Title: CASCADED DELIVERY OF AN ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

Abstract: Delivering an electronic notification to an intended recipient (105) may include communicating an electronic notification directed to an intended recipient (105), and determining presence information (130) associated with the intended recipient (105) before attempting to deliver the notification to the intended recipient (105). A cascaded delivery instruction (135) also may be resolved based on notification information. The presence information (130) and the cascaded delivery instruction (135) also may be resolved based on notification information. The presence information (130) and the cascaded delivery instruction (135) may be used to select among several delivery mechanisms (110) potentially available for the intended recipient (105) based on the presence information (130), and to deliver the electronic notification to the intended recipient (105) at the selected delivery mechanism (110). The presence information (130) may include fan online presence and/or a physical presence of the intended recipient (105).

Published:
— with international search report

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
1 July 2004

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.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G06F 15/16
US CL : 709/206

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. : 709/206

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)

Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td>2-6, 17-20, 25-30, 39-42</td>
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☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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

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Date of the actual completion of the international search: 19 March 2004 (19.03.2004)

Date of mailing of the international search report: 16 APR 2004

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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1998)
Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:
EAST
search terms: electronic notification, recipient presence, cascaded delivery