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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: FILE MANAGEMENT METHOD

1	MANAGEMENT INFORMATION	11	GENERAL INFORMATION	16KB
		12	FILE TYPE TABLE	
		13	VENDOR ID TABLE	
		14	BLOCK TYPE TABLE	
		15	NUMBER MANAGEMENT TABLE	
2	PARENT GROUP INFORMATION	16	INFORMATION BLOCK TABLE	8KB
		21	SPACE BITMAP	
3	PARENT GROUP MEMBER INFORMATION	22	PARENT GROUP DESCRIPTORS	8KB
		31	SPACE BITMAP	
4	CHILD GROUP INFORMATION	32	PARENT GROUP MEMBER DESCRIPTORS	8KB
		41	SPACE BITMAP	
5	CHILD GROUP MEMBER INFORMATION	42	CHILD GROUP DESCRIPTORS	8KB
		51	SPACE BITMAP	
6	FILE INFORMATION	52	CHILD GROUP MEMBER DESCRIPTORS	8KB
		61	SPACE BITMAP	
7	TEXT INFORMATION	62	FILE DESCRIPTORS	8KB
		71	SPACE BITMAP	
		72	TEXT DESCRIPTORS	8KB

(57) Abstract: A file management method has highly general versatility among applications, does not waste recording area, and facilitates handling of volumes of discrete and grouped files and group information. A recording medium for use in the file management method. A contents management file (CMF) is provided for collectively all of necessary files and all groups, so that application can deal with volumes of files on a disk through CMF without direct communication with the file systems and a necessitating the grouping can be performed in highly general versatility.



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, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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*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.*

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 G06F17/30

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 7 G06F

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 practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 544 360 A (LEWAK JERZY ET AL) 6 August 1996 (1996-08-06) the whole document ---	1-44
X	WO 98 24025 A (VISION SOFTWARE L L C 1 ;GANDEE JOHN J (US); GODWIN KURT E (US); H) 4 June 1998 (1998-06-04) the whole document ---	1-44
X	US 5 819 261 A (TAKAHASHI FUMIAKI ET AL) 6 October 1998 (1998-10-06) column 24, line 16 -column 34, line 66 ---	1-44
A	JP 03 278144 A (NEC CORP) 9 December 1991 (1991-12-09) abstract --- -/--	1-44

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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- \*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
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- \*Z\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 September 2003

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International Application No

PCT/JP 02/03059

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6 088 694 A (NARANG INDERPAL SINGH ET AL) 11 July 2000 (2000-07-11) the whole document -----	1-44

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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