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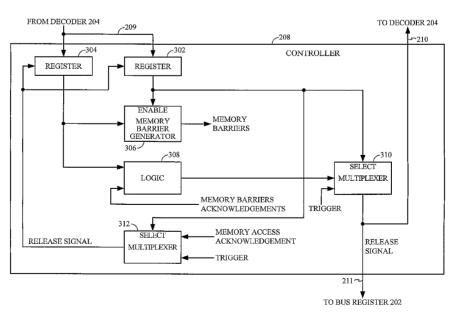
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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

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

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ENFORCING STRONGLY-ORDERED REQUESTS IN A WEAKLY-ORDERED PROCESSING SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: The disclosure is directed to a weakly-ordered processing system and method for enforcing strongly-ordered memory access requests in a weakly-ordered processing system. The processing system includes a plurality of memory devices and a plurality of processors. Each of the processors are configured to generate memory access requests to one or more of the memory devices, with each of the memory access requests having an attribute that can be asserted to indicate a strongly-ordered request. The processing system further includes a bus interconnect configured to interface the processors to the memory devices, the bus interconnect being further configured to enforce ordering constraints on the memory access requests based on the attributes.



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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. G06F13/16 G06F9/38

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \begin{tabular}{ll} Minimum documentation searched (olassification system followed by olassification symbols) \\ \begin{tabular}{ll} G06F \end{tabular}$

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, PAJ

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Υ	US 6 038 646 A (SPROULL) 14 March 2000 (2000-03-14) column 4, line 50 - column 6, line 20 column 7, line 51 - column 8, line 64	2,3,5-8, 16,17, 19,20

X Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	X See patent family annex.		
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"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "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 being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 10 August 2006	Date of mailing of the international search report 0.5 OCT 2006		
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer McDonagh, F		

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