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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

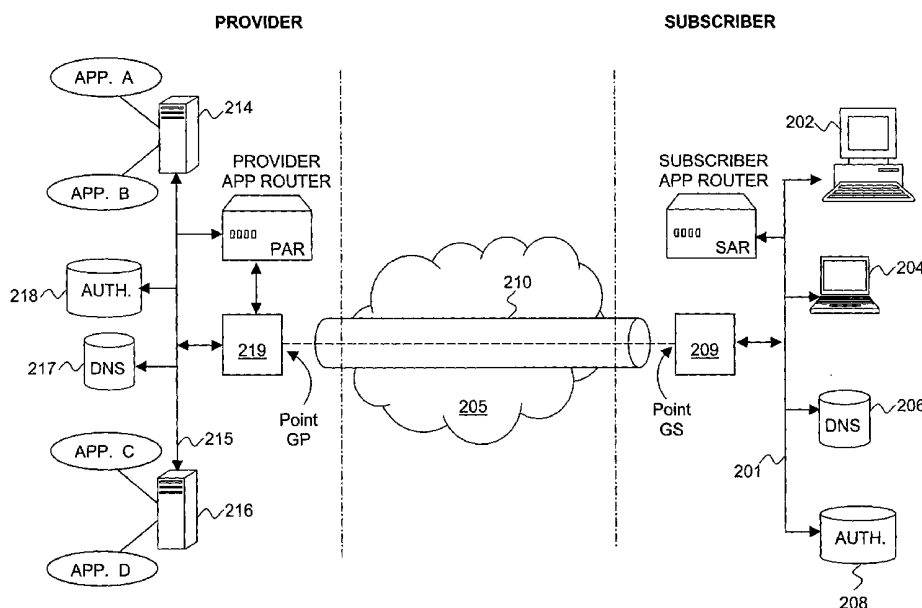
- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for all designations
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations

Published:

- with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING NETWORK DEPENDENT APPLICATION SERVICES



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for providing network dependent application services is provided. In accordance with one embodiment of the invention, a first group of one or more application service contracts specifying subscriptions to one or more application services are provided to a community of one or more subscriber application routers (SAR) by a first application service Provider. One or more application delivery transports are then automatically provisioned in accordance with the one or more application service contracts, and selected ones of the application services are delivered through selected ones of said application delivery transports.

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— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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.

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26 September 2002

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H04L29/06 G06F9/46 H04L29/12		
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 7 G06F H04L		
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 practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, IBM-TDB, INSPEC		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 99 22332 A (INTERDESIGN HDL) 6 May 1999 (1999-05-06)	1,2,6,7, 11,12, 16,19, 23,24,28
Y	the whole document	3-5, 8-10, 13-15, 17,18, 20-22, 25-27, 29,30, 33-37, 40-44, 49-52, 57,58
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.		
° Special categories of cited documents :		
A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date *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) *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		
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 *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 *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. *Z* document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 2 July 2002		Date of mailing of the international search report 18. 07. 2002
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040. Tx. 31 651 epo nl. Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016		Authorized officer Bertolissi, E

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International Application No

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	<p>US 5 953 229 A (CLARK STEVEN J ET AL) 14 September 1999 (1999-09-14)</p> <p>abstract column 3, line 17 - line 65</p> <p>---</p>	<p>3-5, 8-10, 13-15, 17,18, 20-22, 25-27, 43,44, 49-52, 57,58</p>
Y	<p>US 5 774 668 A (CHOQUIER PHILIPPE ET AL) 30 June 1998 (1998-06-30)</p> <p>abstract column 1, line 40 -column 3, line 52 column 10, line 20 - line 48 figures 1-5</p> <p>---</p>	<p>29,30, 33-37, 40-42</p>
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A	<p>MICROSOFT CORPORATION: "DCOM Technical Overview" MICROSOFT CORPORATION DOCUMENTATION, November 1996 (1996-11), XP002178408 Security Load Balancing</p> <p>---</p>	<p>29-42</p>
A	<p>GARFINKEL SIMSON; SPAFFORD GENE: "WEB SECURITY AND COMMERCE" June 1997 (1997-06) , O'REILLY XP002196011 page 99 -page 131</p> <p>---</p>	<p>1-58</p>
A	<p>YANG Z ET AL: "COBRA: A PLATFORM FOR DISTRIBUTED OBJECT COMPUTING" OPERATING SYSTEMS REVIEW (SIGOPS), ACM HEADQUARTER. NEW YORK, US, vol. 30, no. 2, 1 April 1996 (1996-04-01), pages 4-31, XP000585086 2 Overview of OMG OMA 3.9 Legacy systems Figure 5</p> <p>---</p>	<p>1-58</p>
	<p>---</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-/--</p>	

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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International Application No

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>NORIFUSA M: "Internet security: difficulties and solutions" INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF MEDICAL INFORMATICS, ELSEVIER SCIENTIFIC PUBLISHERS, SHANNON, IR, vol. 49, no. 1, March 1998 (1998-03), pages 69-74, XP004149463 ISSN: 1386-5056 Abstract 4. The VPN solution - 7. Examples Fig. 2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">---</p>	59-91
A	<p>US 5 862 328 A (COLYER ADRIAN MARK) 19 January 1999 (1999-01-19) abstract column 5, line 20 - column 6, line 29 column 8, line 23 - line 41</p> <p style="text-align: center;">---</p>	59-91
A	<p>"PROGRAM FOR EXPORTING TRANSMISSION CONTROL PROTOCOL-BASED SERVICES THROUGH FIREWALLS" IBM TECHNICAL DISCLOSURE BULLETIN, IBM CORP. NEW YORK, US, vol. 40, no. 12, 1 December 1997 (1997-12-01), pages 161-162, XP000754125 ISSN: 0018-8689 the whole document</p> <p style="text-align: center;">---</p>	59-91
A	<p>US 6 055 236 A (BORELLA MICHAEL S ET AL) 25 April 2000 (2000-04-25) abstract column 5, line 1 - line 63</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	59-91

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-58

Method, devices and apparatuses for providing application service contracts

2. Claims: 59-91

Method, and apparatuses for transforming packets

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
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