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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER				
IPC(7) : G06F 17/60, 17/30 US CL : 707/104.1, 1, 3, 6				
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. : 707/104.1, 1, 3, 6				
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)				
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
A	US 6,496,776 B1 (BLUMBERG et al.) 17 December 2002, (17.12.2002), column 1, lines 20-68, continued on column 2, lines 1-55.	1-34		
Y	US 6,397,226 B1 (SAGE) 28 May 2002 (28.05.2002), Abstract, and column 1, lines 30-62, column 2, lines 48-68, column 4, lines 20-41.	1-34		
Y	US 6,339,763 B1 (DIVINE et al.) 15 January 2002 (15.02.2002), Abstract, column 1, lines 51-68, continued on column 2, lines 1-47, column 5, lines 3-26.	1-34		
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.				
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> * 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 application or patent 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 </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> "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 </td> </tr> </table>			* 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 application or patent 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
* 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 application or patent 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			
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of Item 5 of the first sheet)

The present invention is an electronic, Internet-based system, and method for practicing same, which provides a potential buyer of an automobile the ability to search for, compare, identify and make an offer to purchase an automobile, which offer is transmitted to an automobile dealer. In the inventive electronic, Internet-based system, a potential buyer accesses a first user interface through a hyper-link directory from a participating automobile dealer's Internet site or from an advertisement tied to an automobile dealer (100). The act of accessing a first user interface through either form of hyper-link designates said automobile dealer as a target automobile dealer for the current potential buyer (110). By accessing the first user interface, a potential buyer may: (i) configure the characteristic an option available for a desired automobile (120); (ii) view available pricing information on the selected automobile configuration (130); and (iii) make an offer to the target automobile dealer for the purchase of the selected automobile having the selected configuration (140), generating an offer transmittal to be sent to the target automobile dealer (150). After the target automobile dealer receive the offer transmittal (160-170), the target automobile dealer may contact the potential buyer directly to discuss the offer for the configured automobile (180). During such direct contact, the potential buyer is in a bargaining position which provides more comfort, advantages, and bargaining power to the potential buyer.