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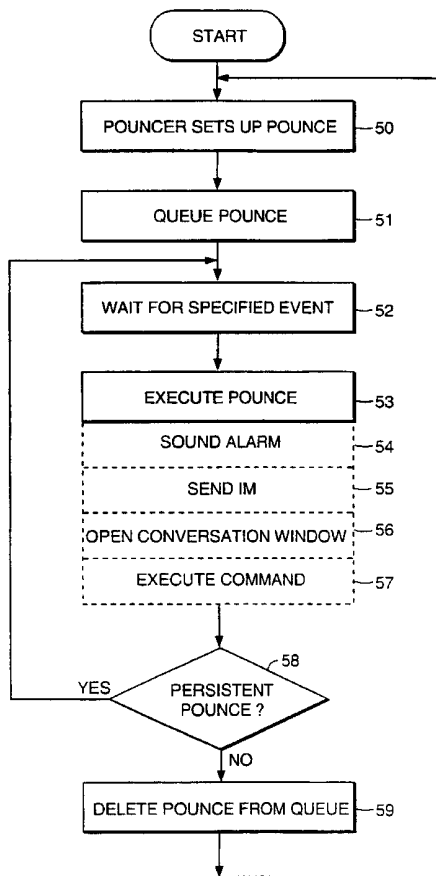
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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): AMERICA ONLINE, INC. [US/US]; 22000 AOL Way, Dulles, VA 20166 (US).
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- (72) Inventor; and
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- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): WICK, Andrew, L. [US/US]; 12213 Pender Creek Circle #F, Fairfax, VA 22033 (US).
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- (74) Agents: RACUNAS, Robert, V., Jr. et al.; Fish & Richardson, P.C., 601 Thirteenth Street N.W., Washington, DC 20005 (US).
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- (63) Related by continuation (CON) or continuation-in-part (CIP) to earlier application:
US 09/399,750 (CON)
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(54) Title: MONITORING USERS OF A COMPUTER NETWORK



(57) Abstract: Communicating with and/or monitoring of a targeted user in computer-network environment (e.g., an instant messaging system) involves detecting that the targeted user has signed on to the network, and upon detecting the signon, automatically communicating with the targeted user, for example, by sending an instant message previously specified by a targeting user. Alternatively, or in addition, the targeting user can receive notification that the targeted user has signed on and/or that the instant message has been sent. Instead of, or in addition to, automatically sending an instant message and/or notifying the targeting user, a predefined operation specified by the targeting user (e.g., operating system command, script or executable file) can be performed. These various operations can be performed on one or more client systems, on one or more server systems, or any combination thereof.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 H04L29/06 H04L12/26

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)

IPC 7 H04L

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 practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X Y A X	ICQ: "ICQ 99a, Online help" 1998 , ICQ INCORPORATED XP002163918 page 2, The Alert Tab page 5, Inviting Events --- ESCHENBURG A: "WO LAUFEN SIE DENN? ICQ HAELT VERBINDUNG ZU BEKANNTEN" CT MAGAZIN FUER COMPUTER TECHNIK, DE, VERLAG HEINZ HEISE GMBH., HANNOVER, no. 22, 26 October 1998 (1998-10-26), pages 92-95, XP000779803 ISSN: 0724-8679 page 92 --- -/--	1-3, 6-27, 29-34, 36, 39-48 4, 5, 14, 28, 35, 37 38 1-3, 6-10, 16-24, 30-34, 39-48

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

<p>*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>*E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>*L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>*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.</p> <p>*&* document member of the same patent family</p>
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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
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Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Bertolissi, E

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	<p>"MECHANISM TO FACILITATE SELECTIVE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FOR OFFICE MAIL SERVICES" IBM TECHNICAL DISCLOSURE BULLETIN, IBM CORP. NEW YORK, US, vol. 36, no. 8, 1 August 1993 (1993-08-01), page 225 XP000390204 ISSN: 0018-8689 whole document</p> <p style="text-align: center;">---</p>	4, 5, 37
Y	<p>US 5 063 523 A (VRENJAK MILAN J) 5 November 1991 (1991-11-05) abstract</p> <p style="text-align: center;">---</p>	14, 28, 35
A	<p>"AWAY-MODE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT CALL BACK" IBM TECHNICAL DISCLOSURE BULLETIN, IBM CORP. NEW YORK, US, vol. 37, no. 4A, 1 April 1994 (1994-04-01), page 583 XP000446791 ISSN: 0018-8689 whole document</p> <p style="text-align: center;">---</p>	1, 19, 33, 42-45
A	<p>WO 98 16045 A (MIRABILIS LTD ; VARDI ARIEH (IL); AMNON AMIR (IL); GOLDFINGER YAIR) 16 April 1998 (1998-04-16) page 2, line 31 -page 3, line 28 page 4, line 5 - line 9 page 5, line 4 - line 11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	1, 19, 33, 42-45

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

In ternational Application No

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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WO 9816045	A	16-04-1998	AU 4395497 A	05-05-1998
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			CN 1240083 A	29-12-1999
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