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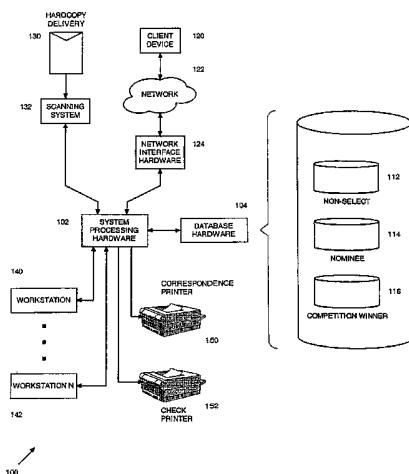
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(54) Title: SELECTION OF INDIVIDUALS FORM A POOL OF CANDIDATES IN A COMPETITION SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: An integrated highly automated competition system allows for selection of one or more competition winners. Documents can be submitted electronically (120) or by hardcopy (130). Document submissions are checked against databases to determine duplicate existence by a variety of information extracted from the documents. Candidates are filtered by one or more filters requiring candidates meet completeness, qualification, eligibility, and partner/discretionary standards. Candidates are evaluated by one or more readers and scored on a plurality of cognitive and non-cognitive variables. Readers are monitored and corrective action is taken when reader evaluations are determined to require corrective action. Candidates are selected by a two stage process first using raw read scores and then using a successive weighted read score iteration or tie-breaking stage. Winning candidates are subject to progress tracking and re-qualification prior to receiving award payments.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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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. : 705/1; 235/51

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)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6,250,548 B1 (MCCLURE et al) 26 June 2001 (26.06.2001), entire document.	1-18, 51-53
Y	US 5,657,256 A (SWANSON et al) 12 August 1997 (12.08.1997), column 1, lines 63-67.	1-16
Y	US 5,809,484 A (MOTOLA et al) 15 September 1998 (15.09.1998), entire document.	19-50, 68-90
X	US 4,787,036 A (FLEMING) 22 November 1988 (22.11.1988), column 8, lines 30-67.	54-62, 63-67
A	US 5,717,865 A (STRATMANN) 10 February 1998 (10.02.1998), entire document.	78-85
A	US 5,663,547 A (ZIARNO) 2 September 1997 (02.09.1997), entire document.	75-77

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See patent family annex.

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