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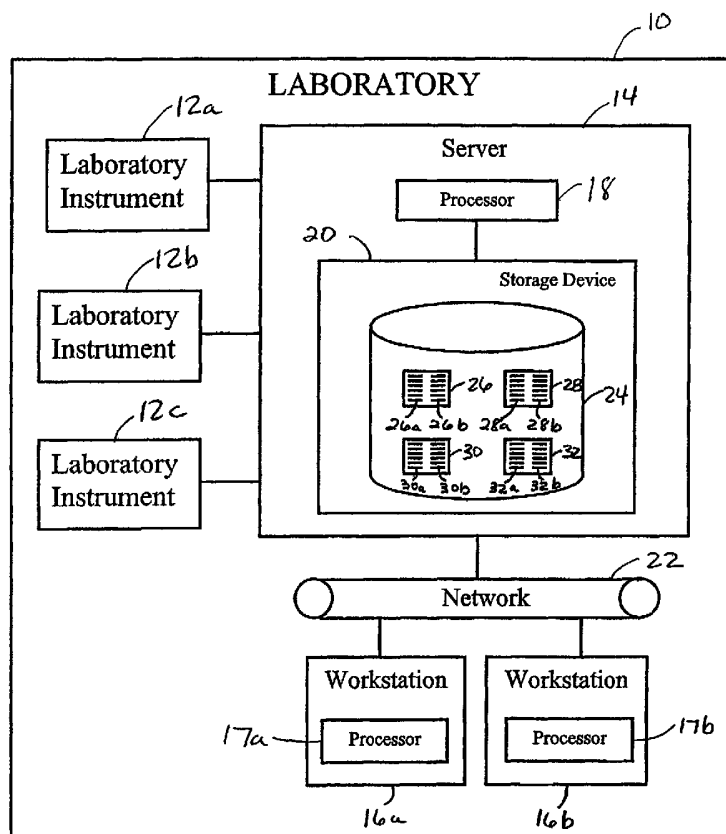
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR IMPLEMENTING QUALITY CONTROL RULES FORMULATED IN
ACCORDANCE WITH A QUALITY CONTROL RULE GRAMMAR



(57) Abstract: A system and method that enables the implementation of quality control rules formulated in accordance with a quality control rule grammar. The system comprises a storage device (20) and a processor (18) operable to maintain in the storage device (20) a database (24) identifying a plurality of laboratory tests and corresponding quality control rules. The processor (18) is also operable to receive a quality control rule for a specified laboratory test, wherein the quality control rule is expressed in accordance with a quality control rule grammar. The processor (18) is further operable to transfer the quality control rule to the database (24) for storage in relation to the specified laboratory test. Various exemplary embodiments of the system and associated method are provided.



FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI,
SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ,
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/19761

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G06F 17/00

US CL : 706/47

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. : 706/47

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)

Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6,446,045 B1 (STONE et al) 03 September 2002, abstract and figure 1a.	1-41
A, E	US 6,829,587 B2 (STONE et al) 07 December 2004, abstract and figure 1a.	1-41

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

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Continuation of B. *FIELDS SEARCHED* Item 3:

IEEE, EAST

Search Terms: quality, control, grammar, rules