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(54) Title: PROTECTING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION ON PORTABLE STORAGE MEDIA

(57) Abstract: A portable storage system for connecting to a host, the portable storage system includes a storage device for storing information and a switch. The switch includes a get mode wherein the host sees only the free space in the storage device and not the part storing the information. Optionally, the portable storage system includes a give mode wherein the storage medium shows an empty space to the host and any file or directory is marked as shared and wherein the host sees a file-system whose size equals the amount of empty storage space on the storage device and an owner mode showing all of the stored information to the host and enabling the owner of the system to uncheck a shared flag on a storage device that received from another user that added files.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US07/69131

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC: **G06F 12/00 (2006.01)**

 USPC: 711/115
 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. : 711/115; 726/21, 17, 16, 2, 1; 382/116, 124, 711/153, 147, 152, 153

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.
Y	US 2004/0165314 A1 (Fujiwara et al.) 26 August 2004(26.08.2004), see entire document.	1-22
Y	US 6,681,304 B1 (Vogt et al) 20 January 2004(20.01.2004), see entire document.	2, 4, 7-15 and 19-22
Y	US 2006/0031410 A1(Nagata et al) 09 February 2006(09.02.2006), see entire document.	2, 4, 7, 15, 19-22
Y	US 2004/0186746 A1 (Angst et al) 23 September 2004(23.09.2004), see entire document.	7
Y	US 2,944,246 A (Dicke) 05 July 1960(05.07.1960), see entire document.	8
Y	US 6,365,851 B1 (Gaspar) 02 April 2002(02.04.2002), see entire document.	9
Y	US 2002/018855 A1 (Nakayama et al.) 12 December 2002(12.12.2002), see entire document	10, 11

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2007/0179934 A1 (Basov et al) 02 August 2007(02.08.2007), see entire document.	12