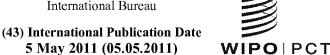
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## **Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

## Published:

- with international search report (Art. 21(3))
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))
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(54) Title: SOCIAL SEARCH ENGINE

(57) Abstract: Methods, systems, and apparatus, including computer programs encoded on a computer storage medium, for a social search engine. In one aspect, a method includes receiving a question from an asker in which the question is associated with one or more topics; selecting candidate answerers based at least partly on each answerer's respective relationship to the asker; sending the question successively to groups of one or more candidate answerers according to the ranking until an answer is received from a particular one of the candidate answerers; and sending to the asker the received answer and information that identifies the particular answerer.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPO		RT International app		ication No.	
			PCT/US10/54808		
A. CLAS	SSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER G06F 15/16( 2006.01);G06N 5/02( 2006.01)				
USPC: 709/206,204;706/50 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC					
B. FIEL	DS SEARCHED				
	cumentation searched (classification system followed b)9/206, 204, 203, 223, 224; 706/50, 12, 45, 62	y classifica	tion symbols)		
Documentation	on searched other than minimum documentation to the	extent that	such documents are included in	the fields searched	
	ta base consulted during the international search (name ontinuation Sheet	of data bas	e and, where practicable, search	h terms used)	
C. DOCI	UMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where a			Relevant to claim No.	
X, E	US 8,135,609 B2 (BRITT, JR. et al.) 13 March 2012	(13.03.201	2), entire document.	1-25	
X, P US 2010/0125605 A1 (NAIR et al.) 20 May 2010 (20.0 Y, P			entire document.	26, 28-34, 36-38, 40- 46, and 48-50	
Y US 2009/0265317 A1 (BUEHRER et al.) 22 October		27, 35, 39, and 47 2009 (22.10.2009), entire document. 27 and 39			
Y	TRICE et al., Consensus Knowledge Acquisition, 19	89, MIT, pp	: 1-25.	35 and 47	
	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  "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be			
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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 documents, such combination		
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means			being obvious to a person skilled in the	art	
"P" ducument 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			ailing of the international searc 18 AUG 2016	h report	
			d officer		
Mail Stop PCT, Attn. ISA/US Commissioner for Patents		Tom Barrett			
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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (April 2007)

	International application No.			
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT	PCT/US10/54808			
Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:				
EAST: US-PGPUB; USPAT Search Terms: select\$5, choos\$5, pick\$4, candidate, answerer, user, subscriber, person, individual, responder, customer, answer\$4,				
respond\$4, reply\$4, question\$4, inquir\$4, quer\$4, issue, problem, challenge, riddle, particular, specific, certain, specialized, special,				
group\$4, collection, set, classsif\$9, sort\$5, arrang\$7, class, categor\$8, target\$5, surv	vey\$5, participant, advice, opinion, relation\$5, friend,			
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dusters, topic\$1, recommendation, recommendation\$1, recommend\$1, pay, click				
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## International application No. INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT PCT/US10/54808 Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet) This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons: 1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely: Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically: Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a), Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet) This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows: As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fees. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.: No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: Remark on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee. The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation. No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.