PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT COVER SHEET

This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT under 37 CFR 1.53(c).

INVENTOR(S)

Given Name (first and middle [if any])	Family Name or Surname	Residence (City and either State or Foreign Country)
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☐ *Additional inventors are being named on the ____ separately numbered sheets attached hereto*

TITLE OF THE INVENTION (280 characters max)

DIGITAL CONTENT ACCESS CONTROL

Direct all correspondence to: **CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS**

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☒ Firm *or* Individual Name — **NIXON PEABODY LLP**

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ENCLOSED APPLICATION PARTS *(check all that apply)*

☒ Specification *Number of Pages* 4   ☐ CD(s), Number

☐ Drawing(s) *Number of Sheets*   ☐ Other (specify)

☐ Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76

METHOD OF PAYMENT OF FILING FEES FOR THIS PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. Se 37 CFR 1.27.

☒ A check or money order is enclosed to cover the filing fees

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge filing fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number: 19-2380

☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

FILING FEE AMOUNT ($)

150.00

The invention was made by an agency of the United States Government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.

☒ No.

☐ Yes, the name of the U.S. Government agency and the Government contract number are: _____

Respectfully submitted,   Date 06/07/2001

SIGNATURE _____

TYPED or PRINTED NAME Marc S. Kaufman

REGISTRATION NO. *(if appropriate)* 35,212

Docket Number: 111325-76

TELEPHONE (703) 790-9110

USE ONLY FOR FILING A PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT

NVA184470.1

<u>**Inventors:**</u>　　　　　　<u>**Xin Wang, Eddie Chen, Charles Gilliam, and Bijan Tadayon**</u>

<u>**Embodiment for Access Control to Services:**</u>

(All other pending and issued ContentGuard's patent applications are incorporated here by reference.)

As we treat services and privacy data as content, the rights and conditions applied to distribution and usage of content generally apply to services and privacy data. Tracking the access to services and privacy data is also important.

Service provider provides the conditions. User wants the access, and thus, has to satisfy those conditions. All of this is done automatically.

For the distribution and use of the content, one can set the conditions for access to the services. For example, the user may wish to go to a web site, however, as a condition of access to the web site, the user has to be located in a specific geographical area (for example in the United States). This is useful for localization of the web site, in terms of the translation of the content and in terms of the local customs, news, culture, hobbies, local sport news, local news makers, local industry, local merchandise, or local advertisements, selected based on the predetermined content or additions/ modifications chosen for that specific area or locality. For example, if the customer is located in the United States, the English spellings used are the American versions, and the advertisements are based on the American taste, season, or political climate at that moment. The localization increases the appeal of the web site, and thus, improves customer satisfaction and traffic of the web site or volume of sale. Another benefit is that the content owner may want to release a specific content in US first, and three months

later in Europe. This is common in movie industry, where the different releases in different geographical areas are restricted based on a time schedule, which gives the maximum profit to the content owner. The release dates and / or time tables can all be incorporated into the DRM solution, as parameters in a template, so that the assignment or modifications of the time table would be easy for the content owner, and keeping track of the times can be done automatically, without further human intervention, for ease of use and more confidence/ security.

Another example is when a crawler collects data and gets information from a web site. As a condition to access the web site, the crawler should request the access after midnight, when the web site traffic is at a minimum, and therefore, delays are reduced.

Furthermore, one can specify how to get access. For example, one can specify how the users distribute the content (for example, by super-distribution). This gives more control to the content owner, as to where and by what method the distribution is conducted. The geographical location restriction is one parameter. The parameters of the super-distribution could also be specified by the content owner, to further limit the method of distribution, in terms of expiration date, number of copies, and the people forbidden to get a copy (from some forbidden list, which for some reason are identified as unfriendly customers, such as known hackers).

Or, one user may want to share his / her personal calendar with his / her friends, however, as a condition of access to the calendar, the user may require his / her friends to do a specific task/ condition (for example, open one specific file), first. The calendar can be used and edited by the all friends or some of the friends who have the right to input, modify, or edit. Some of the friends may have the right to use-only, or use-and-input-

only, with no modification rights. The calendar can keep track of conflict of schedules for two or more people, which automatically notifies the conflicting parties or all of the people in the list about the conflict. The calendar can also highlight the unavailable days, when one or more parties are out of town or unavailable for other reasons. The calendar can also suggest some days or hours that the calendar is relatively empty, or for a specified parties, find the common acceptable dates or hours, based on the input by one or more users.

Another example is the print shop, where one can specify some policy to restrict the access of users to printing services. For example, the user may send a large file to be printed by the print shop, for a fee. However, as a way of managing the job orders, the smaller files get printed sooner (have higher priority). The size of the files within a predetermined time frame are compared and ordered for printing purposes. However, if a job must be printed regardless of the size before a deadline, then the length of the printing process is estimated, and the job schedule is modified to fit that in, to make the deadline. This out-of-order prioritization is signified by a flag or a variable (or set of variables/ parameters), which contains the order of priority, the information about the deadline, or the like. In the case of the conflict of the schedules or having not enough time to satisfy all the deadlines, the jobs in a class with a higher priority will jump in front of the other jobs. Thus, the size is important only within a specific class of priority.

As a service provider, one can set conditions for quality: A lower quality image can be purchased for less money. For example, the resolution can be corresponded to the price, based on a table, a formula, a function, or values on a curve.

Another example is the person who changes or sets the time for a computer network, in which case the condition is the identification of the person as the system administrator. Thus, the identification is based on the role of the individual, which can be established by a smart card, ID, or the like. The role-based model makes the change in the right assignment or change in the position of the individuals much easier.

In general, one can specify how people use or access services, accessing both on-line and off-line. The content owner or the distributor will have more control on the content, and that provides security and peace of mind.