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Goldberg

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(54) **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR GENERATING SEPARATE E-MAIL TRANSMISSIONS TO COPIED RECIPIENTS FOR PROVIDING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

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Related U.S. Patent Documents

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G06F 15/16 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC **709/206**; 709/207

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC 709/206, 207
See application file for complete search history.

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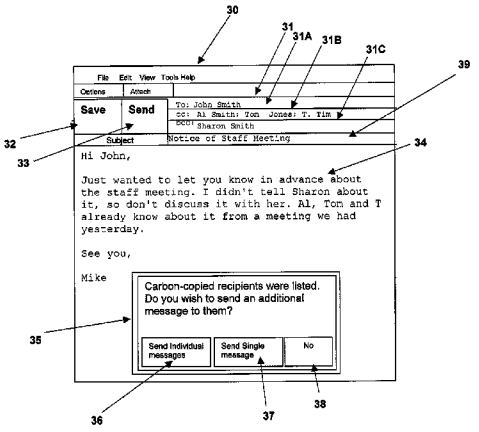
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Brundidge & Stanger, P.C.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method and system for generating e-mail transmissions to copied recipients for providing additional information determines when an e-mail user is sending carbon-copy and/or blind carbon-copy copies of an original e-mail transmission and provides a means for providing a second message containing commentary, explanation and/or clarification information. The copy list is scanned for copied recipients and depending on e-mail program settings, prompts the sender providing an option for generating an additional message in a new window wherein the sender may type additional text. A single additional message may be generated and sent to the copied recipients, individual additional messages may be generated and sent or a first additional message for the carbon-copied recipients and a second additional message for the blind-carbon-copied recipients may be generated and sent. The additional messages may optionally contain the quoted text of the original message, whereby the sender may comment on the original text. The additional messages may also include attachments provided with the original e-mail message.

46 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets



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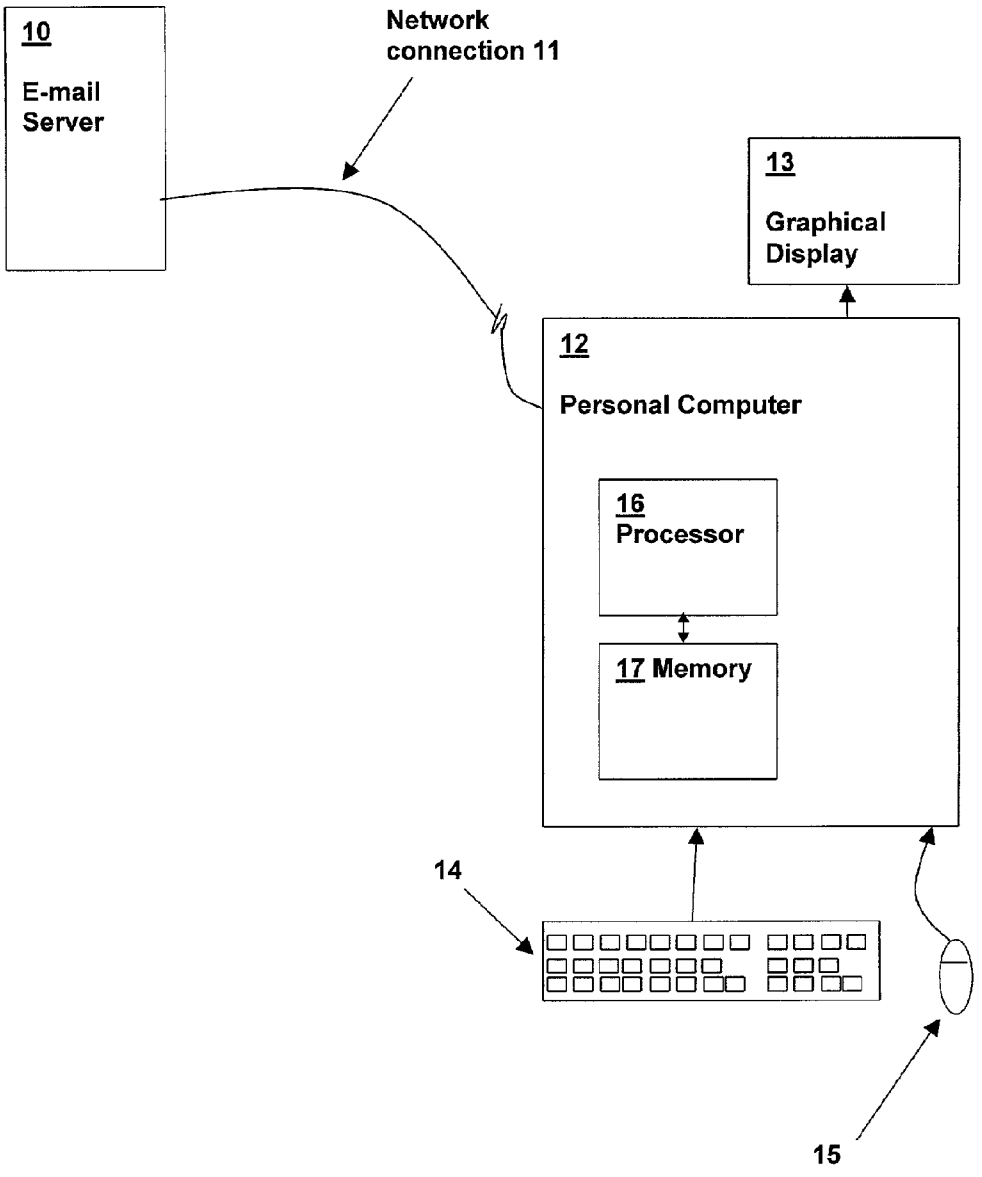
10
E-mail Server
Network connection 11
13
Graphical Display
12
Personal Computer
16
Processor
17 Memory
14
15

Fig. 1

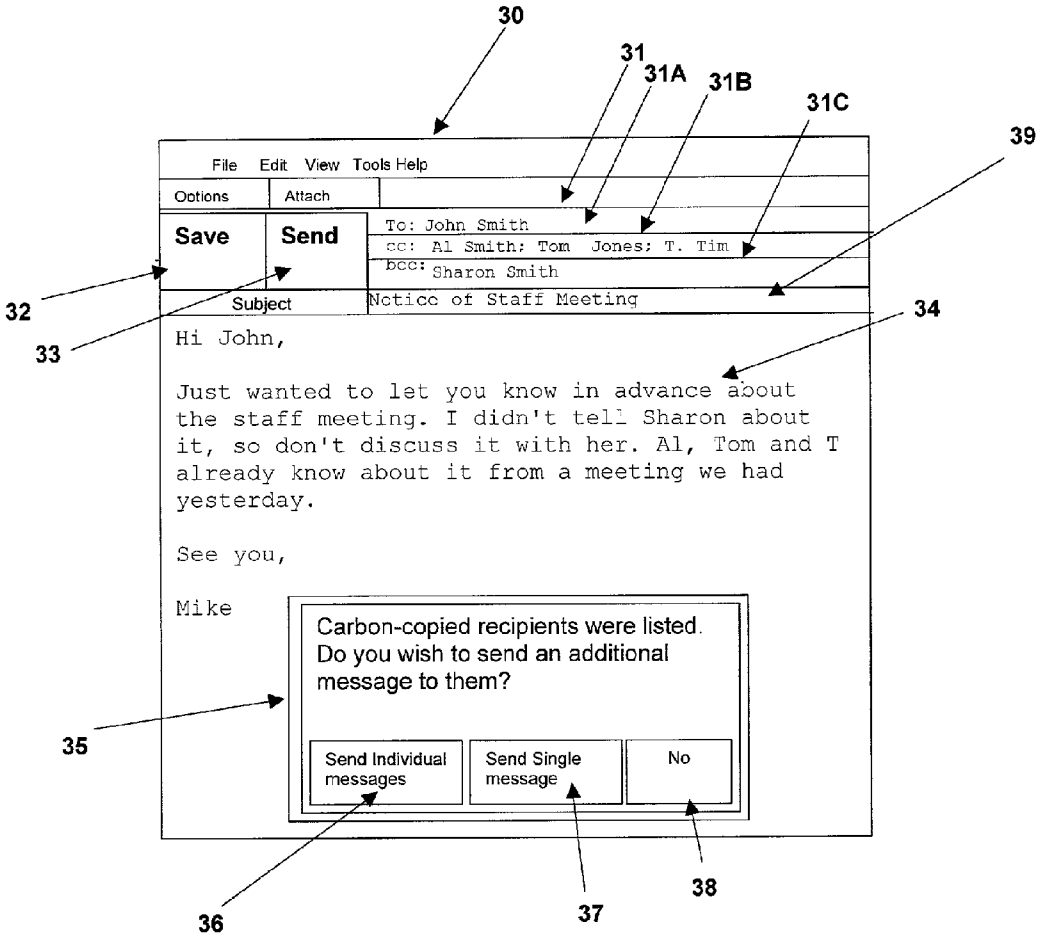
30
31
31A
31B
31C
39
File Edit View Tools Help
Options
Attach
Save
Send
To: John Smith
cc: Al Smith; Tom Jones; T. Tim
bcc: Sharon Smith
Subject
Notice of Staff Meeting
32
33
34
Hi John,
Just wanted to let you know in advance about the staff meeting. I didn't tell Sharon about it, so don't discuss it with her. Al, Tom and T already know about it from a meeting we had yesterday.
See you,
Mike
Carbon-copied recipients were listed. Do you wish to send an additional message to them?
35
Send Individual messages
Send Single message
No
36
37
38

Fig. 2

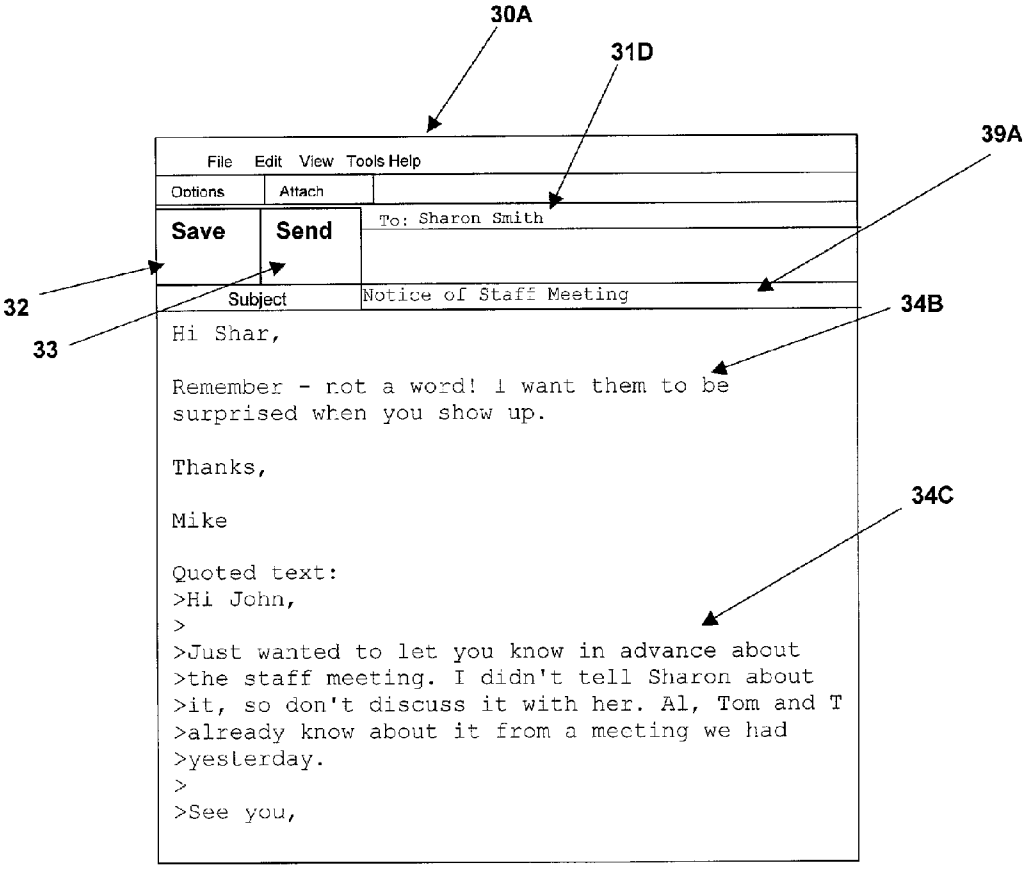
30A
31D
39A
File Edit View Tools Help
Options
Attach
Save
Send
To: Sharon Smith
32
33
Subject
Notice of Staff Meeting
34B
Hi Shar,
Remember - not a word! I want them to be surprised when you show up.
Thanks,
Mike
34C
Quoted text:
>Hi John,
>
>Just wanted to let you know in advance about
>the staff meeting. I didn't tell Sharon about
>it, so don't discuss it with her. Al, Tom and T
>already know about it from a meeting we had
>yesterday.
>
>See you,

Fig. 3

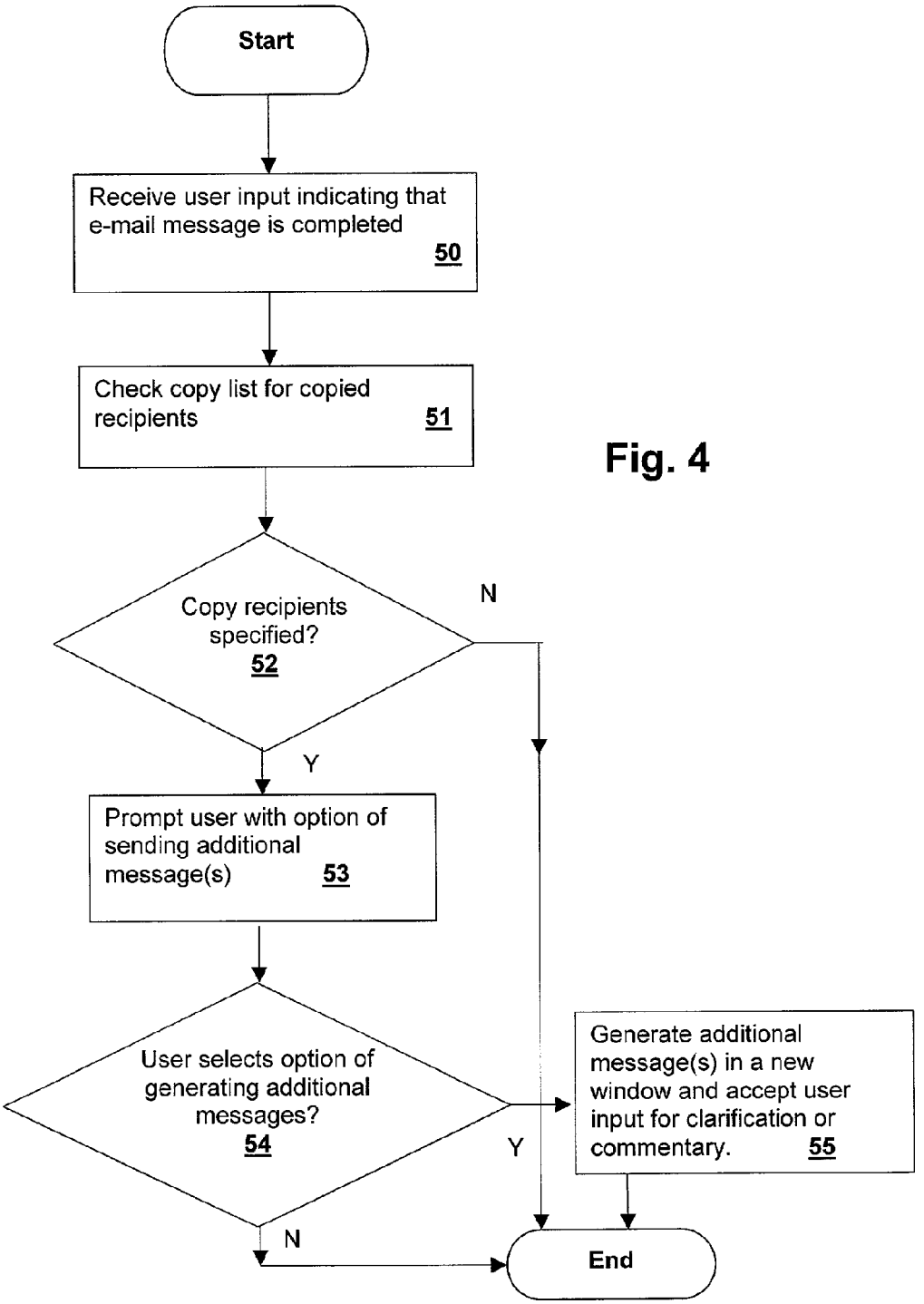
Start
Receive user input indicating that e-mail message is completed 50
Check copy list for copied recipients 51
Copy recipients specified? 52
N
Y
Prompt user with option of sending additional message(s) 53
User selects option of generating additional messages? 54
Y
N
Generate additional message(s) in a new window and accept user input for clarification or commentary. 55
End

Fig. 4

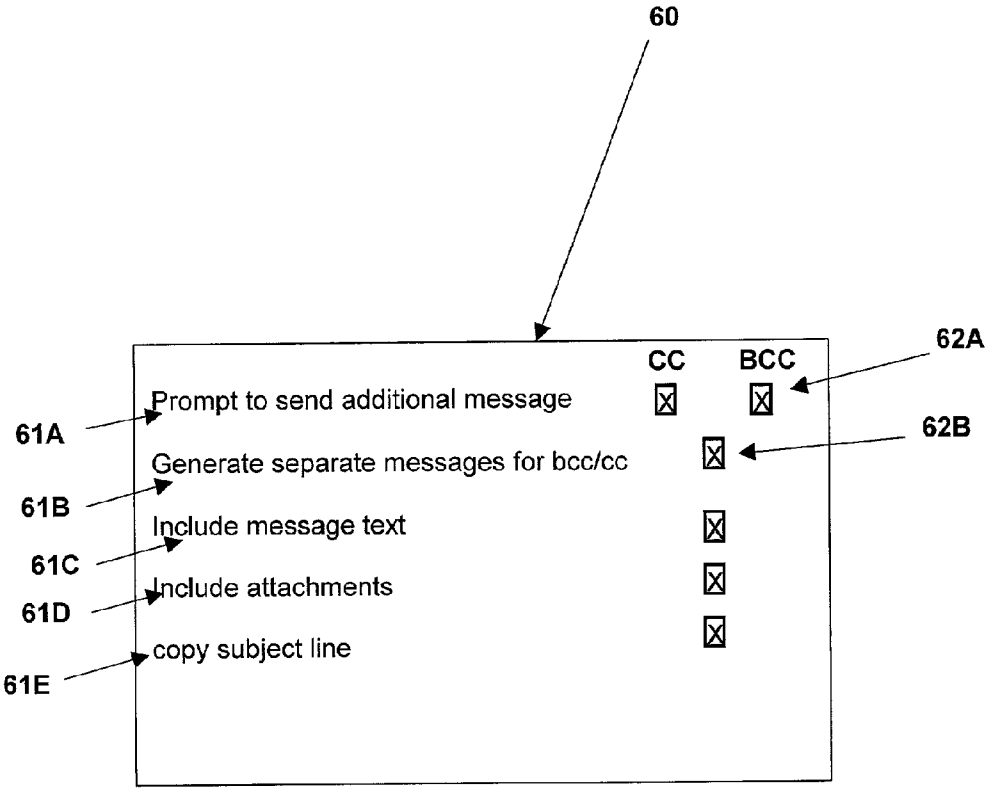
60
CC
BCC
62A
Prompt to send additional message
61A
62B
Generate separate messages for bcc/cc
61B
Include message text
61C
Include attachments
61D
copy subject line
61E

Fig. 5

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR GENERATING SEPARATE E-MAIL TRANSMISSIONS TO COPIED RECIPIENTS FOR PROVIDING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Matter enclosed in heavy brackets [ ] appears in the original patent but forms no part of this reissue specification; matter printed in italics indicates the additions made by reissue.

This application is a reissue of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 10/125,763, filed on Apr. 18, 2002, now U.S. Pat. No. 7,130,887.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates generally to electronic mail systems, and more specifically, to a method and system for generating an additional e-mail transmission to one or more recipients who are copied on an original electronic message.

2. Background of the Invention

Present-day network systems communicate through a variety of channels in order to interconnect computers. Electronic mail is in widespread use as a mechanism for communicating messages and for transferring documents, images, sound files and other media files.

E-mail programs and other programs such as Internet browsers having e-mail capability permit a computer user to create a message that is sent to an e-mail server for the recipient of the message. Typical e-mail programs provide a variety of features for sending an e-mail message. Often, a computer user generating an e-mail message copies the e-mail message to others using the carbon-copy (cc:) or blind-carbon-copy (bcc:) feature available in typical e-mail programs. The cc: recipients receive a copy of the e-mail and their address is visible to the other recipients. The bcc: recipients are not visible to the other recipients, making the copy a private message. The e-mail message is merely a copy of the message send to one or more designated recipients (the "to:" recipients) and does not contain any information other than the original e-mail content. In some cases the copied recipient may not understand the reason why they were copied or the meaning of the message content, therefore additional commentary or explanation is desirable. In particular, with bcc: recipients, the recipient may think that the copied message is not intended for them, as their address does not typically appear in the message header. Also, the current copying features in e-mail programs, while making it simple to copy additional recipients, fail to remind the user that commentary, explanation or clarification may be desired or that additional information that the sender intends to provide to one or more copied recipients has not yet been communicated.

Explanations and commentary are often desirable associated with copied e-mail messages, but presently the only way to accomplish this is to send an additional message to the copied recipients using the standard mechanism for generating new messages or forwarding a copy of a previously sent mail (typically in alternative to using a cc: or bcc: feature) to one or more other recipients. However, the methods described above are inconvenient, requiring in the case of a new message entering the copied recipients' address and subject line and requiring pasting the original message content if needed for commentary and reattaching attachments. In the case of a forwarded "sent" message, the subject line will typically contain a "FW:" indicator which may cause the recipient to think that the message has a low priority, and if the forwarding mechanism is not for "quoted" text by default, the sender will not be able to intersperse comments, but may only add a message above the forwarded content.

Therefore, it would be desirable to provide a method and system for generating an e-mail transmission to copied recipients for providing additional information for clarification, explanation or commentary.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The above objective of generating e-mail messages to copied recipients for providing additional information is achieved in a method and system. The method and system receive a user input indicating that an original e-mail message has been completed, determine whether or not a copied recipient is indicated, and in response to determining that a copied recipient is indicated, generating a new e-mail message for sending additional information to the copied recipient for clarification, explanation or commentary on the original e-mail message. The method may be embodied in a computer program product containing program instructions for execution within a general-purpose computer system.

The foregoing and other objectives, features, and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following, more particular, description of the preferred embodiment of the invention, as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. **1** is a block diagram depicting a networked computer system in which a preferred embodiment of the invention may be practiced.

FIG. **2** is a pictorial diagram depicting output of an e-mail program displayed on the graphic display of FIG. **1**, having a user prompt in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the invention.

FIG. **3** is a pictorial diagram depicting output of an e-mail program displayed on the graphic display of FIG. **1**, for generating an additional message in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the invention.

FIG. **4** is a flowchart depicting a method of operation of an e-mail generating system in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the invention.

FIG. **5** is a pictorial diagram depicting an exemplary control panel for setting parameters of software implementing a method in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring now to the figures and in particular to FIG. **1**, a networked computer system within which a preferred embodiment of the present invention may be practiced is depicted in a block diagram. To support e-mail functions, an e-mail server **10** is coupled to the network via a network connection **11**. Also coupled to the network is a personal computer **12** having a processor **16** coupled to a memory **17** for executing program instructions from memory **17**. *Memory 17 may include computer readable media.* Personal computer **12** is coupled to a graphical display **13** for displaying program output and input devices such as a mouse **15** and a keyboard **14** for receiving user input. The networked computer system may be coupled to a public network such as the Internet, or may be a private network such as the various "intra-nets" that

are implemented within corporate offices and other installations requiring secure data communications.

Within memory **17**, an e-mail program embodying a method in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention is executed by processor **16**. Personal computer **12** is included to provide a demonstrative example of a general purpose computer, and it will be understood by those skilled in the art that the techniques of the present invention apply to a variety of other e-mail applications such as dedicated Internet appliances and large mainframe computers having user terminals. The present invention also applies to personal e-mail appliances such as personal digital assistants (PDAs) and e-mail enabled pagers and cellular telephones.

Referring now to FIG. **2**, an output of an e-mail program in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the invention is depicted. While the invention is depicted with screens in American English language, the invention may be adapted to other languages and other countries. E-mail program output **30** forms a user output on graphical display **13** to permit a computer user to interact with the e-mail program executing within personal computer **12**. E-mail program output **30** has a frame with menu options and a message area **34** for entering the text of e-mail messages via keyboard **14**. The e-mail message is sent by pressing a send button **33** in response to which the e-mail message and any attachments are sent to recipient's e-mail server **10**, with the set recipients determined by the settings in the recipient lists entry area **31**. The original recipients (To: recipients) are entered in "To:" list **31**A, the carbon-copy (cc: recipients) are entered in "cc:" list **31**B and the blind-carbon-copy recipients are entered in the "bcc:" list **31**C. A subject line is entered in subject line entry area **39**.

Alternatively, the e-mail message may be saved along with the customized characteristics for later transmission by pressing a save button **32**. In response to completion of the e-mail message (by pressing send button **33** or save button **32**), the user may be queried by a prompt dialog **35**. Prompt dialog **35** notifies the user that one or more copied recipients were specified in cc: list entry area **31**B and bcc: list entry area **31**C and provides the user with an option that will generate additional messages to the copied recipients. Individual messages may be generated by selecting button **36** or a single message may be generated by selecting button **37**. No additional message will be generated if the user declines by selecting button **38**. The above options are exemplary and other options may ark be presented within prompt dialog **35** or configured via a control panel within the e-mail program that will be described in detail below. Generally, prompt dialog **35** may include options to generate separate group messages to the cc: list and bcc: list, individual messages for either group or both, and quotation options for repeating the content of the original message within the additional generated message permitting in-line commentary.

Referring now to FIG. **3**, a second graphical output of an e-mail program in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the invention is depicted. The output screen **30**A depicted is generated in response to the user selecting one of buttons **36** or **37** from prompt dialog **35**. Output screen **30**A represents the additional message generated and may be a new overlaid window or may be the main e-mail program message window. In the example screen **30**A, the additional message is a message generated for the bcc: recipient of FIG. **2** and the address of bcc: recipient is automatically entered in a "To:" list **31**D of output screen **30**A. Multiple output screens may be generated in sequence for individual additional messages to each of the cc: and/or bcc: list entries if that option is selected (via button **36** or specified in the control panel) and "To:" list may contain more than one e-mail address when a single message is selected (via button **37**) or selected via the control panel). Alternatively two output screens will be generated if the settings are such that an additional group e-mail message is to be generated for each of the bcc: list and cc: list.

Text entry area **34**B permits the insertion of explanatory information and quoted text **34**C that may be optionally automatically inserted within text entry area **34**B, providing the user with editable text within which commentary may be interspersed. After the user has completed editing and entering text in text area **34**B, the additional e-mail message may be sent by selecting send button **33** or saved via save button **32**. The method of the present invention may be iterated by prompting the user at this point for additional copied recipients, permitting the user to copy the new message to yet another recipient or to themselves for record-keeping.

Referring now to FIG. **4**, a method in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention is depicted in a flowchart. When the e-mail sender provides a user input indicating that an e-mail message is completed (step **50**), the copy lists (cc: and/or bcc: depending on options selected) are checked for copied recipients (step **51**) and if copy recipients are specified (decision **52**) the user is prompted to provide an option of generating additional messages (step **53**). If the user selects the option to generate additional messages (decision **54**), one or more additional messages are generated in one or more new windows to accept further user text input for commentary, explanation or clarification (step **55**). (The additional e-mail message are then optionally transmitted or saved in a conventional manner.)

Referring now to FIG. **5**, a control panel **60** for configuring operating parameters of software implementing a method in accordance with an embodiment of the invention is depicted. Control panel **60** is exemplary and is included to illustrate some of the common options that may be provided to control the operation of the above-described software. Option **61**A provides for selection of application of the method of the present invention to e-mail messages (in essence an on/off switch) as applied to bcc: or cc: recipients or both via selection boxes **62**A. Option **61**B provides the user the option of generating separate messages to copied recipients on the bcc: and cc: lists via the associated selection box *62B* and option **61**E provides the user the option of automatically copying the original subject line to the subject line entry area within the new message(s). *Option 61C provides the user the option of automatically including the message text of the original email message.* Option **61**D provides the user the option of automatically attaching the attachments provided in the original e-mail message. Control panel **60** can be configured once to set the default operation of the method of the present invention as embodied in an e-mail program.

While the invention has been particularly shown and described with reference to the preferred embodiments thereof, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that the foregoing and other changes in form, and details may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A method for generating e-mail transmissions, comprising:

receiving a [user] *first* input indicating that [an original] *a first* e-mail message is complete;

transmitting said [original] *first* e-mail message to all recipients indicated by a recipient list for said [original email] *first e-mail* message;

determining whether [or not] at least one copied recipient has been specified in said recipient list, whereby said

original e-mail message has been transmitted to said at least one copied recipient in said transmitting step;

in response to determining that said at least one copied recipient has been specified, [second] receiving *a* second user input [of further], *said second user input having* information associated with said [original] *first* e-mail message;

generating a [new] *second* e-mail message separate from said [original] *first email* message [for transmission to said at least one copied recipient], wherein said [further] information associated with said [original] *first* e-mail message is inserted [for transmission to said at least one copied recipient] *into said second e-mail message*; and

transmitting said [new] *second* e-mail message to said at least one copied recipient.

2. The method of claim **1**, wherein said [user] *first* input indicating that said *first* e-mail message is complete [is a user] *comprises* input instructing an e-mail program to send said *first* e-mail message.

3. The method of claim **1**, wherein said [user] *first* input indicating that said *first* email message is complete [is a user] *comprises* input instructing an e-mail program to save said [email] *first e-mail* message.

4. The method of claim **1**, wherein said at least one copied recipient includes a carbon-copy recipient and a blind carbon-copy recipient and wherein said generating [generates a first] *comprises generating the second e-mail* message for transmission to said carbon-copy recipient and a [second] *third e-mail* message for transmission to said blind-carbon-copy recipient.

5. The method of claim **1**, wherein said generating [generates an additional] *comprises generating the second* e-mail message [having the] *with a* same subject line as said [original] *first* e-mail message.

6. The method of claim **1**, wherein said generating [generates an additional] *comprises generating the second* e-mail message [including] *with* text quoted from said [original] *first* email message.

7. The method of claim **1**, wherein said at least one copied recipient includes multiple copied recipients, and wherein said generating [generates] *comprises generating* multiple additional *e-mail* messages each for transmission to a particular one of said multiple copied recipients.

8. A system for generating e-mail transmissions, comprising:

a memory for storing program instructions and data;

a processor coupled to said memory for executing said program instructions; and

[a user] *an* input device coupled to said processor for receiving [user] input, wherein said program instructions include instructions for:

receiving a [user] *first* input indicating that [an original] *a first* e-mail message is complete;

transmitting said [original] *first* e-mail message to all recipients indicated by a recipient list for said [original email] *first e-mail* message;

determining whether [or not] at least one copied recipient has been specified in said recipient list, whereby said original e-mail message has been is transmitted to said at least one copied recipient in said transmitting step;

in response to determining that said at least one copied recipient has been specified, [second] receiving *a* second user input [of further], *said second user input having* information associated with said [original] *first* e-mail message;

generating a [new] *second* e-mail message separate from said [original] *first e-mail* message [for transmission to said at least one copied recipient], wherein said [further] information associated with said [original] *first* e-mail message is inserted [for transmission to said at least one copied recipient] *into said second e-mail message*; and

transmitting said [new] *second* e-mail message to said at least one copied recipient.

9. The system of claim **8**, wherein said [user] *first* input indicating that said *first* e-mail message is complete [is a user] *comprises* input instructing an email program to send said *first* e-mail message.

10. The system of claim **8**, wherein said [user] *first* input indicating that said *first* email message is complete [is a user] *comprises* input instructing an [email] *e-mail* program to save said *first* e-mail message.

11. The system of claim **8**, wherein said at least one copied recipient includes a carbon-copy recipient and a [blind carbon-copy] *blind-carbon-copy* recipient, and wherein said program instructions for generating [generate a first] *comprise program instructions for generating the second e-mail* message for transmission to said carbon-copy recipient and a [second] *third e-mail* message for transmission to said blind-carbon-copy recipient.

12. The system of claim **8**, wherein said program instructions for generating [generate an additional] *comprise program instructions for generating the second* e-mail message [having the] *with a* same subject line as said [original] *first* e-mail message.

13. The system of claim **8**, wherein said program instructions for generating [generate an additional email] *comprise program instructions for generating the second e-mail* message [including] *with* text quoted from said [original e-mail] *first email* message.

14. The system of claim **8**, wherein said at least one copied recipient includes multiple copied recipients and wherein said program instructions for generating [generate] *comprise program instructions for generating* multiple additional *e-mail* messages each for transmission to a particular one of said multiple copied recipients.

15. A computer program product [tangibly] embodied in a *non-transitory* computer readable medium containing program instructions for execution within a general purpose computer, wherein said program instructions comprise program instructions for:

receiving a [user] *first* input indicating that [an original] *a first* e-mail message is complete;

transmitting said [original] *first* e-mail message to all recipients indicated by a recipient list for said [original] *first* e-mail message;

determining whether [or not] at least one copied recipient has been specified in said recipient list, whereby said original e-mail message has been transmitted to said at least one copied recipient in said transmitting step;

in response to determining that said at least one copied recipient has been specified, [second] receiving *a* second user input [of further], *said second user input having* information associated with said [original] *first* e-mail message;

generating a [new] *second* e-mail message separate from said [original] *first e-mail* message [for transmission to said at least one copied recipient], wherein said [further] information associated with said [original email] *first e-mail* message is inserted [for transmission to said at least one copied recipient] *into said second e-mail message*; and

transmitting said [new] *second* e-mail message to said at least one copied recipient.

16. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein said [user] *first* input indicating that said *first* e-mail message is complete [is a user] *comprises* input instructing an e-mail program to send said *first* e-mail message.

17. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein said [user] *first* input indicating that said [e-mail] *first email* message is complete [is a user] *comprises* input instructing an e-mail program to save said *first* e-mail message.

18. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein said at least one copied recipient includes a carbon-copy recipient and a [blind carbon-copy] *blind-carbon-copy* recipient, and wherein said [program instructions for] generating [generate a first] *comprises generating the second e-mail* message for transmission to said carbon-copy recipient and a [second] *third e-mail* message for transmission to said blind-carbon-copy recipient.

19. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein said [program instructions for] generating [generate an additional] *comprises generating the second* e-mail message [having the] *with a* same subject line as said [original] *first* e-mail message.

20. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein said [program instructions for] generating [generate an additional] *comprises generating the second* e-mail message [including] *with* text quoted from said [original e-mail] *first email* message.

21. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein said at least one copied recipient includes multiple copied recipients and wherein said [program instructions for]generating [generate] *comprises generating* multiple additional *e-mail* messages each for transmission to a particular one of said multiple copied recipients.

22. A method comprising:

displaying a first e-mail message in a first e-mail message window, the first e-mail message window including at least: a recipient field; a carbon-copy recipient field; a message area; and at least one of a send button or a save button;

responsive to a selection of the send button or save button, determining whether the carbon-copy recipient field contains a recipient; and

responsive to the first e-mail message being transmitted and determining that the carbon-copy recipient field contains the recipient, automatically displaying a prompt window that includes an option to send a second email message to the recipient listed in the carbon-copy recipient field, the prompt window further including an option to send a single group e-mail message or to send individual e-mail messages to the recipient and one or more additional recipients listed in the carbon-copy recipient field.

23. The method as recited in claim 22, further comprising: responsive to a selection of the option to send the second e-mail message to the recipient listed in the carbon-copy recipient field, generating the second e-mail message in a second e-mail message window, the second e-mail message window including at least the recipient listed in the carbon-copy recipient field of the first e-mail message window in a second recipient field of the second e-mail message window.

24. The method as recited in claim 22, further comprising transmitting the first e-mail message and the second e-mail message.

25. One or more non-transitory computer readable media having stored thereon a plurality of instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, perform operations comprising:

displaying a first e-mail message in a first e-mail message window, the first e-mail message window including at least: a recipient field; a carbon-copy recipient field; a message area; and at least one of a send button or a save button;

in response to the first e-mail message being transmitted, determining whether the carbon-copy recipient field contains a recipient responsive to a selection of the send button; and

automatically displaying a prompt window that includes an option to send a second e-mail message to the recipient listed in the carbon-copy recipient field responsive to a determination that the carbon-copy recipient field contains the recipient, the prompt window further including an option to send a single group e-mail message or to send individual e-mail messages to the recipient and one or more additional recipients listed in the carbon-copy recipient field.

26. One or more non-transitory computer readable media as recited in claim 25, wherein the first e-mail message window includes a save button.

27. One or more non-transitory computer readable media as recited in claim 25, wherein the first e-mail message window includes a send button.

28. One or more non-transitory computer readable media as recited in claim 25, wherein the first e-mail message window further includes a blind-carbon-copy recipient field.

29. One or more non-transitory computer readable media as recited in claim 28, wherein the prompt window further includes an option to send a separate group message to one or more recipients listed in the blind-carbon-copy recipient field.

30. One or more non-transitory computer readable media as recited in claim 25, further comprising: responsive to a selection of the option to send the second e-mail message to the recipient listed in the carbon-copy recipient field, generating the second e-mail message in a second e-mail message window, the second e-mail message window including at least the recipient listed in the carbon-copy recipient field of the first e-mail message window in a second recipient field of the second e-mail message window.

31. One or more non-transitory computer readable media as recited in claim 30, wherein the second e-mail message window includes text from the message area of the first e-mail message window.

32. One or more non-transitory computer readable media as recited in claim 30, wherein the first e-mail message window further includes a subject field, and wherein the second e-mail message window includes text from the subject field of the first e-mail message window.

33. A system comprising:

a processor;

a memory coupled to the processor, the memory comprising computer program instructions executable by the processor to perform operations comprising:

displaying a first e-mail message in a first e-mail message window, the first e-mail message window including at least: a recipient field; a carbon-copy recipient field; a message area; and at least one of a send button or a save button;

responsive to the first e-mail message being transmitted, determining whether the carbon-copy recipient field contains a recipient responsive to a selection of the send button; and

automatically displaying a prompt window that includes an option to send a second e-mail message to the recipient listed in the carbon-copy recipient field responsive to

a determination that the carbon-copy recipient field contains the recipient, the prompt window further including an option to send a single group e-mail message or to send individual e-mail messages to the recipient and one or more additional recipients listed in the carbon-copy recipient field.

34. The system as recited in claim 33, wherein the first e-mail message window further includes a subject field, and wherein the second e-mail message window includes text from the subject field of the first e-mail message window.

35. A computer-implemented method comprising:

creating a first e-mail message;

responsive to a first selection of sending the first e-mail message to at least one recipient indicated for the first e-mail message, transmitting the first e-mail message and determining if there is a copied recipient among the at least one recipient indicated for the first e-mail message;

creating a second e-mail message addressed to each said copied recipient determined among the at least one recipient in response to a second selection of sending the second e-mail message, the second e-mail message configured to receive further information input by a user; and

transmitting the second e-mail message.

36. The computer-implemented method as recited in claim 35, wherein the second e-mail message is addressed to the copied recipient and one or more additional copied recipients.

37. The computer-implemented method as recited in claim 35, further comprising creating one or more additional e-mail messages addressed to one or more additional carbon-copied recipients, wherein each of the one or more additional e-mail messages is addressed to one of the one or more additional carbon-copied recipients.

38. One or more non-transitory computer readable media having stored thereon a plurality of instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, perform operations comprising:

creating a first e-mail message;

responsive to a first selection of sending the first e-mail message to at least one recipient indicated for the first e-mail message, transmitting the first e-mail message and determining if there is a copied recipient among the at least one recipient indicated for the first e-mail message;

creating a second e-mail message addressed to each said copied recipient determined among the at least one recipient in response to a second selection of sending the second e-mail message, the second e-mail message configured to receive further information input by a user; and

transmitting the second e-mail message.

39. One or more non-transitory computer readable media as recited in claim 38, further comprising determining if there is a blind-carbon-copied recipient in the first e-mail message.

40. One or more non-transitory computer readable media as recited in claim 39, further comprising creating a third e-mail message addressed to the blind-carbon-copied recipient, the third e-mail message configured to receive text.

41. A system comprising:

a processor;

a memory coupled to the processor, the memory comprising computer program instructions executable by the processor to perform operations comprising:

creating a first e-mail message;

responsive to a first selection of sending the first e-mail message to at least one recipient indicated for the first e-mail message, transmitting the first e-mail message and determining if there is a copied recipient among the at least one recipient indicated for the first e-mail message;

creating a second e-mail message addressed to each said copied recipient determined among the at least one recipient in response to a second selection of sending the second email message, the second e-mail message configured to receive further information input by a user; and

transmitting the second e-mail message.

42. The system as recited in claim 41, wherein the second e-mail message includes text quoted from the first e-mail message.

43. The system as recited in claim 41, wherein the second e-mail message include a same subject line as the first e-mail message.

44. A method comprising:

displaying an e-mail message window, the e-mail message window including at least a send button and a recipient field;

responsive to receiving a selection of the send button and the e-mail message being transmitted, determining whether the recipient field contains more than one recipient; and

responsive to determining that the recipient field contains more than one recipient, automatically displaying a window that includes an option to send one or more additional e-mail messages to one or more of the recipients listed in the recipient field, the window further including an option to send a single group e-mail message or to send individual e-mail messages to the more than one recipient listed in the recipient field.

45. The method as recited in claim 44, further comprising:

responsive to a selection of the option to send one or more additional e-mail messages to one or more of the recipients listed in the recipient field, generating one or more additional e-mail messages in one or more additional e-mail message windows, each of the one or more additional e-mail message windows including at least one of the one or more recipients listed in the recipient field of the email message window in the recipient field of the one or more additional e-mail message windows.

46. A computer-implemented method comprising:

creating an e-mail message;

responsive to a first selection of sending the e-mail message to at least one recipient indicated for the e-mail message, transmitting the e-mail message and determining if the e-mail message is addressed to more than one recipient among the at least one recipient indicated for the e-mail message;

creating one or more additional e-mail messages addressed to another recipient of the at least one recipient determined in response to a second selection of sending the one or more additional e-mail messages, the one or more additional e-mail messages configured to receive further information input by a user; and

transmitting the one or more additional e-mail messages.

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