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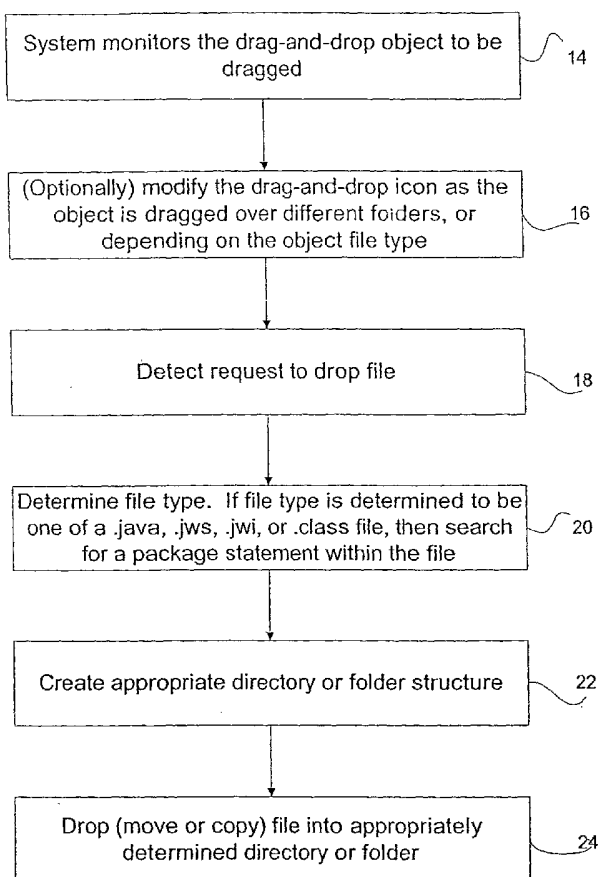
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SMART DRAG-AND-DROP FUNCTIONALITY



(57) Abstract: The invention provides a system and method for providing smart file import and drag-and-drop functionality in a graphical user interface environment. As a file is dragged (14) and dropped (18) onto a set of folders using an explorer-like interface, the system automatically determines (20) into which folder the file should be placed (24). If the folder does not already exist, then it is automatically created (22). A similar process can be used for file imports. The system is particularly useful for manipulating Java, Java derivative, or Java-related source files (including JAVA, JWS, CTRL, JWI, JAR, class files, etc.) in a Java application development environment, since in this type of environment the location of the file within the folder tree can be very important. Other embodiments of the invention include an icon-display mechanism (16) which denotes to the user that the Smart Drop processing will take precedence over the normal drop behavior.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC(7) G06F 3/00, 15/00; G09G 5/00

US CL : 345/769, 764, 765, 767, 770, 885

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)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched  
MICROSOFT PRESS, COMPUTER DICTIONARYElectronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
drag, drop, objects, icon, GUI, tree, Web, Java, function, hierarchical, network; file**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,767,851 (YEE et al.) 16 JUNE 1998; see abstract, column 4, line 62 through column 5, line 58.	1-51
Y	US 6,002,402 (SCHACHER) 14 DECEMBER 1999; see abstract, figure 3, column 7, line 37 through column 8, line 28.	1-51
A	US 5,917,493 (TAN et al.) 29 JUNE 1999; whole document	1-51

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.
  See patent family annex.

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"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
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