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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

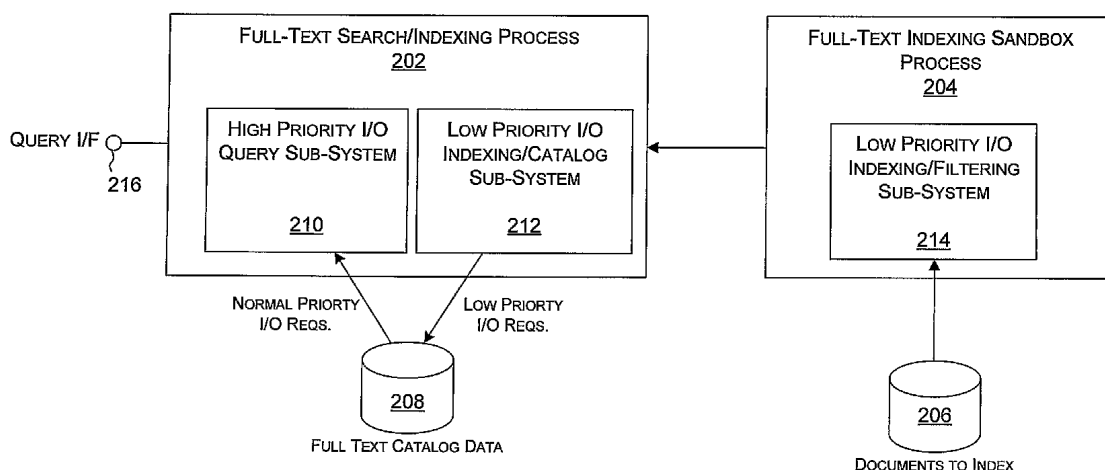
- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

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(54) Title: BACK-OFF MECHANISM FOR SEARCH



(57) Abstract: Indexing documents is performed using low priority I/O requests (Figure 2, 212). This aspect can be implemented in systems having an operating system that supports at least two priority levels for I/O requests to its filing system (Figure 2, 202). Low priority I/O requests can be used for accessing documents to be indexed (Figure 2, 212). Low priority I/O requests can also be used for writing information into the index (Figure 2, 212). Higher priority requests can be used for I/O requests to access the index in response queries from a user (Figure 2, 210) I/O request priority can be set on a per-thread basis as opposed to being set on a per-process basis (which may generate two or more threads for which it may be desirable to assign different priorities) (Figure 2).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US05/27202

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: G06F 17/30(2006.01)

USPC: 707/1,10,100,104.1,201

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, 10, 100, 104.1, 201

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 Database 1.03 (USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM TDB)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2002/0052913 (Yamada et al.) 2 May 2002 (02.05.2002) paragraph [0035], lines 6-7, paragraph [0151].	1-20
Y	US 6,233,571 (Egger et al.) 15 May 2001 (15.05.2001) col. 3, line 66 and col. 24, lines 25-31.	1, 4, 5, 13, 16, 17
Y	US 6,658,447 (COTA-ROBLES) 2 DECEMBER 2003 (02.12.2003) COL.2, 55-64, COL. 8, 11-19.	6, 7, 12, 14, 18, and 19

☐ 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

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"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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"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

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document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

03 March 2008 (03.03.2008)

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