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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **GTECH RHODE ISLAND CORPORATION** [US/US]; 10 Memorial Blvd., Providence, RI 02903 (US).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **RYBAK, Ihor, Bohdan** [CA/US]; 93 Fieldstone Lane, Saundertown, RI 02874 (US).

(74) Agent: **REIBMAN, Andrew, L.**; K & L Gates LLP, 599 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10022-6030 (US).

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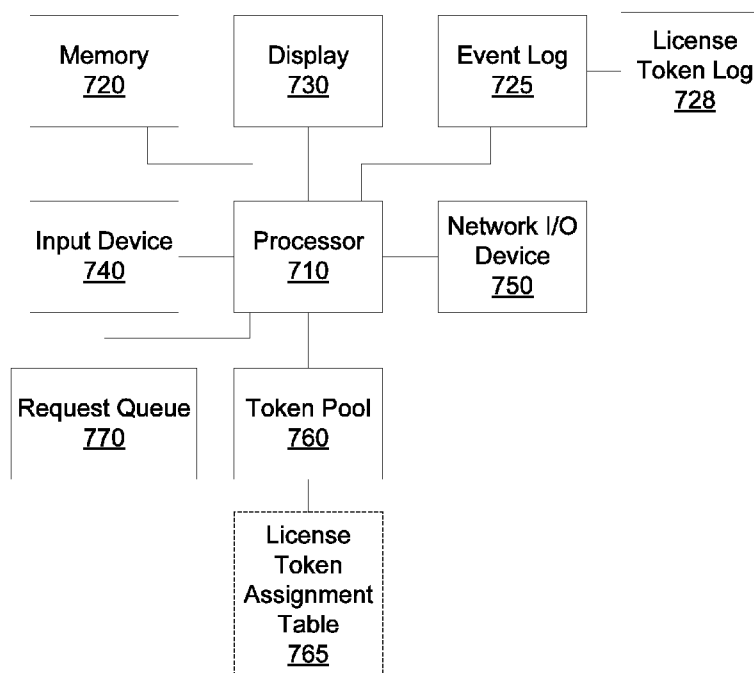
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR LICENSE SHARING AMONG GAMING TERMINALS

Figure 7



(57) Abstract: Systems and methods for sharing wagering game licenses among multi-state terminals are provided. Each example terminal may include a token-enabled state and a non-token-enabled state. Each token may be associated with a license for the operation of a wagering game. A token pool may be administered by a host. A terminal at which a customer has indicated a desire to play a wagering game may request a token from the token pool administrating host. The request may be queued if a token is not available, or the requesting terminal may be issued a token. Thus, an unlimited number of multi-state terminals may be operated, while no more than a predetermined quantity of the terminals may be providing a wagering game at any one time.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 09/34054

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - A63F 9/24 (2009.01)

USPC - 463/42

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(8): A63F 9/24 (2009.01)

USPC: 463/42

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

USPC: 463/1, 25, 26, 29, 42; 705/1, 50, 59, 500

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

Electronic databases: USPTO WEST (PGPB, USPT, EPAB, JPAB); Google Scholar

Search Terms Used: wagering or casino games, gaming environment or terminals, shared or common licenses, network or server, token or non-token state or enabled or pool, switching or selecting or changing state or mode etc.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2007/0136817 A1 (Nguyen) 14 June 2007 (14.06.2007) (abstract, and para [0020]-[0027], [0113]-[0124], [0199]-[0249], [0267]-[0309], [0361]-[0387])	1-3, 11-13, 20-26, 34-36, 42-45, and 48-52
Y	US 2005/0182731 A1 (Marjadi et al.) 18 August 2005 (18.08.2005) (abstract, and para [0014]-[0024], [0036]-[0048], [0052]-[0065], [0078]-[0091])	1-3, 11-13, 20-26, 34-36, 42-45, and 48-52
A	US 2007/0203846 A1 (Kavuri et al.) 30 August 2007 (30.08.2007)	1-3, 11-13, 20-26, 34-36, 42-45, and 48-52
A	US 2006/0276244 A1 (Hornik et al.) 07 December 2006 (07.12.2006)	1-3, 11-13, 20-26, 34-36, 42-45, and 48-52
A	US 2005/0192099 A1 (Nguyen et al.) 01 September 2005 (01.09.2005)	1-3, 11-13, 20-26, 34-36, 42-45, and 48-52

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.


* 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 but 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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Authorized officer:

Lee W. Young

PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 09/34054

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. ☒ Claims Nos.: 4-10, 14-19, 27-33, 37-41, 46-49, and 53
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.