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(54) Title: SYSTEM, METHOD AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR A B2B PROCUREMENT PORTAL

(57) Abstract: A system, method and computer program product are provided for procuring business. Initially, a plurality of suppliers are registered. In use, contracts are received from customers. Such contract may take the form of an order for goods or services. The suppliers are subsequently allowed to access the contracts utilizing a network. As such, bids on the contracts may be received from the suppliers utilizing the network. Further, the customers are informed of the bids so that the bids may be accepted. Still yet, the suppliers secure a performance bond relating to the contract for reducing the risk of non-performance by the supplier.

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.  
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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC(7) : G06F 17/60  
 US CL : 705/37  
 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. : 705/37, 35, 38, 39, 26, 27

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)  
 USPAT, EPO, JPO, DERWENTS WPI, IBM TDB

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X, P	US 2001/0039524 A1 (HARRISON JR et al.) 08 November 2001 (08.11.2001), see entire document.	1-18
A, E	US 2002/0055900 A1 (KANSAL) 09 May 2002 (09.05.2002), see entire document.	1-18
A, E	US 2002/0055851 A1 (JACOBS et al.) 09 May 2002 (09.05.2002), see entire document.	1-18

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.  See patent family annex.

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