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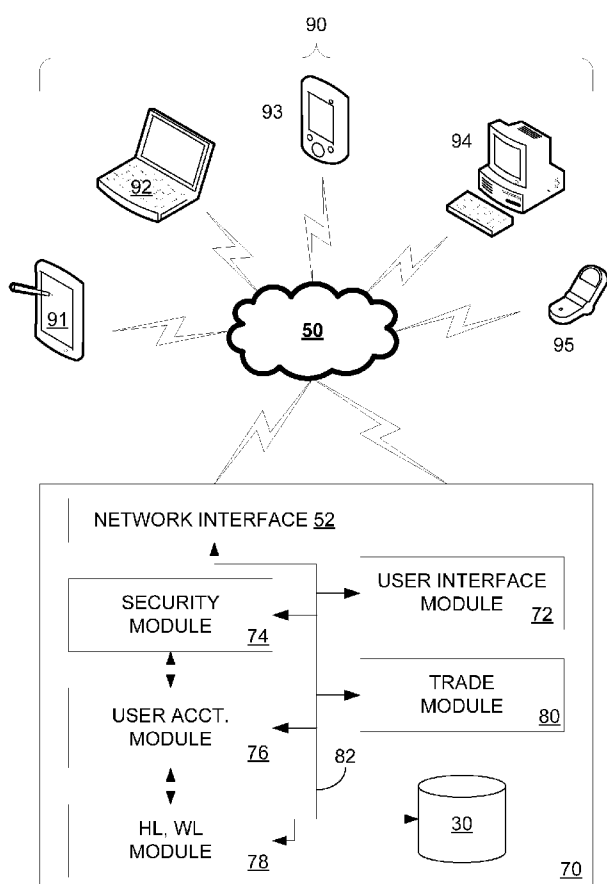
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: AUTOMATED TRANSACTION SYSTEM, DATABASE, AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: An automated multi-transaction, database, and trading systems and method are provided. A multi-transaction system comprises a transaction module configured to access a set of transaction systems to obtain transaction information to enable procurement of an item. One type of transaction system can be an automated trading system that enables exchange of items. And a trading database can be configured for providing a set of data structures and storing a set of data representing users and associated tradable items and data representative of planned, pending, and executed trades.



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

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 07/66513

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(8) - G06Q 40/00 (2007.10) USPC - 705/37 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): G06Q 40/00 (2007.10) USPC: 705/37 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched USPC: 705/1, 7, 10, 36R, 37; 715/700, 748, 968; 707/3, 6, 10; 700/1, 90 Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) Electronic databases: USPTO WEST (PGPB, USPT, EPAB, JPAB); Google Scholar Search Terms Used: trading or tradable items or products or services, automated trading or transaction, trading database or storage or module, trade matrix or table, partial or portion or split trade, determining or monitoring or tracking trade etc.		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2005/0021443 A1 (Beard et al.) 27 January 2005 (27.01.2005) (abstract, and para [0006]-[0007], [0015]-[0026], [0039]-[0047])	1-75
Y	US 2003/0074273 A1 (Miller et al.) 17 April 2003 (17.04.2003) (abstract, and para [0007]-[0045], [0064]-[0070])	1-75
A	US 2005/0171890 A1 (Daley et al.) 04 August 2005 (04.08.2005)	1-75
A	US 2004/0193530 A1 (Hausman) 30 September 2004 (30.09.2004)	1-75
A	US 6,560,580 B1 (Fraser et al.) 06 May 2003 (06.05.2003)	1-75
A	US 2002/0002527 A1 (Holtzman) 03 January 2002 (03.01.2002)	1-75
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.		
* 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 25 November 2007 (25.11.2007)		Date of mailing of the international search report 26 FEB 2008
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 07/66513

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:

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 searched, the appropriate additional search fees must be paid:

Group 1, claims 1-75, drawn to a system/method/computer readable medium for automated trading tradable items among plurality of users.

Group 2, claims 76-117, drawn to a data storage/trading database/method to store data associated with an automated trading system.

Group 3, claims 118-167, drawn to a multi-transaction system/method/computer program product for obtaining transaction information by accessing a set of transaction systems.

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.:
Group 1, claims 1-75

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.