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(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR STORING ITEM ATTRIBUTES IN AN ELECTRONIC CATALOG

TREE	LEVEL	ATTRIBUTE	IS KEY
Corp Part Num Tree	Level 1	Corp Part Num	Yes
		Corp Part Num Desc	
Supplier Info Tree	Level 1	Sup Name	Yes
		Sup Part Num	Yes
	Level 2	Location	Yes
		Price	

(57) Abstract: An electronic catalog is provided that stores items and attributes associated with the items. One or more of the attributes may have more than one value. Items are stored in an item table with different attributes for items stored in different rows in an attribute table. Additional items may be added to a catalog by adding additional rows to the item table, with attributes related to the additional items added as rows into the attribute table. Particular attributes may have multiple values, and attributes with multiple values are associated with sub-items that correspond to different attribute trees or attribute sets associated with the item. Searching can be performed for attribute values and search results returned indicating all items and sub-items that satisfy the search criteria.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US 06/43079

<p>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(8): G06F 17/30 USPC: 707/104.1 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC</p>											
<p>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</p> <p>Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) USPC: 707/104.1</p> <p>Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched</p> <p>Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) PGPB, USPT, EPAB, JPAB Search Terms: table, database, attribute, value, property, Catalog, product, item, subitem, assembly, subassembly, and module.</p>											
<p>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width:10%;">Category*</th> <th style="width:70%;">Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th> <th style="width:20%;">Relevant to claim No.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>X --- Y</td> <td>US 6,014,639 A (FOHN et al.) 11 January 2000 (11.01.2000) column 2, lines 2-62.</td> <td>1-5, 13-19 and 25-28 ----- 6-12 and 20-24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>US 2003/0055834 A1 (HANSEN et al.) 20 March 2003 (20.03.2003) tables 1-6 and paragraphs [0028]-[0042] on pages 3 and 4.</td> <td>6-12 and 20-24</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	X --- Y	US 6,014,639 A (FOHN et al.) 11 January 2000 (11.01.2000) column 2, lines 2-62.	1-5, 13-19 and 25-28 ----- 6-12 and 20-24	Y	US 2003/0055834 A1 (HANSEN et al.) 20 March 2003 (20.03.2003) tables 1-6 and paragraphs [0028]-[0042] on pages 3 and 4.	6-12 and 20-24
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<p><input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/></p>											
<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <table style="width:100%;"> <tr> <td style="width:50%;"> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> </td> <td style="width:50%;"> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p> </td> </tr> </table>			<p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p>							
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<p>Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. 571-273-3201</p>		<p>Authorized officer: Lee W. Young PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300 PCT OSP: 571-272-7774</p>									