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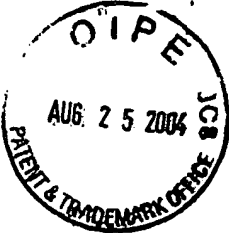
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Respectfully submitted,



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IPW ✓



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: James J. Fallon

Examiner: Nguyen, Linh V.

Serial No.: 10/668,768

Group Art Unit: 2819

Filed: September 22, 2003

Docket: 8011-1CIPCON

For: **CONTENT INDEPENDENT DATA
COMPRESSION METHOD AND SYSTEM**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22313

AMENDMENT

This is a response to the Office Action mailed on February 20, 2004. Please amend the application as follows:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on August 20, 2004.

Date: 8/20/04



Frank V. DeRosa

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for compressing data, comprising the steps of:
analyzing a data block of an input data stream to identify ~~a data type~~ one or more data types of the data block, the input data stream comprising a plurality of disparate data types;
performing content dependent data compression ~~on the data block~~, if ~~the~~ a data type of the data block is identified;
performing ~~content independent~~ data compression ~~on the data block~~ with a single data compression encoder, if ~~the~~ a data type of the data block is not identified.

23. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising outputting a compressed data block.

24. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising appending a data compression type descriptor to a compressed data block.

25. (New) The method of claim 24, further comprising outputting the compressed data block with the appended data compression type descriptor.

26. (New) A method for compressing data, comprising the steps of:
analyzing a data block of an input data stream to estimate one of a plurality of data compression methods or encoders that would provide a highest compression ratio for the data block;

selecting the data compression method or encoder estimated to provide the highest compression ratio for the data block; and

compressing the data block with the selected data compression method or encoder.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising outputting the compressed data block.

28. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising appending a data compression type descriptor to the compressed data block.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, further comprising outputting the compressed data block with the appended data compression type descriptor.

30. (New) A method for compressing data, comprising the steps of:
analyzing a data block of an input data stream to identify a data type of the data block, the input data stream comprising a plurality of disparate data types,

if the data type of the data block is identified, then the method further comprising:

performing content dependent data compression to compress the data block;

comparing a content dependent data compression ratio of the compressed data block against a first threshold;

appending a data compression type descriptor to the compressed data block;

outputting the compressed data block and appended data compression type

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