

**Opposition to Petitions
for *Inter Partes* Review of**

**U.S. Pat. 6,108,686
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Patent Owner Black Hills Media, LLC

U.S. Patent No. 6,108,686

- **Henry Williams Jr.**
- **Filed: March 2, 1998**
- **Issued: August 22, 2000**
- **Challenged Claims: 1, 2, 20, 23, 29 and 30**



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United States Patent [19]
Williams, Jr.

[11] **Patent Number:** 6,108,686
[45] **Date of Patent:** Aug. 22, 2000

[54] **AGENT-BASED ON-LINE INFORMATION RETRIEVAL AND VIEWING SYSTEM**
[76] **Inventor:** Henry R. Williams, Jr., 11 Broadway, Third Floor, New York, N.Y. 10004
[21] **Appl. No.:** 09/034,773
[22] **Filed:** Mar. 2, 1998
[51] **Int. Cl.:** G06F 15/16
[52] **U.S. Cl.:** 709/202; 709/203; 709/217
[58] **Field of Search:** 709/202, 203, 709/217; 707/1-6, 10, 516, 104

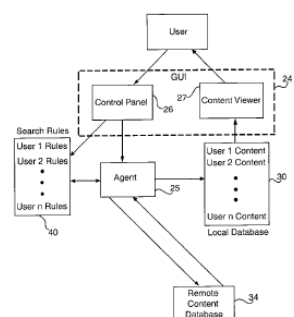
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Primary Examiner—Mehmet B. Geckil
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Blakely, Sokoloff Zafman LLP
[57]

ABSTRACT

A Subject-specific Information Retrieval and Viewing System (SIRVIS) enables multiple users of a local system to access information stored remotely over a network. The SIRVIS is designed to retrieve and display a user information relating to a particular, predefined area. The SIRVIS includes a graphical user interface having a control panel and a content viewer. The control panel enables each local user to define a unique set of search rules for locating information on the particular subject in one or more remote databases across the network. The content viewer provides each set of search rule agent, which accesses content in the remote database according to the search and stores the information, including maintaining the overall information which the data was stored in the remote database. The SIRVIS associates retrieved information with particular search rules. Any of the local users can use the control panel to access and display information stored in the database relating to the particular subject area. The local processing system maintains multiple SIRVIS, each of which is customized to display information in a different subject area.

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33 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets



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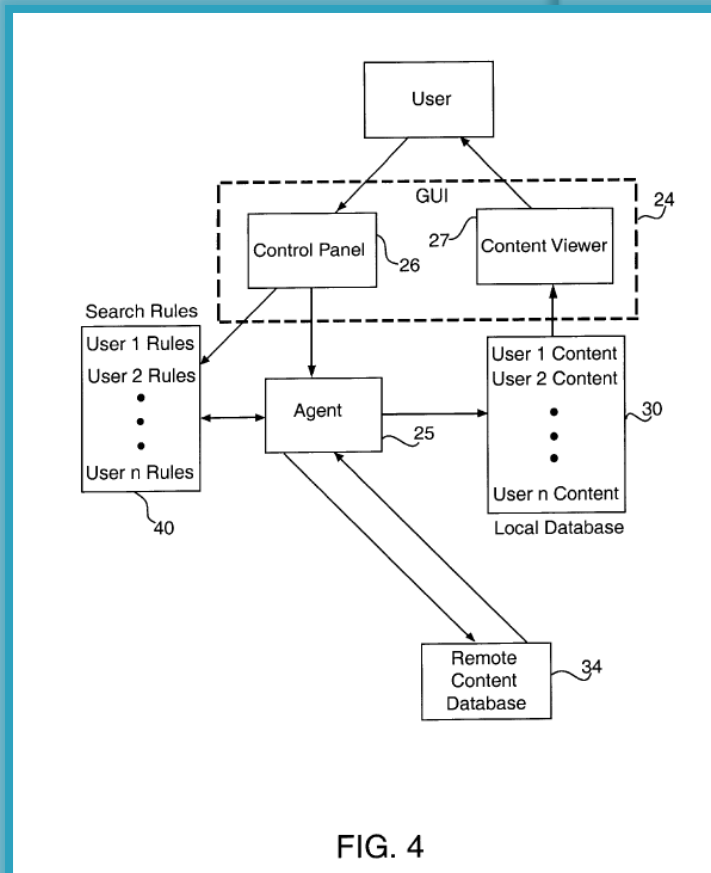


FIG. 4

United States Patent [19]
Williams, Jr.

Patent Number: 6,108,686
Date of Patent: Aug. 14, 2001

AGENT-BASED ON-LINE INFORMATION RETRIEVAL AND VIEWING SYSTEM

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Field of Search 709/217; 707/1-6, 10, 516, 104

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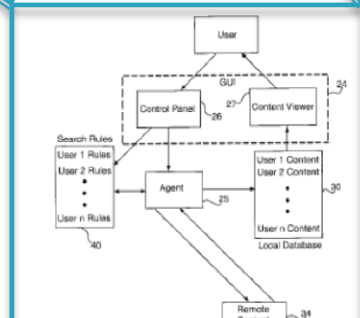
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Primary Examiner—Michael B. Geckil
 Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Blakely, Sokoloff, Zafman LLP

ABSTRACT

A Subject-specific Information Retrieval and Viewing System (SIRVIS) enables multiple users of a local system to access information stored remotely on a network. The SIRVIS is designed to retrieve and display information relating to a particular, predefined area. The SIRVIS includes a graphical user interface including a control panel and a content viewer. The control panel enables each local user to define a unique set of search rules for locating information on the particular subject area in one or more remote databases across the network. The content viewer enables each local user to access and display information stored in the remote databases according to the search rules. The SIRVIS includes a local processing system which accesses content in the remote databases according to the search rules and stores the information in a local database. The local database includes the overall search rules, the information retrieved with particular search rules. Any of the local users can use the control panel to access and display information stored in the local database relating to the particular subject area. The SIRVIS is a local processing system with multiple SIRVIS, each of which is customized to display information in a different subject area.

33 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets



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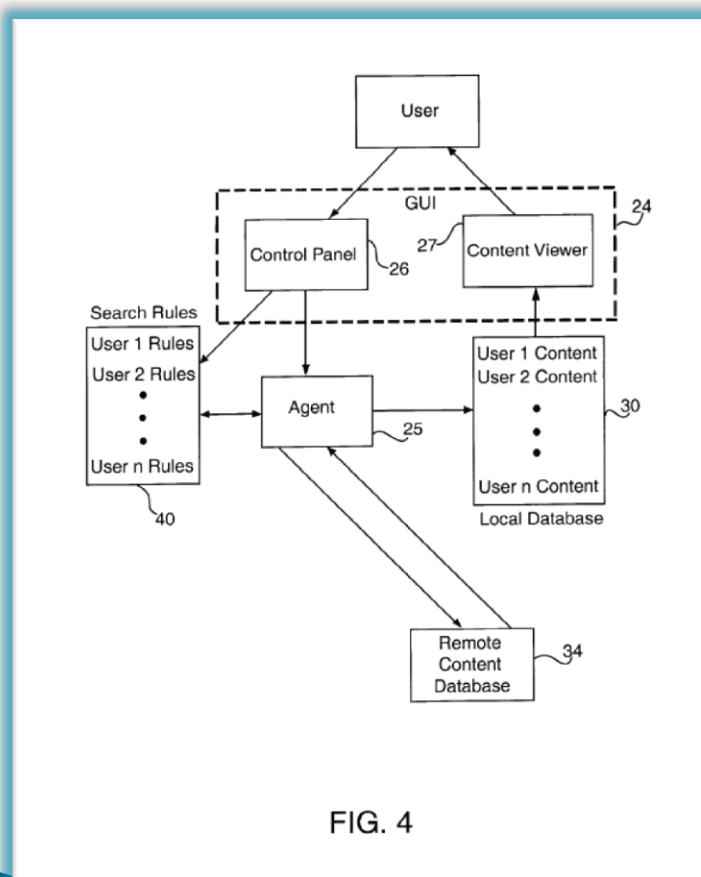


FIG. 4

- **SIRViS: Subject-Specific Information Retrieval and Viewing System**
 - *search agent* to locate and retrieve from remote sources
 - single, predefined subject
 - subject defined by *search rules*

See Pa

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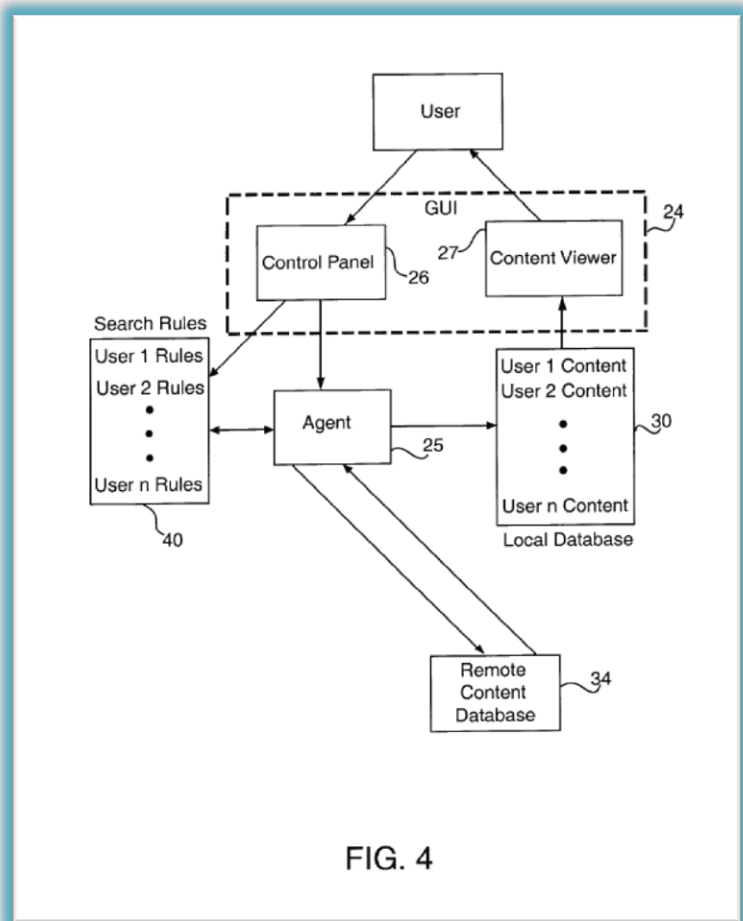


FIG. 4

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

A number of technologies are currently available to consumers to access information stored remotely on networks such as the Internet, corporate intranets, and the like. Browsers, for example, are a well-known class of software applications which enable computer users to download hypertext pages and other types of data from the World Wide Web and other remote sources. Another, more recently developed information access technology is commonly referred to as "push" technology. With push technology, a remote server generally gathers information on predefined topics from remote databases, packages the information into subject groupings called "channels", and automatically downloads selected channels to the user's computer. user does not need to search for or request the information. The retrieved information may be automatically stored locally on the user's computer, such that the user can access the information off-line at a time of his own choosing.

See Ex. 1001 at 1:11-27; See also Paper

In contrast with conventional information access techniques, such as Web browsers and push technology, the search agent stores information in the local database in the same organizational structure in which the information was stored in the remote database. This structure is selected in advance to be suitable for effectively conveying information on the predefined subject area to a user in a form that can be easily assimilated. The present invention

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