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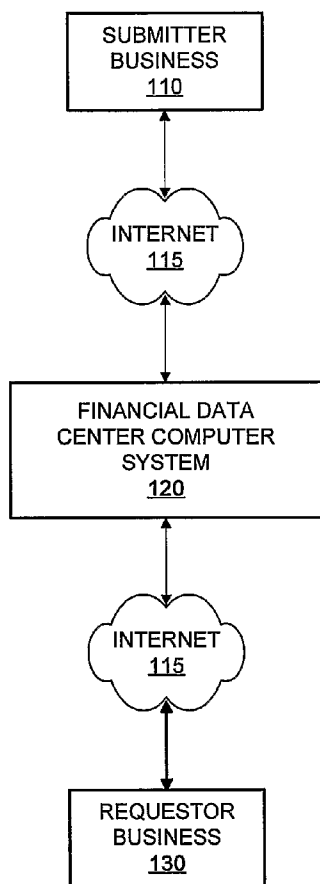
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR SELECTIVE SHARING OF BUSINESS PERFORMANCE INFORMATION



(57) Abstract: An automated system for allowing a submitter business to selectively share business performance information with requestor businesses through a business performance information sharing data center computer system over the Internet. A submitter business uploads a data file including business performance information such as a trial balance report generated by the business' own accounting software program. The uploaded file is converted from the submitter-defined format to a standardized format. Various business performance data analyses are performed on the standardized data including generating standardized business performance reports and analyzing the data in accordance with financial metrics. After the business performance data has been formatted and analyzed, the submitter will specify one or more companies authorized to view the business performance data including specifying a level of business performance detail, from a plurality of levels of detail, and/or a business performance time period for which that company may view business performance information.

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— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC: **G06F 17/30**(2006.01)

 USPC: 705/10
 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. : 705/10

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: ((trial near3 balance\$1) near8 (convert\$3 or conversion or format\$4) near8 (info\$7 or data or financial\$1))

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
XP	US 6,850,643 B1 (SMITH, II et al) 01 February 2005 (01.02.2005), columns 6-8, Figure 1	1-69
X	US 6,556,974 B1 (D'Alessandro) 29 April 2003 (29.04.2003), columns 1-5; Figures 3 and 5	1-69

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
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"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
"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)	"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
"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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