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75 Montebello Road
Suffern, NY 10901

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BANANKHAH, MAJID A

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.



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MARC PENSABENE
O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP
7 TIMES SQUARE
NEW YORK, NY 10036

EX PARTE REEXAMINATION COMMUNICATION TRANSMITTAL FORM

REEXAMINATION CONTROL NO. 90/014,056.

PATENT NO. 6959293.

ART UNIT 3992.

Enclosed is a copy of the latest communication from the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the above identified *ex parte* reexamination proceeding (37 CFR 1.550(f)).

Where this copy is supplied after the reply by requester, 37 CFR 1.535, or the time for filing a reply has passed, no submission on behalf of the *ex parte* reexamination requester will be acknowledged or considered (37 CFR 1.550(g)).

Art Unit: 3992

DECISION GRANTING EX PARTE REEXAMINATION

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1.0 DECISION ON REQUEST

At least one substantial new question of patentability (SNQs) affecting claim 1 of United States Patent Number 6,959,293 (hereinafter ‘293 patent) issued October 25, 2005 to Pirim of Holding B.E.V.S.A. is raised by the request filed December 15, 2017 for ex parte reexamination.

2.0 REFERENCES

2.1 References Cited by the Requester

The requester alleges that substantial new questions of patentability (SNQs) have been raised by at least the following prior art references:

1. International Patent Publication WO 99/36893 (“Prim PCX”), published July 22, 1999
2. Siegel, Howard J., et al., “PASM: A Partitionable SIMD/MIMD System for Image Processing and Pattern Recognition,” IEEE Transactions on Computers, Vol. C-30, No. 12 (December 1981) (“Siegel”)
3. U.S. Patent No. 6,118,895 (“Hirota”), filed March 5, 1996, issued September 12, 2000

2.2 IDS

With respect to the Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08A and 08B or its equivalent) filed on December 15, 2017 and considered with this action, the information cited has been considered as described in the MPEP. Note that MPEP 2256 indicate that degree of consideration to be given to such information will be normally limited by the degree to which the party filing the information citation has explained the content and relevance of the information.

3.0 PROSECUTION HISTORY

3.1 Background

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- Application filed 02/23/2001: Claims 1-28 are the current claims 1-16 and 18-29 in the '293 patent which issued on October 25, 2005 from U.S. application serial no. 09/792,436 ("the '436 application") originally having claims 1-28 filed February 23, 2001. Among those, claims 1, 3, 17, 21, 22, and 27 were independent claims.
- Non-final mailed 03/26/2004: In this non-final, claims 3-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph for failing to particularly point out the subject matter and claims 1-2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 5,359,533 of Ric Ka et al. ("Ric Ka"); and claims 3-16 were allowed if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph proposed in that Office action.
- Amendment filed 08/30/2004: Applicants submitted claim amendments along with remarks on August 30, 2004. Applicant amended claims 1-4, 8 and 9; and newly added independent claims 29. Among those, claims 1, 3, 17, 21, 22, and 27 were independent claims.
- Telephone interview on 12/27/2004, and 04/27/2005: On 12/27/2004 Applicant initiated an interview and on 04/22/2005 the Examiner initiated an interview. It appears that during the interview on 12/27/2004, the Examiner agrees to allow the claims, and during the second interview the Examiner agrees to an Examiner's amendment to correct a typographical error.
- Notice of allowance mailed 10/06/2004: In this notice of allowance, claims 1-29 (corresponds to claims 1-16, 18-29 and 17 of the '293 patent) were allowed. Claim 29

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