

United States Patent Marks

[11] Patent Number: 6,097,390
[45] Date of Patent: *Aug. 1, 2000

[54] **PROGRESS-INDICATING MOUSE POINTER**

5,940,078 8/1999 Nagarajayya et al. 345/346
5,953,010 9/1999 Kampe et al. 345/348

[75] Inventor: Laurence Victor Marks, Raleigh, N.C.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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

IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin V. 37 #12 Dec. 1994.
"Icon that Shows Length of Audio or Video", p. 179.
Kenneth Mason Publications Ltd, England, Aug. 1990 #316,
"Design of Dynamically Updated Icon to Depict Labor
Standard Range".
IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin V.35 #1A Jun. 1992
"Multi-State Icon", pp. 338-339.

[*] Notice: This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2).

[21] Appl. No.: 08/832,884

Primary Examiner—Crescelle N. dela Torre
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Joscelyn G. Cockburn

[22] Filed: Apr. 4, 1997

ABSTRACT

[51] Int. Cl.⁷ G06F 3/14
[52] U.S. Cl. 345/348; 345/349; 345/977
[58] Field of Search 345/348, 349,
345/326, 333, 334, 338, 339, 977, 145,
473

A method of indicating a state of progress of a task being processed in a computer system by providing a progress-indicating visual pointer on a display device of the computer system. Prior art visual pointers (such as an arrowhead) are responsive to a pointer device such as a mouse, and are used to manipulate features of a graphical user interface (GUI). These prior art pointers do not indicate the state of progress of a task underway, but rather only indicate that the task is still running. The progress-indicating pointer of the present invention can take the form of a wristwatch or clock icon having a face which is filled, e.g., in a clockwise fashion, or the form of an hourglass icon having a portion, e.g., the lower half of the hourglass, which is filled in an amount proportionate to the state of progress of the task being processed. The different states of the icon can easily be presented by providing a plurality of bitmaps (e.g., a 32-by-32 array of pixel elements), and program instructions select one of the bitmaps for the progress-indicating visual pointer based on the state of progress of the task being processed. The progress-indicating pointer may be provided in response to instructions from the operating system or from the application software.

References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,301,348 4/1994 Jaaskelainen 714/46
5,319,384 6/1994 Isenberg et al. 345/145
5,420,968 5/1995 Johri 345/433
5,423,039 6/1995 Matteson 709/107
5,448,693 9/1995 Blades et al. 345/348
5,479,602 12/1995 Baecker et al. 345/349
5,519,390 5/1996 Casini 340/929
5,524,195 6/1996 Clanton, III et al. 345/327
5,544,295 8/1996 Capps 345/473
5,586,237 12/1996 Baecker et al. 345/433
5,596,694 1/1997 Capps 345/473
5,630,081 5/1997 Rybicki et al. 345/349
5,655,093 8/1997 Frid-Nielsen 345/326
5,801,692 9/1998 Muzio et al. 345/339
5,801,698 9/1998 Lection et al. 345/347
5,805,166 9/1998 Hall, Jr. et al. 345/349
5,898,432 4/1999 Pinard 345/334

9 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets

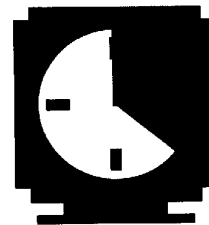
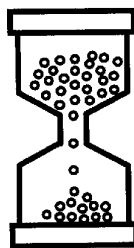
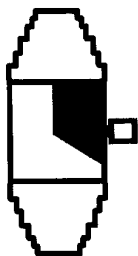
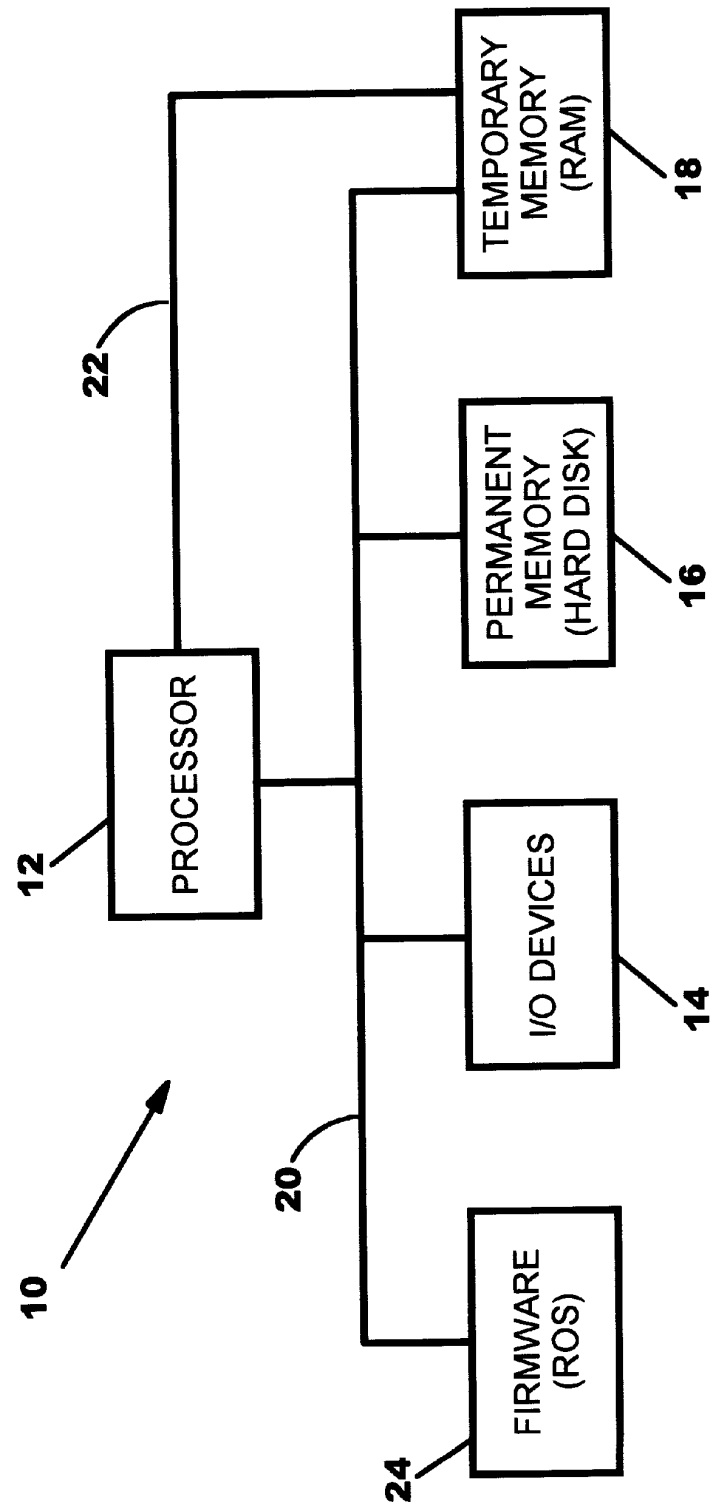


FIG. 1
(Prior Art)

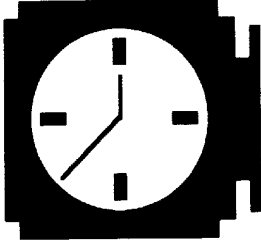


FIG. 2C
(Prior Art)

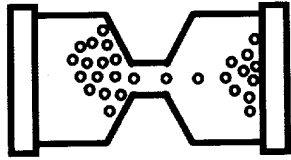


FIG. 2B
(Prior Art)

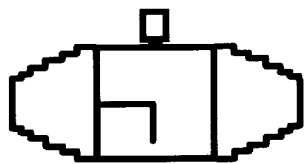


FIG. 2A
(Prior Art)

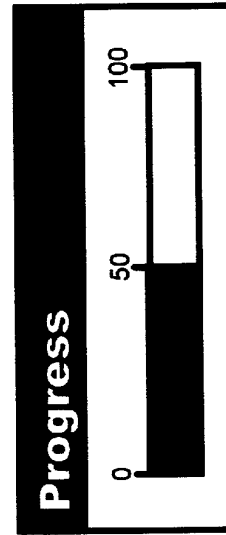


FIG. 3
(Prior Art)

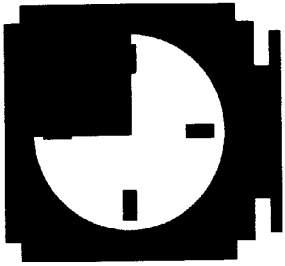


FIG. 4C

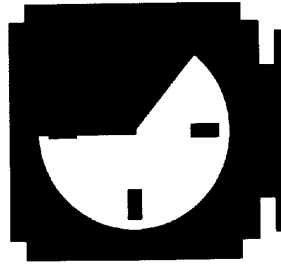


FIG. 5C

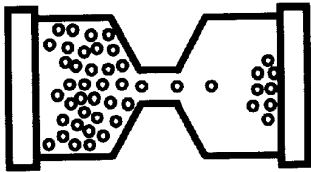


FIG. 4B

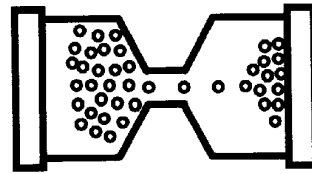


FIG. 5B

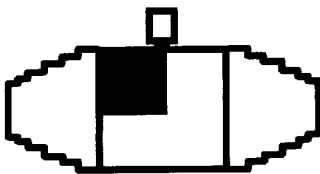


FIG. 4A

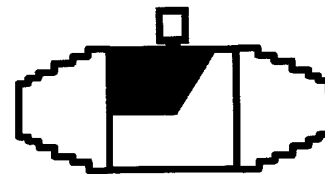


FIG. 5A

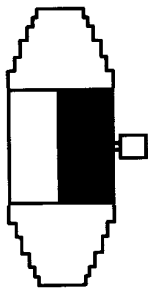


FIG. 6A

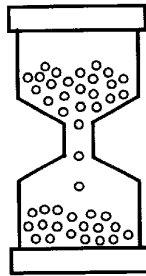


FIG. 6B

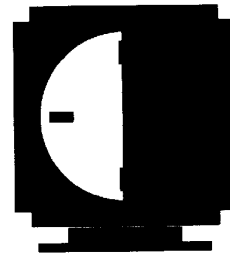


FIG. 6C

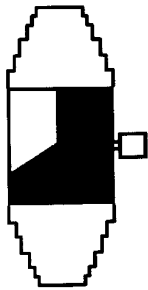


FIG. 7A

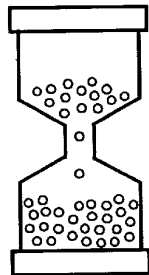


FIG. 7B

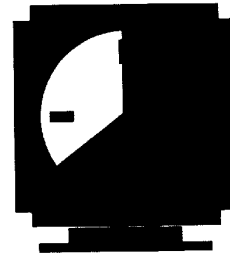


FIG. 7C

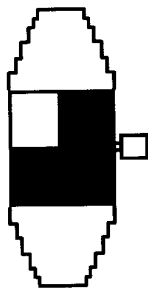


FIG. 8A

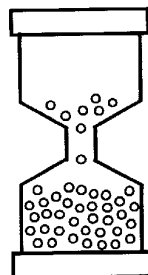


FIG. 8B



FIG. 8C

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.