Title: PERFORMING MESSAGE PAYLOAD PROCESSING FUNCTIONS IN A NETWORK ELEMENT ON BEHALF OF AN APPLICATION

Abstract: A method is disclosed for performing message payload processing functions in a network element on behalf of an application. According to one aspect, a network element receives user-specified input that indicates a particular message classification. The network element also receives one or more data packets. Based on the data packets, the network element determines that an application layer message, which is collectively contained in payload portions of the data packets, matches the particular message classification. The network element processes at least a portion of the message by performing, on behalf of the application to which the message is directed, and relative to at least the portion of the message, one or more actions that are (a) specified in the user-specified input and (b) associated with the particular message classification.

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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.
# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

\[ \text{IPC: } G06F \ 15/16 \ (2006.01) \]

\[ \text{USPC: } 709/230 \]

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)

\[ \text{U.S.: } 709/230,223,238,246 \]

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>US 6,772,223 B1 (CORK, JR et al) 03 August 2004 (3.8.2004), Col 3, lines 33-56</td>
<td>6,9-13,15-18,36,37,42</td>
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<td>Y</td>
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

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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) 273-3501

Authorized officer

Glen Burgess

Telephone No. 571-272-3450

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