

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
10 November 2005 (10.11.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/106751 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G06F 17/60**

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2005/014049

(22) International Filing Date: 22 April 2005 (22.04.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
10/832,410 26 April 2004 (26.04.2004) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **ELSTER ELECTRICITY LLC.** [US/US]; 208 South Rogers Lane, Raleigh, NC 27606 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **BORLESKE, Andrew, J.** [US/US]; 142 Roan Drive, Garner, NC 27529 (US). **SCOGGINS, Sean, M.** [US/US]; 1406 Lyon Street, Raleigh, NC (US). **UY, David** [US/US]; 5409 Tryon Road, Raleigh, NC 27606 (US).

(74) Agents: **SAMUELS, Steven, B.** et al.; Woodcock Washburn LLP., One Liberty Place - 46th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19103 (US).

(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, KM, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, 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.

(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).

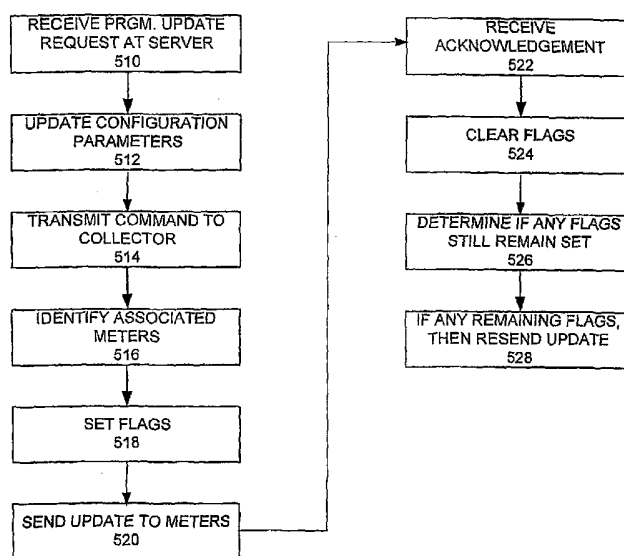
Published:

- 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

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
6 April 2006

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR EFFICIENT CONFIGURATION IN A FIXED NETWORK AUTOMATED METER READING SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: Meters are configured using either a program update method for a meter update method. In the program update method, meters associated with a specified configuration program are identified and configured with updated parameters [512]. In the meter update method, a specified set of meters is configured with a specified set of updated configuration parameters. The meter update method enables both time of use and other configuration parameters to be updated. Both methods enable various actions to be performed in conjunction with a meter configuration. Such actions may include, for example, recording a snapshot of current billing data, resetting billing data, and resetting demand data.

WO 2005/106751 A3



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

International application No.

PCT/US05/14049

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G08C 17/00

US CL : 340/870.02, 870.03, 870.07, 870.11, 310.11; 702/62; 324/142, 113

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. : 340/870.02, 870.03, 870.07, 870.11, 310.11; 702/62; 324/142, 113

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)
EAST

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6,199,068 B1 (CARPENTER) 06 March 2001 (06.03.2001), column 42 line 66 to column 43 line 10; and whole document.	1-41
Y	US 4,811,011 A (SOLLINGER) 07 March 1989 (07.03.1989), column 2, lines 38-45.	1-41
Y	US 5,525,898 A (LEE, Jr. et al.) 11 June 1996 (11.06.1996), column 5, lines 1-10.	1-41
Y	US 6,396,839 B1 (ARDALAN et al) 28 May 2002 (28.5.2002), column 3, lines 9-14.	42-44 and 46



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



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

"E" 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

11 December 2005 (11.12.2005)

Date of mailing of the international search report

24 JAN 2006

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201

Authorized officer

Michael Horabik

Telephone No. 12/11/2005