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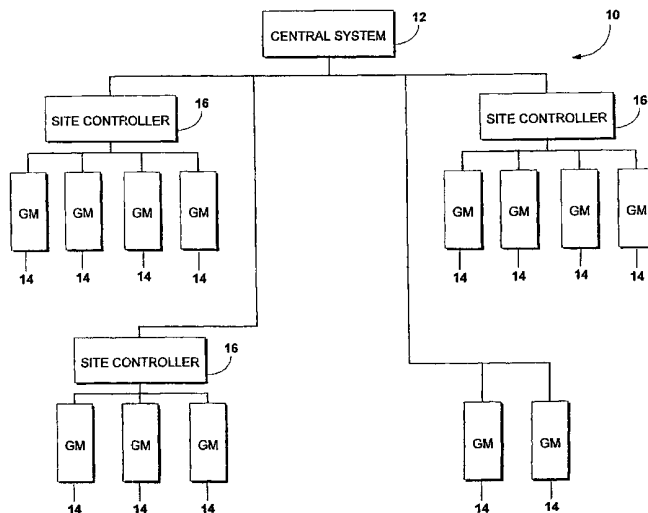
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR IMPLEMENTING A DOWNLOADABLE SOFTWARE DELIVERY SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A method and device implementing a downloadable operatively connected to a plurality of gaming machines either by a direct communications link or through the use of one or more site controllers or PCs. Each gaming machine and site controller or PC contains two executable spaces, one of which typically contains the software image currently being implemented by the device. The other executable space is designated to receive from the central system a new software image that will be utilized by the device. The central system transfers a new image to be executed, via packet encrypted communications, to a networked device which stores the image in an executable space, while continuing to run the currently designated image. Upon instruction from the central system, the device switches over to the new image, allowing one or more machines to implement a software upgrade on a continuous basis.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G06F9/445

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category ^o	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 845 090 A (COLLINS III THEODORE JOSEPH ET AL) 1 December 1998 (1998-12-01)	1,3-5,7, 10,16, 19-21, 27-29
Y	column 2, line 55 -column 3, line 26 column 7, line 50 -column 9, line 9 ---	2,11,22, 30
Y	EP 0 841 615 A (INT COMPUTERS LTD) 13 May 1998 (1998-05-13) column 4, line 19 -column 6, line 28 ---	2,11,30
Y	EP 0 706 275 A (IBM) 10 April 1996 (1996-04-10) the whole document ---	22
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

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- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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X	EP 0 905 614 A (NORITSU KOKI CO LTD) 31 March 1999 (1999-03-31)	1,3-5,8, 21,
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