

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
14 February 2002 (14.02.2002)

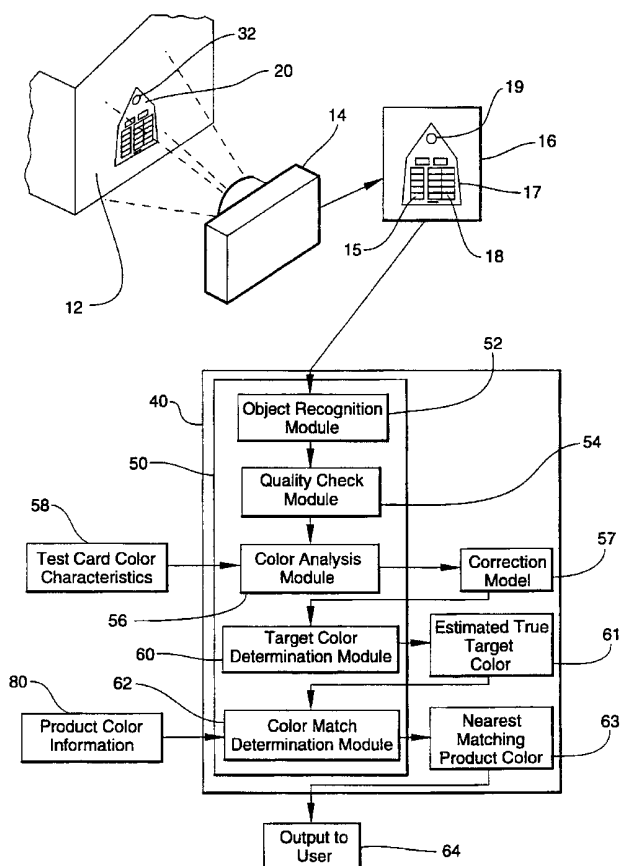
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 02/13136 A3

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: G06K 9/00
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US01/22692
- (22) International Filing Date: 19 July 2001 (19.07.2001)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
09/633,933 8 August 2000 (08.08.2000) US
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- (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, 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, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:
— with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MATCHING A SURFACE COLOR



(57) Abstract: The digital image is analyzed to determine the captured target color (12) and the captured colors of the test card color fields (20). A correction model accounting for ambient lighting conditions and distortion due to image capturing device is computed from the captured and known colors of the test card color fields. The correction model is applied to the captured target color (60) and the estimated true target color is compared to a database of true product color (80) to determine a nearest matching.



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(88) **Date of publication of the international search report:** 13 June 2002 *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

International application No.
PCT/US01/22692

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) :G06K 9/00
US CL :382/167

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. : 382/162, 165, 167, 305; 358/518

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)

EAST

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|---|-----------------------|
| A | US 5,798,943 A (COOK et al) 25 August 1998, abstract. | 1-39 |
| A | US 4,492,474 A (MILLER) 08 January 1985, abstract. | 1-39 |
| A | SLATER et al. The Illumination-Invariant Recognition of 3D Objects Using Local Color Invariants .IEEE transactions on pattern analysis. 2 February 1996. Vol. 18. No. 2. pages 206-210. | 1-39 |

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| Date of the actual completion of the international search 20 FEBRUARY 2002 | Date of mailing of the international search report 25 MAR 2002 |
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