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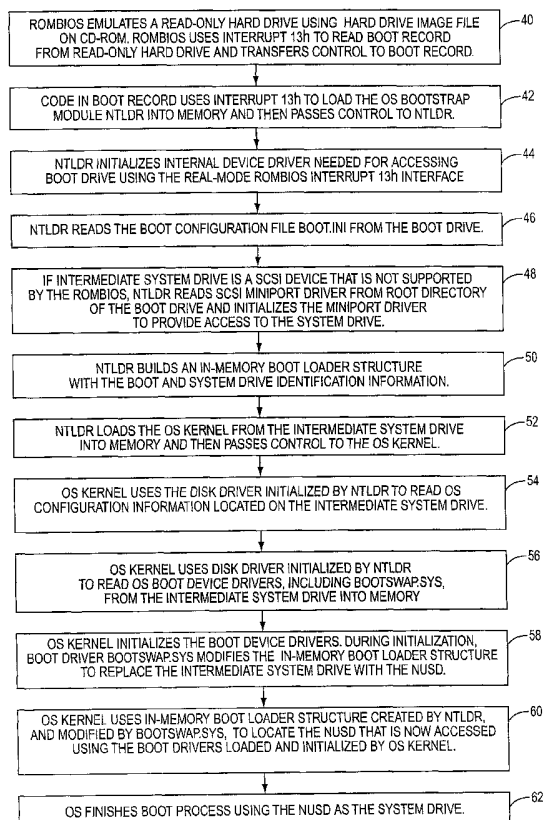
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**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

— *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for all designations*

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD OF BOOTING A COMPUTER OPERATING SYSTEM TO RUN FROM A NORMALLY UNSUPPORTED SYSTEM DEVICE



(57) Abstract: A computer operating system (OS) is altered to boot so as to run from a normally unsupported system device (NUSD). The OS kernel is loaded from a natively supported boot device, such as a floppy disk or CD-ROM, and initialized. Device drivers for a NUSD are then loaded from the boot device and initialized. A bootstrap device driver is also loaded and initialized. The bootstrap device driver is operative to alter an OS data structure such that the NUSD is recognized as a system device. Upon completion of the boot sequence, the OS runs from the NUSD as a system drive. A method of preparing the boot media and configuring the NUSD is presented.



- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations*

*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.*

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PCT/US03/38403

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G06F 9/24

US CL : 713/2

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. : 713/1,2,100

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)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,317,845 B1 (MEYER et al) 13 November 2001, column 11, lines 55-67, column 12, lines 1-48, column 13, lines 54-67 and column 14, lines 1-23.	1-23
A	US 6,279,109 B1 (BRUNDRIDGE) 21 August 2001.	1-23

☐ 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	"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
"E"	earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"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
"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)	"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
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

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