Storing a first game data in dealer memory 105

Dealing a first hand of cards 110

Receiving, without shuffling, a plurality of set of cards in the card dealer 120

Identifying the card played by the each player in each unit of play 125

Generating a first comparison result for each player 130

FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: According to an embodiment of the invention, a method for dealing a hand of cards for a board and analyzing the board is disclosed. The method includes storing a first board data in a dealer memory of a card dealer (105), the card dealer housing a first deck of cards. Thereafter, dealing a hand of cards (110) from the first deck of cards in accordance with the first board data using the card dealer, the first board data designates a specific card to each player. Further, receiving, without shuffling, sets of cards in the card dealer (120) and identifying the card played by the each player in each unit of play (125). Lastly, generating a first board comparison result for the each player based on the identification (130).
A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. A63F1/14 A63F1/00
ADD.

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)
A63F

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, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
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<th>Category</th>
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<td>X</td>
<td>US 5 431 399 A (KELLEY KALON L [US]) 11 July 1995 (1995-07-11) column 1, line 5 - line 42; figures 1-8 column 7, line 9 - page 8, line 28</td>
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<td>WO 2008/058542 A2 (BRIDGE SPINNER APS [DK]; JUST PETER [DK]) 22 May 2008 (2008-05-22) page 6 - page 11, line 8; figures 1-3</td>
<td>1-7, 1-12, 21-32, 49-55, 72-84</td>
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

"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)
"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

Date of the actual completion of the international search
26 May 2011

Date of mailing of the international search report
22/08/2011

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
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Authorized officer
Shmonin, Vladimir

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (April 2005)
<table>
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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

**Box No. 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 No. 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 fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.

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.:

   1-36, 49-87

**Remark on Protest**

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant’s protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant’s protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.
<table>
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<tr>
<td>US 5431399</td>
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<td>US 2010289214 A1</td>
<td>18-11-2010</td>
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This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-36, 49-87

A method for handling cards comprising:
- a) storing a first board data in a dealer memory of a card dealer, the card dealer housing a first deck of cards;
- b) dealing a hand of cards from the first deck of cards in accordance with the first board data using the card dealer, the first board data designating a specific card to each player;
- c) receiving, without shuffling, a plurality of set of cards in the card dealer;
- e) identifying the card played by the each player in each unit of play; and
- f) generating a first board comparison result for the each player based on the identification.

and

A system comprising:
- a) a card dealer having a dealer memory for storing a first board data, the card dealer housing a first deck of cards;
- b) a dealing unit in the card dealer for dealing a hand of cards from the first deck of cards in accordance with the first board data, the first board data designating a specific card to each player;
- c) the dealing unit for receiving, without shuffling, a plurality of set of cards;
- c) a dealer processing unit in the card dealer adapted to identify the card played by the each player in each unit of play;
- d) a processor for generating a first board comparison result for the each player based on the comparison.

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2. claims: 37-46, 88-99

A card dealing method, comprising:
- a) loading a first deck of cards in a card cartridge, the card cartridge being positioned on a spinning core and each card being provided with a readable code;
- b) reading the code of a card from the first deck of the cards and identifying an angular position for the card cartridge, the angular position being defined by the first board data;
- c) rotating the card cartridge by turning the spinning core using a motor, which turns and positions the cartridge at the identified angular positions;
- d) pushing a card from the first deck of cards towards the opening using an impact face, which is moved linearly by a linear motor; and
- e) ejecting the each card in a desired angular position of the card cartridge using a motor driven pressure wheel and a

A card dealer, comprising:
- a) a card cartridge for holding the first deck of cards, the
card cartridge being positioned on a spinning core and each card being provided with a readable code;
b) a first motor for turning and position the card cartridge in a number of angular positions by turning the spinning core;
c) a linear motor for linearly moving an impact face for pushing a card from the first deck of cards towards the opening;
d) a pressure means, driven by a second motor, for ejecting the each card out in a desired angular position of the card cartridge; and

3. claims: 47, 48, 100-103

A method for dealing a hand of cards using a card dealer, comprising:
a) concealingly positioning a card dealer on a platform underneath a table;
b) moving a sliding section of the table from an initial table top position to slide position, thereby creating a table opening;
c) elevating the platform through the table opening to allow the card dealer to be position on top of the table;
d) dealing the deck of cards using the card dealer;
e) moving the platform down the table opening, thereby pulling the card dealer down the table; and
f) closing the table opening by moving the sliding section from the slide position to the table top position, and
An elevator mechanism comprising:
a) a platform underneath a table for concealingly positioning a card dealer;
b) an activation means for moving a sliding section of the table from an initial table top position to slide position, thereby creating a table opening;
c) an elevator means for elevating the platform through the table opening to allow the card dealer to be position on top of the table; and
d) the activation means for moving the platform down the table opening, thereby pulling the card dealer down the table and closing the table opening by moving the sliding section from the slide position to the table top position once the deck of cards have been dealt or
An elevator mechanism comprising:
a) a platform underneath a table for positioning a card dealer with top of the card dealer forming surface of the table and defining a non-dealing position;
b) an elevator means for elevating the platform such that the card dealer is in dealing position for dealing the deck of cards; and
c) the elevator means further moving the card dealer from the dealing position to the non-dealing position once the
4. claims: 104-107

A table with a card dealer essentially in level with surface of the table, comprising:
a) a cavity at the table surface for receiving the card dealer; and
b) the card dealer such that top surface of the card dealer is in level with the table surface.

5. claims: 108-112

A card dealer for dealing a hand of cards, comprising:
a) a surface footprint of each side in the range of 210 to 260 mm;
b) a height in the range of 40mm to 50mm;

6. claims: 113, 114

A card dealer with reduced noise during operation, comprising an insulation layer in surface of housing of the card dealer.

7. claims: 115-121

A card dealer, comprising:
a) a stationary card cartridge for holding a first deck of cards;
b) an impact face adapted to be positioned in different positions such that in each position, the impact face pushes the card towards an opening of the card dealer; and
c) a pressure means for ejecting the each card out in a desired angular position of the card cartridge.
or A card dealer, comprising:
a) a stationary card cartridge for holding a first deck of cards;
b) a plurality of impact faces, each impact face being adapted to push a card towards an opening of the card dealer; and
c) a pressure means for ejecting the each card out in a desired angular position of the card cartridge

8. claims: 122-127

A card dealer, comprising:
a) a card cartridge for holding a first deck of cards;
b) a plurality of openings corresponding to directions in which the card is to be dealt out; and
c) a means for ejecting the card towards an opening of the
plurality of openings of the card dealer such that the card is ejected sequentially towards the opening according to the placement of the cards in the deck.

or a card dealer, comprising:

a) a card cartridge for holding a first deck of cards;

b) a plurality of openings corresponding to directions in which the card is to be dealt out; and

c) a means for ejecting a card towards a first opening of the plurality of openings such that cards corresponding to the first opening are ejected prior to ejecting the cards corresponding to other openings of the plurality of openings.

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