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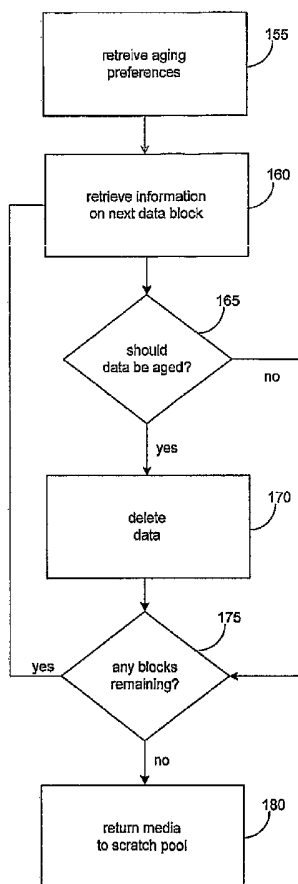
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR EXTENDED MEDIA RETENTION



(57) Abstract: The present invention provides systems and methods (Fig. 3) for extending media retention as seen. Methods are provided in which a set of aging preferences are obtained (155). Data elements of a data set stored on storage media are evaluated against the aging preferences to determine whether each of the data elements satisfy the aging preferences (165). Each of the data elements that are determined to satisfy the aging preferences is aged (170). Aging can include freeing a portion of storage media, previously used to store a data element, for other storage usage (180).

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<p>B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S. : 707/206, 379/88.22 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)</p>												
<p>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category *</th> <th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th> <th>Relevant to claim No.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>US 6,137,864 A (Yaker) 24 October 2000, columns 2-4</td> <td>1-15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X,E</td> <td>US 6,789,161 B1 (Blendermann et al.) 07 September 2004</td> <td>1-15</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	X	US 6,137,864 A (Yaker) 24 October 2000, columns 2-4	1-15	X,E	US 6,789,161 B1 (Blendermann et al.) 07 September 2004	1-15	
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