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— *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*

Published:

— *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*

[Continued on next page]

(54) **Title**: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MATCHING CONSUMERS

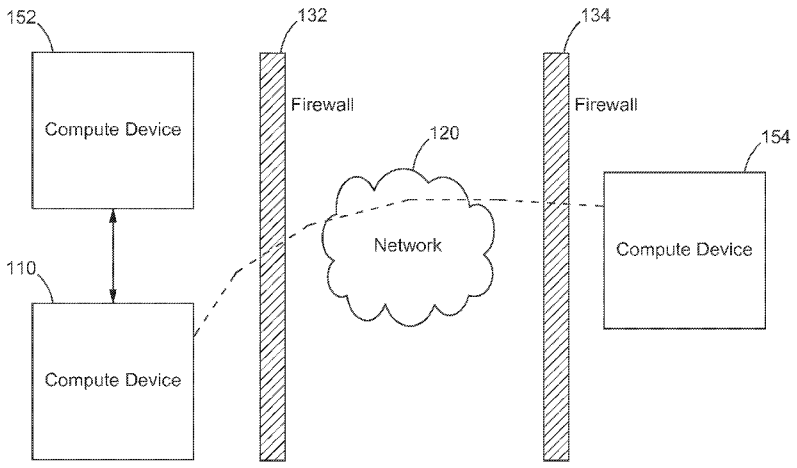


FIG.1

(57) **Abstract**: In some embodiments, a method includes receiving a first record set from a first compute device and a second record set from a second compute device. Each record from the first record set has a first attribute string; and each record from the second record set has a first attribute string. The method includes defining a third record set to include each record from the first record set that has a first attribute string equal to a first attribute string of a record from the second record set. The method also includes repeating the above steps for a fourth record set from the first compute device and a fifth record set from the second compute device to further define the third record set. Each record from the fourth record set has a second attribute string and each record from the fifth record set has a second attribute string.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC: **G06F 12/14**(2006.01),**17/30**(2006.01)

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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. : 713/189, 707/758

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
RECORD, MATCH, ENCRYPT, INDENTIFIER, HASH, ATTRIBUTE, COMPARE, MERGE, DATABASE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6,061,798 (COLEY ET AL) 9 May 2000 (09.05.2000), see entire document.	1,4-11, 13-15 and 17-20
A	US 5,819,291 (HAIMOWITZ ET AL) 6 October 1998 (06.10.1998), see entire document.	1,4-11,13-15 and 17-20

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
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