

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
4 May 2006 (04.05.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2006/047657 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
G06F 7/04 (2006.01) *H04L 9/32* (2006.01)
G06F 17/30 (2006.01)

J., Jr. [US/US]; 11707 South Beechwood Road, Leavenworth, IN 47137 (US).

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2005/038695

(74) Agents: **MICHAELIS, Brian, L.**, et al.; Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP, One Financial Center, Boston, MA 02111 (US).

(22) International Filing Date: 25 October 2005 (25.10.2005)

(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, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/621,799 25 October 2004 (25.10.2004) US

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): **NALPE-IRON** [GB/GB]; 44 Market Square, Witney Oxon, OX 28 6AJ (GB).

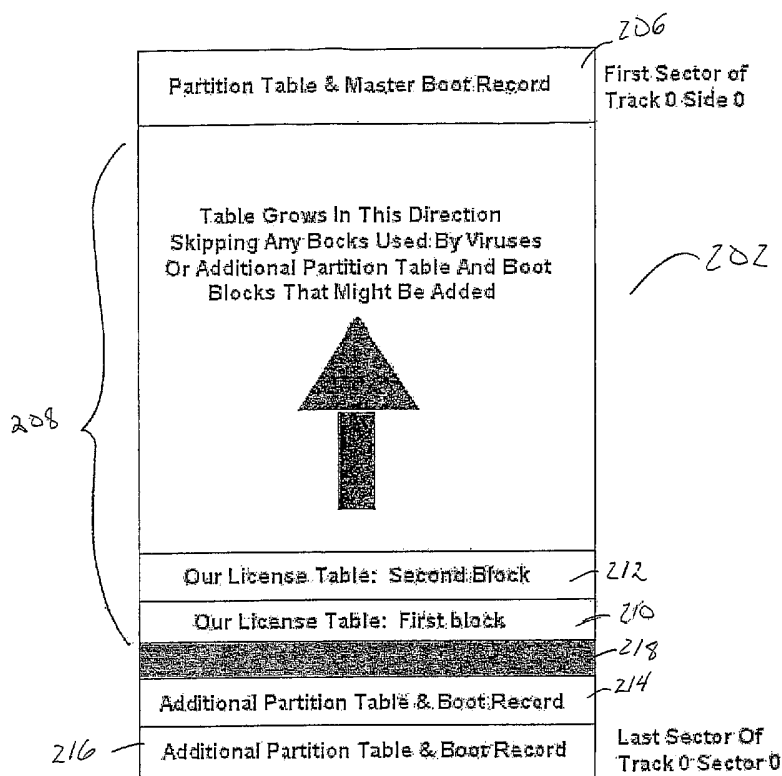
(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (*for US only*): **ROBERTS, Henry,**

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD OF AUTHENTICATING LICENSED COMPUTER PROGRAMS



Empty Blocks are designated by:

(57) Abstract: A system and method for authorizing access to programs and data on a computer system is disclosed. A license table contains entries for identifying programs that are authorized to be run on the computer system. The license table is stored in an area of the computer's hard disk that is not affected by disk operations and can not be accessed or modified by computer users. The license table entries are encoded to contain verifying information which is not based on the hardware upon which the program is installed. The license entries also contain usage restriction information to be decoded upon license verification.



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

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
26 October 2006

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.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US05/38695

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: **G06F 7/04**(2006.01),**17/30**(2006.01);**H04L 9/32**(2006.01)

USPC: 726/4,30

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. : 726/4,30

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.
X	US 5,671,412 (CHRISTIANO) 23 September 1997 (23.9.1997), abstract; col. 1, lines 15-35;	1, 4, 6
---	col. 3, lines 20-54; col. 4, lines 58-67; col. 6, lines 19-59; col. 6, line 60-col. 7, line 30; col.	-----
Y	7, lines 50-67; col. 8, lines 46-56; col. 9, lines 1-27; col. 10, lines 25-52; col. 18, line 62-col.	2-3, 5
	19, line 11.	
Y	US 5,113,518 (DURST, Jr. et al) 12 May 1992 (12.05.1992); Abstract; col. 1, lines 44-54;	2
	col. 3, lines 13-25; col. 5, lines 36-52; col. 7, lines 54-67; col. 19, lines 47-60; col. 21, lines	
Y	US 2002/0107809 A1 (BIDDLE et al) 08 August 2002 (08.08.2002), [0070].	3, 5

☐ 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	"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
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"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
"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)	"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
"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	"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

09 August 2006 (09.08.2006)

Date of mailing of the international search report

05 SEP 2006

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201

Authorized officer *Lisa Van*

Gilberto Barron

Telephone No. 571-272-

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US05/38695

Box No. 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 No. 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:
Please See Continuation 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 additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fees.
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.: 1-6

- Remark on Protest**
- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| ☐ | The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee. |
| ☐ | The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation. |
| ☐ | No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees. |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US05/38695

BOX III. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be examined, the appropriate additional examination fees must be paid.

Group I, claims 1-6, drawn to a method for protecting the use of a program by searching a license table to determine whether the program is a licensed copy.

Group II, claims 7-10, drawn to a system for authentication of a protected computer program by comparing a key to a license identifier.

Group III, claims 11-20, drawn to a method for authorizing the use of a protected computer program by matching two keys together.

The inventions listed as Groups I, II and III do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The special technical features of each group is not required by any other group.