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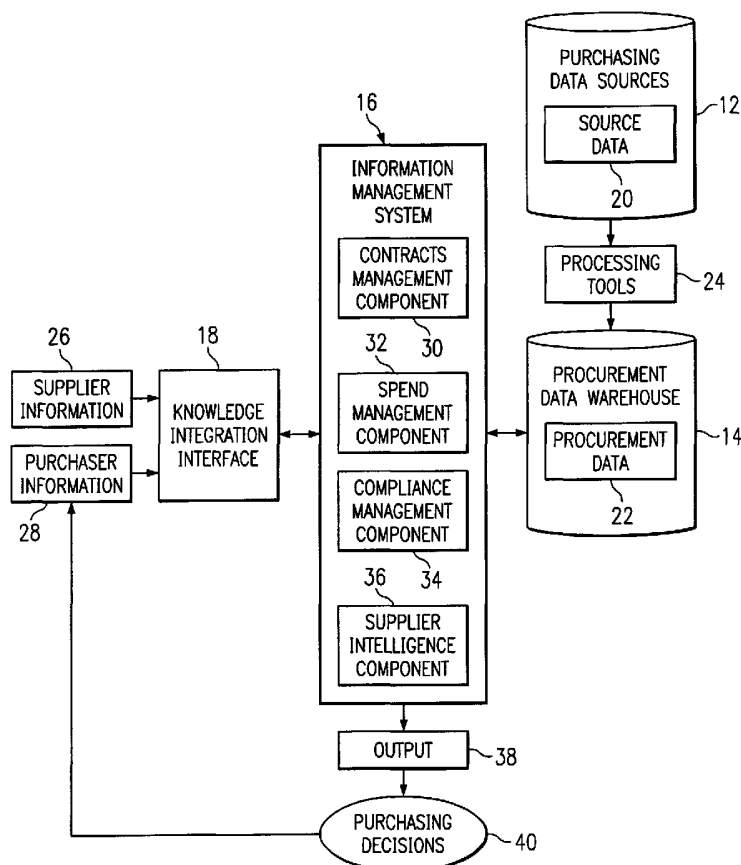
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- (71) Applicant: **ELECTRONIC DATA SYSTEMS CORPORATION** [US/US]; 5400 Legacy Drive, M/S H3-3A-05, Plano, TX 75024 (US).
- (72) Inventors: **KRUK, Jeffrey, M.**; 16438 Crosswind Lane, Macomb, MI 48042 (US). **KASRAVI, Kasra**; 2943 Brentwood, West Bloomfield, MI 48323 (US).
- (74) Agent: **KENNERLY, Christopher, W.**; Baker Botts L.L.P., Suite 600, 2001 Ross Avenue, Dallas, TX 75201 (US).
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING A PROCUREMENT PROCESS



(57) Abstract: A method of managing contracts is provided. The method includes storing a plurality of electronic contracts including unstructured text. The method further includes determining one or more linguistic patterns associated with a business parameter and generating linguistic rules based on the one or more linguistic patterns. The method further includes extracting particular information regarding the business parameter from the plurality of contracts using one or more of the linguistic rules. The method further includes generating a visual output based on at least a portion of the extracted information.



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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 705/8, 9, 10, 26

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)
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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6,122,077 A (KAJI) 19 September 2000, cols. 1-4.	1-21
Y, P	US 2002/0129066 A1 (MILWARD et al) 12 September 2002, [0015, 0017, 0021, 0022, 0034, 0060, 0102, 0103]	1-21
Y, P	US 2002/0031260 A1 (THAWONMAS et al) 14 March 2002, [0005, 0013, 0014]	1-21
Y, P	Who's Using Whom? Chain Store Age Executive With Shopping Center Age, November 2001, 77, 11, 74, pages 1-2.	1-21
Y	EC-Content .. E-Marketplaces, Business Wire, September 18, 2000, p2362, pages 1-3, especially page 2.	1-21
Y	NTT Completes ... Procurement Costs, Business Wire, December 15, 1998, p 0201, pages 1-2.	1-21
Y	RUGULLIES, E., Workflow: A Must for Your Internet Procurement Solution, E-Business Advisor, June 1999, 17, 6, 16.	1-21



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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

Tan Dean Nguyen

Telephone No. (703) 308-0651