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(54) Title: POLICY BASED MANAGEMENT OF STORAGE RESOURCES

(57) Abstract: Policy based management of storage resources in a storage network. Service level objectives are associated with storage resource requestors such as applications. A set of policy rules is established in connection with these service level objectives. An update of the configuration of the storage network, such as a provisioning of storage resources for the application, is performed according to a workflow that implements the policy rules, which allows the service level objectives of the application to be automatically satisfied by the new provisioning. Metrics are used to ensure that service level objectives continue to be met.
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
   IPC(7) : G06F 15/173
   US CL. : 709/224, 225
   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)

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)

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Y, P</td>
<td>US 5,719,854 (CHOUDHURY et al.) 17 February 1998; abstract; Fig. 10</td>
<td>4, 9-12, 16, 21-24, 28, 33-35, 39, 44-47</td>
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<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>US 2003/0046396 (RICHTER et al) 6 March 2003; entire document</td>
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<td>US 6,459,682 (ELLESSON et al) 1 October 2002; entire document</td>
<td>1-47</td>
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

Date of the actual completion of the international search 06 May 2005 (06.05.2005)

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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:
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search terms: service, class, level, storage, met, satisfy, meet, accord, based, depend, correspond, policy, rule, bound, threshold, workflow, differ

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