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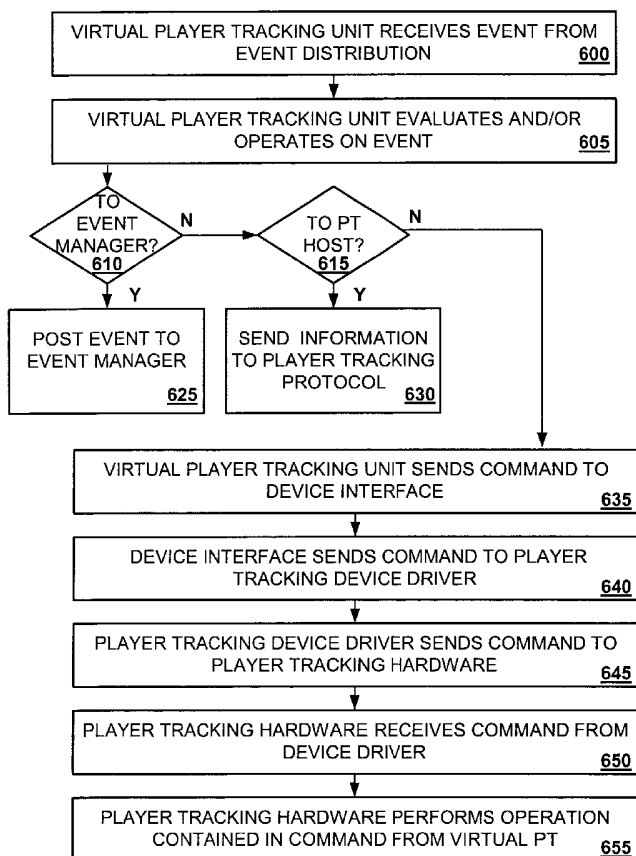
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(54) Title: GAMING SYSTEM WITH PLAYER TRACKING



(57) Abstract: A disclosed gaming machine provides a gaming machine with the plurality of software units providing player tracking services. The software player tracking units eliminate the need for a separate hardware player tracking unit. The player tracking devices, including the card reader, are accessible to the master gaming controller on the gaming machine and may be utilized by the master gaming controller for other gaming applications. The player tracking software incorporates communication protocols for communicating with a variety of player tracking devices. Communication protocols, device interfaces and device drivers for operating the player tracking devices and performing player tracking services may be added or upgraded by loading the player tracking software to a memory mounted within the gaming machine

WO 02/017251 A3



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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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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 G07F

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)

INSPEC, EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 003 013 A (BOUSHY JOHN M ET AL) 14 December 1999 (1999-12-14) the whole document	1-36
A	US 5 820 459 A (GINSBURG ALEC ET AL) 13 October 1998 (1998-10-13) abstract column 11, line 24 -column 12, line 7 figure 2	1-36

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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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.
A	<p>DATABASE INSPEC 'Online! THE INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, STEVENAGE, GB; Z. WANF; H. AQUINO: "casino technology: player tracking and slot accounting systems" Database accession no. 7228747 XP002231402 abstract</p> <p>-----</p>	1-36

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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