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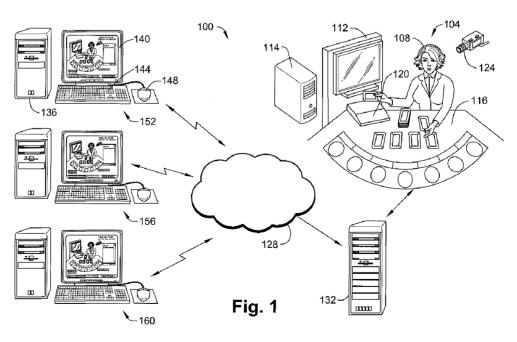
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANAGING A REMOTE GAME



(57) Abstract: In a live on-line gaming environment, a game manager manages a game in which players participate from remote locations using computing platforms, a method and apparatus for enabling the game manager to manage the game, without requiring intensive training or supervision. The method and apparatus provide the game manager with an applet which instructs the game manager on the flow and rules of the game. The applet provides the game manager with instructions for the steps to be performed in the game, and with tools or user interface for feeding the results of the steps. The applet further enables the game manger to chat with the players.



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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. G07F17/32 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) GO7F 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, WPI Data C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. X WO 97/14484 A (MOLNICK MELVIN [US]) 1 - 1024 April 1997 (1997-04-24) the whole document X US 4 467 424 A (HEDGES RICHARD A [US] ET 1 - 10AL) 21 August 1984 (1984-08-21) the whole document US 6 638 167 B1 (SAWYER THOMAS E [US] ET Α 1 - 10AL) 28 October 2003 (2003-10-28) column 10, line 49 - column 11, line 58 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 *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance earlier document but published on or after the international *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "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 docudocument referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed *&* document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 9 January 2009 27/01/2009 Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Van Dop, Erik Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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