PROVISIONAL APPLICATION COVER SHEET

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

Address to:	Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450	Docket Number	062750-00100

INVENTOR(s)/APPLICANT(s)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE INITIAL	RESIDENCE (CITY AND EITHER STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY)
McElroy	Jack		New Town Square, PA
McElroy	Sean		Salt Lake City, UT
Samuel	Kirk		Denver, CO

☐ Additional inventors are named on separately numbered sheets attached hereto.

TITLE OF THE INVENTION (280 CHARACTERS MAX)

PLANNING AND SCHEDULING TOOL ASSISTANT

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

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27557
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

ENCLOSED APPLICATION PARTS

☒ Specification   *Number of Pages:*   **43**

☐ Drawing(s)   *Number of Sheets:*

☒ Other (specify):   Transmittal of Computer Program Listing Appendix; and   (2 pp.)

Reference to Computer Program Listing   (1 pp.)

☐ Application Data Sheet

☒ CD(s), Number **2**

METHOD OF PAYMENT

☒ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 C.F.R. 1.27

☐ A check or money order is enclosed to cover the Provisional Filing Fees

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge filing fees and credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number **23-2185**

PROVISIONAL FILING FEE
AMOUNT $80.00

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,

June 30, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Provisional Patent Application	)
	)
Serial number: New	)
	)
Filing date: Herewith	)
	)
Inventors: Jack McElroy et al	)
	)
Title: PLANNING AND SCHEDULING TOOL	)
ASSISTANT	)

TRANSMITTAL OF COMPUTER PROGRAM LISTING APPENDIX

Mail Stop Provisional Patent Application
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
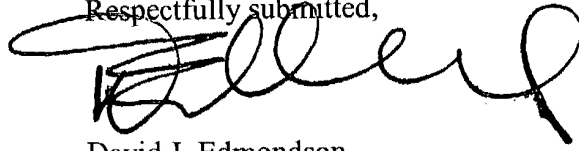P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants, through undersigned counsel, submit herewith two identical copies of a computer program listing appendix. Each copy is on a CD-R medium compatible with an IBM PC running MS Windows. The computer program listing appendix includes the following file:

File name	File size in kB	Creation date
PaSTA.msi	294	10/23/2002
PaSTA01.cab	3,454	10/23/2002
PaSTA01.zip	3,510	12/10/2002
PaSTA02.cab	4,000	10/23/2002
PaSTA02.zip	3,955	12/10/2002
PaSTA03.cab	3,087	10/23/2002
PaSTA03.zip	3,080	12/10/2002

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Both copies of the computer program listing appendix were created June 25, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

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Prior Art Review for PaSTA

PaSTA Unique Features from the prior art:

PaSTA provides

    A. for the process of Work Week Management where the schedule of work is managed to the week.

    B. Real Time, on screen, performance indicators or metrics for the success of the Work Week

    C. Drag and Drop Work Orders into a designated Work Week

    D. Color coding Work Order status within the Work Week

    E. Throttle control of Sponsored work

    F. Work Week Assignment Form and Work Week Management Form – key screens

PaSTA will now be compared to the following U.S. patents and U.S. and PCT published patent applications:

PATENT OR PUBLICATION NO.	PATENTEE
6,421,571B1	Spriggs, et al.
6,006,171	Vines, et al.
5,970,437	Gorman, et al.
5,835,898	Borg, et al.
5,787,000	Lilly, et al.
2003/0041087A1	Pothos, et al.
2002/0161674A1	Scheer
2002/0143601A1	Sinex
2002/0111842A1	Miles
2002/0049563A1	Vetter, et al.
2002/0010615A1	Jacobs
2002/0007297A1	Clarke
WO 99/05684	Vines, et al.

Borg, et al:

    Borg discloses manufacturing scheduling where drag and drop feature applies to work area and open time line – spatial and then determines bottlenecks in manufacturing process. Key here is the real time indication of that bottleneck – not particularly measuring the performance of a schedule. The manufacturing process is not start and stop process but a continuous process and the concepts of work week management are not applicable

    Our distinguishment: Our drag and drop allows Work Orders to be assigned into a scheduled work week where the intent is to measure the performance of the work team

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executing the work week. Work Week Management infers that there is a start and stop to the collective work being performed. A thru F still are distinguished – although C becomes constrained to work week management.

Vines, et al:

Vines discloses a maintenance management that couples a Work Order Generation system with a Process Control System. The intent here is to automatically generate a Work Order based on the condition of the components being monitored by the Process Control System. There is no scheduling function other than in the creation of the work order a desired due date is required based on predetermined intervals. Management of the labor force is not part of the disclosure

Our distinguishment: All elements of A thru F are unique as PaSTA begins at the point in the process that the Work Order has already been created, where Vines, et al stop – the creation of the Work Order.

Spriggs, et al:

Spriggs discloses an online monitoring system intended to monitor the process condition of components. It is not a work management system

Our distinguishment: All elements A thru F are unique in that we disclose a work management system.

Gorman, et al:

Gorman discloses a system designed to show the relation of components in an operating environment. The intent is to recognize the interrelationship of these components as maintenance work is being performed. This knowledge is used to properly isolate the equipment so that it can be worked on safely and the interrelationship understood.

Our Distinguishment: All elements A thru F are unique in that we disclose a work management system.

Lilly, et al:

Lilly discloses a Work Order Management system that provides for each work order to be planned. That is all necessary resources to accomplish the work are prescribed and documented in the disclosed system. A desired start date and desired finish date are entered also.

Our distinguishment: All elements A thru F are unique in that we are scheduling the work against a work week and against the available labor resource and measuring key performance parameters to drive the schedule. The closest piece here is in our D where we are statusing the planning of the work orders with color coding which Lilly does not do.

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