

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
18 May 2006 (18.05.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2006/053228 A3

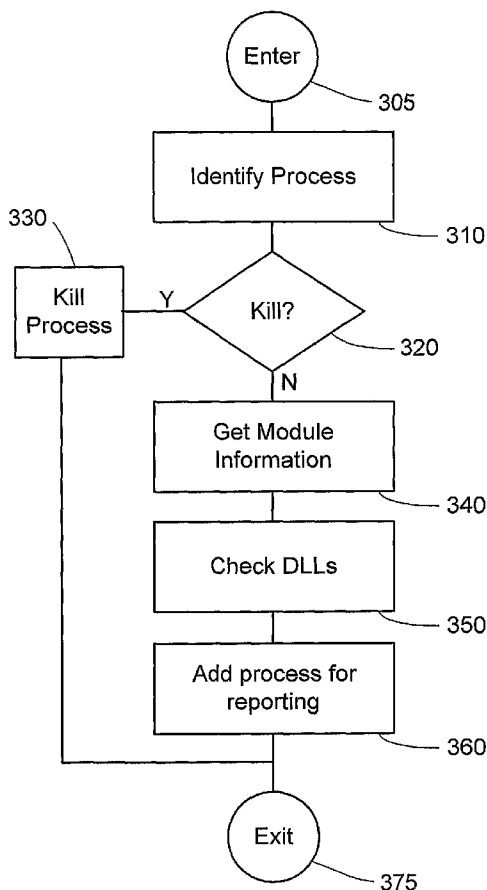
- (51) International Patent Classification:
G06F 9/30 (2006.01) G06F 15/16 (2006.01)
G06F 12/14 (2006.01)
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2005/040953
- (22) International Filing Date:
10 November 2005 (10.11.2005)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
60/626,985 10 November 2004 (10.11.2004) US
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- (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, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV,
LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI,
NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG,
SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US,
UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,
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,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHODS AND SYSTEM FOR METERING SOFTWARE



(57) Abstract: Methods and systems for providing real-time reporting of software usage includes an agent running on a local computer. The agent identifies new processes started on the computer and checks the new process against a restricted list. If the new process is on the restricted list, the agent automatically performs one or more restriction actions associated with the executable name of the process. The restricted list is contained in a configuration file stored on the local computer. A master configuration file for the local computer is stored on a server and replaces the configuration file when the configuration file is outdated. An authorized administrator may edit the master configuration file by adding or removing executable and DLL names from the restricted list and by adding or removing restriction actions associated with the executable and DLL names on the restricted list.

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FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, 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).

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.

Published:

- *with international search report*
- *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:

18 October 2007

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US05/40953

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: **G06F 9/30(2006.01);G06F 12/14(2006.01);G06F 15/16(2006.01)**

USPC: 709/224;726/1;709/203

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. : 709/224; 726/1; 709/203

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 2004/0133801 A1 (PASTORELLI ET AL.) 8 JULY 2004 (08.07.2004) WHOLE DOCUMENT	1-20
Y	US 6,021,438 (DUVVOORI ET AL) 1 FEB 2000 (01.02.2000) WHOLE DOCUMENT	1-20
Y	US 5,790,664 (COLEY ET AL) 4 AGUST 1998 (04.08.1998) WHOLE DOCUMENT	1-20

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

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

Date of the actual completion of the international search
04 April 2007 (04.04.2007)

Date of mailing of the international search report
17 AUG 2007

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