



(11) **EP 1 564 697 A3**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:  
**15.08.2007 Bulletin 2007/33**

(51) Int Cl.:  
**G07F 17/32 (2006.01)**

(43) Date of publication A2:  
**17.08.2005 Bulletin 2005/33**

(21) Application number: **05002673.1**

(22) Date of filing: **09.02.2005**

(84) Designated Contracting States:  
**AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU MC NL PL PT RO SE SI SK TR**  
Designated Extension States:  
**AL BA HR LV MK YU**

(72) Inventor: **Okada, Kazuo**  
**Tokyo 135-0063 (JP)**

(74) Representative: **HOFFMANN EITL**  
**Patent- und Rechtsanwälte**  
**Arabellastrasse 4**  
**81925 München (DE)**

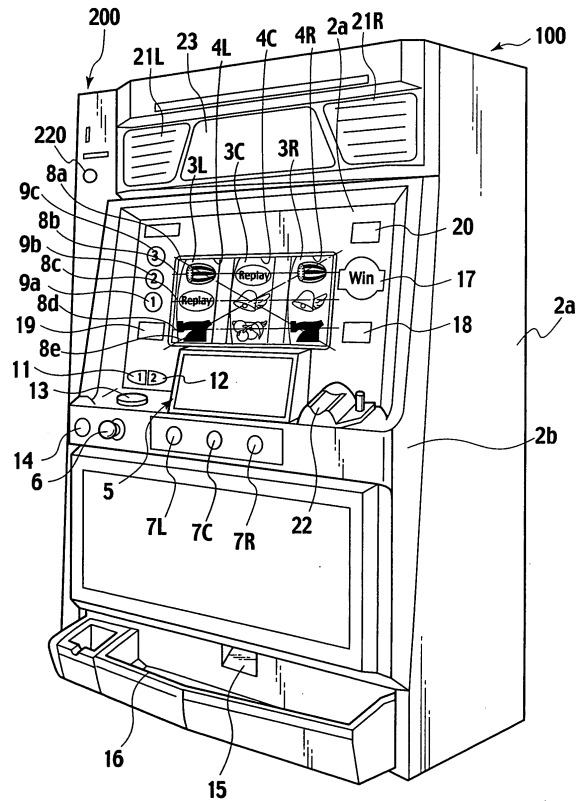
(30) Priority: **10.02.2004 JP 2004033997**

(71) Applicant: **Aruze Corp.**  
**Tokyo 135-0063 (JP)**

(54) **Game-medium renting machine**

(57) A game-medium renting machine, by which medals, for use in a gaming machine, are rented depending on an amount of value subtracted from an outstanding balance of a prepaid card read out by a value read-out unit, is disclosed wherein a predetermined amount of value is subtracted from the outstanding balance of the prepaid card without renting the medals based on a predetermined operation executed by a player and determines to provide the player with a predetermined number of medals under a situation where the number of consumed medals, indicative of a difference between the number of medals used in the gaming machine, and the number of medals obtained a play on the gaming machine.

**FIG.1**



**EP 1 564 697 A3**



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	US 2001/031663 A1 (JOHNSON RICHARD A [US]) 18 October 2001 (2001-10-18) * abstract * * paragraph [0005] * * paragraph [0010] - paragraph [0011] * * paragraph [0013] * -----	1-5	INV. G07F17/32
X	US 5 910 048 A (FEINBERG ISADORE [US]) 8 June 1999 (1999-06-08) * abstract; figure 1 * * column 2, line 33 - column 3, line 54 * -----	1-5	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			G07F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>Munich</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>11 July 2007</b>	Examiner <b>Peller, Ingrid</b>
<b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b> X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ..... & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

2

EPO FORM 1503 03/02 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 05 00 2673

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

11-07-2007

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2001031663 A1	18-10-2001	NONE	
-----			
US 5910048 A	08-06-1999	NONE	
-----			

EPO FORM P0459

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82