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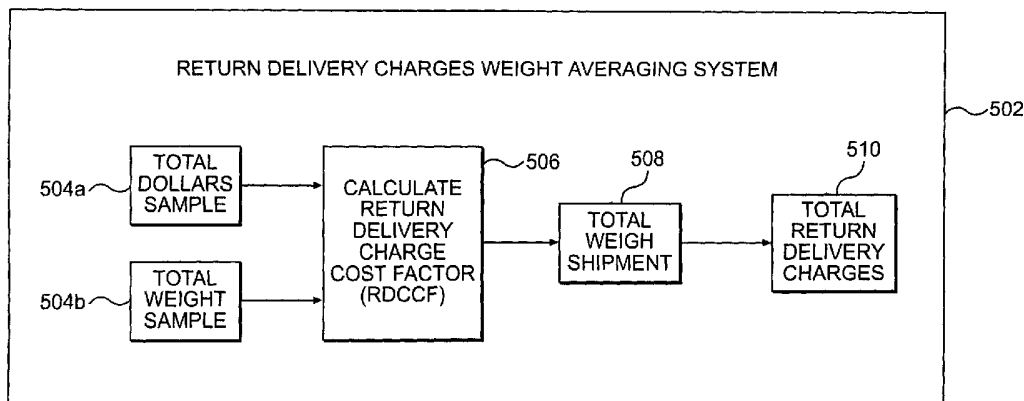
(43) International Publication Date
20 June 2002 (20.06.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 02/048829 A3

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G07B 17/00**
 - (21) International Application Number: PCT/US01/47486
 - (22) International Filing Date:
17 December 2001 (17.12.2001)
 - (25) Filing Language: English
 - (26) Publication Language: English
 - (30) Priority Data:
60/255,607 15 December 2000 (15.12.2000) US
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 - (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
 - (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:**
— with international search report
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report:**
9 January 2003
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: RETURN DELIVERY CHARGES WEIGHT AVERAGING SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A method, apparatus, and article of manufacture for determining return delivery charges is described. In one aspect related to the invention, the return delivery charges is determined on the basis of a cost factor (5A). The weight cost factor is determined for a sample of a shipment. The weight cost factor is then utilized to determine the return delivery charges for the shipment (5B).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US01/47486

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G07B 17/00

US CL : 705/401

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, 60,63,401,407,414,415

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 N
Y	US 4,780,828 A (WHISKER) 25 October 1988 (25.10.1988), see entire document.	1-27
Y	US 5,001,648 A (BAKER) 19 March 1991 (19.03.1991), see entire document.	1-27
Y	US 5,079,714 A (MANDULEY et al) 07 January 1992 (07.01.1992), see entire document.	1-27
Y	US 5,675,650 A (CORDERY et al) 07 October 1997 (07.10.1997), see entire document.	1-27
Y	US 6,098,057 A (DLUGOS) 01 August 2000 (01.08.2000), see entire document.	1-27

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

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"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

11 June 2002 (11.06.2002)

Date of mailing of the international search report

29 AUG 2002

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US01/47486

C. (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A,E	US 2002/0007281 A1 (GIL et al) 17 January 2002 (17.01.2002), see entire document.	1-27
A,E	US 2002/0026430 A1 (RYAN, JR) 28 February 2002 (28.02.2002), see abstract.	1-27
A,E	US 2002/0032612 A1 (WILLIAMS et al) 14 March 2002 (14.03.2002), see entire document.	1-27

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

Delivery charges, return mail, packages, weight.