



US005325310A

United States Patent [19]

[11] Patent Number: **5,325,310**

Johnson et al.

[45] Date of Patent: **Jun. 28, 1994**

[54] **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PERSISTANT ELECTRONIC MAIL REPLY PROCESSING**

[75] Inventors: **William J. Johnson**, Flower Mound; **Daniel P. Ristow**, Watauga; **Marvin L. Williams**, Lewisville, all of Tex.

[73] Assignee: **International Business Machines Corporation**, Armonk, N.Y.

[21] Appl. No.: **905,055**

[22] Filed: **Jun. 26, 1992**

[51] Int. Cl.⁵ **G06K 17/00**

[52] U.S. Cl. **364/514; 358/402**

[58] Field of Search **364/514; 358/402**

[56] **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

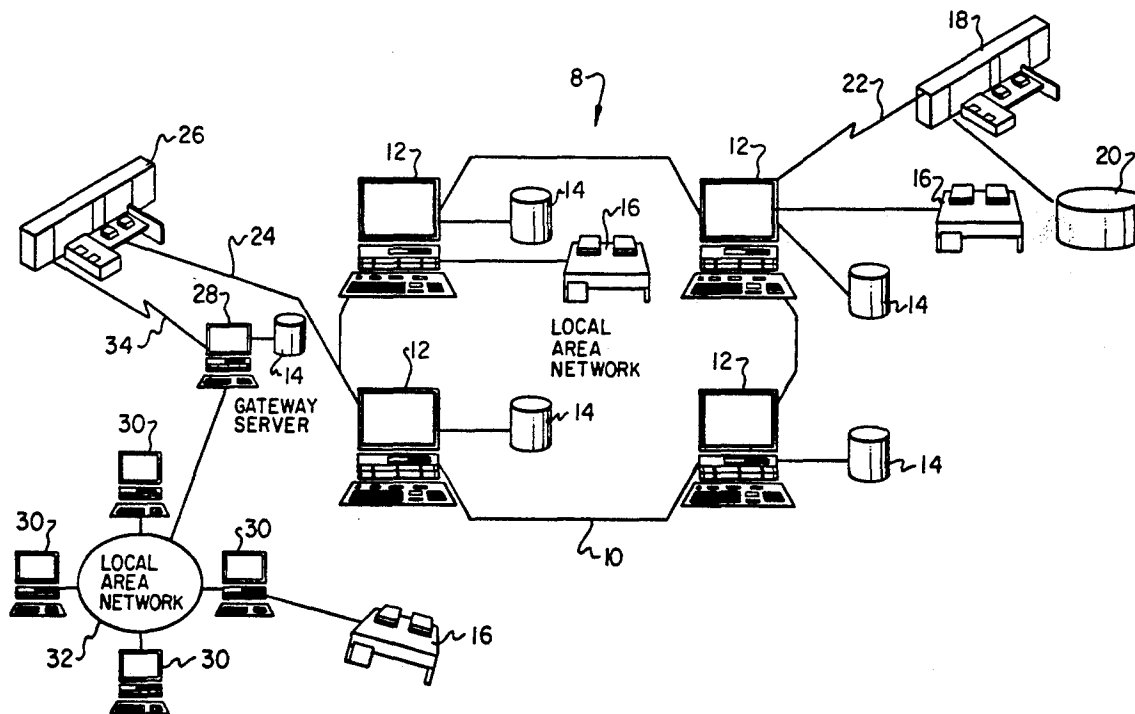
4,713,780	12/1987	Schlutz et al.	364/514
4,994,985	2/1991	Cree et al.	364/514
5,040,141	8/1991	Yazima et al.	364/900
5,057,935	10/1991	Williams	358/402
5,220,516	6/1993	Dodson et al.	364/514

Primary Examiner—Jack B. Harvey
Assistant Examiner—Thomas Peeso
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Duke W. Yee; Andrew J. Dillon; Jonathan E. Jobe, Jr.

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A method and system in a data processing system, having a plurality of users enrolled therein and having a number of electronic mail objects which may be transmitted and received within the distributed data processing system, are provided for ensuring a specific response to a selected electronic mail object by a recipient thereof within the data processing system. The method and system include designating an electronic mail object as requiring a specific response and then transmitting the electronic mail object to a recipient. The recipient of the electronic mail object is prompted for a specific response in response to the recipient opening an electronic mail object and is prohibited from performing a selected action until the specific response has been entered by the recipient.

32 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets



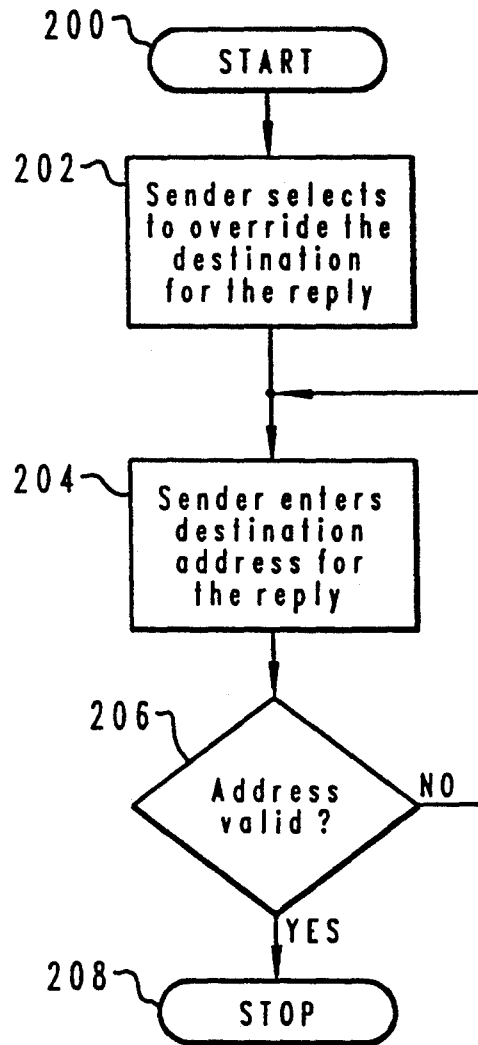


Fig. 2

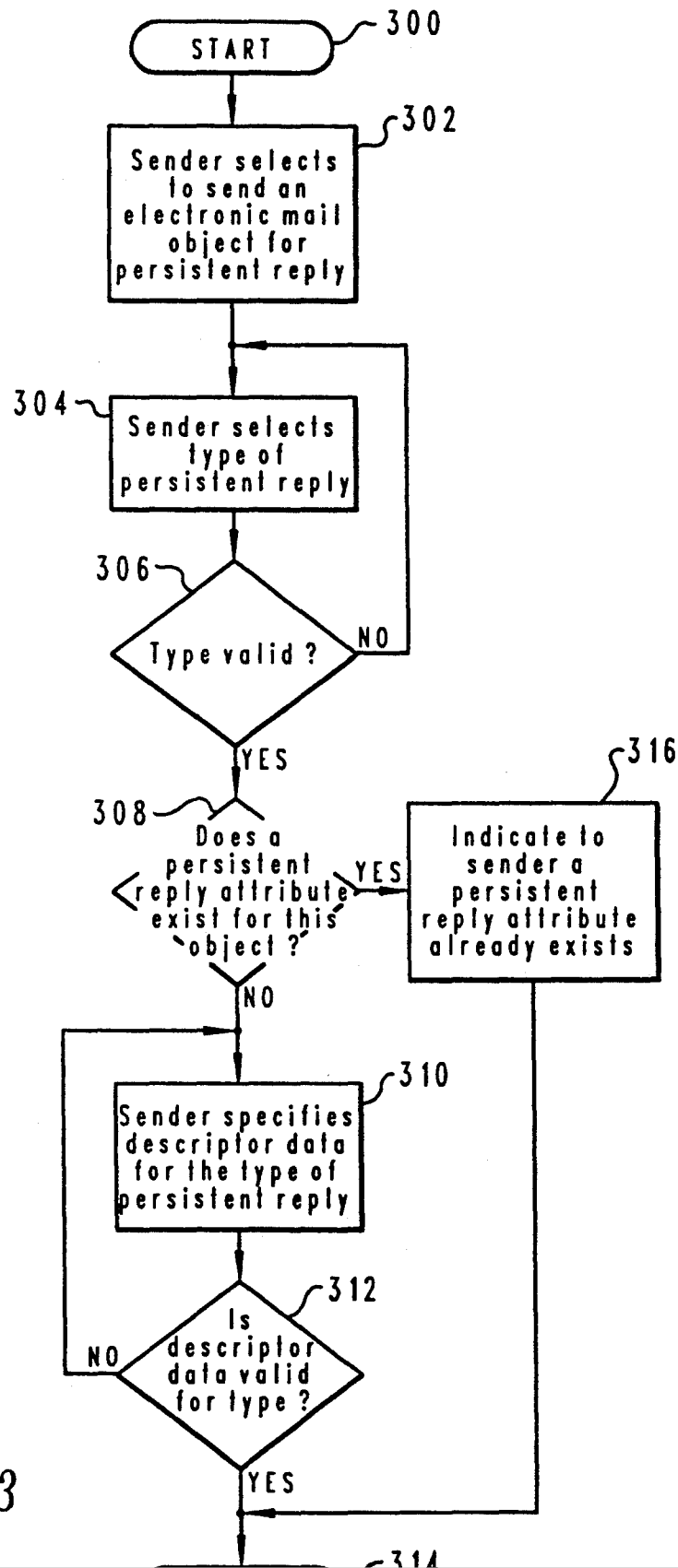


Fig. 3

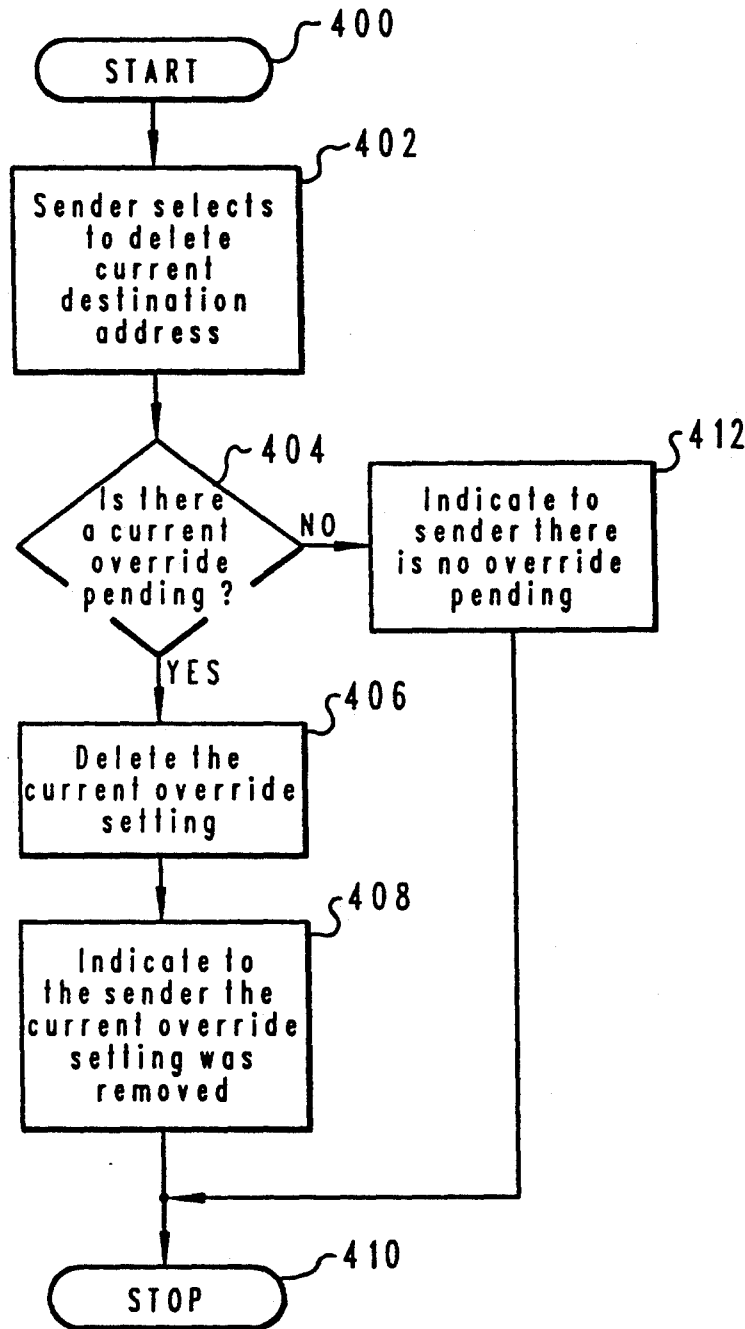


Fig. 4

Explore Litigation Insights

Docket Alarm provides insights to develop a more informed litigation strategy and the peace of mind of knowing you're on top of things.

Real-Time Litigation Alerts



Keep your litigation team up-to-date with **real-time alerts** and advanced team management tools built for the enterprise, all while greatly reducing PACER spend.

Our comprehensive service means we can handle Federal, State, and Administrative courts across the country.

Advanced Docket Research



With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

Identify arguments that have been successful in the past with full text, pinpoint searching. Link to case law cited within any court document via Fastcase.

Analytics At Your Fingertips



Learn what happened the last time a particular judge, opposing counsel or company faced cases similar to yours.

Advanced out-of-the-box PTAB and TTAB analytics are always at your fingertips.

API

Docket Alarm offers a powerful API (application programming interface) to developers that want to integrate case filings into their apps.

LAW FIRMS

Build custom dashboards for your attorneys and clients with live data direct from the court.

Automate many repetitive legal tasks like conflict checks, document management, and marketing.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.