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(54) Title: METHODS AND SYSTEMS OF PROVIDING INFORMATION TO COMPUTER USERS

(57) Abstract: Methods and systems of providing information to computer users are described. In one embodiment, a user interface is provided having a display area that permits a user to accomplish various tasks. Individual tasks can be associated with individual different functionalities which can enable the user to accomplish tasks in different user contexts, e.g. word processing tasks, email tasks, web browsing tasks and the like. The different tasks can advantageously pertain to different content types or document types. When a user is working within a particular context, they can view quick links that are associated with one or more of the different contexts without having to change their particular context. By clicking on a quick link, the user then can automatically navigate to the context associated with the quick link so that they can then accomplish context-specific tasks. Advantageously, the various functionalities or contexts can be provided by a single application program that also manages the user's navigation activities to and between the different functionalities. In various embodiments, a user can select from among a number of different algorithms that are deployable across different content types and which affect which quick links are displayed.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US 01/15226

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	JAN-HENRICK HAUKELAND: "Tsbiff - tildeslash biff -- version 1.2.1" INTERNET DOCUMENT, [Online] June 1999 (1999-06), XP002215714 Retrieved from the Internet: <URL:http://web.archive.org/web/1999091200 1527/http://www.tildeslash.com/tsbiff/> [retrieved on 2002-10-02] -----	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

international application No.
PCT/US 01/15226

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.:
1-3, 22-24, 32-38, 41-44, 51

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: 1-3,22-24,32-38,41-44,51

Providing links to other working contexts

2. Claims: 4, 15-21,53-58

Displaying user-configurable indicia associated to links

3. Claims: 6,7

Determining links according to user behaviour

4. Claims: 8,52

Providing means to allow the user to switch back and forth different contexts

5. Claims: 10-14,27-31,45-50,59-68

Providing user selectable algorithms to display links

6. Claims: 25,26,39,40

Providing dynamically changing links