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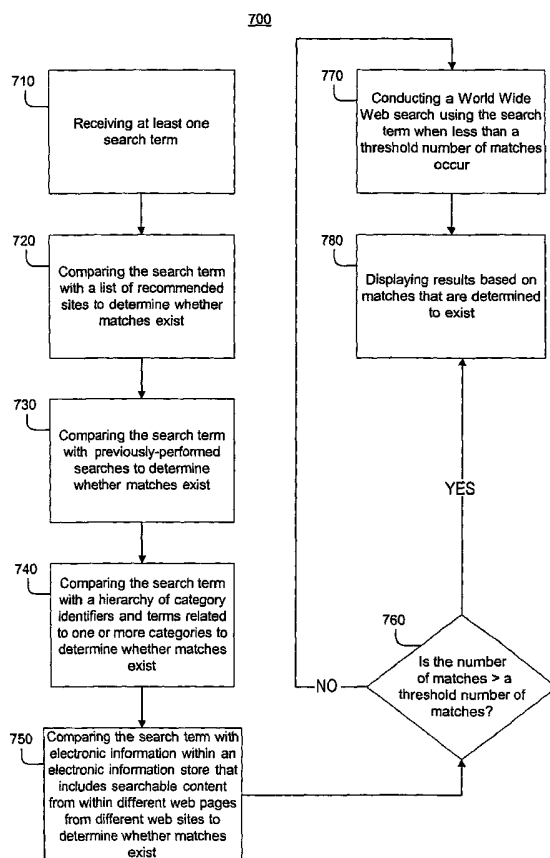
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- (63) Related by continuation (CON) or continuation-in-part (CIP) to earlier application:

US	60/223,695 (CON)
Filed on	8 August 2000 (08.08.2000)
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **AMERICA ONLINE, INC.** [US/US]; 22000 Aol Way, Dulles, VA 20166 (US).
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- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **GOEL, Surendra** [IN/US]; 2120 Glenn Spring Court, Falls Church, VA 22043 (US). **MARTIN, William** [US/US]; 15656 EdgeGrove Road, Purcellville, VA 20132 (US). **DONALDSON, Thomas, E.** [US/US]; 7108 Oak Ridge Road, Falls Church, VA 22042 (US). **KELLUM, David, E.** [US/US]; 1036 N. Daniel Street, Apartment 1, Arlington, VA 22201 (US).
- (74) Agent: **RENNER, W., Karl**; Fish & Richardson P.C., 1425 K Street, N.W., 11th Floor, Washington, DC 20005-3500 (US).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SEARCHING SYSTEMS AND PROCESSES



(57) Abstract: Performing a category search to identify categories of web sites that relate to a search term includes receiving at least one search term that then is compared with a hierarchy of category identifies, and with terms related to one or more categories, to determine whether matches exist. A category identifier is selected based on the matches that are determined to exist within the hierarchy and the terms, and at least the category identifier is displayed. Searching different data stores based on a classification of a search term may include receiving at least one search term and classifying the search term among at least first and second categories. Website search results obtained from searching multiple electronic information stores may be displayed transparently without distinguishing the electronic information store. The results may be combined in a single list of results.

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HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

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Published:

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US 01/24077

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G06F17/30		
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 G06F		
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, PAJ		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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Y	claims 1-8 ---	33-53
X	NEGRINO T: "THE MACWORLD WEB SEARCHER'S COMPANION" MACWORLD, PC WORLD COMMUNICATIONS, SAN FRANCISCO, CA,, US, vol. 17, no. 5, May 2000 (2000-05), pages 76-82, XP008019722 ISSN: 0741-8647	1-32
Y	page 79, column 1, line 4, paragraph 2 -page 79, column 2, line 19, paragraph 2 ---	54-104
Y	EP 0 827 063 A (PHILIPS ELECTRONICS NV) 4 March 1998 (1998-03-04) claims 1-8 ---	1-32
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.		
° Special categories of cited documents :		
A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date *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) *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		*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 *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 *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. *&* document member of the same patent family
Date of the actual completion of the international search 25 February 2004		Date of mailing of the international search report 08/03/2004
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 May, M

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US 01/24077

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 933 827 A (COLE GARY LEE ET AL) 3 August 1999 (1999-08-03)	33-53
Y	claims 1,8,9	1-32

P,X	WO 00 58894 A (AMAZON COM INC) 5 October 2000 (2000-10-05)	33-53
Y	claims 1-15	54-104

P,X	WO 01 27720 A (WALSH JOSEPH J ; UNIVERSAL INTERNET PRODUCT COD (US)) 19 April 2001 (2001-04-19) summary claim 1	33-53

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P,X	WO 01 16806 A (POWERCAST MEDIA INC) 8 March 2001 (2001-03-08) claims 1-17	54-104

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Y	claims 1-17	54-104

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Y	claims 1-8	54-104

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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.
P, Y	EP 1 045 547 A (NETZERO INC) 18 October 2000 (2000-10-18) summary	105-120
P, Y	US 2001/003828 A1 (ELLERMAN ERIK CASTEDO ET AL) 14 June 2001 (2001-06-14) summary claims 1-5	105-120

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US 01/24077

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-32

a method, program and system for performing a category search: the technical problem is how to search and display matches among several categories

2. Claims: 33-53

a method, program and system for classifying content: the technical problem is how to exclusively classify information into a first OR a second category for a following searching and storing step

3. Claims: 54-104

a method, program and system for performing a search: the technical problem is how to search and display combined results from a first AND a second information store

4. Claims: 105-120

A method, program and system for crawling web content: the technical problem is how to automatically populate web content of interest to a member community into a memory store

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 01/24077

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Information on patent family members

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