

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
27 September 2007 (27.09.2007)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2007/107888 A3**

(51) International Patent Classification:  
**H05B 6/06** (2006.01) **H05B 6/12** (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/IB2007/050332

(22) International Filing Date: 31 January 2007 (31.01.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
11/388,142 23 March 2006 (23.03.2006) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **ACCESS BUSINESS GROUP INTERNATIONAL LLC** [US/US]; 7575 Fulton Street East, Ada, Michigan 49355 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **BAARMAN, David W.** [US/US]; 6414 127th Avenue, Fennville, Michigan 49408 (US). **LORD, John J.** [US/US]; 3106 Hazlett Road, Springfield, Illinois 62707 (US). **STIEN, Nathan P.** [US/US]; 127 E. Hines Place Apt. B4, Peoria, Illinois 61614 (US). **BACHMAN, Wesley J.** [US/US]; 48 Sugar Creek Hills, Auburn, Illinois 62615 (US).

(74) Agents: **DANI, William P.** et al.; Warner Norcross & Judd LLP, 900 Fifth Third Center, 111 Lyon Street NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503 (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, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

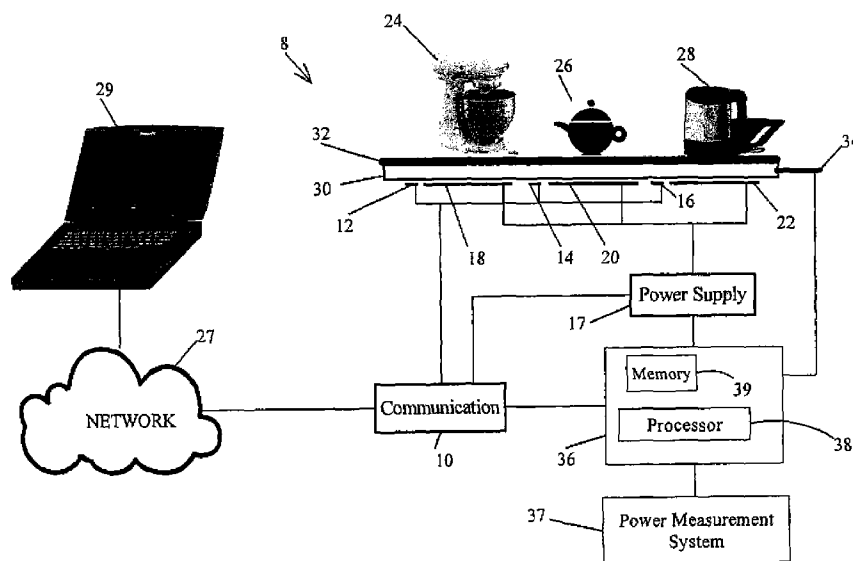
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, 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).

Published:

— with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR FOOD PREPARATION



(57) Abstract: A food preparation system includes a non-contact power supply for energizing a cooking appliance. The food preparation system includes a communication system for enabling communication between a food appliance and the system. The appliance transmits an identifier to the system. If the appliance does not have a transmitter, the system attempts to determine the type of appliance from a characterization of the power consumption by the appliance. If the appliance cannot be characterized, the food preparation system can be operated manually.

WO 2007/107888 A3



— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

*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.*

**(88) Date of publication of the international search report:**

13 December 2007

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/IB2007/050332

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
 INV. H05B6/06 H05B6/12

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)  
 H05B F24C

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 practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages                                                         | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| X         | US 2005/247696 A1 (CLOTHIER BRIAN L [US])<br>10 November 2005 (2005-11-10)                                                                 | 1-3                   |
| Y         | pages 26,28,29; figure 1                                                                                                                   | 14                    |
| X         | DE 195 02 935 A1 (EGO ELEKTRO BLANC &<br>FISCHER [DE]) 1 August 1996 (1996-08-01)<br>column 5, line 48 - column 6, line 16;<br>figures 1,2 | 1,3,4                 |
| X         | DE 44 39 095 A1 (KOZITZKI KLAUS [DE])<br>9 May 1996 (1996-05-09)<br>column 2, line 62 - column 3, line 8;<br>figure                        | 1,3                   |
| X         | WO 01/19141 A (THERMAL SOLUTIONS INC [US];<br>CLOTHIER BRIAN L [US])<br>15 March 2001 (2001-03-15)<br>abstract; figure 1                   | 1,3                   |
|           | -----<br>-/--                                                                                                                              |                       |

☒ 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 document but 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.

\*G\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

17 September 2007

Date of mailing of the international search report

01/10/2007

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Gea Haupt, Martin

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

 International application No  
 PCT/IB2007/050332

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages                                                                                   | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| X         | US 2004/149736 A1 (CLOTHIER BRIAN L [US])<br>5 August 2004 (2004-08-05)<br>paragraph [0039] - paragraph [0041];<br>figure 1                                          | 1,3                   |
| X         | JP 06 020766 A (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO<br>LTD) 28 January 1994 (1994-01-28)                                                                                      | 6                     |
| Y         | abstract; figure 1                                                                                                                                                   | 8,9                   |
| X         | WO 2005/072013 A (BSH BOSCH SIEMENS<br>HAUSGERAETE [DE]; ECKHARD WOLFGANG [DE];<br>NEUMAYER DA) 4 August 2005 (2005-08-04)<br>paragraphs [0017], [0019]; figures 1,2 | 6,7                   |
| X         | WO 2005/018282 A (BSH BOSCH SIEMENS<br>HAUSGERAETE [DE]; ECKHARD WOLFGANG [DE];<br>KOMMA THOMA) 24 February 2005 (2005-02-24)                                        | 6,7                   |
| Y         | page 7 - page 9; figure 1                                                                                                                                            | 14                    |
| X         | US 3 761 668 A (HARDEN J ET AL)<br>25 September 1973 (1973-09-25)                                                                                                    | 6,7                   |
| Y         | column 6, line 58 - column 7, line 11;<br>figure 6                                                                                                                   | 8                     |
| X         | EP 0 394 148 A (CABLECO SA [FR]; CHARVET<br>JEAN ETS [FR])<br>24 October 1990 (1990-10-24)<br>column 3, line 45 - column 4, line 10;<br>figure 1                     | 6,7                   |
| X         | EP 0 804 051 A (HIDEC CO LTD [JP])<br>29 October 1997 (1997-10-29)<br>column 11, line 5 - line 19                                                                    | 6                     |
| X         | JP 10 165294 A (ZOJIRUSHI CORP)<br>23 June 1998 (1998-06-23)                                                                                                         | 6                     |
| Y         | abstract; figure 1                                                                                                                                                   | 9                     |

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/IB2007/050332

## Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

### Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210**

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-5,18-21

Independent claim 1 relates to a food preparation system comprising a power supply, a first inductive primary, a processor for controlling the power supply and a communication system enabling communication between the processor and a food preparation appliance. Independent claim 18 relates to a method for using such a system.

---

2. claims: 6-13

Independent claim 6 relates to a food preparation appliance comprising an appliance control.

---

3. claims: 14-17

Independent claim 14 relates to a food preparation appliance intermediary comprising an inductive secondary, a transceiver and a memory.

---

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/IB2007/050332

| Patent document<br>cited in search report | Publication<br>date | Patent family<br>member(s)                                                                                                                                                                | Publication<br>date                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| US 2005247696 A1                          | 10-11-2005          | NONE                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                        |
| DE 19502935 A1                            | 01-08-1996          | EP 0725556 A2                                                                                                                                                                             | 07-08-1996                                                                                                                                             |
| DE 4439095 A1                             | 09-05-1996          | NONE                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                        |
| WO 0119141 A                              | 15-03-2001          | AT 334568 T<br>AU 7477100 A<br>CA 2384169 A1<br>CN 1387743 A<br>DE 60029600 T2<br>EP 1212925 A1<br>ES 2269179 T3<br>HK 1052433 A1<br>JP 2003529184 T<br>US 6320169 B1<br>US 2002008632 A1 | 15-08-2006<br>10-04-2001<br>15-03-2001<br>25-12-2002<br>26-07-2007<br>12-06-2002<br>01-04-2007<br>08-04-2005<br>30-09-2003<br>20-11-2001<br>24-01-2002 |
| US 2004149736 A1                          | 05-08-2004          | CA 2514235 A1<br>EP 1588586 A2<br>JP 2006517334 T<br>WO 2004071131 A2                                                                                                                     | 19-08-2004<br>26-10-2005<br>20-07-2006<br>19-08-2004                                                                                                   |
| JP 6020766 A                              | 28-01-1994          | JP 3198628 B2                                                                                                                                                                             | 13-08-2001                                                                                                                                             |
| WO 2005072013 A                           | 04-08-2005          | CN 1910959 A<br>DE 102004003119 A1<br>EP 1709837 A1                                                                                                                                       | 07-02-2007<br>11-08-2005<br>11-10-2006                                                                                                                 |
| WO 2005018282 A                           | 24-02-2005          | EP 1661436 A1                                                                                                                                                                             | 31-05-2006                                                                                                                                             |
| US 3761668 A                              | 25-09-1973          | CA 953791 A1                                                                                                                                                                              | 27-08-1974                                                                                                                                             |
| EP 0394148 A                              | 24-10-1990          | CA 2014707 A1<br>FR 2646049 A1<br>JP 2299192 A<br>US 4996405 A                                                                                                                            | 18-10-1990<br>19-10-1990<br>11-12-1990<br>26-02-1991                                                                                                   |
| EP 0804051 A                              | 29-10-1997          | CN 1170847 A<br>TW 385621 B<br>US 5821507 A                                                                                                                                               | 21-01-1998<br>21-03-2000<br>13-10-1998                                                                                                                 |
| JP 10165294 A                             | 23-06-1998          | JP 3258247 B2                                                                                                                                                                             | 18-02-2002                                                                                                                                             |