9070N series</td>
<td>????????</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>907802</td>
<td>configured</td>
<td>001177567892</td>
<td>9070N series</td>
<td>A?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Important Notice:
If you are using a personal firewall on this computer it may not find any devices. In this case, temporarily disable the firewall software.

Help  <Back  Next>  Cancel

FIG. 7

Searching for Wireless Network(s)........

FIG. 8
Available Wireless Network

Choose the Access Point/Base Station or Ad-hoc network that the Device will be associated with.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name (SSID)</th>
<th>Chancer</th>
<th>Wireless Mode</th>
<th>Signal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AP1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11b/g(11/54M)</td>
<td>****</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11b (11M)</td>
<td>***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P2p1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11b (11M)</td>
<td>**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P2p2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11b/g(11/54M)</td>
<td>****</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Add: If the Access Point/Base Station or Ad-hoc network name doesn't appear, click the "Add" button to manually specify the network name.

FIG. 9

Configure the wireless network name

Configure the wireless network name that the device will be associated with.

Name (SSID) 

This is an Ad-hoc network and there is no Access Point/Base Station.

Cancel 11 (for Adhoc mode)

FIG. 10
Authentication Method and Encryption Mode

Configure the Authentication Method and Encryption mode

For Wireless Network Name (SSID): XXXXXXX

Authentication Method: Open System (Shared Key)
Encryption Mode: WEP (None|WEP|TKIP)

Network Key: WEP Key 64/128 (ASCII/HEX)
Confirm Network Key:

Advanced

Help <Back Next> Cancel

FIG. 11

Authentication Method and Encryption Mode

Configure the Authentication Method and Encryption mode

For Wireless Network Name (SSID): XXXXXXX

Authentication Method: Open System (Shared Key)
Encryption Mode: WEP (None|WEP|TKIP)

- WEP Key 1: WEP Key 64/128 (ASCII/HEX)
- WEP Key 2: WEP Key 64/128 (ASCII/HEX)
- WEP Key 3: WEP Key 64/128 (ASCII/HEX)
- WEP Key 4: WEP Key 64/128 (ASCII/HEX)

Help <Back Next> Cancel

FIG. 12
EAP Authentication

Configure the Authentication Method and Encryption mode

For Wireless Network Name (SSID): XXXXXXX

EAP Authentication: [EAP-FAST]

User ID

User Password

Confirm User Password

Help <Back Next> Cancel

FIG. 13

ATTENTION!

Wireless Network Name (SSID): XXXXXXX

This Access Point/Base Station or Wireless Network is not secure. It does not have secure authentication and encryption. Do you want to continue setup?

OK Cancel

FIG. 14
Submit settings

Click(Next) to submit following settings to the device

Target Device = 567890
Settings
- IP Address = Auto(<IP Address>){Auto}
- NameSSID) = MyAP
- Authentication Method = Open System
- Encryption Mode = WEP
- Network Key size/type = 128(104)bit/64(40)bit ASCII/HEX
- Network Key = ************

Print Test Page after submitting
Change IP Address

FIG. 15

IP Address Configuration

Configure the IP address of the Wireless Device

- Obtain an IP address automatically.
  Please note: If a DHCP server is unavailable, the Wireless Device will automatically use an APIPA based IP address in the 169.254.0.1 to 169.254.255.254 range
- Set Static IP address
  - IP Address
  - Subnet mask
  - Gateway

FIG. 16
The printing device 56/790 of Model 8070N series will be connected to the wireless access point of SSID:AP1 Ch1. For the wireless access point communications are in danger of being monitored by third parties. Since they are automatically set, please press the setting button when giving a specific address. The IP address of the printing device 56/790 will be automatically set.

Please press "OK" button when connecting the printing device to the wireless access point.

FIG. 17
Please select a wireless network to which the printing device is to be connected and press "OK" button.

Please select a printing device to be set and press "OK" button.
WIRELESS CONNECTION SETTING PROGRAM

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION


BACKGROUND

[0002] 1. Technical Field

[0003] The following description relates to one or more techniques that may be used to configure setting for a wireless connection between a computer and a device.

[0004] 2. Related Art

[0005] Conventionally, in order to allow various kinds of devices such as a printing device (a printer, Multi Function Peripheral (MFP), etc.) to join a wireless network, various settings necessary for joining the wireless network are configured using a setup wizard. A setup wizard is a program designed to configure such various settings, generally run by a personal computer (PC) on the wireless network.

[0006] It is noted that the setup wizard is generally set to allow the device to join the wireless network only with a user inputting necessary information for each of setting items to be set on an input screen image that is sequentially displayed for each of the setting items.

[0007] Meanwhile, currently, the wireless network is widely used not only in offices, but also in general homes. However, in the case of the aforementioned conventional setup wizard, as shown in FIG. 19, a user has to input the necessary information for specifying a device to be made join the wireless network and a wireless access point to be used. For this reason, even in the case of configuring simple settings for the wireless network with only one device to be connected to the wireless network and one wireless access point, a lot of trouble is required for setting the wireless network.

[0008] In addition, since the user has to input even information, which a certain level of technical knowledge about the wireless network is required for inputting, such as information for specifying an “SSID (Service Set Identifier)” or “Channel”, there is a problem that those who do not have sufficient technical knowledge about the wireless network as some general users, cannot easily configure the settings for the wireless network. One example of such a problem is shown in FIG. 19.

SUMMARY

[0009] Aspects of the present invention are advantageous in that one or more techniques that allow a user to easily configure settings for a wireless connection between a computer and a device can be provided.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE ACCOMPANYING DRAWINGS

[0010] FIG. 1 schematically shows a configuration of a personal computer (PC) according to one or more aspects the present invention.

[0011] FIG. 2 is a flowchart showing a procedure of an initial setting process executed by a CPU in accordance with one or more aspects of the present invention.

[0012] FIG. 3 is a flowchart showing a procedure of a setup wizard process in the initial setting process in accordance with one or more aspects of the present invention.

[0013] FIG. 4 is a flowchart showing a procedure of a main setting process in the setup wizard process in accordance with one or more aspects of the present invention.

[0014] FIG. 5 is a flowchart showing a procedure of the security setting process in the main setting process in accordance with one or more aspects of the present invention.

[0015] FIG. 6 is an illustration showing an example of a start screen image displayed on a display device in accordance with one or more aspects of the present invention.

[0016] FIG. 7 is an illustration showing an example of a printing device selecting GUI displayed on the display device in accordance with one or more aspects of the present invention.

[0017] FIG. 8 is an illustration showing an example of a search screen image displayed on the display device in accordance with one or more aspects of the present invention.

[0018] FIG. 9 is an illustration showing an example of an SSID selecting GUI displayed on the display device in accordance with one or more aspects of the present invention.

[0019] FIG. 10 is an illustration showing an example of an SSID input GUI displayed on the display device in accordance with one or more aspects of the present invention.

[0020] FIG. 11 is an illustration showing an example of a security setting GUI displayed on the display device in accordance with one or more aspects of the present invention.

[0021] FIG. 12 is an illustration showing an example of a detail setting GUI displayed on the display device in accordance with one or more aspects of the present invention.

[0022] FIG. 13 is an illustration showing an example of an EAP setting GUI displayed on the display device in accordance with one or more aspects of the present invention.

[0023] FIG. 14 is an illustration showing an example of a warning screen image displayed on the display device in accordance with one or more aspects of the present invention.

[0024] FIG. 15 is an illustration showing an example of a setting confirming screen image displayed on the display device in accordance with one or more aspects of the present invention.

[0025] FIG. 16 is an illustration showing an example of an IP address input GUI displayed on the display device in accordance with one or more aspects of the present invention.

[0026] FIG. 17 is an illustration schematically showing an operation of the PC when there are only one printing device and one SSID in accordance with one or more aspects of the present invention.
FIG. 18 is an illustration schematically showing an operation of the PC when there are one or more printing devices and one or more SSIDs in accordance with one or more aspects of the present invention.

FIG. 19 is an illustration showing an example of problems described in the related art.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

It is noted that various connections are set forth between elements in the following description. It is noted that these connections in general and, unless specified otherwise, may be direct or indirect and that this specification is not intended to be limiting in this respect.

According to aspects of the present invention, there is provided a computer program product including computer readable instructions that cause a computer to execute a wireless connection setting process, the computer including a communication interface configured to communicate with at least one device, the wireless connection setting process being executed in response to the computer receiving an external setting request for configuring wireless connection settings that may be used to make the at least one device join a wireless network, the wireless connection setting process including: recognizing a state of the at least one device through the communication interface; displaying an input screen image sequentially for each of at least one setting item, to be set, of the wireless connection settings, the input screen image being designed for receiving an input for each of the at least one setting item thereon; configuring the wireless connection settings for the at least one device based upon the input; and controlling whether to display the input screen image for each of the at least one setting item of the wireless connection settings in said displaying the input screen image, by judging whether the input is required to be received for each of the at least one setting item based upon the state of the at least one device that is recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device. Said configuring the wireless connection settings includes determining the setting item for which the input is not judged required to be received in said controlling whether to display the input screen image based upon the state of the at least one device recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device.

By the instructions, included in the aforementioned computer program product, making the computer execute the wireless connection setting process, when the at least one device is recognized to be two or more, the user can select the intended device on the setting device selecting screen image. Meanwhile, when the at least one device is recognized to be only one, it is possible to prevent the user from purposely providing the input for selecting the intended device by set the only recognized device as the intended device.

Optionally, said recognizing the state of the at least one device may be intended for one or more predetermined types of devices. When the wireless connection setting process is executed by the computer according to the instructions included in the above computer program product, it is allowed to recognize only the predetermined type of devices. Thereby, it is possible to save trouble for purposely providing the input for selecting the predetermined type of device among the recognized devices, and to prevent a device other than the predetermined type of devices from being mistakenly selected as the intended device.

Optionally, the communication interface may be configured to wirelessly communicate. Optionally, the wireless connection settings may include recognizing wireless networks through the communication interface. In this case, said displaying the input screen image may include displaying as one of the input screen images a wireless network selecting screen image for selecting any one of the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless net-
works as an intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join. Optionally, said controlling whether to display the input screen image may include preventing displaying the wireless network selecting screen image in said displaying the input screen image, in response to the wireless networks being recognized to be only one in said recognizing the wireless networks. Optionally, said configuring the wireless connection settings may include: determining a wireless network selected on the wireless network selecting screen image as the intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join, in response to the wireless networks being recognized to be only one in said recognizing the wireless networks; configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the selected wireless network; determining a wireless network as the intended wireless network in response to the wireless network being recognized to be only one in said recognizing the wireless networks; and configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the only one wireless network.

[0038] When the wireless connection setting process is executed by the computer according to the instructions included in the computer program product thus configured, the computer can recognize the wireless networks, and configure the that may be used settings for making the at least one device join one of the recognized wireless networks. Moreover, when the wireless networks are recognized to be two or more, the user can select the intended wireless network on the wireless network selecting screen image. Meanwhile, when the wireless networks are recognized to be only one, it is possible to prevent the user from purposely providing the input for selecting the intended wireless network by determining the recognized wireless network as the intended one.

[0039] Further optionally, the communication interface may be configured to wirelessly communicate. Optionally, the wireless connection settings may include recognizing wireless networks through the communication interface. In this case, said displaying the input screen image may include displaying as one of the input screen images a wireless network selecting screen image for selecting any one of the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks as an intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join. Optionally, said controlling whether to display the input screen image may include preventing displaying the wireless network selecting screen image in said displaying the input screen image, in response to the wireless networks being recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks including a wireless network that the computer is joining. Optionally, said configuring the wireless connection settings may include: determining the wireless network selected on the wireless network selecting screen image as the intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join, in response to the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks not including the wireless network that the computer is joining; configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the selected wireless network; determining the wireless network that the computer is joining as the intended wireless network in response to the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks including the wireless network that the computer is joining; and configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the wireless network that the computer is joining.

[0040] By the instructions, included in the aforementioned computer program product, making the computer execute the wireless connection setting process, the computer can recognize the wireless networks, and configure the that may be used settings for making the at least one device join one of the recognized wireless networks. In addition, when the recognized wireless networks do not include the wireless network that the computer is joining, the user can select the intended wireless network on the wireless network selecting screen image. Meanwhile, when the recognized wireless networks include the wireless network that the computer is joining, it is possible to prevent the user from purposely providing the input for selecting the intended wireless network by determining the wireless network that the computer is joining as the intended wireless network. In particular, when the user wants to set up the device available from the computer, which has conventionally been used by the user, the program is so useful as to prevent the user from configuring wrong settings.

[0041] Furthermore, by thus setting the wireless connection setting process, the following effect can be expected. There is considered a case where a wireless network, which is not to be determined as the intended one that the device is to join, for example, as a wireless network located in a neighbor zone, is recognized. However, when the recognized wireless networks include the wireless network that the computer is joining, since the wireless network that the computer is joining is already known to cause no trouble even in the case of making the device join it, the user can configure the that may be used settings for making the device join the wireless network more easily by determining the wireless network that the computer is joining as the intended wireless network. On the other hand, when the recognized wireless networks do not include the wireless network that the computer is joining, it is possible to prevent the user from determining the wireless network, which is not to be determined as the intended one, as the intended one by making the user confirm whether to determine each of the recognized wireless networks as the intended one.

[0042] Still optionally, the wireless connection settings may include recognizing whether a predetermined security function is set for the wireless network determined as the intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join in said configuring the wireless connection settings through the communication interface. In this case, preferably, said displaying the input screen image may include displaying a warning screen image for warning that the predetermined security function is not set for the wireless network determined as the intended wireless network in said recognizing whether a predetermined security function is set for the wireless network determined as the intended wireless network, in response to the predetermined security function being not judged to be set for the determined wireless network.

[0043] By the instructions, included in the computer program product thus configured, making the computer execute the wireless connection setting process, when the security function is not set for the determined wireless network, it is
possible to warn the user about that situation. For this reason, the user can allow the device not to join the determined wireless network without knowing that the determined wireless network for which the security function is not set, but arbitrarily to join another wireless network for which the security function is set.

[0044] According to another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a computer program product including computer readable instructions that cause a computer to execute a wireless connection setting process, the computer being configured to create a wireless connection with devices located therearound, the wireless connection setting process being executed in response to the computer receiving an external setting request for creating the wireless connection with any one of the devices located around the computer; the wireless connection setting process including: recognizing the devices located around the computer through a wireless network; determining a device, which is recognized as only one device located around the computer in said recognizing the devices, as an intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection; and creating the wireless connection between the computer and the device determined in said determining the device.

[0045] By the instructions, included in the computer program product thus configured, making the computer execute the wireless connection setting process, when the computer receives the external setting request, the computer recognizes the devices located therearound through the wireless network. When the devices are recognized to be only one, the computer determines the recognized device as the intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection to create the wireless connection with the determined device.

[0046] In other words, in the computer that executes the wireless connection setting process, despite the only one device located around the computer, it is possible to prevent the user from purposely providing the input for selecting the intended device. Therefore, the user can configure the settings for the wireless connection between the computer and the device more easily than ever.

[0047] It is noted that in said recognizing the devices, any methods may be applied to recognize the devices located around the computer. For example, if the devices are configured to send a predetermined wireless signal every a predetermined time period, the device may be recognized based upon the wireless signal. Further, if the device is configured to respond to a request from the computer, the computer may transmit the request to recognize the device based upon the response from the device to the response request. By thus recognizing the device based upon the signal or the response therefrom, the user or a network administrator is not required to separately input information for recognizing the device to the computer. In addition, if the wireless connection setting process is configured to make the computer detect the signal or the response in said recognizing the devices after receiving the setting request, it will be allowed to recognize only the devices currently existing. Accordingly, it is possible to prevent the computer from wrongly determining device that does not currently exist as the intended device.

[0048] In said recognizing the devices, there is considered an undesired case where, for example, the computer recognizes a device that is not to be determined as the intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection, as a device located in a neighbor room (menage) in a complex housing.

[0049] In consideration of the above problem, optionally, said determining the device may include: judging whether a device, which is recognized as only one device located around the computer in said recognizing the devices, conforms to a predetermined device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection; re-determining the recognized device as the intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection, in response to the recognized device conforming to the predetermined device in said judging; displaying a judging screen image for judging whether to select the recognized device as the intended device with showing the recognized device thereon, in response to the recognized device not conforming to the predetermined device in said judging; and determining the recognized device as the intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection, only in response to the recognized device being selected on the judging screen image in said displaying the judging screen image.

[0050] By the instructions, included in the computer program product thus configured, making the computer execute the wireless connection setting process, when the recognized device conforms to the predetermined device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection, the recognized device is re-determined as the intended device. Thereby, the user can simply configure the settings for the wireless connection with the recognized device, i.e., the predetermined device that causes no problem even if it is determined as the intended device. Meanwhile, when the recognized device does not conform to the predetermined device, it is possible to prevent the computer from determining a device, which the computer is not to determine as the intended device, as the intended device, by making the user confirm whether the recognized device is to be determined as the intended device.

[0051] Optionally, said determining the device may include: displaying a selecting screen image for selecting any one of the recognized devices located around the computers as the intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection with showing the recognized devices located around the computers, in response to the devices located around the computer being recognized to be two or more in said recognizing the devices; and determining a device selected on the selecting screen image displayed in said displaying the selecting screen image as the intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection.

[0052] By the instructions, included in the computer program product thus configured, making the computer execute the wireless connection setting process, when there is located one or more devices around the computer, the user can select any one of the recognized devices as the intended device. That is, the computer program product can preferably be applied in such an environment that there is located one or more devices around the computer as an office where there is a user having a technical knowledge about the wireless connection.

[0053] Here, in the case where wireless access points are included in the devices, optionally, said determining the
device may include determining a wireless access point externally specified as an intended wireless access point with which the computer is to create the wireless connection, in response to any wireless access points being not recognized.

[0054] By the instructions, included in the computer program product thus configured, making the computer execute the wireless connection setting process, when any wireless access points are set not to be recognized because of a security reason, the computer can configure the settings for the wireless connection with the specified wireless access point.

[0055] Further, in the case where wireless access points are included in the devices, preferably, the wireless connection setting process may include: confirming whether a security function is set for the wireless access point that is determined as the intended wireless access point with which the computer is to create the wireless connection in said determining the device; and displaying a warning screen image for warning that the security function is not set for the determined wireless access point, in response to the security function being confirmed not to be set for the determined wireless access point in said confirming.

[0056] By the instructions, included in the computer program product thus configured, making the computer execute the wireless connection setting process, when the security function is not set for the determined wireless access point, the computer can warn the user about that situation. This can prevent the user from making the device join the wireless network for which the security function is not set without knowing that situation, and can cause the device to arbitrarily join the wireless network with the security function.

[0057] Optionally, said recognizing the devices may be intended for one or more predetermined types of devices. By the instructions, included in the computer program product thus configured, making the computer execute the wireless connection setting process, it is allowed to recognize only the predetermined type of devices. Thereby, it is possible to save trouble for purposely providing the input for selecting the predetermined type of device among the recognized devices, and to prevent a device other than the predetermined type of devices from being mistakenly selected as the intended device.

[0058] Meanwhile, the aforementioned computer readable instructions included in the computer program products may be stored in a ROM or backup RAM that are incorporated in the computer, and may be used with being loaded from the ROM or the backup RAM to the computer. The instructions may be used with being loaded to the computer via the wireless network.

[0059] According to a further aspect of the present invention, there is provided a recording medium in which the aforementioned computer readable instructions are stored, the recording medium being configured such that the instructions stored therein can be read by the computer. Such a recording medium can cause the same effects as aforementioned.

[0060] More specifically, there is provided a recording medium, which includes a wireless connection setting program stored therein such that a computer including a communication interface configured to communicate with at least one device can read the wireless connection setting program. The wireless connection setting program is designed to be executed in response to the computer receiving an external setting request for configuring wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join a wireless network. The wireless connection setting program includes: recognizing a state of the at least one device through the communication interface; displaying an input screen image sequentially for each of at least one setting item, to be set, of the wireless connection settings, the input screen image being designed for receiving an input for each of the at least one setting item thereon; configuring the wireless connection settings for the at least one device based upon the input; and controlling whether to display the input screen image for each of the at least one setting item of the wireless connection settings in said displaying the input screen image, by judging whether the input is required to be received for each of the at least one setting item based upon the state of the at least one device that is recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device. Said configuring the wireless connection settings includes determining the setting item for which the input is not judged required to be received in said controlling whether to display the input screen image based upon the state of the at least one device recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device.

[0061] According to a further aspect of the present invention, there is provided a recording medium, which includes a wireless connection setting program stored therein such that a computer configured to create a wireless connection with devices located therearound can read the wireless connection setting program. The wireless connection setting program is designed to be executed in response to the computer receiving an external setting request for creating the wireless connection with any one of the devices located around the computer. The wireless connection setting program includes: recognizing the devices located around the computer through a wireless network; determining a device, which is recognized as only one device located around the computer in said recognizing the devices, as an intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection; and creating the wireless connection between the computer and the device determined in said determining the device.

[0062] As the aforementioned recording medium, there are cited, for example, a flexible disk (FD), Magneto-Optical disk (MO), DVD, Blu-Ray disk, HD-DVD, hard disk, and memory card.

[0063] According to a further aspect of the present invention, there is provided a computer in which at least one of the aforementioned computer program products is installed. Such a computer can cause the same effects as aforementioned.

[0064] More specifically, there is provided a computer configured to join a wireless network, comprising: a communication interface configured to communicate with at least one device; and a wireless connection setting program installed therein. The wireless connection setting program is designed to be executed in response to the computer receiving an external setting request for configuring wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the wireless network. The wireless connec-
tion setting program includes: recognizing a state of the at least one device through the communication interface; displaying an input screen image sequentially for each of at least one setting item, to be set, of the wireless connection settings, the input screen image being designed for receiving an input for each of the at least one setting item therefore; configuring the wireless connection settings for the at least one device based upon the input; and controlling whether to display the input screen image for each of the at least one setting item of the wireless connection settings in said displaying the input screen image, by judging whether the input is required to be received for each of the at least one setting item based upon the state of the at least one device that is recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device. Said configuring the wireless connection settings includes determining the setting item for which the input is not judged required to be received in said controlling whether to display the input screen image based upon the state of the at least one device recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device.

[0068] According to a further aspect of the present invention, there is provided a wireless network, which includes: at least one computer including a wireless connection setting program installed therein; and at least one device configured to create a wireless connection with the at least one computer. The wireless connection setting program is designed to be executed in response to the at least one computer receiving an external setting request for creating the wireless connection with any one of the devices located around the computer. The wireless connection setting program includes: recognizing the devices located around the computer through the wireless network; determining a device, which is recognized as only one device located around the computer in said recognizing the devices, as an intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection; and creating the wireless connection between the computer and the device determined in said determining the device.

[0066] According to a further aspect of the present invention, there is provided a wireless network, which includes at least one computer configured as the aforementioned computers and at least one device configured to create a wireless connection with the at least one computer. Such a computer can cause the same effects as aforementioned.

[0067] More specifically, there is provided a wireless network, which includes: at least one computer that includes a communication interface and a wireless connection setting program installed therein; and at least one device. The communication interface is configured to communicate with the at least one device. The wireless connection setting program is designed to be executed in response to the at least one computer receiving an external setting request for configuring wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join said wireless network. The wireless connection setting program includes: recognizing a state of the at least one device through the communication interface; displaying an input screen image sequentially for each of at least one setting item, to be set, of the wireless connection settings, the input screen image being designed for receiving an input for each of the at least one setting item therefore; configuring the wireless connection settings for the at least one device based upon the input; and controlling whether to display the input screen image for each of the at least one setting item of the wireless connection settings in said displaying the input screen image, by judging whether the input is required to be received for each of the at least one setting item based upon the state of the at least one device that is recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device. Said configuring the wireless connection settings includes determining the setting item for which the input is not judged required to be received in said controlling whether to display the input screen image based upon the state of the at least one device recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device.

[0069] Hereinafter, an illustrative embodiment according to the present invention will be explained with reference to the accompanying drawings. FIG. 1 schematically shows a configuration of a personal computer 1 according to the present invention. As shown in FIG. 1, a personal computer (PC) 1 is configured in the same manner as a generally known personal computer.

[0070] Namely, the PC 1 is configured with a main body 11 being connected with a display device 12, keyboard 13, mouse (not shown), etc. The main body 11 is provided with a CPU (Central Processing Unit) 111 that executes various processes, a ROM (Read Only Memory) 112 that stores a program for boot processing (BIOS) to be executed by the CPU 111 when booting the PC 1, a RAM (Random Access Memory) 113 that serves as a memory area when the CPU 111 executes the various processes, an HDD (Hard Disk Drive) 114 that stores an operating system and programs for the various processes to be executed by the CPU 111, a CD-ROM drive 115 that reads data stored in an externally inserted CD-ROM, an input I/F (interface) 116 through which input signals, issued from input devices such as a keyboard 13 and mouse connected with the main body 11, are inputted to the CPU 111, a video I/F (interface) 117 through which a display based upon a command issued from the CPU 111 is displayed on the display device 12 connected with the main body 11, and a wireless LAN adapter 118 that creates a wireless connection between the CPU 111 and an external device on the basis of predetermined wireless communication standards (IEEE 802.11 in this illustrative embodiment). The above constituent elements included in the main body 11 are interconnected via a signal bus 119.

[0071] Hereinafter, a process according to the present invention, among the various processes executed by the
CPU 111, will be described in detail. FIG. 2 is a flowchart showing a procedure of an initial setting process executed by the CPU 111. It is noted that a program for executing this process is stored in the CD-ROM such that the CPU 111 can read the program, together with a driver as a program for controlling a specified type of printing device such as a printer and MFP (Multi Function Peripheral). When the CD-ROM is inserted into the CD-ROM drive 115, the CPU 111 begins to read data stored in the CD-ROM, displaying a menu screen image. Then, when an initial setting is selected on the menu screen image, the CPU 111 reads the program for this process, which is then executed.

As shown in FIG. 2, in this process, first, it is judged whether the wireless connection is selected as a connection method (S110). When any connection methods other than the wireless connection, i.e., a wired connection such as an Ethernet connection (trademark registration), a USB connection, and a parallel connection, are selected (S110: No), the process immediately goes to a step of S25 (described later).

Meanwhile, when the wireless connection is selected (S110: Yes), there is displayed a selection screen image for inquiring whether the specified printing device has already joined the wireless network that the PC 1 has joined (more specifically, whether the specified printing device has the wireless connection with a wireless access point with which the PC 1 has the wireless connection) (S115). Then, if a user makes choice of that the specified printing device has already joined the wireless network (S115: Yes), the process will immediately go to the below-mentioned S25.

On the other hand, if the user makes choice of that the specified printing device has not joined the wireless network (S115: No), after executing a setup wizard process S20 (described later), the driver will be installed into the HDD 114 (S25), so as to terminate the process.

FIG. 3 is a flowchart showing a procedure of the setup wizard process (S20). As shown in FIG. 3, in this process, first, there is displayed on the display device 12 a start screen image (see FIG. 6) for indicating that the setup wizard process will be started (S100). Next, the CPU 111 makes the RAM 113 store a setting for the wireless LAN adapter 118 in this case, a setting for the wireless connection with the wireless access point in the wireless network that the PC 1 is joining (S105). In other words, the former setting for the wireless LAN adapter 118 is evacuated into the RAM 113. At the same time, the CPU 111 replaces the former setting for the wireless connection with the external printing device (S110). Mentioning more specifically based upon the wireless LAN standards, the above “replace the former setting with the setup” means that an SSID for identifying the intended wireless network that the PC 1 is to join is changed to the same value as a value for configuring wireless connection settings that is assigned to the printing device for which the wireless connection settings have not yet been configured, so that the PC 1 can communicate with the printing device, for which the wireless connection settings with respect to a channel or an operation mode have not been configured, to configure the wireless connection settings. Thereby, the PC 1 is allowed to withdraw from the wireless network that the PC 1 has joined until the setup wizard starts, so as to communicate with the printing device.

Then, by transmitting a response request for requesting a response from the specified type of printing device, it is performed to search the specified type of printing devices located around the PC 1 (S115). Thereafter, it is judged whether the printing devices that respond to the response request are recognized to be only one (S120).

If the printing devices are recognized to be one (S120: Yes), the recognized printing device will be determined as an intended device for which the that may be used settings for joining the wireless network is to be configured. The process then goes to a step of S130 (described later). Meanwhile, if the printing devices are recognized to be two or more (S120: No), there will be displayed on the display device 12 a printing device selecting GUI (see FIG. 7) that is an input screen image for the user selecting a printing device to be allowed to join the wireless network (S125).

When “Cancel” is selected on the printing device selecting GUI (S125: Cancel), the process is immediately going to a step of S135 (described later). Meanwhile, when “Refresh” is selected on the printing device selecting GUI (S125: Refresh), the process is going back to the aforementioned S115 again.

On the other hand, when any of the recognized printing devices is selected (S125: Select), the selected printing device will be determined as the intended device for which the that may be used settings for joining the wireless network is to be configured, so as to execute the below-mentioned main setting process (S130). Thereafter, the setting for the LAN adapter 118 is restored to the former setting stored in RAM 113 in the aforementioned step of S105 (S135). Thereby, the PC 1 is allowed to re-join the wireless network that the PC 1 had joined before the setup wizard process started, and the process is terminated.

Here, FIG. 4 is a flowchart showing a procedure of a main setting process (S130). As shown in FIG. 4, in this process, first, there is displayed a search screen image (see FIG. 8) indicating that the CPU 111 is currently searching the SSID of the wireless access point (S200). At the same time, the printing device is assigned to search the SSID (S205). It is noted that according to the above assignment, the printing device searches the SSID by receiving a beacon signal, which is transmitted from the wireless access point every a predetermined time period, including information such as the SSID, or by broadcasting a probe request for requesting the wireless access point to return a response signal (probe response) including the SSID and receiving the probe response to the probe request.

Then, it is judged whether the printing device recognizes the SSIDs (S210). If the printing device does not at all recognize the SSID for the reason that the printing device does not receive the beacon signal, or that the received beacon signal does not include the SSID because of a security function of the wireless access point (S210: No), the process will immediately go to a step of S235 (described later).

On the other hand, if the printing device is judged to recognize the SSIDs (S210: Yes), it will be judged whether the SSIDs are recognized to be only one (S215). If the SSIDs are recognized to be only one (S215: Yes), it will be judged whether the recognized SSID is identical to the SSID included in the setting stored in the RAM 113 (that is,
whether the recognized SSID is identical to the SSID that the PC 1 had joined (S220). If the recognized SSID is not identical to the SSID included in the setting stored in the RAM 113 (S220: No), the process will proceed to a step of S230 (described later). Meanwhile, if the recognized SSID is identical to the SSID included in the setting stored in the RAM 113 (S220: Yes), the SSID will be determined as an SSID of the intended wireless network which the printing device is to join (S225), and the process will proceed to a step of S240 (described later).

[0083] On the other hand, in the step of S215, if the SSIDs are recognized by the printing device to be two or more (S215: No), there will be displayed on the display device 12 an SSID selecting GUI (see FIG. 9) that is an input screen image for the user selecting the intended SSID which the printing device is to join among the recognized SSIDs (S230).

[0084] When “Cancel” is selected on the SSID selecting GUI (S230: Cancel), the process is immediately terminated to break the setup wizard.

[0085] Meanwhile, when “Refresh” is selected on the SSID selecting GUI (S230: Refresh), the process goes to the aforementioned S200 again. On the other hand, when “Add” is selected on the SSID selecting GUI (S230: Add), there is displayed on the display device 12 an SSID input GUI (see FIG. 10) that is an input screen image for the user adding the intended SSID which the printing device is to join (S235). The process then goes to a step of S250 (described below) after the user inputs the SSID.

[0086] When the SSID is selected on the SSID selecting GUI (S230: Select), the selected SSID is determined as an SSID of the intended wireless network that the printing device is to join. Then, it is judged whether a security setting is that may be used for the printing device joining (being connected to) the determined wireless network, i.e., whether the security setting has already been set (S240). More specifically, based upon an identifier included in the beacon signal received by the printing device, it is judged whether the security setting is that may be used for the printing device joining (being connected to) the determined wireless network.

[0087] Here, when the security setting is not that may be used (S240: No), there is displayed on the display device 12 a warning screen image (see FIG. 14) for warning about that the security setting is unthat may be used (S245). When “Cancel” is selected on the warning screen image (S245: Cancel), the last screen image is re-displayed. Meanwhile, when “OK” is selected (S245: OK), the process proceeds to a step of S255 (described later).

[0088] On the other hand, in the step of S240, if the security setting is that may be used (S240: Yes), a security setting process (described later) will be executed (S250), and then there will be displayed on the display device 12 a setting confirming screen image (see FIG. 15) for making the user confirm the setting (S255).

[0089] When “Back” is selected on the setting confirming screen image (S255: Back), the last screen image is displayed again. On the other hand, when “Change IP Address” is selected on the setting confirming screen image (S255: Change IP Address), there is displayed on the display device 12 an IP address input GUI (see FIG. 16) that is an input screen image for the user inputting the IP address (S260). Then, after the user inputs the IP address, the process goes to the aforementioned S255 again.

[0090] Meanwhile, when “Next” is selected on the setting confirming screen image (S255: Next), the settings such as the determined SSID and the setting in the security setting process are transmitted to the printing device (S265) to terminate this process.

[0091] FIG. 5 is a flowchart showing a procedure of the security setting process (S250). As shown in FIG. 5, in this process, first, there is displayed on the display device 12 a security setting GUI as an input screen image for the user setting security function (S300).

[0092] Then, when “Next” is selected after the user provides an input for each of various setting items on the security setting GUI (S300: Next), this process is immediately terminated.

[0093] On the other hand, when “Advanced” is selected on the security setting GUI (S300: Advanced), there is displayed on the display device 12 a detail setting GUI (see FIG. 12) as an input screen image for the user inputting details on the security settings (S305).

[0094] Then, when “Back” is selected on the security setting GUI (S305: Back), the process goes back to the aforementioned S300 again. Meanwhile, when “Next” is selected after the details of the security settings are inputted on the detail setting GUI (S305: Next), it is judged whether a setting of an EAP (Extensible Authentication Protocol) is that may be used (S310). More specifically, it is judged whether the EAP is selected as an Authentication Method on the detail setting GUI.

[0095] When the setting of the EAP is not that may be used (S310: No), the process is immediately terminated. On the other hand, when the setting of the EAP is that may be used (S310: Yes), there is displayed on the display device 12 an EAP setting GUI (see FIG. 13) as an input screen image for the user setting the EAP (S315).

[0096] Then, when “Back” is selected on the EAP setting GUI (S315: Back), the process goes to the aforementioned S305 again. Meanwhile, when “Next” is selected after various settings are inputted (S315: Next), the process is terminated.

[0097] By executing the above processes, in the PC 1 in this illustrative embodiment, for example, as shown in FIG. 17, when only one printing device is recognized in the case where the printing device is allowed to join the wireless network, it is judged that an input for selecting the printing device is unthat may be used, so that a displaying operation for displaying the input screen image for selecting the printing device is skipped, and the recognized printing device is determined as the intended device for which the that may be used settings for joining the wireless network are to be configured. In addition, when only one SSID is recognized and the recognized SSID is identical to the SSID that the PC 1 had joined, it is judged that an input for selecting the SSID is unthat may be used, so that a displaying operation for displaying the input screen image for selecting the SSID is skipped, and the recognized SSID is determined as the SSID of the intended wireless network.
that the printing device is to join. Then, an input screen image for confirming the settings for the printing device is displayed for the user.

In other words, in this illustrative embodiment, when there are located only one printing device and one wireless network around the PC 1, and the wireless network is identical to the wireless network that the PC 1 had joined, the PC 1 can prevent the user from providing an input for purposely selecting the wireless network and the printing device. Therefore, the user can configure the that may be used settings for making the printing device join the wireless network more easily than ever. For this reason, the PC 1 in this illustrative embodiment can preferably applied in such an environment that there are one printing device and one wireless network as a general home.

In addition, by executing the aforementioned process, the PC 1 in this illustrative embodiment judges that an input for selecting the intended SSID that the printing device is to join is that may be used, and displays the input screen image for selecting the SSID, so as to make the user select the SSID, when the recognized SSID is not identical to the SSID that the PC 1 had joined, even though the recognized SSID is only one.

That is to say, when the recognized wireless network is not identical to the wireless network that the PC 1 had joined, it is possible to prevent a wireless network, which is not to be set as an intended one that the printing device is to join, from being set as the intended one, by making the user confirm whether the recognized wireless network is to be set as the intended one. Thereby, even when a wireless network, which is not to be set as the intended one that the printing device is to join, for example, as a wireless network located in a neighbor room (ménage) in a complex housing, is recognized, it is possible to prevent the recognized wireless network from being set as the intended one.

Further, by executing the above process, when the PC 1 recognizes one or more printing devices in the case of making a printing device join the wireless network, as shown in FIG. 18, the PC 1 in this illustrative embodiment judges that the input for selecting the intended printing device, for which the that may be used settings for joining the wireless network is to be configured, is that may be used, and displays the input screen image for selecting the printing device, so as to make the user select the printing device. Moreover, when one or more SSIDs is recognized, the PC 1 judges that the input for selecting the intended SSID that the printing device is to join is that may be used, and displays the input screen image for selecting the SSID to make the user select the SSID.

Namely, in the PC 1 in the illustrative embodiment, when one or more printing devices or wireless networks is recognized, the user can select a printing device or wireless network among the recognized printing devices or wireless networks. Thus, the PC 1 in the illustrative embodiment can preferably applied in such an environment that there is one or more printing devices or one or more wireless networks on the periphery of the PC 1, as an office where there is a user with technical knowledge about the wireless network.

In addition, by executing the aforementioned process, when the recognized SSID is identical to the previously specified SSID, since the PC 1 in the illustrative embodiment determines the recognized SSID as an intended one that the printing device is to join, it is possible to simply configure the settings for the wireless network, which the PCI had joined and is known to cause no problem even if it is determined as an intended one that the printing device is to join. In particular, when the user wants to set up the printing device available from the PC 1, which has conventionally been used by the user, the PC 1 in the illustrative embodiment is so useful as to prevent the user from configuring wrong settings.

Further, by executing the above process, in the PC 1 in the illustrative embodiment, since only the specified type of printing devices can be determined as the intended one to be recognized, the user can save his trouble for providing the input for purposely selecting the specified type of printing device, and also it is possible to prevent the user from making such a mistake as to select a printing device other than the specified type of printing devices as the intended one to be connected to the wireless network.

Moreover, by executing the above-mentioned process, in the PC 1 in the illustrative embodiment, since the warning screen image is displayed when the security function cannot be set for the wireless network, it is possible to warn the user about that situation. This is to say, the user can allow the printing device not to join the wireless network for which the security function cannot be set without knowing that situation, but arbitrarily to join another wireless network for which the security function can be set.

Hereinabove, the illustrative embodiment according to the present invention has been explained. However, the present invention is not limited to the aforementioned illustrative embodiment, and it is needless to say that various sorts of modifications may be possible as far as they are within such a scope as not to extend beyond the essential teachings of the present invention.

For example, in the aforementioned embodiment, the program is stored in the CD-ROM, yet the program may be stored in any other recording medium such as a flexible disk (FD), Magneto-Optical disk (MO), DVD, Blu-Ray disk, HD-DVD, hard disk, and memory card.

Further, in the above embodiment, the present invention is applied when making the printing device join the wireless network, yet the present invention may be applicable when making any other device (such as a scanner, facsimile machine, camera (especially, digital camera), network storage, projector, MFP with one or more functions among the above-mentioned device functions, and MFP with the printer function and at least one of the above functions) join the wireless network.

What is claimed is:

1. A computer program product comprising computer readable instructions that cause a computer to execute a wireless connection setting process, the computer including a communication interface configured to communicate with
at least one device, the wireless connection setting process being executed in response to the computer receiving an external setting request for configuring wireless connection settings that may be used to make the at least one device join a wireless network, the wireless connection setting process including:

recognizing a state of the at least one device through the communication interface;

displaying an input screen image sequentially for each of at least one setting item, to be set, of the wireless connection settings, the input screen image being designed for receiving an input for each of the at least one setting item thereon;

configuring the wireless connection settings for the at least one device based upon the input; and

controlling whether to display the input screen image for each of the at least one setting item of the wireless connection settings in said displaying the input screen image, by judging whether the input is required to be received for each of the at least one setting item based upon the state of the at least one device that is recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device,

wherein said configuring the wireless connection settings includes determining the setting item for which the input is not judged required to be received in said controlling whether to display the input screen image based upon the state of the at least one device recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device,

2. The computer program product according to claim 1,

wherein said displaying the input screen image includes displaying as one of the input screen images a setting device selecting screen image for selecting any one of the at least one device whose state is recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device as an intended device for which the wireless connection settings are to be configured,

wherein said controlling whether to display the input screen image includes preventing displaying the setting device selecting screen image in said displaying the input screen image, in response to the at least one device being recognized to be only one in said recognizing the state of the at least one device, and

wherein said configuring the wireless connection settings includes:

determining a device that is selected on the setting device selecting screen image as the intended device for which the wireless connection settings are to be configured, in response to the at least one device being recognized to be two or more in said recognizing the state of the at least one device; and

determining a device as the intended device in response to the device being the only one device recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device,

3. The computer program product according to claim 1,

wherein said recognizing the state of the at least one device is intended for one or more predetermined types of devices.

4. The computer program product according to claim 1,

wherein the communication interface is configured to wirelessly communicate,

wherein the wireless connection settings include recognizing wireless networks through the communication interface,

wherein said displaying the input screen image includes displaying as one of the input screen images a wireless network selecting screen image for selecting any one of the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks as an intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join,

wherein said controlling whether to display the input screen image includes preventing displaying the wireless network selecting screen image in said displaying the input screen image, in response to the wireless networks being recognized to be only one in said recognizing the wireless networks, and

wherein said configuring the wireless connection settings includes:

determining a wireless network selected on the wireless network selecting screen image as the intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join, in response to the wireless networks being recognized to be two or more in said recognizing the wireless networks;

configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the selected wireless network;

determining a wireless network as the intended wireless network in response to the wireless network being recognized to be only one in said recognizing the wireless networks; and

configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the only one wireless network.

5. The computer program product according to claim 1,

wherein the communication interface is configured to wirelessly communicate,

wherein the wireless connection settings include recognizing wireless networks through the communication interface,

wherein said displaying the input screen image includes displaying as one of the input screen images a wireless network selecting screen image for selecting any one of the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks as an intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join,

wherein said controlling whether to display the input screen image includes preventing displaying the wireless network selecting screen image in said displaying the input screen image, in response to the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks including a wireless network that the computer is joining, and

wherein said configuring the wireless connection settings includes:

determining the wireless network selected on the wireless network selecting screen image as the intended wireless network
network that the at least one device is to join, in response to the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks not including the wireless network that the computer is joining;

configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the selected wireless network;

determining the wireless network that the computer is joining as the intended wireless network in response to the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks including the wireless network that the computer is joining; and

configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the wireless network that the computer is joining.

6. The computer program product according to claim 4,

wherein the wireless connection settings include recognizing whether a predetermined security function is set for the wireless network determined as the intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join in said configuring the wireless connection settings through the communication interface, and

wherein said displaying the input screen image includes displaying a warning screen image for warning that the predetermined security function is not set for the wireless network determined as the intended wireless network in said recognizing whether a predetermined security function is set for the wireless network determined as the intended wireless network, in response to the predetermined security function being not judged to be set for the determined wireless network.

7. A computer program product comprising computer readable instructions that cause a computer to execute a wireless connection setting process, the computer being configured to create a wireless connection with devices located therewithin, the wireless connection setting process being executed in response to the computer receiving an external setting request for creating the wireless connection with any one of the devices located around the computer, the wireless connection setting process including:

recognizing the devices located around the computer through a wireless network;

determining a device, which is recognized as only one device located around the computer in said recognizing the devices, as an intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection; and

creating the wireless connection between the computer and the device determined in said determining the device.

8. The computer program product according to claim 7,

wherein said determining the device includes:

judging whether a device, which is recognized as only one device located around the computer in said recognizing the devices, conforms to a predetermined device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection;

re-determining the recognized device as the intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection, in response to the recognized device conforming to the predetermined device in said judging;

displaying a judging screen image for judging whether to select the recognized device as the intended device with showing the recognized device thereon, in response to the recognized device not conforming to the predetermined device in said judging; and

determining the recognized device as the intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection, only in response to the recognized device being selected on the judging screen image in said displaying the judging screen image.

9. The computer program product according to claim 7,

wherein said determining the device includes:

displaying a selecting screen image for selecting any one of the recognized devices located around the computers as the intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection with showing the recognized devices located around the computers, in response to the devices located around the computer being recognized to be two or more in said recognizing the devices; and

determining a device selected on the selecting screen image displayed in said displaying the selecting screen image as the intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection.

10. The computer program product according to claim 7,

wherein the devices located around the computer include wireless access points, and

wherein said determining the device includes determining a wireless access point externally specified as an intended wireless access point with which the computer is to create the wireless connection, in response to any wireless access points being not recognized.

11. The computer program product according to claim 7,

wherein the devices located around the computer include wireless access points, and

wherein the wireless connection setting process further includes:

confirming whether a security function is set for the wireless access point that is determined as the intended wireless access point with which the computer is to create the wireless connection in said determining the device; and

displaying a warning screen image for warning that the security function is not set for the determined wireless access point, in response to the security function being confirmed not to be set for the determined wireless access point in said confirming.

12. The computer program product according to claim 7,

wherein said recognizing the devices is intended for one or more predetermined types of devices.

13. A recording medium, comprising a wireless connection setting program stored therein such that a computer including a communication interface configured to communicate with at least one device can read the wireless connection setting program,
wherein the wireless connection setting program is designed to be executed in response to the computer receiving an external setting request for configuring wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join a wireless network, wherein the wireless connection setting program includes:

recognizing a state of the at least one device through the communication interface;

displaying an input screen image sequentially for each of at least one setting item, to be set, of the wireless connection settings, the input screen image being designed for receiving an input for each of the at least one setting item thereon;

configuring the wireless connection settings for the at least one device based upon the input; and

controlling whether to display the input screen image for each of the at least one setting item of the wireless connection settings in said displaying the input screen image, by judging whether the input is required to be received for each of the at least one setting item based upon the state of the at least one device that is recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device, and

wherein said configuring the wireless connection settings includes determining the setting item for which the input is not judged required to be received in said controlling whether to display the input screen image based upon the state of the at least one device recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device.

14. The recording medium according to claim 13, wherein said displaying the input screen image includes displaying as one of the input screen images a setting device selecting screen image for selecting any one of the at least one device whose state is recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device as an intended device for which the wireless connection settings are to be configured,

wherein said controlling whether to display the input screen image includes preventing displaying the setting device selecting screen image in said displaying the input screen image, in response to the at least one device being recognized to be only one in said recognizing the state of the at least one device, and

wherein said configuring the wireless connection settings includes:

determining a device that is selected on the setting device selecting screen image as the intended device for which the wireless connection settings are to be configured, in response to the at least one device being recognized to be two or more in said recognizing the state of the at least one device; and

determining a device as the intended device in response to the device being the only one device recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device.

15. The recording medium according to claim 13, wherein said recognizing the state of the at least one device is intended for one or more predetermined types of devices.

16. The recording medium according to claim 13, wherein the communication interface is configured to wirelessly communicate,

wherein the wireless connection settings include recognizing wireless networks through the communication interface,

wherein said displaying the input screen image includes displaying as one of the input screen images a wireless network selecting screen image for selecting any one of the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks as an intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join,

wherein said controlling whether to display the input screen image includes preventing displaying the wireless network selecting screen image in said displaying the input screen image, in response to the wireless networks being recognized to be only one in said recognizing the wireless networks, and

wherein said configuring the wireless connection settings includes:

determining a wireless network selected on the wireless network selecting screen image as the intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join, in response to the wireless networks being recognized to be two or more in said recognizing the wireless networks;

configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the selected wireless network;

determining a wireless network as the intended wireless network in response to the wireless network being recognized to be only one in said recognizing the wireless networks; and

configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the only one wireless network.

17. The recording medium according to claim 13, wherein the communication interface is configured to wirelessly communicate,

wherein the wireless connection settings include recognizing wireless networks through the communication interface,

wherein said displaying the input screen image includes displaying as one of the input screen images a wireless network selecting screen image for selecting any one of the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device as an intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join,

wherein said controlling whether to display the input screen image includes preventing displaying the wireless network selecting screen image in said displaying the input screen image, in response to the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks including a wireless network that the computer is joining, and

wherein said configuring the wireless connection settings includes:

determining the wireless network selected on the wireless network selecting screen image as the intended wireless
network that the at least one device is to join, in response to the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks not including the wireless network that the computer is joining; configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the selected wireless network; determining the wireless network that the computer is joining as the intended wireless network in response to the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks including the wireless network that the computer is joining; and configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the wireless network that the computer is joining.

18. The recording medium according to claim 16, wherein the wireless connection settings include recognizing whether a predetermined security function is set for the wireless network determined as the intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join in said configuring the wireless connection settings through the communication interface, and wherein said displaying the input screen image includes displaying a warning screen image for warning that the predetermined security function is not set for the wireless network determined as the intended wireless network in said recognizing whether a predetermined security function is set for the wireless network determined as the intended wireless network, in response to the predetermined security function being not judged to be set for the determined wireless network.

19. A recording medium, comprising a wireless connection setting program stored therein such that a computer configured to create a wireless connection with devices located therearound can read the wireless connection setting program, wherein the wireless connection setting program is designed to be executed in response to the computer receiving an external setting request for creating the wireless connection with any one of the devices located around the computer, wherein the wireless connection setting program includes:

- recognizing the devices located around the computer through a wireless network;
- determining a device, which is recognized as only one device located around the computer in said recognizing the devices, as an intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection; and
- creating the wireless connection between the computer and the device determined in said determining the device.

20. The recording medium according to claim 19, wherein said determining the device includes:

- judging whether a device, which is recognized as only one device located around the computer in said recognizing the devices, conforms to a predetermined device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection;

re-determining the recognized device as the intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection, in response to the recognized device conforming to the predetermined device in said judging;

displaying a judging screen image for judging whether to select the recognized device as the intended device with showing the recognized device thereon, in response to the recognized device not conforming to the predetermined device in said judging; and

determining the recognized device as the intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection, only in response to the recognized device being selected on the judging screen image in said displaying the judging screen image.

21. The recording medium according to claim 19, wherein said determining the device includes:

- displaying a selecting screen image for selecting any one of the recognized devices located around the computers as the intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection with showing the recognized devices located around the computers, in response to the devices located around the computer being recognized to be two or more in said recognizing the devices; and
- determining a device selected on the selecting screen image displayed in said displaying the selecting screen image as the intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection.

22. The recording medium according to claim 19, wherein the devices located around the computer include wireless access points, and wherein said determining the device includes determining a wireless access point externally specified as an intended wireless access point with which the computer is to create the wireless connection, in response to any wireless access points being not recognized.

23. The recording medium according to claim 19, wherein the devices located around the computer include wireless access points, and wherein the wireless connection setting program further includes:

- confirming whether a security function is set for the wireless access point that is determined as the intended wireless access point with which the computer is to create the wireless connection in said determining the device; and
- displaying a warning screen image for warning that the security function is not set for the determined wireless access point, in response to the security function being confirmed not to be set for the determined wireless access point in said confirming.

24. The recording medium according to claim 19, wherein said recognizing the devices is intended for one or more predetermined types of devices.

25. A computer configured to join a wireless network, comprising:

- a communication interface configured to communicate with at least one device; and
a wireless connection setting program installed therein, wherein the wireless connection setting program is designed to be executed in response to the computer receiving an external setting request for configuring wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the wireless network;

wherein the wireless connection setting program includes:

recognizing a state of the at least one device through the communication interface;

displaying an input screen image sequentially for each of at least one setting item, to be set, of the wireless connection settings, the input screen image being designed for receiving an input for each of the at least one setting item therein;

configuring the wireless connection settings for the at least one device based upon the input; and

controlling whether to display the input screen image for each of the at least one setting item of the wireless connection settings in said displaying the input screen image, by judging whether the input is required to be received for each of the at least one setting item based upon the state of the at least one device that is recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device, and

wherein said configuring the wireless connection settings includes determining the setting item for which the input is not judged required to be received in said controlling whether to display the input screen image based upon the state of the at least one device recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device.

26. The computer according to claim 25,

wherein said displaying the input screen image includes displaying as one of the input screen images a setting device selecting screen image for selecting any one of the at least one device whose state is recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device as an intended device for which the wireless connection settings are to be configured,

wherein said controlling whether to display the input screen image includes preventing displaying the setting device selecting screen image in said displaying the input screen image, in response to the at least one device being recognized to be only one in said recognizing the state of the at least one device, and

wherein said configuring the wireless connection settings includes:

determining a device that is selected on the setting device selecting screen image as the intended device for which the wireless connection settings are to be configured, in response to the at least one device being recognized to be two or more in said recognizing the state of the at least one device; and

determining a device as the intended device in response to the device being the only one device recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device.

27. The computer according to claim 25,

wherein said recognizing the state of the at least one device is intended for one or more predetermined types of devices.

28. The computer according to claim 25,

wherein the communication interface is configured to wirelessly communicate,

wherein the wireless connection settings include recognizing wireless networks through the communication interface,

wherein said displaying the input screen image includes displaying as one of the input screen images a wireless network selecting screen image for selecting any one of the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks as an intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join,

wherein said controlling whether to display the input screen image includes preventing displaying the wireless network selecting screen image in said displaying the input screen image, in response to the wireless networks being recognized to be only one in said recognizing the wireless networks, and

wherein said configuring the wireless connection settings includes:

determining a wireless network selected on the wireless network selecting screen image as the intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join, in response to the wireless networks being recognized to be two or more in said recognizing the wireless networks;

configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the selected wireless network;

determining a wireless network as the intended wireless network in response to the wireless network being recognized to be only one in said recognizing the wireless networks; and

configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the only one wireless network.

29. The computer according to claim 25,

wherein the communication interface is configured to wirelessly communicate,

wherein the wireless connection settings include recognizing wireless networks through the communication interface,

wherein said displaying the input screen image includes displaying as one of the input screen images a wireless network selecting screen image for selecting any one of the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks as an intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join,

wherein said controlling whether to display the input screen image includes preventing displaying the wireless network selecting screen image in said displaying the input screen image, in response to the wireless network selecting screen image in said displaying the input screen image, in response to the wireless
networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks including a wireless network that the computer is joining, and

wherein said configuring the wireless connection settings includes:

determining the wireless network selected on the wireless network selecting screen image as the intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join, in response to the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks not including the wireless network that the computer is joining;

configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the selected wireless network;

determining the wireless network that the computer is joining as the intended wireless network in response to the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks including the wireless network that the computer is joining; and

configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the wireless network that the computer is joining.

30. The computer according to claim 28,

wherein the wireless connection settings includes recognizing whether a predetermined security function is set for the wireless network determined as the intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join in said configuring the wireless connection settings through the communication interface, and

wherein said displaying the input screen image includes displaying a warning screen image for warning that the predetermined security function is not set for the wireless network determined as the intended wireless network in said recognizing whether a predetermined security function is set for the wireless network determined as the intended wireless network, in response to the predetermined security function being not judged to be set for the determined wireless network.

31. A computer configured to join a wireless network and create a wireless connection with devices located therearound, comprising a wireless connection setting program installed therein,

wherein the wireless connection setting program is designed to be executed in response to the computer receiving an external setting request for creating the wireless connection with any one of the devices located around the computer,

wherein the wireless connection setting program includes:

recognizing the devices located around the computer through the wireless network;

determining a device, which is recognized as only one device located around the computer in said recognizing the devices, as an intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection; and

creating the wireless connection between the computer and the device determined in said determining the device.

32. The computer according to claim 31,

wherein said determining the device includes:

judging whether a device, which is recognized as only one device located around the computer in said recognizing the devices, conforms to a predetermined device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection;

re-determining the recognized device as the intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection, in response to the recognized device conforming to the predetermined device in said judging;

displaying a judging screen image for judging whether to select the recognized device as the intended device with showing the recognized device thereon, in response to the recognized device not conforming to the predetermined device in said judging; and

determining the recognized device as the intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection, only in response to the recognized device being selected on the judging screen image in said displaying the judging screen image.

33. The computer according to claim 31,

wherein said determining the device includes:

displaying a selecting screen image for selecting any one of the recognized devices located around the computers as the intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection with showing the recognized devices located around the computers, in response to the devices located around the computer being recognized to be two or more in said recognizing the devices; and

determining a device selected on the selecting screen image displayed in said displaying the selecting screen image as the intended device with which the computer is to create the wireless connection.

34. The computer according to claim 31,

wherein the devices located around the computer include wireless access points, and

wherein said determining the device includes determining a wireless access point externally specified as an intended wireless access point with which the computer is to create the wireless connection, in response to any wireless access points being not recognized.

35. The computer according to claim 31,

wherein the devices located around the computer include wireless access points, and

wherein the wireless connection setting program further includes:

confirming whether a security function is set for the wireless access point that is determined as the intended wireless access point with which the computer is to create the wireless connection in said determining the device; and

displaying a warning screen image for warning that the security function is not set for the determined wireless access point, in response to the security function being
confirmed not to be set for the determined wireless access point in said confirming.

36. The computer according to claim 31, wherein said recognizing the devices is intended for one or more predetermined types of devices.

37. A wireless network, comprising:

- at least one computer that includes a communication interface and a wireless connection setting program installed therein; and
- at least one device,

wherein the communication interface is configured to communicate with the at least one device;

wherein the wireless connection setting program is designed to be executed in response to the at least one computer receiving an external setting request for configuring wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join said wireless network,

wherein the wireless connection setting program includes:

- recognizing a state of the at least one device through the communication interface;
- displaying an input screen image sequentially for each of at least one setting item, to be set, of the wireless connection settings, the input screen image being designed for receiving an input for each of the at least one setting item thereon;
- configuring the wireless connection settings for the at least one device based upon the input; and
- controlling whether to display the input screen image for each of the at least one setting item of the wireless connection settings in said displaying the input screen image, by judging whether the input is required to be received for each of the at least one setting item based upon the state of the at least one device that is recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device,

wherein said configuring the wireless connection settings includes determining the setting item for which the input is not judged required to be received in said controlling whether to display the input screen image based upon the state of the at least one device recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device.

38. The wireless network according to claim 37,

wherein said displaying the input screen image includes displaying as one of the input screen images a setting device selecting screen image for selecting any one of the at least one device whose state is recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device as an intended device for which the wireless connection settings are to be configured,

wherein said controlling whether to display the input screen image includes preventing displaying the setting device selecting screen image in said displaying the input screen image, in response to the at least one device being recognized to be only one in said recognizing the state of the at least one device, and

wherein said configuring the wireless connection settings includes:

- determining a device that is selected on the setting device selecting screen image as the intended device for which the wireless connection settings are to be configured, in response to the at least one device being recognized to be two or more in said recognizing the state of the at least one device; and
- determining a device as the intended device in response to the device being the only one device recognized in said recognizing the state of the at least one device.

39. The wireless network according to claim 37,

wherein said recognizing the state of the at least one device is intended for one or more predetermined types of devices.

40. The wireless network according to claim 37,

wherein the communication interface is configured to wirelessly communicate,

wherein the wireless connection settings include recognizing wireless networks including said wireless network through the communication interface,

wherein said displaying the input screen image includes displaying as one of the input screen images a wireless network selecting screen image for selecting any one of the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks as an intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join,

wherein said controlling whether to display the input screen image includes preventing displaying the wireless network selecting screen image in said displaying the input screen image, in response to the recognized wireless networks being regarded to be only said wireless network in said recognizing the wireless networks, and

wherein said configuring the wireless connection settings includes:

- determining a wireless network selected on the wireless network selecting screen image as the intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join, in response to the recognized wireless networks being regarded to be two or more in said recognizing the wireless networks;
- configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the selected wireless network;
- determining said wireless network as the intended wireless network in response to the recognized wireless networks being regarded to be only said wireless network in said recognizing the wireless networks; and
- configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join said wireless network.

41. The wireless network according to claim 37,

wherein the communication interface is configured to wirelessly communicate,
wherein the wireless connection settings include recognizing wireless networks through the communication interface,

wherein said displaying the input screen image includes displaying as one of the input screen images a wireless network selecting screen image for selecting any one of the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks as an intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join,

wherein said controlling whether to display the input screen image includes preventing displaying the wireless network selecting screen image in said displaying the input screen image, in response to the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks including a wireless network that the at least one computer is joining, and

wherein said configuring the wireless connection settings includes:

determining the wireless network selected on the wireless network selecting screen image as the intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join, in response to the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks not including the wireless network that the at least one computer is joining;

configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the selected wireless network;

determining the wireless network that the at least one computer is joining as the intended wireless network, in response to the wireless networks recognized in said recognizing the wireless networks including the wireless network that the at least one computer is joining; and

configuring the wireless connection settings that may be used for making the at least one device join the wireless network that the at least one computer is joining.

42. The wireless network according to claim 40,

wherein the wireless connection settings include recognizing whether a predetermined security function is set for the wireless network determined as the intended wireless network that the at least one device is to join in said configuring the wireless connection settings through the communication interface, and

wherein said displaying the input screen image includes displaying a warning screen image for warning that the predetermined security function is not set for the wireless network determined as the intended wireless network in said recognizing whether a predetermined security function is set for the wireless network determined as the intended wireless network, in response to the predetermined security function being not judged to be set for the determined wireless network.

43. A wireless network, comprising:

at least one computer including a wireless connection setting program installed therein; and

at least one device configured to create a wireless connection with the at least one computer,

wherein the wireless connection setting program is designed to be executed in response to the at least one computer receiving an external setting request for creating the wireless connection with the at least one device,

wherein the wireless connection setting program includes:

recognizing the at least one device through said wireless network;

determining a device, which is recognized as only one device in said recognizing the at least one device, as an intended device with which the at least one computer is to create the wireless connection; and

creating the wireless connection between the at least one computer and the device determined in said determining the device.

44. The wireless network according to claim 43,

wherein said determining the device includes:

judging whether a device, which is recognized as only one device in said recognizing the at least one device, conforms to a predetermined device that is to have the wireless connection with the at least one computer;

re-determining the recognized device as the intended device with which the at least one computer is to create the wireless connection, in response to the recognized device conforming to the predetermined device in said judging;

displaying a judging screen image for judging whether to select the recognized device as the intended device with showing the recognized device thereon, in response to the recognized device not conforming to the predetermined device in said judging; and

determining the recognized device as the intended device with which the at least one computer is to create the wireless connection, only in response to the recognized device being selected on the judging screen image in said displaying the judging screen image.

45. The wireless network according to claim 43,

wherein said determining the device includes:

displaying a selecting screen image for selecting any one of the recognized at least one device as the intended device with which the at least one computer is to create the wireless connection with showing the recognized at least one device in response to the at least one device being recognized to be two or more in said recognizing the at least one device; and

determining a device selected on the selecting screen image displayed in said displaying the selecting screen image as the intended device with which the at least one computer is to create the wireless connection.

46. The wireless network according to claim 43,

wherein the at least one device includes wireless access points, and

wherein said determining the device includes determining a wireless access point externally specified as an intended wireless access point with which the at least one computer is to create the wireless connection, in response to any wireless access points being not recognized.
47. The wireless network according to claim 43, wherein the at least one device includes wireless access points, and wherein the wireless connection setting program further includes:

confirming whether a security function is set for the wireless access point that is determined as the intended wireless access point with which the at least one computer is to create the wireless connection in said determining the device; and displaying a warning screen image for warning that the security function is not set for the determined wireless access point, in response to the security function being confirmed not to be set for the determined wireless access point in said confirming.

48. The wireless network according to claim 43, wherein said recognizing the at least one device is intended for one or more predetermined types of devices.

* * * * *