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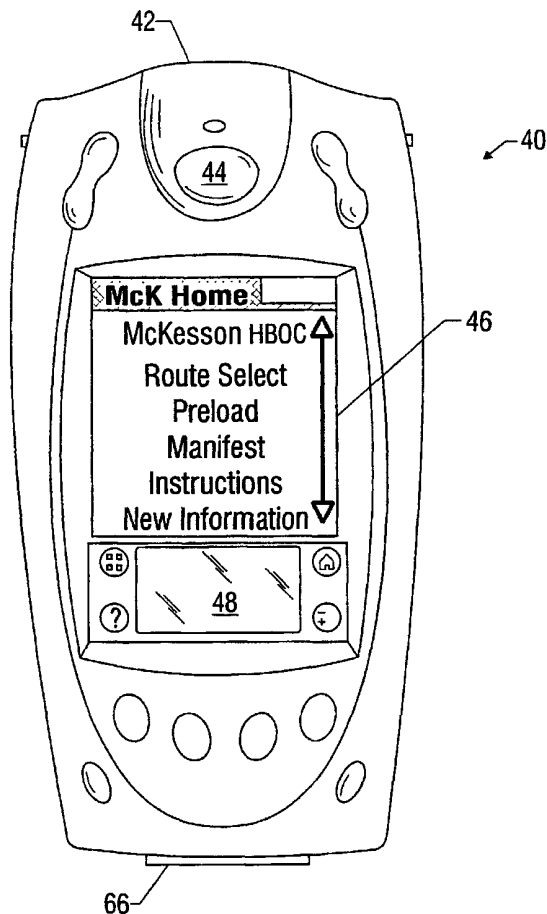
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A distribution system for transferring a plurality of items from a distribution center to a customer includes a delivery device (40) and a retail device (300). The delivery device (40) identifies the items and maintains a delivery record of a transfer of the items from the distribution center to the customer. The retail device identifies the items and maintains a receipt record of the transfer of the items. Upon identifying the item, the delivery device displays a description of the item on a display screen (46). The delivery device identifies the items with a barcode scanner. The delivery device also includes a data entry apparatus to enter customer information, such as an electronically captured signature, into the delivery record.



WO 01/93435 A3



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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US CL : 705/ 28, 16

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/ 16-29; 235/462.43; 345/348

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)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,930,770 A (EDGAR) 27 July 1999 (27.07.1999), see the entire document.	1-26
Y	US 5,334,822 A (SANFORD) 02 August 1994 (02.08.1994), see the entire document.	1-26
A	US 5,262,940 A (SUSSMAN) 16 November 1993 (16.11.1993), see the entire document.	1, 17, 26
A	US 5,319,544 A (SCHMERER et al.) 07 June 1994 (07.06.1994), see the entire document.	1, 17, 26
A	US 6,023,147 A (CARGIN, JR. et al.) 08 February 2000 (08.02.2000), see the entire document.	1, 17, 26
A	US 6,148,291 A (RADICAN) 14 November 2000 (14.11.2000), see the entire document.	1, 17, 26

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

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"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
"E" earlier document published on or after the international filing date	"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
"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)	"A"	document member of the same patent family
"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		

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A, P	US 6,182,053 B1 (RAUBER et al.) 30 January 2001 (30.01.2001), see the entire document.	1, 17, 26