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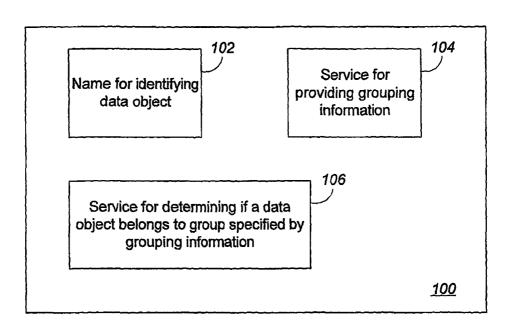
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(54) Title: QUERY OBJECTS



(57) Abstract: Methods and apparatus, including computer program products, for providing a query object. In one general aspect, a query object includes an attribute uniquely identifying the business object. The query object includes an interface that includes at least a service that provides, to a calling application, information that specify a group of one or more instances of one ore more business objects. A calling application uses the information to address the group of one or more instances of one or more business objects, on which the application can perform one or more functions.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intel Application No
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER G06F9/44 G06F G06F9/46 G06F17/30 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) G06F 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 practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. χ US 6 085 198 A (SKINNER ET AL) 1-22 4 July 2000 (2000-07-04) abstract column 3, line 53 - line 60 χ US 6 263 342 B1 (CHANG DANIEL T ET AL) 1 - 2217 July 2001 (2001-07-17) the whole document column 3, line 54 - line 57 US 6 192 370 B1 (PRIMSCH JÜRGEN) Α 1-2220 February 2001 (2001-02-20) abstract column 3, line 39 - line 45 column 5, line 22 - line 30 -/--Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. X Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents : "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 "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to "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) 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 ort. "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 7 December 2005 16/12/2005 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016 Beyer, 0

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