

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
3 February 2005 (03.02.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/010680 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A63F 13/00**,
9/24, G06F 17/00, 19/00

[US/US]; 6217 112th Ave SE, Bellevue, WA 98006 (US).
COOPER, Michael, J. [GB/US]; 14237 SE 157th Place,
Renton, WA 98058 (US).

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2004/022709

(74) Agents: **PHILIPP, Adam, L., K.** et al.; Schwabe,
Williamson & Wyatt, P.C., 1211 SW Fifth Avenue, Suites
1600-1900, Portland, OR 97204-3795 (US).

(22) International Filing Date: 15 July 2004 (15.07.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, 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, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,
ZW.

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/487,773 15 July 2003 (15.07.2003) US

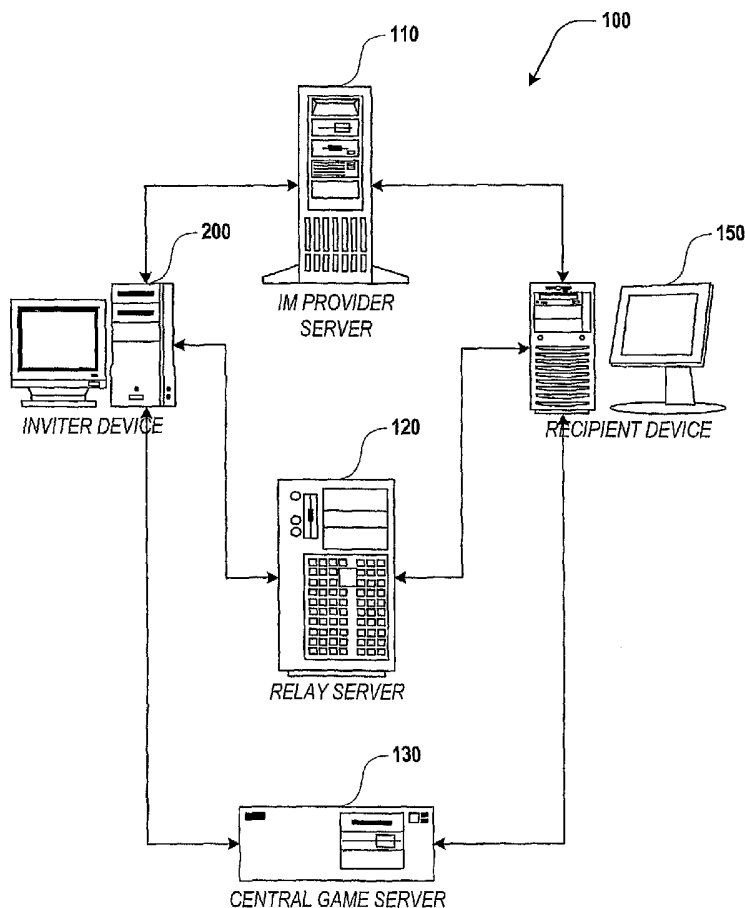
(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): **WILD-
TANGENT, INC.** [US/US]; 18578 NE 67th Court, Red-
mond, WA 98052 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH,
[Continued on next page]

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): **SHEA, Matthew, T.**

(54) Title: MULTI-SESSION USER LAUNCHING AND INVITATION SYSTEM AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: A system, apparatus and method for enabling users to launch and invite users to join multi-user sessions, such as multi player game sessions, via Instant Messages are described herein.

WO 2005/010680 A3



GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

1 September 2005

Declaration under Rule 4.17:

— *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*

Published:

— *with international search report*

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.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/22709

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A63F 13/00, 9/24; G06F 17/00, 19/00

US CL : 463/42

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. : 463/40-42, 2, 29, 40, 41; 709/203-205, 227, 239

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 2002/0086732 A1 (KIRMSE et al) 04 July 2002 (04.07.2002), abstract; paragraphs 7-11, 27-51, 58-71, 85-98; and Figures 1-13.	
Y	US 6,179,713 B1 (JAMES et al) 30 January 2001 (30.01.2001), columns 1-15; and Figures 1-4.	
Y	US 6,539,421 (APPELMAN et al) 25 March 2003 (25.03.2003), columns 1-13; Figures 1-31.	

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

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date

"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)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"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

"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

"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

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

30 April 2005 (30.04.2005)

Date of mailing of the international search report

14 JUL 2005

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. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

Xuan Thai

Telephone No. 703-308-1148