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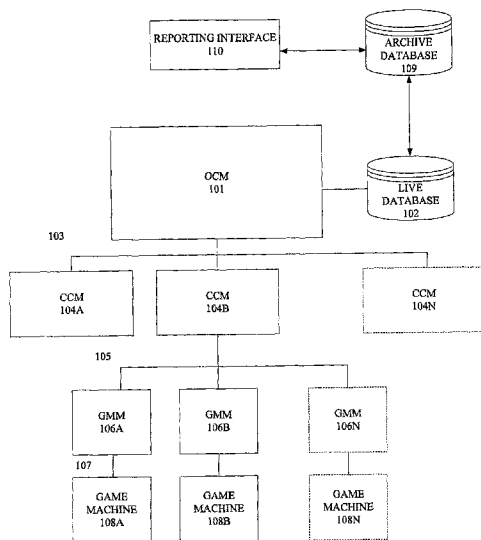
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(54) Title: MULTI-AREA PROGRESSIVE GAMING SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: The system provides a control and management solution for linked gaming machines in a progressive game environment. The system can track multiple meters so that multiple progressive jackpots can be maintained for each game and/or for multiple participating business entities sharing in game revenue. Correspondingly, multiple progressive display meters can be controlled for each game machine. The system is scalable from near area progressive systems to wide area progressive systems. In the event that communication is lost with in a wide area progressive environment, one or more game machines may automatically switch to near area progressive behavior until communication is restored. The system is independent of currency and denomination limitations by employing and converting currency as units instead of particular denominations. Game machine population and participation can be remotely managed, updated, and changed from a central management location.

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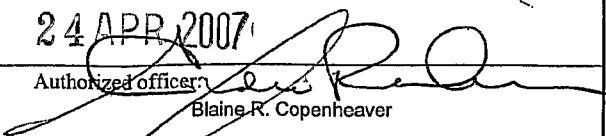
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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<p>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(8) - G07F 17/32 (2007.01) USPC - 463/27 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC</p>																														
<p>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</p> <p>Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC(8) - G07F 17/32D, 17/32; G01S 5/00 (2007.01) USPC - 463/27, 29, 42, 31, 16</p> <p>Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched</p> <p>Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) MicroPatent</p>																														
<p>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category*</th> <th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th> <th>Relevant to claim No.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>X ---</td> <td rowspan="2">US 2003/0060283 A1 (ROWE) 27 March 2003 (27.03.2003) Paragraphs 0039, 0005; claim 8</td> <td>1, 8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>2-7, 9-21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X ---</td> <td rowspan="2">US 5,249,800 A (HILGENDORF et al) 05 October 1993 (05.10.1993) claim 1</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>23-25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>US 6,319,125 B1 (ACRES) 20 November 2001 (20.11.2001) entire document</td> <td>2-6, 9-13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>US 5,885,158 A (TORANGO et al) 23 March 1999 (23.03.1999) entire document</td> <td>2, 3, 7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>US 2003/0130039 A1 (NELSON) 10 July 2003 (10.07.2003) entire document</td> <td>14-21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>US 2003/0054881 A1 (HEDRICK et al) 20 March 2003 (20.03.2003) entire document</td> <td>20, 23-25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>US 2004/0229684 A1 (BLACKBURN et al) 18 November 2004 (18.11.2004) paragraph 0081</td> <td>21</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	X ---	US 2003/0060283 A1 (ROWE) 27 March 2003 (27.03.2003) Paragraphs 0039, 0005; claim 8	1, 8	Y	2-7, 9-21	X ---	US 5,249,800 A (HILGENDORF et al) 05 October 1993 (05.10.1993) claim 1	22	Y	23-25	Y	US 6,319,125 B1 (ACRES) 20 November 2001 (20.11.2001) entire document	2-6, 9-13	Y	US 5,885,158 A (TORANGO et al) 23 March 1999 (23.03.1999) entire document	2, 3, 7	Y	US 2003/0130039 A1 (NELSON) 10 July 2003 (10.07.2003) entire document	14-21	Y	US 2003/0054881 A1 (HEDRICK et al) 20 March 2003 (20.03.2003) entire document	20, 23-25	Y	US 2004/0229684 A1 (BLACKBURN et al) 18 November 2004 (18.11.2004) paragraph 0081	21
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<p>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</p>		<p>Authorized officer:  Blaine R. Copenheaver PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300 PCT OSP: 571-272-7774</p>																												