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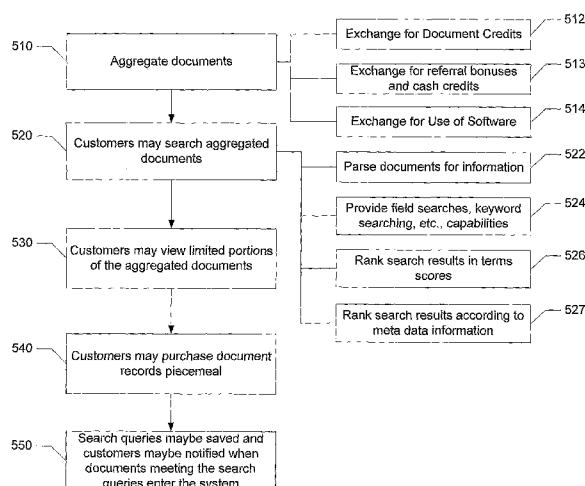
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(57) Abstract: A method of and system for collecting data from multiple sources and improving the ranking and matching of documents based on meta data obtained during data collection, sorting and review processes is disclosed. Incentives are provided to contributors in exchange for data/documents that have been acquired by such contributors. The incentives may include, inter alia, licenses to use certain software applications that facilitate the collection of documents from a number of means and collect Meta Data about the collected documents. Contributed documents are then aggregated into one or more online databases. Customers are able to perform multi-criteria ranked searches in the databases and "preview" a ranked set of documents that meet the search criteria. Customers may then purchase the individual documents they deem appropriate. The ranking of the search results may be impacted by the Meta Data collected through the use of the provided software applications.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC: G06Q 99/00(2006.01) USPC: 705/1 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. : 705/1 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 5,758,324 (Hartman et al) 26.May.1998 (26.05.1998) whole document	1-5, 8-16, 18, 19-22
Y	US 6,662,194 B1 (Joao) 09 Dec. 2003 (09.12.2003) Col. 17	6-7, 17
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