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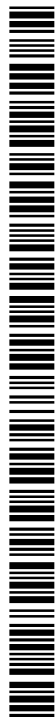


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(54) Title: ENVELOPES AND PRINTED DOCUMENTS EMPLOYING DIGITAL WATERMARKS

(57) Abstract: Digital watermarks are encoded on envelopes to serve a variety of purposes related to postage (franking), anti-counterfeiting, addressing, and linking to associated internet sites. Digital watermarks can also be formed on blank paper stock so that printed documents formed therewith have desired properties, including the ability to distinguish photocopies from originals, to link to corporate web sites, and to permit document serialization for tracing and other purposes.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US01/14920

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(7) :G06F 17/60 US CL :705/62; 382/100 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. : 705/62; 382/100 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) EAST		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5,974,548 A (ADAMS) 26 October 1999, Column 2, line 39 - column 15, line 25.	1-41
A	US 5,933,798 A (LINNARTZ) 03 August 1999, Column 1, line 39 - column 6, line 39.	1-41
A	US 5,825,892 A (BRAUDAWAY et al) 20 October 1998, column 3, line 14 - column 21, line 37.	1-41
A	US 5,617,119 A (BRIGGS et al) 01 April 1997, Column 3, line 1 - column 18, line 45.	1-41
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
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"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
"E" earlier document published on or after the international filing date	"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
"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)	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"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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