

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
2 September 2004 (02.09.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/075006 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: H04L 9/00, G06F 11/30, 15/16, 15/173

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US2004/004292

(22) International Filing Date: 13 February 2004 (13.02.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data: 60/448,313 14 February 2003 (14.02.2003) US

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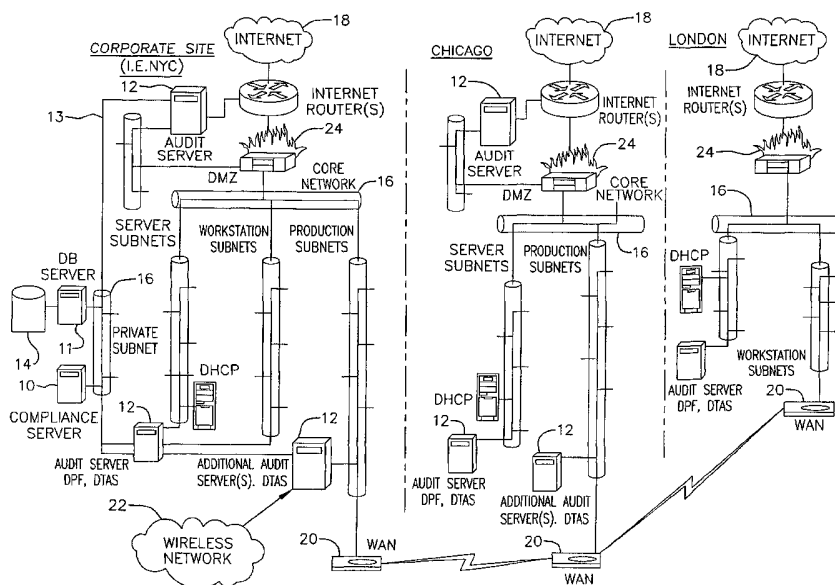
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: NETWORK AUDIT POLICY ASSURANCE SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A prevention-based network auditing system including a central compliance server (10) generating network policies and configuring audits of the data communications network (13). The compliance server presents a graphical user interface (GUI) to describe the specific data gathering parameters, policies to be analyzed, and the schedule of analysis. One or more audit servers (12) strategically deployed around the network employ heterogeneous data-gathering tools to gather information about the network in response to the configured audits, and transmit the gathered information to the compliance server. An audit repository (14) stores the gathered information for use by the compliance server for security and regulatory policy assessment, network vulnerability analysis, report generation, and security improvement recommendations.

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(84) **Designated States** (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, 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, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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:**

24 March 2005

(15) **Information about Correction:**

Previous Correction:

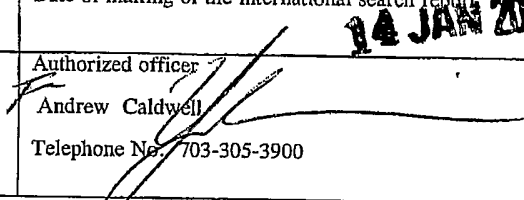
see PCT Gazette No. 40/2004 of 30 September 2004, Section II

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/04292

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(7) : H04L 9/00; G06F 11/30, 15/16, 15/173 US CL : 713/153-154, 201; 709/226-227,229,249 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. : 713/153-154, 201; 709/226-227,229,249 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) Please See Continuation Sheet		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X --- Y	US 6,229,540 B1 (TONELLI et al) 08 May 2001 (08.05.2001), col.4, lines 1-5, 28-67, col.5, lines 1-22, col.7, lines 8-15, col.13, lines 1-12, col.17, 29-43, col.18, lines 24-65, col.19, lines 11-54	1-15, 26, 28, 33-37, 39-40, 42-46 ----- 16-25,27,29-32, 38,41
Y	US 6,735,701 B1 (JACOBSON) 11 May 2004 (11.05.2004), col. 4, col. 5, lines 41-65, lines 6-26, col. 10, lines 57-67, col. 11, lines 53-59, col. 15, lines 13-28, 41-65, col. 17, ines 37-46, col. 20, lines 3-64	16-25, 27, 29-32, 38,41
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.		<input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.
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"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 27 December 2004 (27.12.2004)	Date of mailing of the international search report 14 JAN 2005	
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. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer  Andrew Caldwell Telephone No. 703-305-3900	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US04/04292

Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

WEST Text Search: terms: policies, network audit, heterogeneous informtion, normalized data, semantic normalization module, wireless access point, audit tracking, packet filter, uniform communication, montoring, verification