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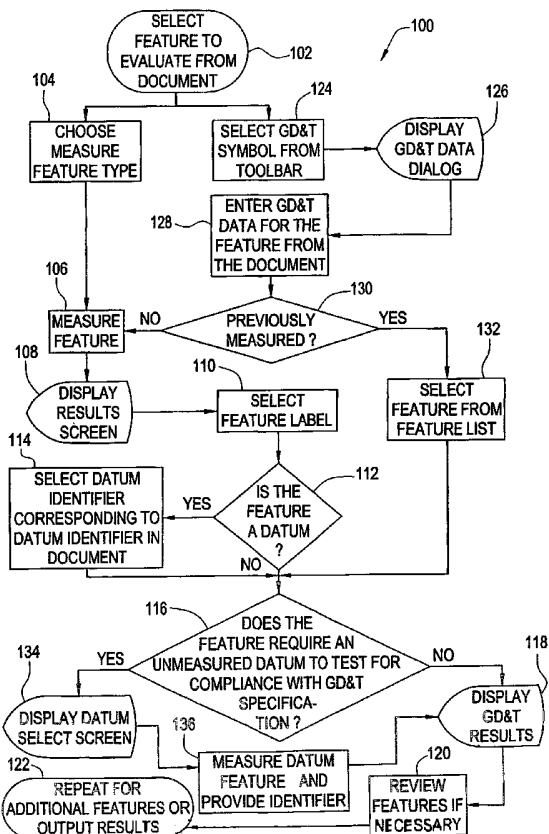
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(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ASSISTING A USER TAKING MEASUREMENTS USING A COORDINATE MEASUREMENT MACHINE



(57) Abstract: A method and system for testing a target object for compliance with existing geometric dimension and tolerance requirements comprises: measuring a selected feature of the target and entering the existing geometric dimension and tolerance requirements into a user interface. Entering includes selecting an icon containing a graphic symbol representative of a geometric dimension and tolerance characteristic.

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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*
- *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*

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

Intern	Application No
PCT/US 02/36996	

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 G01B5/008 G01B11/03 G01B21/04 G05B19/401

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)
 IPC 7 G01B G05B

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, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 01 29624 A (BSIS INC) 26 April 2001 (2001-04-26)	1-11, 17-23, 27,28
A	page 5, line 23 -page 8, line 30 page 10, line 8-13 page 16, line 18-20; figures 2,3	12-16, 24-26
X	US 4 918 627 A (JOHNSON KEITH A ET AL) 17 April 1990 (1990-04-17)	1-11, 17-23, 27,28
A	column 4, line 17 -column 5, line 24; claims 16,22,26; figures 1-3	12-16, 24-26
A	US 5 465 221 A (DELVALLE ROBERT B ET AL) 7 November 1995 (1995-11-07) the whole document	1-28

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

<p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"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)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>"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</p> <p>"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</p> <p>"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.</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p>
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Date of the actual completion of the international search 12 June 2003	Date of mailing of the international search report 26.06.03
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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 Beyfuß, M
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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	EP 1 136 897 A (FARO TECHNOLOGIES) 26 September 2001 (2001-09-26) paragraphs '0016!-'0042!; figures 3-16 ---	1-28
A	US 5 198 990 A (FARZAN FARSHAD ET AL) 30 March 1993 (1993-03-30) column 3, line 35 -column 9, line 68; figures 1-5 ---	1-28
A	US 2001/040995 A1 (ARIGA KOZO ET AL) 15 November 2001 (2001-11-15) paragraphs '0052!-'0068!; figures 3-8 ---	1-28
A	US 5 440 478 A (CLARK II MARK ET AL) 8 August 1995 (1995-08-08) column 3, line 63 -column 7, line 17; figures 1-4 -----	1-28

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US 02/36996

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 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 II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 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: 1-11,17-23,27,28

Testing a target object for compliance with geometric dimension and tolerance requirements, comprising measuring an object feature and entering the dimension and tolerance requirements in a user interface, wherein the entering comprises selecting an icon containing a graphic symbol representative of the dimension and tolerance characteristic.

2. Claims: 12-16,24-26

Testing a target object for compliance with geometric dimension and tolerance requirements, comprising entering the dimension and tolerance requirements and defining a tolerance zone for a first feature that depends on a position of a second feature, said entering comprising selecting a dimensioning and tolerance characteristic that relates said first feature to said second feature, setting a tolerance amount defining a size of said tolerance zone, and selecting a datum identifier thereby designating said second feature as a reference to locate said tolerance zone.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern:	Application No
	PCT/US 02/36996

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