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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*
- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

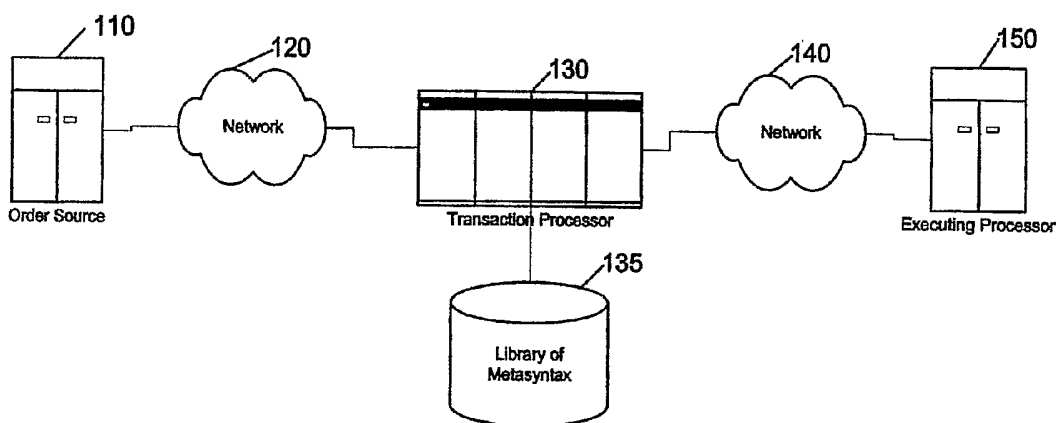
Published:

- *with international search report*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: VALIDATING AN ELECTRONIC TRANSACTION

100



Transaction Processing System

(57) Abstract: An electronic transaction may be processed by receiving an order to execute a transaction electronically, identifying a format for the order, identifying a version of the format, retrieving a metasyntax with a rule related to the identified format and the identified version, the rule defining one or more acceptable arrangements of one or more elements in the transaction, relating the order to the metasyntax, determining whether the order conforms to the metasyntax, and forwarding the order for subsequent processing when the order conforms to the metasyntax.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/37830

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: G06Q 10/00(2006.01)

USPC: 705/2

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. : 705/2

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)
Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,704,044 A (TARTER et al) 30 December 1997 (30.12.1997), col. 3, lines 32-51, col. 4, lines 33-59, col. 5, lines 38-53, and col. 6, lines 21-32.	1-27
Y	US 5,596,752 A (KNUDSEN et al) 21 January 1997 (21.01.1997), col. 4, line 49 - col. 5, line 40 and Abstract.	1-27
A	US 6,208,973 B1 (BOYER et al) 27 March 2001 (27.03.2001), col. 3, line 9 - col. 5, line 40.	1-27
A	US 2002/0120846 A1 (STEWART et al) 29 August 2002 (29.08.2002), para. [0005] - para. [0017].	1-27
A	US 5,809,212 A (SHASHA et al) 15 September 1998 (15.09.1998), Fig. 8 and col. 21, line 39 - col. 22, line 54.	1-27

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:		"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		
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

East (USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB)

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