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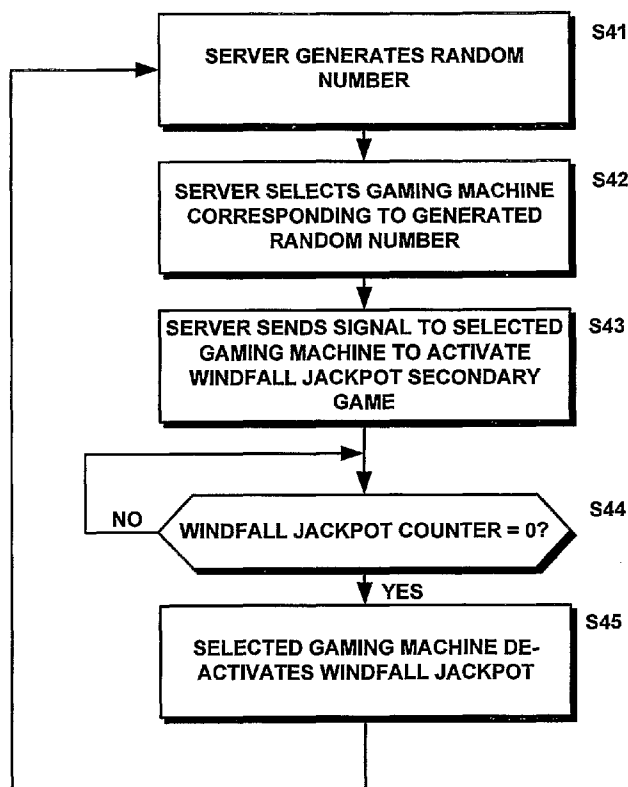
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: IMPLEMENTING A SECONDARY GAME ACROSS A PLURALITY OF GAMING MACHINES



(57) Abstract: A method of operating a plurality of networked gaming machines in which each of the plurality of networked gaming machines is configured to enable a same or a different primary game to be played, may include steps of selecting a gaming machine of the plurality of gaming machines; activating a secondary game on the selected gaming machine for a limited period of time and generating a player-perceptible indication that the secondary game is active on the selected gaming machine. When the limited period of time has elapsed, a step of de-activating the secondary game on the selected gaming machine may be carried out, whereupon the method may revert to the selecting step. The secondary game appears to the players on the casino floor as a roving and unpredictable opportunity to win additional prizes or bonus, or to be able to enter large outcome games.



European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, 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).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

USPC: 463/20

IPC(8): A63F 9/24, 13/00; G06F 17/00, 19/00 (2007.01)

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)

USPC: 463/20

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

USPC: 463/16-22; 705/1,14,28,35,37,39; 725/61,109,114-116 text word limited see below

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

USPTO WEST (PGPB,USPT,USOC,EPAB,JPAB); google.com

Search terms: network, networked, server, central, primary, secondary, tertiary, casino

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6,375,567 B1 (Acres) 23 April 2002 (23.04.2002), entire document, esp. figure 2.	1-67
Y	US 2004/0072608 A1 (Toyoda) 15 April 2004 (15.04.2004), [0134].	1-67
Y	US 6,368,216 B1 (Hedrick et al.) 09 April 2002 (09.04.2002), Abstract.	14, 51, 66-67

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