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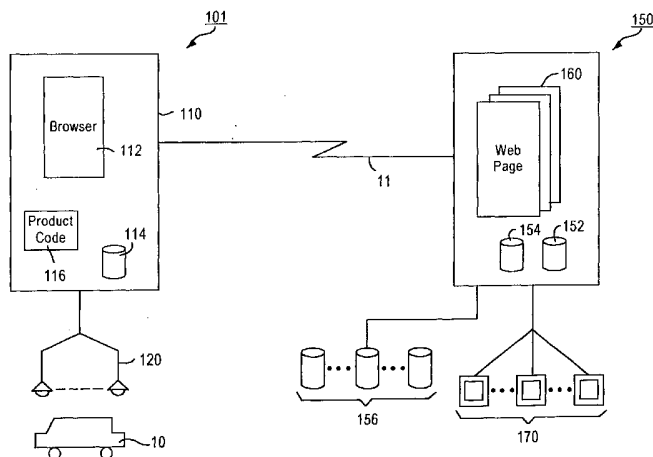
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: NETWORK-BASED METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR DISTRIBUTING DATA



(57) Abstract: A network-based method and system for distributing data, such as service data for various types of service processes and models, including software applications, specifications, user's manuals, or parameters, etc, over a data transmission network. A remote service provider maintains a database of the data. The database is updated frequently. The remote service provider maintains a website for authorized users to access the data. Authorized users can access and download desired data by connecting to the remote service provider via the data transmission network. Certain approaches are used to verify a user's identity. In one aspect, a combination of a product code that is specific to a system and a license/activation code that is generated based on the product code is verified. Unless a proper combination exists, the downloaded data cannot be properly accessed. The remote service provider also allows users to purchase a license to access the data online. Therefore, users can access the most updated data without waiting for CD-ROMs containing new software or specifications to arrive.

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European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 03/03446

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 H04L12/28 B60R16/02 G06F1/00

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 B60R G06F

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, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	CORCORAN P M ET AL: "BROWSER-STYLE INTERFACES TO A HOME AUTOMATION NETWORK" 1997, IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON CONSUMER ELECTRONICS, IEEE INC. NEW YORK, US, VOL. 43, NR. 4, PAGE(S) 1063-1069 XP000768559 ISSN: 0098-3063 the whole document	1, 2, 4, 17
Y	---	3
Y	WO 01 31852 A (BURNETT ALAN MARK ;KEOGH DAVID BRYAN (GB); ROKE MANOR RESEARCH (GB) 3 May 2001 (2001-05-03) page 12, line 14 -page 13, line 11; figure 1	3
X	US 6 108 420 A (ALLAN DAVID IAN ET AL) 22 August 2000 (2000-08-22) the whole document	5-32
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in 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 document but 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

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- *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.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

3 September 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 03/03446

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 067 582 A (SMITH BENJAMIN HEWITT ET AL) 23 May 2000 (2000-05-23) column 1, line 14 -column 9, line 56 -----	5-22
X	US 6 243 692 B1 (FLOYD MICHEL ET AL) 5 June 2001 (2001-06-05) the whole document -----	5-8, 17, 23-27, 29-32
X	EP 1 113 359 A (NOKIA MOBILE PHONES LTD) 4 July 2001 (2001-07-04) paragraph '0003! - paragraph '0019! -----	5, 6, 8, 23
A	US 2001/011341 A1 (KING BRETT GRAHAM ET AL) 2 August 2001 (2001-08-02) paragraph '0002! - paragraph '0004! paragraph '0012! - paragraph '0025! paragraph '0069! - paragraph '0071! -----	1-32

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US 03/03446

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-4, 17

Vehicle diagnostic

2. Claims: 5-9, 23-26

Verification

3. Claims: 10-16, 18-22

Payement

4. Claims: 27-32

License

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 03/03446

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date	
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