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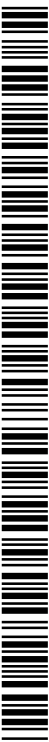
AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, JP, KE, KG, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

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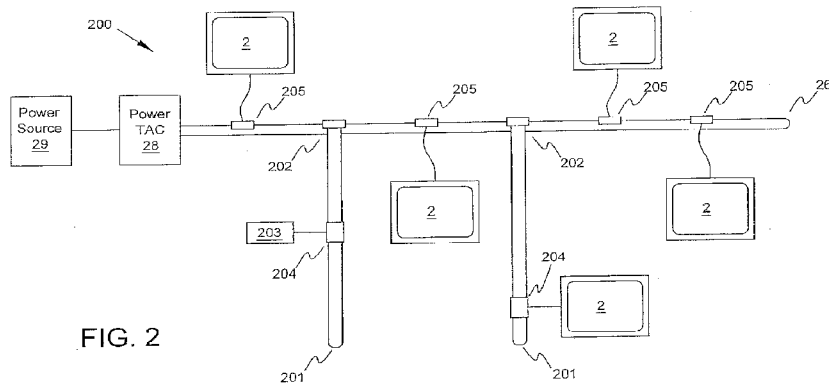
— with international search report (Art. 21(3))

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(54) Title: RETAIL VIDEO MONITOR DISPLAY



(57) Abstract: An apparatus, system, and method for operating video monitor displays in a retail environment. The apparatus comprises a base, cover, side, and divider which define a pair of compartments, each compartment configured to hold a video monitor display device such as a tablet, smart phone, or similar system. Each of the pair of compartments include apertures for viewing the screen of the video monitor display, and these apertures face opposition directions. The system generally comprises a video monitor display mounted to a retail shelf, a power supply for the video monitor display supplying power via an inductively coupled connection, a wireless Internet connection device integrated with the video monitor display, and associated hardware and software for downloading, storing, and displaying digital content on the video monitor display.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 14/41704

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(8) - H02J 17/00 (2014.01) CPC - G09F 9/30, G09F27/00 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(8): H02J 17/00 (2014.01) CPC: G09F9/30, G09F27/00 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched IPC(8): H02J 17/00 (2014.01); USPC: 307/104; CPC: G09F9/30, G09F27/00 (keyword limited; terms below) Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) PatBase; Google(Web); Search terms used: retail video monitor display shelf tag controller power loop distribution content weight depletion inventory label inductive case sensor		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X -- Y	US 2002/0109593 A1 (Swartzel et al.) 15 August 2002 (15.08.2002), entire document especially Fig. 1 to 5; para [0018]-[0041], [0079], [0104], [0111]	1-6, 9 ----- 7, 8
Y	US 2008/0052201 A1 (Bodin et al.) 28 February 2008 (28.02.2008), para [0024]-[0025], [0031]-[0033], [0149], [0156]	7, 8
A	US 2002/0167500 A1 (Gelbman) 14 November 2002 (14.11.2002), entire document	1-9
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/>		
* 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 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 "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 04 December 2014 (04.12.2014)		Date of mailing of the international search report 16 DEC 2014
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. 571-273-3201		Authorized officer: Lee W. Young PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300 PCT OSP: 571-272-7774

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 14/41704

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 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 No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

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

--PLEASE SEE EXTRA 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 additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
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.:
1-9

- Remark on Protest**
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
 - The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
 - No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 14/41704

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be examined, the appropriate additional examination fees must be paid.

Group I: Claims 1-9, directed to a video monitor display system and an inventory control system (e.g. claims 7-8).

Group II: Claims 1-6 and 9-14, directed to a video monitor display system with a display case of a particular structure (e.g. claim 10); and the display case itself (e.g. claims 11-14).

Group III: Claims 15-19, directed to a method of updating locally-stored content at a video monitor.

* Note - Claims 1-6 and 9 are generic to Groups I and II.

The inventions listed as Groups I though III do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

The species of Group I requires an inventory control system comprising a sensor and processor executable instructions for receiving weight measurement of a product from the sensor at a regular interval, converting each weight measurement of the product to an inventory as a function of the weight measurement...and determining an inventory depletion rate based on a plurality of the inventories converted at a regular interval, not required by the species of Group II or the method of Group III.

The species of Group II requires particulars of a display case comprising a base having an aperture in its proximal end, a cover having an aperture in its distal end, a divider connected between the base and cover and dividing the proximal ends from the distal ends, wherein a first compartment is defined by the proximal end of the base, the proximal end of the cover, the divider and at least a portion of the side and is configured to hold the video monitor with its screen substantially aligned with the aperture in the proximal end of the base, not required by the species of Group I or the method of Group III.

Group III requires a method of updating locally-stored content at a video monitor by establishing a wireless connection between a content database and a video monitor, searching for updated content, downloading updated content to a local memory of the video monitor, and displaying the updated content at the video monitor, not required by Groups I or II.

Species Groups I and II share the technical features of the generic invention as defined in claim 1. Group III additionally shares, with species Group I, the technical features of a processor and a computer readable storage medium, the computer readable storage medium comprising instructions stored therein for executing on said processor. However, these shared technical features fail to provide a contribution over the prior art of US 2007/0165366 A1 to Sokola, entitled "System and method for providing inductive power to improve product marking and advertising," published 19 July 2007 (19.07.2007) and US 5,736,967 A to Kayser et al. (hereinafter Kayser), entitled "Article-information display system using electronically controlled tags," published 07 April 1997 (07.04.1998).

Sokola discloses a video monitor display system (para. [0037], screen such as an LCD screen 505 for the display in a case 500, FIG. 5, the display is disclosed to show moving images such as a leg flexing, which is a type of video), comprising:
a display case (case 102 is part of the system 500, FIG. 5);
a video monitor disposed within the display case and configured to display content (screen 505, in case 102, FIG. 5, para. [0037]); and
a power distribution system for providing power to the video monitor (para. [0038], FIG. 6, inductive power system), comprising:
a primary distribution loop (FIG. 6, primary loop 120, para. [0038]-[0039]); and
an inductively coupled connection providing power from the primary distribution loop to the video monitor (FIG. 6, para. [0038]-[0039]).

Sokola does not disclose a tag area controller; a primary distribution loop connected to the tag area controller. However, Kayser discloses a tag area controller; a primary distribution loop connected to the tag area controller (abstract). It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art to use a tag area controller as taught by Kayser in the system of Sokola to improve the advertising strategy by allowing the tag to be active during periods of power outages and to improve communication and verification between tags and controller.

Sokola further discloses a processor and a computer readable storage medium, the computer readable storage medium comprising instructions stored therein for executing on said processor (memory 615, processor 620, para. [0038]).

As the technical features were known in the art at the time of the invention, these cannot be considered the special technical features that would otherwise unify the groups.

Groups I though III therefore lack unity under PCT Rule 13 because they do not share a same or corresponding special technical feature.