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5GG (GB). **HAGGAR, Russell, Jon** [GB/GB]; Scientific Generics Limited, Harston Mill, Harston, Cambridgeshire CB2 5GG (GB). **PIERCY, Neil, Philip** [GB/GB]; Scientific Generics Limited, Harston Mill, Harston, Cambridgeshire CB2 5GG (GB). **HOYLE, Rebecca, Bryony** [GB/GB]; Scientific Generics Limited, Harston Mill, Harston, Cambridgeshire CB2 5GG (GB). **KELLY, Peter** [GB/GB]; Scientific Generics Limited, Harston Mill, Harston, Cambridgeshire CB2 5GG (GB).

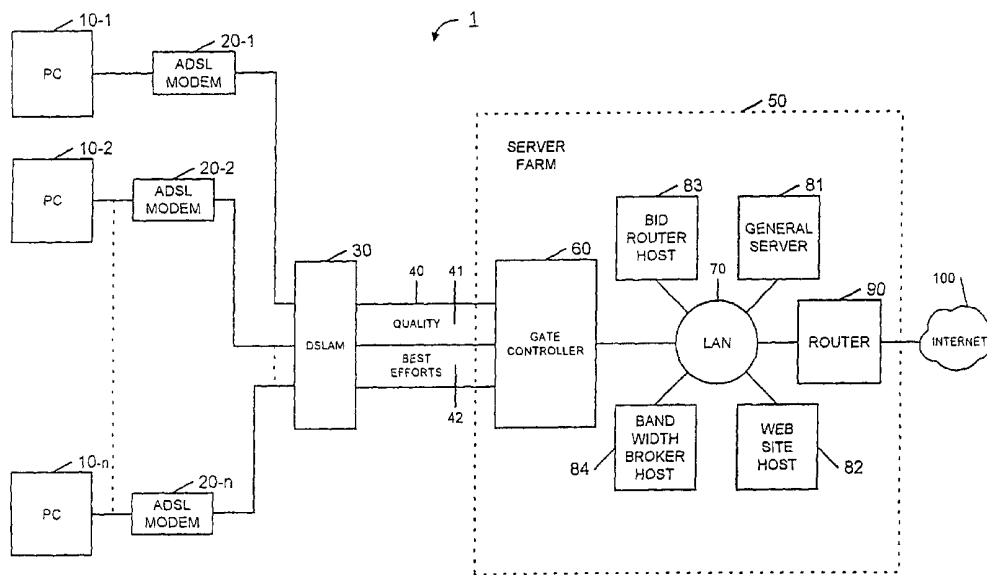
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: RESOURCE ALLOCATION



(57) Abstract: A shared resource allocation system for allocating a shared resource amongst a plurality of devices operable to access or use the resource. The system includes controlling means for controlling access to or use of the resource by each of the devices and means for receiving bids from one or more of the devices. Each bid indicates a requested amount of the resource and a price offered for the requested amount. The system also includes allocation means for processing the received bids to determine an appropriate allocation of the resource, and instructing means for instructing the controlling means to control access to or use of the shared resource in accordance with the determined allocation.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 H04L12/56 H04L12/14 H04L12/24

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 IPC 7 H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)
 EPO-Internal, INSPEC, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	OGINO N: "A MULTI-AGENT BASED BANDWIDTH ALLOCATION SCHEME" GLOBAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE (GLOBECOM), US, NEW YORK, IEEE, 3 November 1997 (1997-11-03), pages 1706-1713, XP000737813 ISBN: 0-7803-4199-6 the whole document	1-4, 7-42, 45-72, 75-80
Y	--- -/--	5, 6, 43, 44, 73, 74

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

<p>*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>*E* earlier document 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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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
12 June 2001	22/06/2001

Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Staessen, B
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>RAMAMRITHAM K ET AL: "DISTRIBUTED SCHEDULING OF TASKS WITH DEADLINES AND RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS" IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON COMPUTERS,US,IEEE INC. NEW YORK, vol. 38, no. 8, 1 August 1989 (1989-08-01), pages 1110-1122, XP000047580 ISSN: 0018-9340 paragraph '0III!</p>	<p>1,30,31, 33,34, 38,39, 71,72, 76-80</p>
Y	<p>WO 98 58474 A (ERICSSON TELEFON AB L M) 23 December 1998 (1998-12-23) page 2, line 26 -page 3, line 26</p>	<p>5,6,43, 44,73,74</p>
A	<p>CLARK H ET AL: "DAWGS-A DISTRIBUTED COMPUTE SERVER UTILIZING IDLE WORKSTATIONS*" JOURNAL OF PARALLEL AND DISTRIBUTED COMPUTING,US,ACADEMIC PRESS, DULUTH, MN, vol. 14, no. 2, 1 February 1992 (1992-02-01), pages 175-186, XP000262433 ISSN: 0743-7315 abstract</p>	<p>1-80</p>
A	<p>SHIN K G ET AL: "A COORDINATED LOCATION POLICY FOR LOAD SHARING IN HYPERCUBE-CONNECTED MULTICOMPUTERS" IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON COMPUTERS,US,IEEE INC. NEW YORK, vol. 44, no. 5, 1 May 1995 (1995-05-01), pages 669-682, XP000525557 ISSN: 0018-9340 abstract</p>	<p>7-14, 18-27</p>
A	<p>ROCKOFF T E ET AL: "DESIGN OF AN INTERNET-BASED SYSTEM FOR REMOTE DUTCH AUCTIONS" INTERNET RESEARCH: ELECTRONIC NETWORKING APPLICATIONS AND POLICY,XX,XX, vol. 5, no. 4, 1995, pages 10-16, XP000577932 ISSN: 1066-2243 paragraph "Bidder and auctioneer interfaces" figure 1</p>	<p>1-80</p>

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International Application No

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>HOBBS B F ET AL: "MULTICRITERIA METHODS FOR RESOURCE PLANNING: AN EXPERIMENTAL COMPARISON" IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON POWER SYSTEMS,US,IEEE INC. NEW YORK, vol. 9, no. 4, 1 November 1994 (1994-11-01), pages 1811-1817, XP000484604 ISSN: 0885-8950 abstract</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	1-80

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 01/00143

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9858474 A	23-12-1998	AU 8050398 A US 6134589 A	04-01-1999 17-10-2000
