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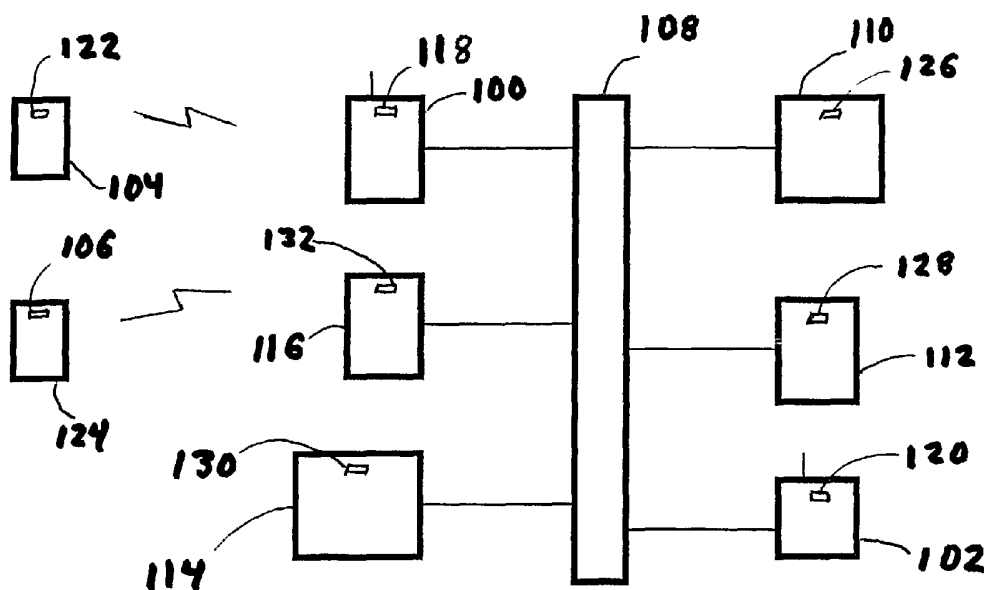
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: INDICATOR FOR COMMUNICATING SYSTEM STATUS INFORMATION



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for indicating device (104, 124) and system readiness to a user is disclosed. An indicator (106, 118, 120, 122, 126, 128, 130, 132) is located on one or more devices of a data-handling system. The state of the indicator communicates the status of the device or system. The indicator can be standardized across two or more devices of the data-handling system. The indicator can be comprised of a single element or of multiple elements.



Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,
ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO,
SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM,
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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.

Published:

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- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/22551

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G06k 7/10; G06F 7/00

US CL : 235/472.02., 383, 454, 472.01, 472.03, 462.15, 462.45, 462.46

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. : 235/472.02., 383, 454, 472.01, 472.03, 462.15, 462.45, 462.46

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
NoneElectronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
Please See Continuation Sheet**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y,P	US 2003/0064807 A1 (WALKER et al.) 03 April 2003 (03.04.2003) See entire document.	1-76
Y	US 4,379,334A1 (FEAGINS, Jr. et al.) 05 April 1983 (08.04.1983) See entire document.	1-76
Y,P	US 2003/0130774 A1 (TRIPATHI et al.) 10 July 2003 (10.07.2003) See entire document.	1-76
Y,P	US 6,532,152 B1 (WHITE et al.) 11 March 2003 (11.03.2003) See entire document.	1-76
Y	US 6,149,062 A (DANIELSON et al.) 21 November 2000 (21.11.2000) See entire document.	1-76
Y	US 6,192,400 A1 (HANSON et al.) 20 February 2001 (20.02.2001) See entire document.	1-73

☐ 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

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"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

Date of the actual completion of the international search

21 December 2004 (21.12.2004)

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US03/22551

Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT

Search Term: (light or status or ready or readiness or operation) indicator, reader, (touch or voice or keyboard) input