

CLASS 705, DATA PROCESSING: FINANCIAL, BUSINESS PRACTICE, MANAGEMENT, OR COST/PRICE DETERMINATION

SECTION I - CLASS DEFINITION

This is the generic class for apparatus and corresponding methods for performing data processing operations, in which there is a significant change in the data or for performing calculation operations wherein the apparatus or method is uniquely designed for or utilized in the practice, administration, or management of an enterprise, or in the processing of financial data.

This class also provides for apparatus and corresponding methods for performing data processing or calculating operations in which a charge for goods or services is determined.

This class additionally provides for subject matter described in the two paragraphs above in combination with cryptographic apparatus or method.

Subclasses 705/300-348 were established prior to complete reclassification of all project documents. Documents that have not yet been reclassified have been placed in 705/1.1. Until reclassification is finished a complete search of 705/300-348 should include a search of 705/1.1. Once the project documents in 705/1.1 have been reclassified they will be moved to the appropriate subclasses and this note will be removed.

SCOPE OF THE CLASS

1. The arrangements in this class are generally used for problems relating to administration of an organization, commodities or financial transactions.
2. Mere designation of an arrangement as a “business machine” or a document as a “business form” or “business chart” without any particular business function will not cause classification in this class or its subclasses.
3. For classification herein, there must be significant claim recitation of the data processing system or calculating computer and only nominal claim recitation of any external art environment. Significantly claimed apparatus external to this class, claimed in combination with apparatus under the class definition, which perform data processing or calculation operations are classified in the class appropriate to the external device unless specifically excluded therefrom.
4. Nominally claimed apparatus external to this class in

combination with apparatus under the class definition is classified in this class unless provided for in the appropriate external class.

5. In view of the nature of the subject matter included herein, consideration of the classification schedule for the diverse art or environment is necessary for proper search.

OTHER CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

Each subclass definition may contain an OTHER CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS listing that is to be used for informational purposes only. These classification listings may change at any time after their publication and are therefore not guaranteed to be current. In addition, the classification listing does not necessarily indicate the sole relationship between the U.S. Patent Classification System and foreign classifications. Even where a single classification is listed for a single U.S. subclass, a one-to-one correlation should not be inferred. As a result, information contained therein is considered to be only a guide to related subject matter.

Types of other classification systems may include:

- IPC⁷, which indicates an International Patent Classification (seventh edition) of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO),
- JPO/FI, which indicates the Japanese Patent Office and its File Index (FI is a subdivision of the IPC with related subject matter) classifications, or
- European Patent Classification (ECLA), which indicates the European Patent Office's classification and also further subdivides the IPC into related subject matter, or
- Derwent, which indicates a classification from the Derwent Classification System.

SECTION II - REFERENCES TO OTHER CLASSES

SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

- 177, Weighing Scales, subclasses 25.11+ for a computerized scale.
- 186, Merchandising, various subclasses for customer service methods and apparatus in a variety of areas including banking, restaurant and stores.

- 235, Registers, various subclasses for basic machines and associated indicating mechanisms for ascertaining the number of movements of various devices and machines, plus machines made from these basic machines alone (e.g., cash registers, voting machines), and in combination with various perfecting features, such as printers and recording means. In addition, search Class 235 for various data bearing record controlled systems. Search subclasses 375 through 386 for a system having a detail of a record-sensing device in combination with a system utilized for banking, determining credit, maintaining an inventory, access control, vending, voting, time or operations analysis and having no more than a nominal recitation of a computer or data processing arrangement. Search subclasses 7+ for cash register; and subclass 61 for mechanically computing a cost/price ratio. Note that a nominally claimed record or card sensor is considered to be a peripheral of the data processing system.
- 283, Printed Matter, various subclasses for business forms and methods of using such forms.
- 307, Electrical Transmission or Interconnection Systems, various subclasses for generic residual electrical transmission or interconnection systems and miscellaneous circuits.
- 340, Communications: Electrical, various subclasses for residual electrical communication systems, subclasses 5.1-5.92 for communication details including authorization, vending, credit and access control; and see related classes elsewhere; particularly subclasses 5.4-5.42 for credit authorization control, and subclasses 5.9-5.92 for intelligence comparison for commodity controlling (e.g., vending).
- 341, Coded Data Generation or Conversion, various subclasses for electrical pulse and digital code conversion.
- 345, Computer Graphics Processing and Selective Visual Display Systems, subclasses 418 through 475 for data presentation/computer graphics processing; subclasses 581-618 for data presentation processing; and subclasses 1.1-111 for the selective control of two or more light generating or light controlling display elements in accordance with a received image signal.
- 359, Optics: Systems and Elements, subclasses 107+ for an optical computing arrangement.
- 360, Dynamic Magnetic Information Storage or Retrieval, which is an integral part of Class 369 following subclass 18, for record carriers and systems wherein information is stored and retrieved by interaction with a medium and there is relative motion between a medium and a transducer, for example, magnetic disk drive devices and control thereof, per se.
- 365, Static Information Storage and Retrieval, various subclasses for addressable static singular storage elements or plural singular storage elements of the same type.
- 369, Dynamic Information Storage or Retrieval, various subclasses for record carriers and systems wherein information is stored and retrieved by interaction with a medium and there is relative motion between a medium and a transducer.
- 370, Multiplex Communications, various subclasses for generic multiplexing and demultiplexing systems.
- 371, Error Detection/Correction and Fault Detection/Recovery, various subclasses for generic electrical pulse or pulse coded data error detection and correction.
- 375, Pulse or Digital Communications, various subclasses for generic pulse or digital communication systems.
- 377, Electrical Pulse Counters, Pulse Dividers, or Shift Registers: Circuits and Systems, various subclasses for generic circuits for pulse counting.
- 379, Telephonic Communications, various subclasses for two-way electrical communication of intelligible audio information of arbitrary content over a link including an electrical conductor. In addition, search subclasses 111 through 132 for a computer controlled telephone traffic and charge determining arrangement; subclass 284 for a processor controlled central switching arrangement.
- 380, Cryptography, appropriate subclasses for cryptographic apparatus or method in general and foreign art collections FOR 103 through FOR 150 for related foreign patents/nonpatent literature.
- 382, Image Analysis, appropriate subclasses for operations performed on image data with the aim of measuring a characteristic of an image, detecting variations, detecting structures, or transforming the image data, and for procedures for analyzing and categorizing patterns present in image data.

- 434, Education and Demonstration, subclasses 107 through 110, 219+ and 306 for education or demonstration of business or economics, occupations and voting, subclasses 322+ for question or problem eliciting response.
- 463, Amusement Devices: Games, subclasses 1+, when there is a recitation (according to paragraph 3, under Scope of the Class, in the Class Definition of this class (705)) of a method or apparatus for moving or processing information specified as game or contest information, especially subclasses 16+, where game or contest information relates to a chance-type game (i.e., one that involves an award or prize based upon the occurrence of a chance happening or event; e.g., lottery, keno, slot machine, etc.). However, in order for the specified information to be considered significant for placement in Class 463, there must be significant game processing. For example, the mere printing of a selected lottery number is not significant unless there is also included an element of a game for Class 463 (e.g., a determination of whether the number is a winning number, such as by lot matching, a determination of an award or prize value associated with a number, etc.). A “coupon” or price adjustment given to a patron based upon an item purchased or another predetermined or nonrandom criteria is not considered to be a chance event or happening appropriate for Class 463.
- 700, Data Processing: Generic Control Systems or Specific Applications, subclasses 90 through 306 for devices or methods for controlling the processing or manufacturing of, or being responsive to a physical or mechanical condition of, a product or material, and, subclasses 245-264 for robot control.
- 704, Data Processing: Speech Signal Processing, Linguistics, Language Translation, and Audio Compression/Decompression, subclasses 231+ for a speech recognition system.
- 708, Electrical Computers: Arithmetic Processing and Calculating, subclasses 100+ for electrical digital calculating computer combined with diverse art device such as a checkbook or calendar or with inputs or outputs specialized for a particular environment including business.
- 709, Electrical Computers and Digital Processing Systems: Multicomputer Data Transferring or Plural Process Synchronization, appropriate subclasses for multicomputer data transferring.
- 713, Electrical Computers and Digital Processing Systems: Support, subclasses 150 through 194 for cryptographic computer and digital processing system support and foreign art collections FOR 123 and FOR 125 for related foreign patents/nonpatent literature.
- 714, Error Detection/Correction and Fault Detection/Recovery, subclasses 1 through 57 for reliability and availability in a digital data processing system.
- 902, Electronic Funds Transfer, for art collections including a detail of a security measure, an ATM machine, a terminal or an identifier used in an electronic funds transfer.

SECTION III - REFERENCES TO OTHER CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

IPC G06F, for electric digital processing.

ECLA G06F, for electric digital data processing.

Derwent T01, for digital computers.

SECTION IV - GLOSSARY

ARRANGEMENT

Either a device or a method of use of a device for performing the indicated process.

CALCULATING OPERATIONS

Arithmetic or some limited logic operations performed upon or with signals representing numbers or values.

COMPUTER

A machine that inputs data, processes data, stores data, and outputs data.

CRYPTOGRAPHY

Secret information storage or communication. This includes equipment or process which (a) conceals or obscures intelligible information by transforming such information so as to make the information unintelligible to a casual or unauthorized recipient, or (b) extracts intelligible information from such a concealed representation, including breaking of unknown codes and messages.

DATA

Representation of information in a coded manner suitable for communication, interpretation, or processing.

DATA PROCESSING

(For the purpose of this class) A systematic operation on data in accordance with a set of rules which results in a significant change in the data.

DEVICE

An assemblage of components at a single location or which may have its several components at geographically distinct locations, i.e., a network.

ENTERPRISE

A conventional business organization, a governmental organization or a nonprofit organization.

FREQUENT USAGE INCENTIVE

A point, mile, etc., which is given to a user for customer loyalty (e.g., purchasing goods, reading advertisements, etc.) to a product, merchant or service.

FREQUENT USAGE REWARD

An award (i.e., prize) given to a user when he/she trades in his/her accumulated points, miles, etc., earned as part of a frequent usage incentive program.

KEY

A formula, word or signal used to define a code in encryption or decryption of the information. Such a signal is often a digital signal having a predetermined or pseudorandom content

PRACTICE

A function directly related to the commercial activity of an enterprise (e.g. the exchange, buying or selling of commodities).

This class additionally provides for subject matter described in the two paragraphs above in combination with cryptographic apparatus or method.

SUBCLASSES**1.1 AUTOMATED ELECTRICAL FINANCIAL OR BUSINESS PRACTICE OR MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENT:**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein an electrical apparatus and its corresponding methods perform the data processing operations, in which there is a significant change in the data or for performing calculation operations wherein the apparatus or method is uniquely designed for or utilized in the practice, administration, or management of an enterprise, or in the processing of financial data.

- (1) Note. The term "arrangement" as used in this and its indented subclasses refers to either a device or to a method of use of a device for performing the indicated process. Further, a device may be an assemblage of components at a single location or may have its several components at geographically distinct locations, i.e., a network.
- (2) Note. The term "enterprise" as used in this and its indented subclasses is intended to include governmental and nonprofit organizations, as well as conventional business organizations.
- (3) Note. The arrangements in this and its indented subclasses are generally used for problems relating to administration of an organization, commodities, financial transactions, or recreation.
- (4) Note. Mere designation of an arrangement as a "business machine" or a document as a "business form" or "business chart" without any particular business function will not cause classification in this or its indented subclasses.

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:

- 50, through 79 for business processing using cryptography.
- 500, for a financial or business practice or management arrangement without the use of computers.

SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

- 235, Registers, subclasses 379 through 383 and 385 for a system having a detail of a record-sensing device in combination with a system utilized for banking, determining credit or maintaining an inventory, and having no more than a nominal recitation of a computer or data processing arrangement. Note that a nominally claimed record or card sensor is considered to be a peripheral of the data processing system.
- 379, Telephonic Communications, 111 through 132 for a computer controlled telephone traffic and charge determining arrangement; subclass 284 for a processor controlled central switching arrangement.
- 463, Amusement Devices: Games, subclass 1.1, when there is a recitation (according to the (3) Note of Section III of the Class 705 Definition) of a method or apparatus for moving or processing information specified as game or contest information, especially subclass 16, where game or contest information relates to a chance-type game (i.e., one that involves an award or prize based upon the occurrence of a chance happening or event; e.g., lottery, keno, slot machine, etc.). However, in order for the specified information to be considered significant for placement in Class 463, there must be significant game processing. For example, the mere printing of a selected lottery number is not significant unless there is also included an element of a game for Class 463 (e.g., a determination of whether the number is a winning number, such as by lot matching, a determination of an award or prize value associated with a number, etc.). A "coupon" or price adjustment given to a patron based upon an item purchased or another predetermined or nonrandom criteria is not considered to be a chance event or happening appropriate for Class 463.

- 700, Data Processing: Generic Control Systems or Specific Applications, subclasses 90 through 306 for a device which either controls the processing of, or is responsive to a physical or mechanical condition of a product or material.
- 707, Data Processing: Database, Data Mining, and File Management or Data Structures, for databases or file management of data per se.

2 Health care management (e.g., record management, ICDA billing):

This subclass is indented under subclass 1.1. Subject matter drawn to a computer implemented system or method particularly adapted for a health care management or delivery organization.

- (1) Note. The terms "medical" and "health care" are intended to cover all type of treatment or diagnosis of the human body, such as dentistry, podiatry, pharmaceuticals, etc.
- (2) Note. The term "particularly adapted" refers to having an element peculiar to a health care system. Incidental use of a business arrangement of general utility, in a health care environment will not be classified in this or its indented subclasses.
- (3) Note. Billing systems based on entered medical codes, for example, ICDA codes (International Classification of Diseases Abstracted), are included herein.

OTHER CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS:

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