Title: BROWSING MEDIA ITEMS ORGANISED USING A RING BASED STRUCTURE

Abstract: A method of navigating, organising, browsing, searching, and selecting information objects and/or content in a ring based structure is provided wherein the relation between rings is clear and easily grasped. The method is particularly well suited for navigating in media content. The method comprises locating a number of information objects, displaying one or more of the information objects on a display in a ring based structure comprising one or more rings, and changing the size of a specific ring by selecting the specific ring. By this enlargement, the visibility of information objects comprised in the specific ring is increased, and the individual information objects visually present in the ring, may readily be selected from the enlarged ring.
Declaration under Rule 4.17:
— as to applicant’s entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))

Published:
— with international search report
— before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
2 November 2006

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.
# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

INV. G06F3/033

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 G06T

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, PAJ

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category*</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>US 5 977 974 A (HATORI ET AL) 2 November 1999 (1999-11-02) column 18, line 60 - column 20, line 44; figures 14,15A-15D column 23, lines 26-43 column 24, line 57 - column 25, line 7 column 25, lines 45-54</td>
<td>1,5,6, 13-15</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td>WO 00/13104 A (SYMETEC LIMITED; CLIFTON-BLIGH, GERVASE) 9 March 2000 (2000-03-09) page 59, line 2 - page 63, line 20; figure 1 page 73, line 11 - page 76, line 24; figure 6 page 54, line 26 - page 55, line 7</td>
<td>1-6, 8-11, 13-15</td>
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</table>

X Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. X 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

**E** earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

**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)

**D** document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

**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.

**A** document member of the same patent family

**Date of the actual completion of the international search**

4 September 2006

**Date of mailing of the international search report**

11/09/2006

**Name and mailing address of the ISA/IB**

European Patent Office, P.B. 5816 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk

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Authorized officer

Fournier, N
<table>
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<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
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</table>
**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

**Box II** Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. □ Claims Nos.:  
   because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. □ Claims Nos.:  
   because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. □ Claims Nos.:  
   because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

**Box III** Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

- see additional sheet

1. □ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. □ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. □ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. □ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

   1-11, 13-15

**Remark on Protest**

- □ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- □ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.
This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-11, 13-15
   (i) a method of navigating information objects displayed in a ring-based structure and changing the size of a selected ring to enhance visibility
   (ii) whereby the size of other rings decrease when the selected ring increases

2. claims: 1, 12
   (i) a method of navigating information objects displayed in a ring-based structure and changing the size of a selected ring to enhance visibility
   (ii) whereby one of the objects is selected and thrown at a renderer for playing
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<th>Publication date</th>
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