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(71) Applicant(s):
Schlumberger Holdings Limited
(Incorporated in the British Virgin Islands)
PO Box 71, Craigmuir Chambers,
Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands

(72) Inventor(s):
Terje Rugland
Trond Benum

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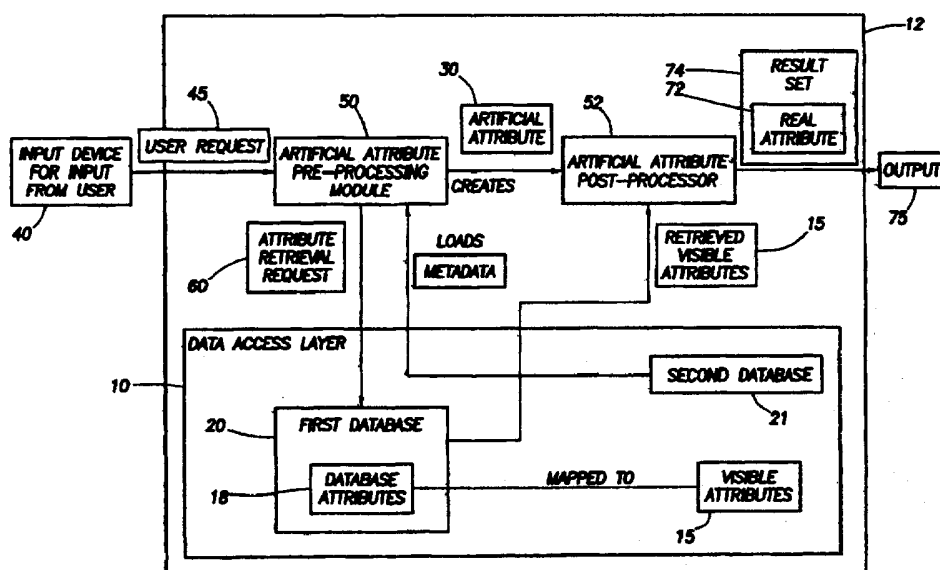
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US 5937409 A **US 5584024 A**
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(54) Abstract Title: **Method system and apparatus for accessing stored spatial data**

(57) An apparatus, method and system for accessing database attributes stored in a first database are disclosed. The database attributes may be stored in a proprietary manner. The invention includes a data access layer having a second database, which maps visible attributes to the database attributes. The second database includes one or more artificial attributes, stored in meta data. The invention also includes an attribute pre-processing module for scanning a user request to see if the request includes the artificial attribute. The attribute pre-processing module creates an artificial attribute post processor, which can build a real attribute from a combination of the artificial attribute received from the attribute pre-processing module and a visible attribute received from the first database via the data access layer.



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(74) Agent and/or Address for Service:
D Young & Co
120 Holborn, LONDON, EC1N 2DY,
United Kingdom