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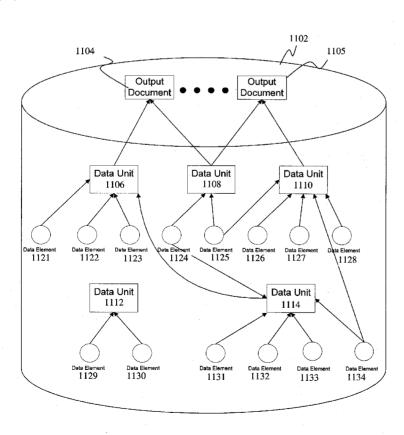
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: AUTOMATIC AUTHORING AND PUBLISHING SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a system and method for automatically producing documents that incorporate one or more data elements 1121-1134. A guided/structured software environment is provided that assists users in creating manuals by defining the appropriate content for each manual in a document definition section, content rules and relationships, and tasks to be performed for each type of manual entry. Manual content is stored as data and data elements 1121-1134, rather than pages of sentences, to more efficiently generate, revise, and store the content of a manual. A storage database 110 is provided for retrieving and storing predefined templates, documents, data elements and data to produce a final manual. Manuals are created by combining various data elements. A preview interface permits a user to quickly view what revisions will look like in a final document prior to actually publishing the manual. A published manual is compiled by assembling the stored data into document.





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	USPC: 715/243,255				
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED					
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S.: 715/243, 255					
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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)					
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C. DOCU	JMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages			Relevant to claim No.	
Y	US 6,377,956 B1 (HSU et al) 23 April 2002 (23.04.2002), abstact, columns, 1-14.			1-27	
Y	US 2004/0049742 A1 (YOKOYAMA et al) 11 March 2004 (11.03.2004), pages 1-4 and figure 2.			1-27	
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Α	US 6,167,409 (DEROSE et al.) 26 December 2000 (26.12.2000), columns 1-10.			1-27	
Α	US 2005/0050442 A1 (POPE et al) 03 March 2005 (03.03.2005), pages 3-6.	1-27	
				,	
Further	documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.		See patent family annex		
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