

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
29 September 2005 (29.09.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 2005/089446 A3

(51) International Patent Classification : G06F 17/30,  
15/16

MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,  
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY,  
TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU,  
ZA, ZM, ZW.

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/US2005/008968

(22) International Filing Date: 18 March 2005 (18.03.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
60/554,272 18 March 2004 (18.03.2004) US

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,  
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,  
ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),  
European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,  
FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO,  
SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN,  
GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(71) Applicant and

**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

(72) Inventor: LIEBMAN, Andrew, Peter [US/US]; 140  
Pleasant Street, Brookline, MA 02446 (US).

— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a  
patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for all designations

— as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the  
earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations

(74) Agent: FISCHMAN, Steven; Scully, Scott, Murphy &  
Presser, 400 Garden City Plaza, Garden City, NY 11530  
(US).

**Published:**

— with international search report

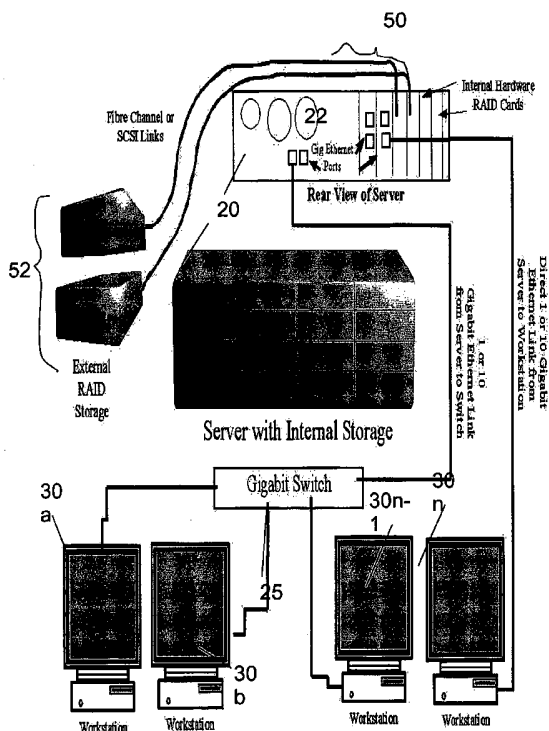
(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,  
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,  
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,  
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,  
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,

**(88) Date of publication of the international search report:**

12 January 2006

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-  
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-  
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: A NOVEL MEDIA FILE ACCESS AND STORAGE SOLUTION FOR MULTI-WORKSTATION/MULTI-PLAT-  
FORM NON-LINEAR VIDEO EDITING SYSTEMS



(57) Abstract: A novel system, method and computer program  
product for accessing digital media files stored in a centralized  
media storage device (50, 52) via a server device (20) in  
communication with the media storage device (50, 52). The  
server (20) is operatively coupled via a network connection  
with at least two independent workstations. The method steps  
include providing, via the server (20), a directory structure on  
the storage device (50, 52) for hierarchically organizing digital  
data files; generating in the directory structure a User Directory  
that corresponding to each independent user that is capable of  
accessing the media files, and through which an independent  
user can store actual digital media files; moving actual stored  
digital media files from a User Directory to a Shared Directory  
location that is separate from said User Directory where the  
files are not directly accessible to any independent user; creating,  
for each digital media file moved into the Shared Directory,  
a corresponding link to the actual digital media file for one  
or more individual independent users, and placing said links  
inside each said corresponding User Directory, whereby, via  
the links, a user is permitted indirect access to all actual  
digital media files that are stored in the Shared Directory on  
the storage device (50, 52), while preventing direct access  
to the actual digital media files. There is additionally provided  
a tool for managing the centralized digital media storage  
system particularly enabling media and corresponding virtual  
files to be automatically manipulated, e.g., deleted, removed,  
transferred and synchronized, in response to user requests,  
all the while automatically retaining the file virtualization  
features as described.

WO 2005/089446 A3

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US05/08968

<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b>		
IPC(7) : G06F 17/30; 15/16 US CL : 707/8, 200; 709/203, 219		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b>		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S. : 707/8, 200; 709/203, 219		
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) Please See Continuation Sheet		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
<b>Category *</b>	<b>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</b>	<b>Relevant to claim No.</b>
Y	US 2001/0051955 A1 (WONG) 13 December, 2001 (13.12.2001), paragraphs 0018-0027.	1-32
Y	US 6,457,021 B1 (BERKOWITZ et al) 24 September 2002 (24.09.2002), column 1, line 53 - column 2, line 35.	1-32
X,P	US 6,768,996 B1 (STEFFENS et al) 27 July 2004 (27.07.2004), col. 1, line 53 - col. 2, line 59.	1-32
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> 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 "B" earlier application or patent 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) "O" 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 "&" document member of the same patent family
Date of the actual completion of the international search 03 October 2005 (03.10.2005)		Date of mailing of the international search report 18 OCT 2005
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (571) 273-8300		Authorized officer Paul H. Kang Telephone No. 571-272-2100

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

PCT/US05/08968

**Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:**

EAST

search terms: client, server, database, concurrency, remote data access.