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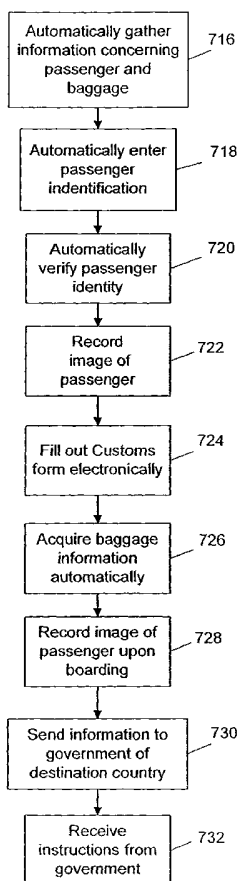
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING AN INTERNATIONAL PASSENGER



(57) Abstract: An apparatus and method for expediting customs and immigration processing is revealed. Passports are scanned and checked against an image of passengers at check in and boarding (720, 722). This information is forwarded to a government representative (730), such as an Immigration service representative, and may also be sent to a Customs official. These or other governmental representatives may then decide whether the government has any interest in a particular passenger, and the passenger may be routed in compliance with the governmental interest. A customs declaration (724) for each passenger and an inspection record (such as an x-ray) of passenger luggage may be made and forward to a customs official (730). The customs official (730) may then decide which persons and which baggage to check, routing such baggage and such persons to a customs inspection area. Passengers and luggage not selected may be automatically cleared without further inspection.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US02/14823

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G06F 17/60

US CL : 705/1

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)

U.S. : 705/1, 5

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

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X, P	US 2001/0054951 A1 (KIMOTO et al.) 27 December 2001 (27.12.2001), see entire document, especially abstract, figure 5, paragraphs [0014] and [0015].	1-26
Y	US 6,108,636 A (YAP et al.) 22 August 2000 (22.08.2000), see entire document.	1-10, 12-14
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X		11, 15-26
X	US 6,119,096 A (MANN et al.) 12 September 2000 (12.09.2000), see entire document.	1-26
Y, E	US 6,386,451 B1 (SEHR) 14 May 2002 (14.05.2002), see abstract.	1-10, 12-14
X, E	US 6,335,688 B1 (SWEATTE) 01 January 2002 (01.01.2002), see entire document, especially abstract and figure 5.	1-26
Y	WO 01/09796 A1 (SPRING TECHNOLOGIES, INC.) 08 February 2001 (08.02.2001), see abstract.	1-26
Y	ANONYMOUS, "Biometric Takes Flight," Access Control & Security Systems Integration, February 2001. [online] Proquest [retrieved on September 13, 2002, see entire document.	1-26



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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	"&" document member of the same patent family

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US02/14823

Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

JPO, EPO, DERWENT, PROQUEST

passenger, traveler, biometrics, immigration, electronic, customs