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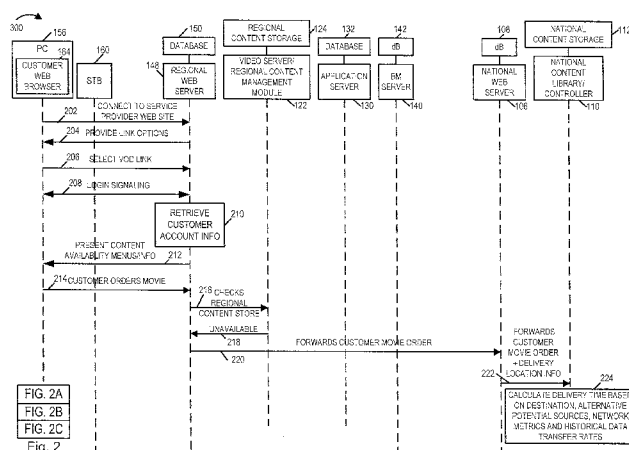
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(54) Title: METHODS, APPARATUS AND USER INTERFACE FOR PROVIDING CONTENT ON DEMAND



(57) Abstract: Methods and apparatus for supporting content delivery service are described. In accordance with the invention content can be supplied to temporary storage of a regional or local server used to supply the content to a customer's premises when the requested content is not already available in the regional or local server. A content server hierarchy may be implemented with servers higher up in the hierarchy including more content, e.g., titles, than the number of titles stored in the lower level servers. By storing less frequently accessed content in servers higher in the hierarchy and frequently requested titles lower in the hierarchy, a vast number of titles can be supported without overburdening the storage available at local and regional servers. In addition, a national or other server high in the hierarchy can be used to store, move, and distribute local or other content as part of an on demand service.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 07/88651

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - H04N 7/173 (2008.01)

USPC - 725/87

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)

USPC: 725/87

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
US: 725/86, 87, 91, 98; 707/1, 10; 715/700 (keyword limited - see terms below)

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

PubWEST(PGPB, USPT, USOC, EPAB, JPAB); GOOGLE

Search Terms: video, on-demand, transmit, content, premise, residence, play-list, network, transmit content, receive content, title, advertisement, language, internet, cable, VOD, Video on Demand

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2006/0218604 A1 (Riedl et al.) 28 September 2006 (28.09.2006), entire document, especially; abstract, para. [0010], [0020] - [0023], [0028], [0049], [0062], [0089], [0092], [0094], [0108], [0162]	14-16, 19, 20, 23, 25, 26

Y		1-13, 17-18, 21, 22, 24, 27
X	US 7,010,801 B1 (Jerding et al.) 07 March 2006 (07.03.2006), entire document, especially; abstract, col. 4, in 4-18, col. 5, in 16, 38, col. 19 in 65 - col. 2, in 10, col. 27, in 10-13, col. 31, in 51-58	28 - 32

Y		27
Y	US 2003/0182315 A1 (Plastina et al.) 25 September 2003 (25.09.2003), entire document, especially; abstract, para. [0043], [0048], [0118], [0154], [0206], [0271]	1-13, 17-18, 21, 22, 24

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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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"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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