



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

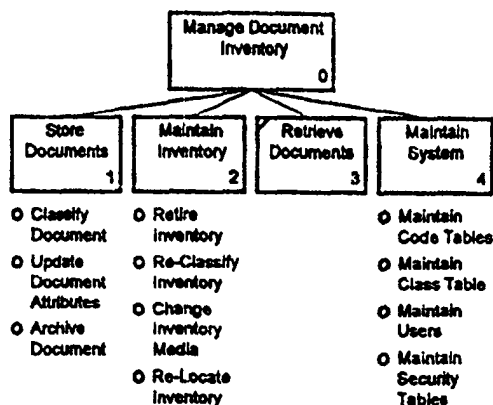
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<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/17004 (22) International Filing Date: 22 September 1997 (22.09.97) (30) Priority Data: 08/717,897 23 September 1996 (23.09.96) US (71)(72) Applicant and Inventor: MCINTOSH, Lowrie [US/US]; Suite 270, 709 East Colorado Boulevard, Pasadena, CA 91101 (US). (74) Agents: HYMAN, Eric, S. et al.; Blakely, Sokoloff, Taylor & Zafman, 7th floor, 12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026 (US).</p>	<p>(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AT (Utility model), AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, CZ (Utility model), DE, DE (Utility model), DK, DK (Utility model), EE, EE (Utility model), ES, FI, FI (Utility model), GB, GE, GH, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK (Utility model), SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</p> <p>Published <i>With international search report.</i></p> <p>(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 16 July 1998 (16.07.98)</p>
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(54) Title: DEFINING A UNIFORM SUBJECT CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM INCORPORATING DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT/RECORDS RETENTION FUNCTIONS

(57) Abstract

Uniform classification of a subject is accomplished by using generic terminology organized into a hierarchical structure. The system captures acronyms, vernacular and industry-specific, as well as foreign terms, into a thesaurus that can be modified and appended to as classification needs change. The system "learns" as synonyms are added to "family groups", capturing differences in individual perception. Searching for the location of an object is accomplished by entering a descriptive term. If the entry term does not find a match in the "generic structure", the system will look for a matching synonym. By arranging the "generic terms" in a classified format, a single location is provided for each record series and enables linking all relevant administrative document management functions and legal retention requirements.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US97/17004

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(6) :G06F 17/30
US CL :707/1,102,202-204

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. : 707/1,102

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 Extra Sheet.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y,P	US 5,634,130 A (THOMSON) 27 MAY 1997, see the abstract and Figs. 1, 3 and 5.	1-11
Y,E	US 5,689,699 A (HOWELL et al.) 18 NOVEMBER 1997, see the whole document.	1-11
Y	US 5,107,419 A (MACPHAIL) 21 APRIL 1992, see the whole document.	1-11
Y	US 4,899,299 A (MACPHAIL) 06 FEBRUARY 1990, see the whole document.	1-11
Y,P	US 5,655,130 A (DODGE et al.) 05 AUGUST 1997, see the whole document.	3,5,6
A	US 5,369,763 A (BILES) 29 NOVEMBER 1994, see the whole document.	1-11

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

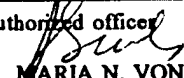
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US97/17004

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,423,034 A (COHEN-LEVY et al.) 06 JUNE 1995, see the whole document.	11
Y,P	US 5,630,125 A (ZELLWEGER) 13 MAY 1997, see the whole document.	1-11
Y	US 5,204,812 A (KASIRAJ et al.) 20 APRIL 1993, see the whole document.	1-11

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US97/17004

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Electronic data bases consulted (Name of data base and where practicable terms used):

APS, DIALOG

(search terms: classes, classification, codes, documents, objects, retention criteria, expiration, records, data structures, hierarchy, indexing)