(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 20 March 2003 (20.03.2003)

PCT

CA

(10) International Publication Number WO 03/024054 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: H04L 29/06

(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB02/02865

(22) International Filing Date: 24 June 2002 (24.06.2002)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data: 2,357,168 10 September 2001 (10.09.2001)

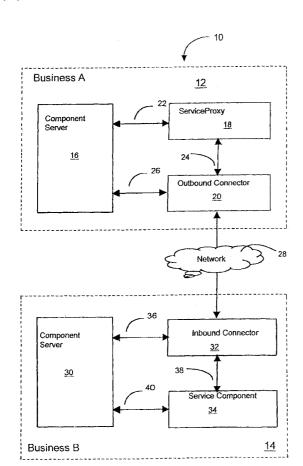
(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION [US/US]; New Orchard Road, Armonk, NY 10504 (US).

(71) Applicant (for MG only): IBM UNITED KINGDOM LIMITED [GB/GB]; P.O. Box 41, North Harbour, Portsmouth, Hampshire PO6 3AU (GB).

- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BEISIEGEL, Michael [DE/US]; 21 Partners Trace, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 (US). DELFINO, Jean-Sebastien, Michel [FR/CA]; 139 Ronan Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4N 2Y2 (CA). PRZYBYLSKI, Piotr [CA/CA]; 85 Thorncliffe Park Drive, Apt. 704, Toronto, Ontario M4H 1L6 (CA).
- (74) Agent: LING, Christopher, John; IBM United Kingdom Limited, Intellectual Property Law, Hursley Park, Winchester, Hampshire SO21 2JN (GB).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, 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, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: INBOUND CONNECTOR



(57) Abstract: The present invention discloses a computer server having a generic interface for interacting with a variety of middleware products and application programming interfaces. The proposed architecture of the interface is such that knowledge of existing middleware systems is not needed to develop or modify server applications.

WO 03/024054 A3



(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 30 October 2003

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

Published:

with international search report

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

onal Application No PL., GB 02/02865

A. CLASSIFI	CATION OF S	UBJECT MATTER
IPC 7	H04L29/	06

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

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \begin{tabular}{ll} \beg$

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
Х	EP 0 915 601 A (HEWLETT PACKARD CO) 12 May 1999 (1999-05-12) paragraphs '0001!-'0042! figure 2	1-6,9-14		
X	EP 0 942 554 A (MOORE PRODUCTS CO) 15 September 1999 (1999-09-15) abstract figure 3	1-6,9-14		
X	WO 00 05854 A (MICROSOFT CORP) 3 February 2000 (2000-02-03) page 10, line 24 -page 12, line 19	7,8		
A	US 6 006 264 A (NAIR RAJ KRISHNAN ET AL) 21 December 1999 (1999-12-21) figure 2 column 6, line 6 -column 10, line 50	1–14		
	-/			

X Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Patent family members are listed in annex.
"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 filling 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 filling date but later than the priority date claimed	"T" later document published after the international filling 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 2 June 2003	Date of malling of the international search report 06/06/2003
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 Canosa Aresté, C

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

onal Application No GB 02/02865

C (Continu	uation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
A		1-14		
•	US 6 243 751 B1 (JASUJA AMIT ET AL) 5 June 2001 (2001-06-05) abstract	1 14		
				
i				
	•			
		-		
	10 (continuation of second sheet) (July 1992)			

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

in tional Application No ./GB 02/02865

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0915601	Α	12-05-1999	US EP JP TW	6370592 B1 0915601 A2 11194981 A 484066 B	09-04-2002 12-05-1999 21-07-1999 21-04-2002
EP 0942554	Α	15-09-1999	US EP	6192414 B1 0942554 A2	20-02-2001 15-09-1999
WO 0005854	Α	03-02-2000	US WO	6463078 B1 0005854 A1	08-10-2002 03-02-2000
US 6006264	Α	21-12-1999	AU WO US	8373298 A 9906913 A1 6449647 B1	22-02-1999 11-02-1999 10-09-2002
US 6243751	B1	05-06-2001	NONE		