(54) Title: AUCTION ENGINE CONNECTOR

(57) Abstract: A bidding system may include an auction engine which may manage a live auction between clients at user sites (e.g., purchaser (or initiator) and bidder sites). The auction engine may communicate with messaging clients at the user sites using an XML over HTTP protocol. The auction engine may include an XML connector to translate communications to and from the messaging clients into messages conforming with the protocol. The XML connection may also provide real-time updates to the messaging clients.
(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
9 March 2006

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

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPCG : G06F 17/60
US CL : 705/26, 27

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. : 705/26, 27

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)

Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>US 2002/0049664 A1 (HOFFMAN et al) 25 April 2002 (25.04.2002), see at least abstract; page 1, 0005, 0008-0009; page 1-2, 0010; page 2, 0011-0012, 0014-0015, 0018; page 3, 0027; page 4, 0028, 0040-0049, 0051; page 5, 0052-0053, 0063; page 6, 0066, 0072; Figure 6</td>
<td>1, 2, 4-11, 13-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>US 2002/0072974 A1 (PUGLIESE, III et al) 13 June 2002 (13.06.2002), see at least page 14, 0262.</td>
<td>3, 12</td>
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search


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Date of mailing of the international search report

15 NOV 2005

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