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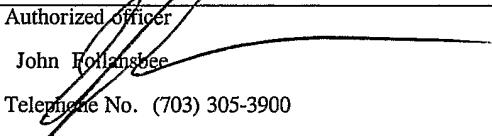
(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR KNOCK NOTIFICATION TO AN UNSOLICITED MESSAGE

(57) Abstract: A system and method is directed to providing a knock notification in response to a message from an unknown sender. The method includes maintaining a data store of message senders that an end-user has identified as an allowed sender. A received message is evaluated to determine whether its sender is an allowed sender. If the sender is an allowed sender, the received message is forwarded to the end-user. If it is determined that the sender is an unknown sender, a knock notification message is generated. In one embodiment, the knock notification message includes the information about the sender and a mechanism to enable the end-user to allow/disallow the sender. If the end-user disallows the sender, the received message is discarded. Information associated with the disallowed sender is included in a data store for disallowed senders. The end-user may review and revise the data stores of allowed and disallowed senders.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(7) : G06F 15/16 US CL : 709/206, 207, 232 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. : 709/206, 207, 232 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) WEST																	
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width:10%;">Category *</th> <th style="width:70%;">Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th> <th style="width:20%;">Relevant to claim No.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td align="center">Y</td> <td>US 2002/0199095 A1 (BANDINI et al) 26 December 2002 (26.12.2002), abstract, [0003]-[0004].</td> <td align="center">1-23</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="center">Y,P</td> <td>US 2003/0220978 A1 (RHODES) 27 November 2003 (27.11.2003), abstract, [0006]-[0014].</td> <td align="center">1-23</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="center">Y,P</td> <td>US 2003/0191969 A1 (KATSIKAS) 09 October 2003 (09.10.2003), abstract, [0005]-[0012].</td> <td align="center">1-23</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="center">Y,P</td> <td>US 2004/0015554 A1 (WILSON) 22 January 2004 (22.01.2004), abstract, [0023]-[0029].</td> <td align="center">1-23</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	Y	US 2002/0199095 A1 (BANDINI et al) 26 December 2002 (26.12.2002), abstract, [0003]-[0004].	1-23	Y,P	US 2003/0220978 A1 (RHODES) 27 November 2003 (27.11.2003), abstract, [0006]-[0014].	1-23	Y,P	US 2003/0191969 A1 (KATSIKAS) 09 October 2003 (09.10.2003), abstract, [0005]-[0012].	1-23	Y,P	US 2004/0015554 A1 (WILSON) 22 January 2004 (22.01.2004), abstract, [0023]-[0029].	1-23
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