

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
7 June 2001 (07.06.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 01/41084 A3**

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: G06F 17/60
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/42431
- (22) International Filing Date: 1 December 2000 (01.12.2000)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:  
09/452,864 2 December 1999 (02.12.1999) US
- (71) Applicant: **ULTIMATE MARKETS, INC.** [US/US]; 68 East Wacker Drive, Suite 750, Chicago, IL 60601 (US).
- (72) Inventors: **BUSHONVILLE, Arthur, Roland**; 1069 Chatfield Road, Winnetka, IL 60093 (US). **SCHENK, Norbert, Peter**; 823 West Wolfram Street, Chicago, IL 60657 (US). **ROSENFELD, Mark**; 310 Ashley Drive, New Lenox, IL 60451 (US). **SWIFT, Adam, Christopher**; 5538 North Glenwood, #D, Chicago, IL 60640 (US).
- (74) Agents: **NELSON, Jon, O.** et al.; Banner & Witcoff, Ltd., Ten South Wacker Drive, Suite 3000, Chicago, IL 60606-7407 (US).
- (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:  
— with international search report
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report:  
2 May 2002
- 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.*



**WO 01/41084 A3**

(54) Title: AUTOMATED EVENT TICKET AUCTIONING SYSTEM

(57) Abstract: Seats at event venues are treated as commodities within a commodity exchange system, preferably implemented within a publicly available communication network. Market information for at least one seat in an event venue is provided to users of the exchange system. In one embodiment of the present invention, the number of seats being traded differentiates markets for a particular event within a particular event venue. Users may submit quote proposals (e.g., bid or offers) or quote acceptances. In this manner, the present invention allows market forces to more readily determine prices for event tickets.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US00/42431

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC(7) : G06F 17/60  
 US CL : 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)  
 U.S. : 705/37

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 6,023,685 A (BRETT et al) 08 February 2000 (8.02.2000), column 3, lines 44-67, column 4, lines 1-67, column 11, lines 32-67, column 12, lines 1-67, column 13, lines 1-12, column 14, lines 1-10,	1-49

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	

Date of the actual completion of the international search: 07 May 2001 (07.05.2001)  
 Date of mailing of the international search report: 07 JUN 2001

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Box PCT, Washington, D.C. 20231, Facsimile No. (703)305-3230  
 Authorized officer: Richard Fults, Telephone No. 703-305-5416  
*James R. Matthews*