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(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING MULTIPLE LEVELS OF HELP INFORMATION FOR A COMPUTER PROGRAM

(57) Abstract: A method and system for providing help information for a computer program. The help system provides help information based on a schema that specifies the structure of a valid computer program. The schema provides definitions of program element types that are specific instances of a program element type derived from more general program element types. The help system identifies a "derivation" of program element types relating to the selected program element. The help system then displays the derivation to the user. The user can then select to display documentation associated with the displayed program element types.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/18308

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G06F 9/44

US CL : 717/123

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. : 717/123 717/106;715/705,713,709

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.
X	US 2002/0091990 A1 (Little et al.) 11 July 2002, see Little Figure 1-28.	15-21
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Y		1-14 and 22-46
Y	US 6,275,227 B1 (DeStefano) 14 August 2001, see entire document.	1-14 and 22-46
A	US 6,502,233 B1 (Vaidyanathan et al.) 31 December 2002.	1-46

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

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:
USPAT;USOCR;US-PGPUB;EPO;JPO;DERWENT;IBM_TDB
element,type,help,hierarch,program,multiple,levels,program,context,sensitive,application,dynamic