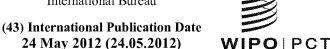
International Bureau





(10) International Publication Number WO 2012/066427 A3

- (51) International Patent Classification: G06Q 30/00 (2012.01) G06Q 10/06 (2012.01)
- (21) International Application Number:

PCT/IB2011/003343

(22) International Filing Date:

14 November 2011 (14.11.2011)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

US

(30) Priority Data:

12/946,588 15 November 2010 (15.11.2010)

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): TIRE CENTERS, LLC [US/US]; 310 Inglesby Parkway,

Duncan, South Carolina 29334 (US).

- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): STOKES, Christopher, Michael [US/US]; 501 Carriage Hill Road, Simpsonville, SC 29681 (US). KIRIAN, Nathan, J. [US/US]; 2113 Kingstree Circle, Gastonia, NC 28054 (US).
- (74) Agent: CAMPIGOTTO, Frank; Michelin North America, Inc., 515 Michelin Road, Greenville, South Carolina 29605 (US).

- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report (Art. 21(3))
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report:

 1 November 2012

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING A PLURALITY OF TIRES

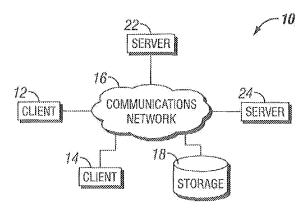


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: Systems, methods and computer program products are provided for managing a plurality of tires from their procurement through their disposal. An embodiment may include a method for determining all the costs of a tire over its total service life including procurement costs, repair costs, retread costs and disposal costs. An embodiment may include managing an inventory by automatically replenishing the inventory by following a set of stored inventory- management rules. An embodiment may include helping- to ensure that an impermissible tire is not mounted on a vehicle. A stored set of tire mounting rules automatically check the tire being mounted against requirements for the tire set by the rules, the requirements set as to by vehicle type and wheel position.





INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/IB11/03343

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(8) - G06Q 30/00, 10/06 (2012.01) USPC - 705/26.1 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) IPC(8): G06Q 30/00, 10/06 (2012.01) USPC: 705/26.1, 22, 28			
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) MicroPatent (US-G, US-A, EP-A, EP-B, WO, JP-bib, DE-C,B, DE-A, DE-T, DE-U, GB-A, FR-A); DialogPRO; IEEE; Google/Google Scholar; Tire*1, manag*, inventory, chang*, report*, present*, notif*, threshold, criteria			
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where ap	ppropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
<u>x</u>	US 2002/0107873 A1 (WINKLER M et al.) August 8, 2002, figure 1, 8-13, 28a, 34, 35, 37b, 54, 87, 91 and 108, paragraphs [0017], [0150], [0156], [0169], [0190], [0197], [0202]-[0205], [0207] [0214]		1-8, 23-25, 34, 38 and 39
Y			9-22
Y	US 2001/0047303 A1 (GREENSTONE P) November 29, 2001, figure 1, paragraph [0016], [0018], [0020], [0024]		9, 10, 13 and 19
Y	US 6681990 B2 (VOGLER H et al.) January 27, 2004, column 2, lines 24-34		11
Y	US 2008/0065516 A1 (RAJU V et al.) March 13, 2008, figure 1, paragraphs [0004], [0041] and [0042]		12-22
-			
Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.			
* Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "I" 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 but published on or after the international filing date "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive published on priority claim(s) or which is			lered to involve an inventive
cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention ca considered to involve an inventive step when the document		claimed invention cannot be step when the document is	
means "P" docume	being obvious to a person skilled in the art ument published prior to the international filing date but later than "&" document member of the same patent family.		
the priority date claimed Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report			
10 July 2012 (10.07.2012)		1 0 AUG 2012	
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Authorized officer:			
Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450		Shane Thomas	
F.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. 571-273-3201		PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300	