(54) Title: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR QUALIFIED REGISTRATION

(57) Abstract: A product is sold at retail in an unusable state. Activation of the product does not require any steps be taken by the retail seller. To activate the product, the purchaser uses a phone or personal computer to interact with a registration server for this type of product. After the consumer has provided sufficient identifying information, the registration server interacts with a qualification server that determines whether the purchaser meets the qualifications for this type of product. For a weapon sale, this is typically a criminal background check. If qualified, the registration server receives an indication of qualification from the qualification server. The registration server and product communicate over a network to establish trust, store information in the product, and then activate the product. The product receives information via a network appliance, for example, a phone or personal computer. The receiver may sense sound from a speaker or light from a display of the network appliance. The product transmits information onto the network directly when the network appliance has a suitable receiver. Otherwise, the product provides the information to the purchaser who enters the information into a user interface of the network appliance. The user interface may perform voice recognition or accept data via a pointing device or keyboard. The serial number of the product is transmitted to the registration server. A description of the purchaser and/or qualification results are stored
## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

**International application No.**

PCT/US07/67535

### A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

**IPC:** F41A 17/06 (2006.01)

**USPC:** 42/70.01, 70.11

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. : 42/70.01, 70.11

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)

BR5 text search and back/forward search conducted on 03 August 2008.

### C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>US 2005/0257411 A1 (WOOTTON et al.) 24 November 2005 (24.11.2005), paras. 1(0039) to (0055))</td>
<td>1-2, 5-8, and 41-42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>US 5,715,623 A (MACKEY III) 10 February 1998 (10.02.1998), col. 3, lines 40-55</td>
<td>3-4 and 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>US 5,915,936 A (BRENTZEL) 29 June 1999 (29.06.1999), col. 5, line 46 to col. 6, line 52</td>
<td>9 and 11-13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See patent family annex.

### Date of the actual completion of the international search

04 August 2008 (04.08.2008)

### Date of mailing of the international search report

14 OCT 2008

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commission for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201

Authorized officer

Stephen M. Johnson

Telephone No. 571-272-6877

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (April 2007)
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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:
Please See Continuation Sheet

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 any 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.: 1-13, 41 and 42

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.:

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.

Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of first sheet(2)) (April 2007)
BOX III. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING:
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 examined, the appropriate additional examination fees must be paid.

Group I, claim(s) 1-13, drawn to a weapon with a processor that performs a function and a receiver that provides the processor with a code received from the network.

Group II, claim(s) 14-18, drawn to a weapon with associated processor and receiver with active and providing state and transition from one to another upon receiving a specific signal input.

Group III, claim(s) 19-40, drawn to a method of enabling a weapon consisting of the steps of providing a first code to a weapon user; receiving a second code from a network; and determining consistency of the codes to determine enablement of the weapon.

Group IV, claim(s) 41-42, drawn to a method that interacts with a user of a weapon that receives a first code; determines whether the first code is consistent with a second stored code to determine enablement of the weapon.

Group V, claim(s) 43-44, drawn to a method that provides the user with a first code; receives from the user a second code; and compares the 2 codes to determine enablement.

Group VI, claim(s) 45, drawn to a generic method for qualifying registration wherein the network exchanges inquires and answers from associated servers to enable a product.

The inventions listed as Groups I-VI do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The inventions of groups I-VI are directed to weapon arrangements; and/or associated methods of using the weapon; and/or associated methods of generic registration that are usable independent or each other or as separate elements or subsystems in the same system. Further, the claim language is so diverse that few technical features are claimed in such a way as to have a commonality of technical features let alone a commonality of technical features that meets the requirements to qualify as a special technical feature. Note that a special technical feature is one that patentably distinguishes in the art.