

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
12 October 2006 (12.10.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2006/107499 A3**

(51) International Patent Classification:  
*G06K 5/00* (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/US2006/008422

(22) International Filing Date: 9 March 2006 (09.03.2006)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
11/096,291 1 April 2005 (01.04.2005) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **MI-CROSOFT CORPORATION** [US/US]; One Microsoft Way, Redmond, Washington 98052-6399 (US).

(72) Inventors: **BERNSTEIN, Philip A.**; One Microsoft Way, Redmond, WA 98052-6399 (US). **RAMAKRISHNAN, Raghu**; One Microsoft Way, Redmond, WA 98052 (US). **FEKETE, Alan D.**; One Microsoft Way, Redmond, WA 98052 (AU).

(74) Agents: **ALLEN, Michael, B.** et al.; c/o Sharon Rydberg, 21/2029, Microsoft Corporation, One Microsoft Way, Redmond, Washington 98052-6399 (US).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,

GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**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))

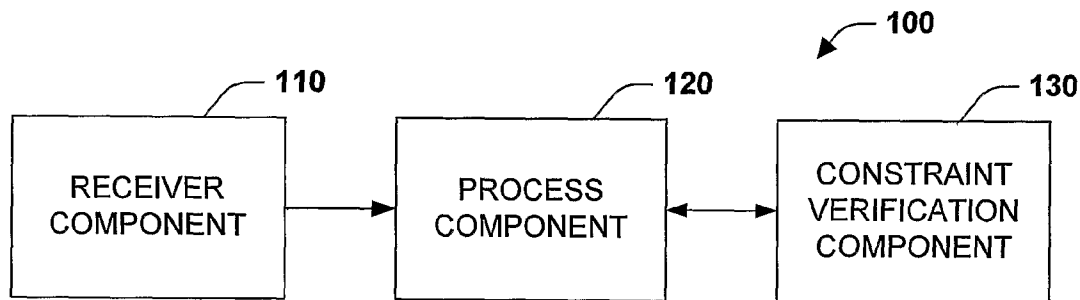
**Published:**

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:  
17 January 2008

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: RELAXED CURRENCY CONSTRAINTS



(57) Abstract: A system (fig 1, 100) has one or more gaming devices including gaming machines and other devices. At least one transaction reading device is coupled to the gaming devices and reads information (fig 11, 1120) associated with the monetary instruments associated with the gaming devices. A host computer is operatively coupled to the transaction reading device. A database (fig 2, 212) is associated with the host computer and is configured to retrievably store the information associated with monetary instruments. A data display device (fig 18, 1840) is operatively coupled to the host computer and retrieves and displays a list of the monetary instruments in response to input from a user (fig 18, 1836). The data display device can be associated with a wireless remote device (fig 18, 1844), wired to the host computer or associated with the gaming device. The list of the monetary instruments includes information associated with each of the monetary instruments. The list of the monetary instruments can include information from selected gaming devices.

WO 2006/107499 A3

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US06/08422

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC: **G06K 5/00( 2006.01)**  
  
 USPC: 235/380  
 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)  
 U.S. : 235/380, 35/379

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 practicable, search terms used)

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6.158.044 A 20, May 1998 (20.5.1998). column 4. lines 57-59	1
---		-----
Y	US Application 2006/0047721 A1 31. August 2004 (31.8.2004). page 1. paragraph 0009	4, 6, 13 and 16
Y	US Patent Application No. 2006/0155743 A1 29 December 2004 (29.12.2004), page 1. paragraph 0007	2, 3, 7, 10-12, 15, 17 and 20
---		-----
Y	US Patent No 5.870.758 A 11 March 1996 (11.3.1996) column 6, lines 46-52	5, 8, 9, 14, 18 and 19

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.       See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:		
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"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
"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)	"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
"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	"&"	document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search: 03 August 2007 (03.08.2007)  
 Date of mailing of the international search report: **16 NOV 2007**

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US:  
 Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
 Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201

Authorized officer:  
 James Hwa  
 Telephone No. 571-270-1285