

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



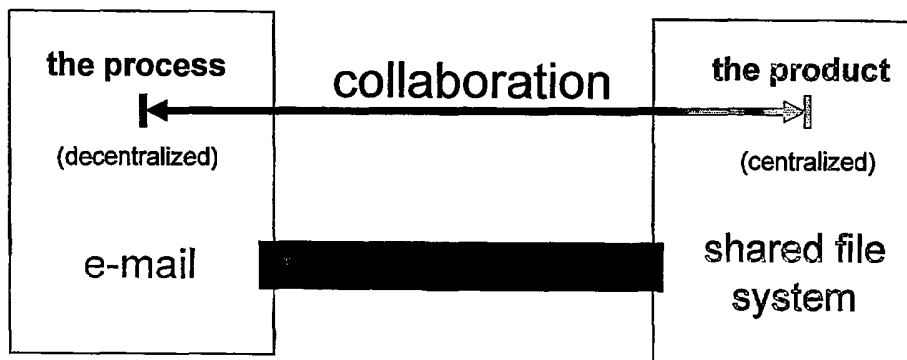
(43) International Publication Date
30 September 2004 (30.09.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/084044 A3

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: G06F 7/00, 17/00, 17/30, 15/16, 15/173, 17/60
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US2004/008406
- (22) International Filing Date: 18 March 2004 (18.03.2004)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 60/455,739 18 March 2003 (18.03.2003) US
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): NETWORKS DYNAMICS, INC. [US/US]; 711 Clark's Tract Road, P.O. Box 535, Keswick, VA 22947 (US).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): HENDERSON, Charles, English [US/US]; 866 Kygers Hill Road, Lexington, VA 24450 (US).
- (74) Agents: CALDERON, Andrew, M. et al.; McGuire-Woods, LLP, 1750 Tysons Boulevard, Suite 1800, McLean, VA 22102 (US).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, 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, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, 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, IT, LU, MC, 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).
- Published:
— with international search report
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 2 February 2006
- 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.

(54) Title: NETWORK OPERATING SYSTEM AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: The invention provides a system and method for a network operating system (Fig.21). The system includes a complex data medium that enables the continuous reconciliation of the collaborative information process and product. The system generally increases productivity by enabling a network dynamic among knowledge workers. The system unifies e-mail and shared file management, synchronous and asynchronous collaboration, serial and parallel work flow, top-down and bottom-up collaboration, and information lifecycle management.

WO 2004/084044 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT.

International application No.

PCT/US04/08406

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC(7) : G06F 7/00, 17/00, 17/30, 15/16, 15/173, 17/60
 US CL : 707/1.100; 709/219.224; 705/1
 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. : 707/1.100; 709/219.224; 705/1

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 6,292,830 B1 (Taylor et al) 18 September 2001 (18.09.2001), column 20, line 9-34, column 28, lines 26-60, column 73-74, col. 86, lines 46-58.	1
---		---
Y		1
Y	US 2003/0149571 A1 (Francesco et al) 07 August 2003 (07.08.2003), paragraph [0062], [0067-0068].	1

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
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"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
"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)	"Z" document member of the same patent family
"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	

Date of the actual completion of the international search: 17 August 2005 (17.08.2005)
 Date of mailing of the international search report: 28 SEP 2005

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. (703) 305-3230
 Authorized officer: Safet Meljahnich, Telephone No. 571-272-4023