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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **KIVA SYSTEMS, INC.** [US/US]; 225 Wildwood Avenue, Woburn, MA 01801 (US).

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- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **D'ANDREA, Raffaello** [CA/US]; 101 Rhodes Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853 (US). **WURMAN, Peter, R.** [US/US]; 7620 Sutcliffe Drive, Raleigh, NC 27613 (US). **BARBEHENN, Michael, T.** [US/US]; 6 McMahon Road, Bedford, MA 01730 (US). **HOFFMAN, Andrew, E.** [US/US]; 96 Palmer Street, Arlington, MA 02474 (US). **MOUNTZ, Michael, C.** [US/US]; 1039 Massachusetts Avenue, Apt. #502, Cambridge, MA 02138 (US).
- (74) Agent: **CASON, Todd, A.**; Baker Botts L.L.P., 2001 Ross Avenue, Suite 600, Dallas, TX 75201 (US).
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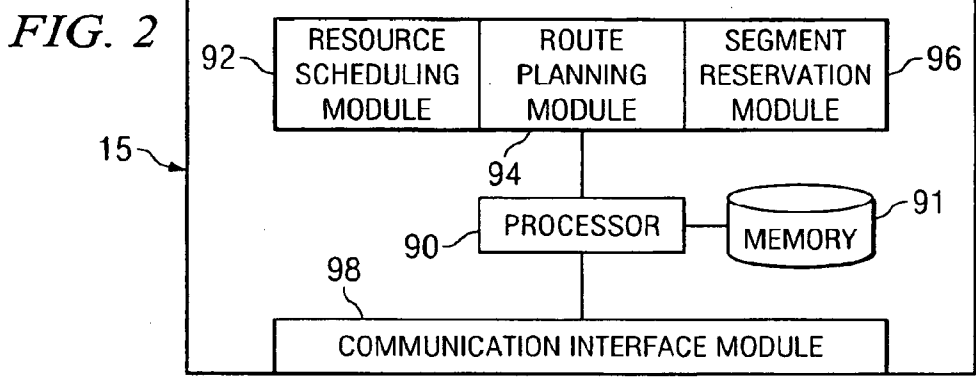
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— as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

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(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING MOBILE DRIVE UNITS



(57) Abstract: A method for moving a mobile drive unit within a workspace includes receiving a path. The path includes at least an initial segment and one or more additional segments. The initial segment includes a portion of the path adjacent to the first point; and at least one of the additional segments includes a portion of the path adjacent to the second point. The method further includes storing the path, reserving the initial segment of the path, and moving away from the first point along the initial segment. After initiating movement along the initial segment, the method includes reserving each of the additional segments of the path and moving toward the second point along each of the additional segments while that segment is reserved.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 07/12976

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - G06Q 10/00 (2008.04)

USPC - 705/28

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(8) - G06Q 10/00

USPC - 705/28

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

USPC - 705/1, 7, 22, 29, 500; 700/90, 91, 236

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

PubWEST(PGPB, USPT, USOC, EPAB, JPAB); Google Scholar

Search Terms Used: guided vehicle, inventory, robot, transport, path, segment, inventory, mobile unit, route, warehouse, factory, wireless etc.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5,280,431 A (SUMMERVILLE et al.) 18 January 1994 (18.01.1994) see entire document, especially Fig. 1; Fig. 3; Fig. 4; Col 8, Ln 20; Col 2, Ln 44; Col 8, Lns 10-11; Col 6, Lns 9-12; Col 2, Ln 44; Col 8, Lns 10-11; Col 7, Ln 15; Col 7, Ln 15, Col 4, Ln 4; Col 7, Ln 15; Col 6, Ln 62; Col 4, Ln 4; Col 5, Lns 9-35; Col 6, Lns 27-46; Col 9, Lns 1-25.	1-59
A	US 5,111,401 A (EVERETT, JR. et al.) 05 May 1992 (05.05.1992) see entire document	1-59
A	US 5,341,130 A (YARDLEY et al.) 23 August 1994 (23.08.1994) see entire document	1-59
A	US 5,928,294 A (ZELINKOVSKY) 27 July 1999 (27.07.1999) see entire document.	1-59

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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

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"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

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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

"&" document member of the same patent family

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Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents
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Authorized officer:

Lee W. Young

PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300
PCT OSP: 571-272-7774