

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20231

#8/C
LWJ
8-11-97
extend

67479 U.S. PTO
07/07/97

In re application of:) Examiner: Xuong M. Chung-Trans
)
 LAWRENCE B. LOCKWOOD) Art Unit: 2305
)
 Serial No: 08/418,772)
)
 Filed: April 7, 1995)
)
 For: AUTOMATED MULTIMEDIA DATA)
 PROCESSING NETWORK)

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AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendments (Pats)
The Honorable Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D. C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 3, 1997,
please amend this application as indicated below:

In The Specification

- On page 1, in the title, delete the comma after "Automated". ✓
- On page 2, line 5, add --of-- after "continuation". ✓
- On page 6, line 13, replace the second "and" with --an--.

In The Claims

Amend Claims 1, 8, 16 and 17 as follows:

- In Claim 1, line 1, add --multimedia-- after "automated", and replace "network" with --system--.
- In Claim 1, line 50, replace "network" with --system--.
- In Claim 1, line 21, replace "sequence" with --sequences--.
- In Claim 2, line 1, replace "network" with --system--.
- In Claim 7, lines 4-5, add a hyphen between "audio" and "visual".

In Claim 8, line 1, replace "A" with --An automated multimedia--.

In Claim 8, line 10, add --and outputting said query to said user-- after "query".

In Claim 8, line 4, delete "terminal".

1 13. (Once Amended) The system of Claim 10, which further
2 comprises:

3 a storage means;

4 means for addressing said [a] storage means with said
5 request message; and

6 computer programs for controlling said various means.

1 16. (Once Amended) An automated multimedia data processing
2 [network] system which comprises:

3 at least two computerized stations, each including:

4 [a computerized installation;

5 and] at least one [remote] access means;

6 [said installation including:]

7 a mass memory and a database stored in said mass
8 memory;

9 means for storing, processing, updating, and
10 retrieving data [in response to coded requests from said remote
11 access means];

12 program means for controlling said storing,
13 processing, updating and retrieving data means in response to
14 coded requests entered on said access means;

15 means, associated with said mass memory, for

16 storing and retrieving textual and graphical data;

17 means for processing interrelated textual and
18 graphical data describing a plurality of transaction options, and
19 for selectively retrieving data from said mass memory;

20 [a logical hierarchy of] interrelated textual and
21 graphical data stored in said mass memory, and accessible through
22 interrelated textual and graphical access path means;

23 means for accepting and processing said requests
24 according to backward-chaining and forward-chaining sequences;

25 means responsive to said coded requests for
26 automatically [answering and transmitting] displaying selected
27 data [to said access means];

28 means for interactively directing the operation of
29 said various means [installation, data receiving and transmitting
30 means], and of said mass memory, said means for directing
31 comprising means for holding an operational sequencing list and
32 means responsive to the status of said [installation,] mass
33 memory, and said various [data receiving and transmitting] means,
34 for controlling their operations[;].

1 17. (Once Amended) The [network] system of Claim 16 which
2 further comprises:

3 a computerized installation;

4 wherein each of said stations [remote access means]
5 comprises:

6 means for entering and transmitting [said] requests to
7 said installation;

8 means for receiving [textual and graphical] data from

9 said installation; and

10 means for displaying said [textual and graphical] data.

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 remain pending in this application.

Rejection Under 35 USC 112

Explanation of the wording in Claims 1 and 16 specifically cited by the Examiner as lacking proper support and of the wording of Claim 8 is given below:

CLAIM 1, lines 3-6:

a computerized installation including a database, means for entering data into said database, and a program means for storing, processing, updating, and retrieving data items in response to coded requests from remote stations;

p.5, l. 7-9:

Fig.1: r 101, 104

"The financial institution 101 is provided with a central processor 104 (the "computerized installation") which is used primarily to process loan applications..." ("program means for processing").

p.6, l. 1-3:

"The memory 108 of the central processor 104 holds some files 109 in which are stored information about the various loans available to customers..." (the "database").

p.7, l. 19-22:

"Accepted loan information is transmitted to the central processor of the financial institution and stored in the active case file" ("program means for storing").

p.5, l. 10-p.6, l.1:

"The central processor 104 has a communication interface which allows it to access the various terminals 105 at the remote

sites and be accessed by them at any time of the day. A communication control unit 106 associated with the central processor 104 assures an orderly sending and receiving of information between the terminals and the central processor (the "means for entering data"). The communication control unit 106 provides for a quick transfer of batches of information to and from the terminals 105 under direct access memory mode. Direct access memory modes are achieved by means of high speed data exchange units such as those manufactured by Metacomp, Inc. of San Diego, California and sold under the mark METAPAKS" (the "means for storing").

p.6, 1.12-14:

"Once a loan has been approved and accepted it is processed and monitored through an active case file 111" ("program means for processing").

p.10, 1.4-7:

"The terminal then addresses the financial institution and requests 132 the prior loan quotation stored in the quoted case file 110 of the central processor 104."

p.10, 1.16-17:

"In the case where a previous quotation is found to be on file, that quotation is transferred..." ("program means for retrieving data items in response to coded requests from remote stations").

p.5, 1.22-p.6, 1.1:

"The central processor 104 is also provided with a terminal monitor and update unit 107 which is programmed for periodically polling the various terminals 105 in order to verify their status

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