METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR PROCESS, FACTORY-FLOOR, ENVIRONMENTAL, COMPUTER AIDED MANUFACTURING-BASED OR OTHER CONTROL SYSTEM WITH REAL-TIME DATA DISTRIBUTION

The invention provides methods and apparatus of workflow definition and data processing (10). The invention further provides a system including one or more applications (12, 14, 16) of the type commercially available and conventionally used for process.

Published: with international search report before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.
## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

### A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
- **IPC(7):** G06F 17/60
- **US CL:** 705/8

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.:** 705/8

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 2.0, CAS ONLINE, DIALOG

### C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>US 5,848,393 A (GOODRIDGE et al) 08 December 1998, see entire document.</td>
<td>1-137</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>US 6,349,287 B1 (HAYASHI) 19 February 2002, see entire document.</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>US 6,073,109 A (FLORES et al) 06 June 2000, see entire document.</td>
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Date of the actual completion of the international search: 05 March 2004 (05.03.2004)

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