



US007281215B1

(12) **United States Patent**
Canfield et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 7,281,215 B1**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Oct. 9, 2007**

- (54) **IM CONVERSATION COUNTER AND INDICATOR**
- (75) Inventors: **James Andrew Canfield**, Arlington, VA (US); **Kenneth Carbone**, Annandale, VA (US); **David Fairlie Colburn**, Reston, VA (US); **Linda Nols Myers**, Purcellville, VA (US); **Thomas E. Van Lenten**, Ashburn, VA (US); **Gregory Alan Willis**, Arlington, VA (US)
- (73) Assignee: **AOL LLC**, Dulles, VA (US)
- (*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 689 days.

| | | |
|---------------|---------|----------------------|
| 5,588,107 A | 12/1996 | Bowden et al. |
| 5,617,114 A | 4/1997 | Bier et al. |
| 5,617,526 A | 4/1997 | Oran et al. |
| 5,627,960 A | 5/1997 | Clifford et al. |
| 5,644,737 A | 7/1997 | Tuniman et al. |
| 5,664,133 A | 9/1997 | Malamud et al. |
| 5,692,142 A | 11/1997 | Craycroft et al. |
| 5,712,995 A | 1/1998 | Cohn |
| 5,721,852 A * | 2/1998 | Porter 715/777 |
| 5,742,813 A | 4/1998 | Kavanagh et al. |
| 5,754,176 A | 5/1998 | Crawford |
| 5,760,768 A | 6/1998 | Gram |
| 5,798,752 A | 8/1998 | Buxton et al. |
| 5,801,703 A | 9/1998 | Bowden et al. |
| 5,832,494 A | 11/1998 | Egger et al. |
| 5,838,315 A | 11/1998 | Craycroft et al. |
| 5,877,758 A | 3/1999 | Seybold |

(Continued)

- (21) Appl. No.: **10/208,187**
- (22) Filed: **Jul. 31, 2002**

Related U.S. Application Data

- (60) Provisional application No. 60/376,181, filed on Apr. 30, 2002.
- (51) **Int. Cl.**
G06F 3/00 (2006.01)
- (52) **U.S. Cl.** **715/752; 715/758**
- (58) **Field of Classification Search** **715/752, 715/753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758**
See application file for complete search history.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Amanda Matthiesen, "Hotmail Help: A Brief Introduction to the Free E-mail Service", May 2000, Internet: <http://www.town.brookline.ma.us/library/computer/hotmail.htm>.*

(Continued)

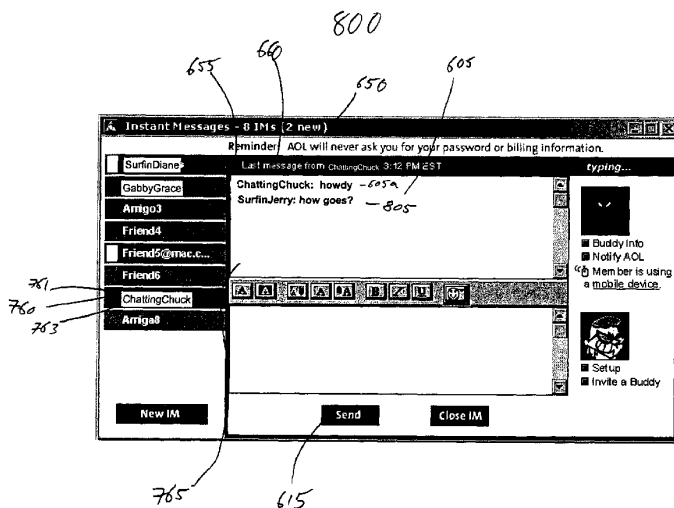
Primary Examiner—Kristine Kincaid
Assistant Examiner—Ryan Pitaro
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Fish & Richardson P.C.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A user interface that enables user perception of status regarding communications that leverage an instant messaging platform may be rendered on a display. The user interface includes an instant messaging application user interface that enables perception and selection of instant messages for an instant messaging user, and a status indicator that provides a perceivable indication to the user of statistics regarding concurrent instant messaging sessions.

54 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets

- (56) **References Cited**
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS
- 5,283,560 A 2/1994 Bartlett
- 5,287,514 A 2/1994 Gram
- 5,416,895 A 5/1995 Anderson et al.
- 5,544,352 A 8/1996 Egger
- 5,546,528 A 8/1996 Johnston
- 5,581,670 A 12/1996 Bier et al.



Facebook's Exhibit No. 1004

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | | |
|------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|
| 5,877,765 A | 3/1999 | Dickman et al. | |
| 5,884,306 A | 3/1999 | Bliss et al. | |
| 5,929,851 A | 7/1999 | Donnelly | |
| 5,937,417 A | 8/1999 | Nielsen | |
| 5,974,413 A | 10/1999 | Beauregard et al. | |
| 5,990,905 A | 11/1999 | Chew et al. | |
| 5,995,101 A | 11/1999 | Clark et al. | |
| 6,002,398 A | 12/1999 | Wilson | |
| 6,002,400 A | 12/1999 | Loring et al. | |
| 6,018,571 A | 1/2000 | Langlois et al. | |
| 6,057,844 A | 5/2000 | Strauss | |
| 6,078,935 A | 6/2000 | Nielsen | |
| 6,091,409 A | 7/2000 | Dickman et al. | |
| 6,092,068 A | 7/2000 | Dinkelacker | |
| 6,097,389 A | 8/2000 | Morris et al. | |
| 6,118,427 A | 9/2000 | Buxton et al. | |
| 6,144,375 A | 11/2000 | Jain et al. | |
| 6,147,685 A | 11/2000 | Bliss et al. | |
| 6,173,316 B1* | 1/2001 | De Boor et al. | 709/227 |
| 6,188,403 B1 | 2/2001 | Sacerdoti et al. | |
| 6,229,539 B1 | 5/2001 | Morcos et al. | |
| 6,233,571 B1 | 5/2001 | Egger et al. | |
| 6,233,726 B1 | 5/2001 | Bowman et al. | |
| 6,237,135 B1 | 5/2001 | Timbol | |
| 6,246,411 B1 | 6/2001 | Strauss | |
| 6,248,946 B1 | 6/2001 | Dwek | |
| 6,252,594 B1 | 6/2001 | Xia et al. | |
| 6,260,148 B1 | 7/2001 | Aggarwal et al. | |
| 6,275,790 B1 | 8/2001 | Yamamoto et al. | |
| 6,281,879 B1 | 8/2001 | Graham | |
| 6,301,609 B1 | 10/2001 | Aravamudan et al. | |
| 6,304,879 B1 | 10/2001 | Sobeski et al. | |
| 6,317,128 B1 | 11/2001 | Harrison et al. | |
| 6,346,952 B1 | 2/2002 | Shtivelman | |
| 6,362,842 B1 | 3/2002 | Tahara et al. | |
| 6,369,837 B1 | 4/2002 | Schirmer | |
| 6,377,944 B1 | 4/2002 | Busey et al. | |
| 6,381,735 B1 | 4/2002 | Hunt | |
| 6,384,849 B1 | 5/2002 | Morcos et al. | |
| 6,407,757 B1 | 6/2002 | Ho | |
| 6,434,599 B1 | 8/2002 | Porter | |
| 6,519,629 B2 | 2/2003 | Harvey et al. | |
| 6,539,421 B1 | 3/2003 | Appelman et al. | |
| 6,731,308 B1* | 5/2004 | Tang et al. | 715/751 |
| 6,784,901 B1 | 8/2004 | Harvey et al. | |
| 6,907,447 B1* | 6/2005 | Cooperman et al. | 709/203 |
| 6,981,223 B2 | 12/2005 | Becker | |
| 2002/0073207 A1* | 6/2002 | Widger et al. | 709/227 |
| 2002/0097277 A1* | 7/2002 | Pitroda | 345/854 |

| | | | |
|------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|
| 2002/0101446 A1 | 8/2002 | Tang | |
| 2002/0130904 A1* | 9/2002 | Becker et al. | 345/753 |
| 2002/0160819 A1* | 10/2002 | Daurensan | 455/567 |
| 2003/0030670 A1* | 2/2003 | Duarte et al. | 345/758 |
| 2003/0052915 A1* | 3/2003 | Brown et al. | 345/752 |
| 2003/0142141 A1* | 7/2003 | Brown et al. | 345/805 |
| 2003/0164862 A1 | 9/2003 | Cadiz et al. | |
| 2003/0210265 A1* | 11/2003 | Haimberg | 345/758 |

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Tricon Software, "Tricon Software & Development", Apr. 20, 2001, Internet: <http://www.triconsoft.com>.*

Microsoft, Microsoft Outlook 2000, Software, SP-3, Figures 12-16.*

"Design Requirements Document (DRD)," Instant AOL, Instant AOL Refresh v1.1, Document Version 8.0, Oct. 23, 2001, 8 pages.

"Design Requirements Document (DRD)," Gamera, Revision 18, Apr. 10, 2001, 110 pages.

Anonymous "GameSpy Arcade—Play Hundreds of Online Multiplayer Games", Internet Document, [Online], pp. 1-3, retrieved from the internet, <http://www.gamespyarcade.com/support/help/communicate.shtml> [retrieved on Apr. 12, 2004].

"AOL IM Companion", Tricon Software & Development, published Mar. 7, 2001. 7 total pages retrieved Jul. 16, 2003 from World Wide Web: <http://download.com.com/3000-2150-5056089.html?legacy=cnet> (1 page); <http://www.triconsoft.com/screenshots/mnuIMAnswer.jpg> (1 page); <http://www.triconsoft.com/screenshots/mnuOptions.jpg> (1 page); <http://www.triconsoft.com/screenshots/IMCompanionTabs.jpg> (1 page); <http://www.triconsoft.com/screenshots/IMCompanionListBox.jpg> (1 page); <http://www.triconsoft.com/IMCompanion.asp> (2 pages).

"Move or Cover Sheets", Microsoft Excel 2000 Help File. 8 total pages retrieved Jul. 21, 2003 from World Wide Web: <http://www.triconsoft.com/IMCompanionShots.asp> (4 pages); mk:@MSITStore:C:\Program%20Files\Microsoft%20Office\Office\1033\xlmain9.chm:/htm . . . (1 page); About Microsoft Excel (3 pages).

"A.I.M Frames", BPS Software, latest version Jul. 3, 2003, first published version Jun. 1, 1998. 7 total pages retrieved Jul. 11, 2003 from World Wide Web: <http://www.bpssoft.com/AIMFrame/index.htm> (3 pages); <http://www.bpssoft.com/AIMFrame/history.htm> (4 pages).

"Power Tools Pro", BPS Software, first published release May 10, 2000. 24 total pages retrieved Jul. 16, 2003 from World Wide Web: <http://www.bpssoft.com/PowerTools/history.htm> (19 pages); <http://www.bpssoft.com/PowerTools/images/shots/9pwrimgif.gif> (1 page); <http://www.bpssoft.com/PowerTools/ptshots.htm> (4 pages).

International Search Report (6 pages).

* cited by examiner

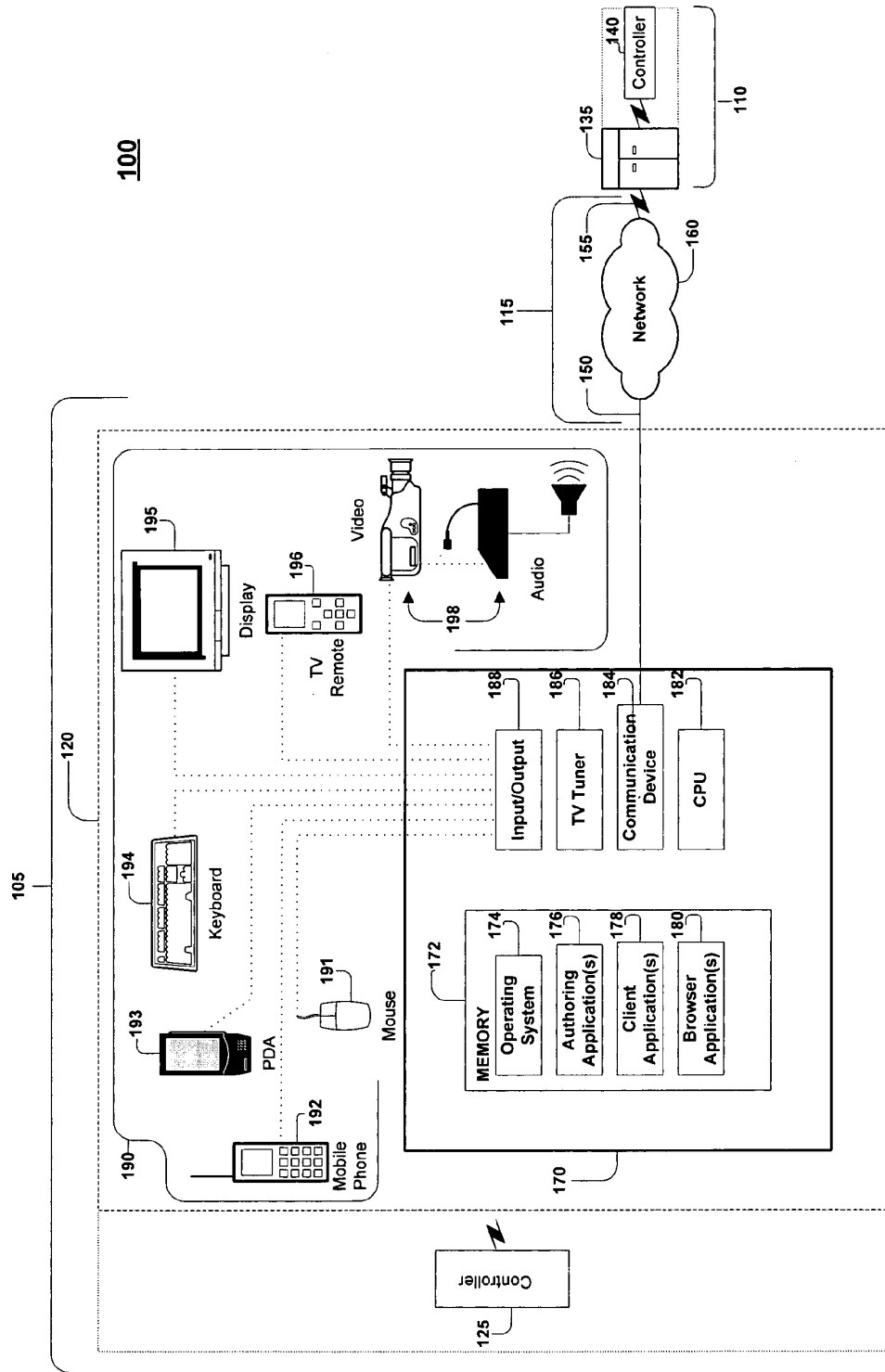


Fig. 1

200

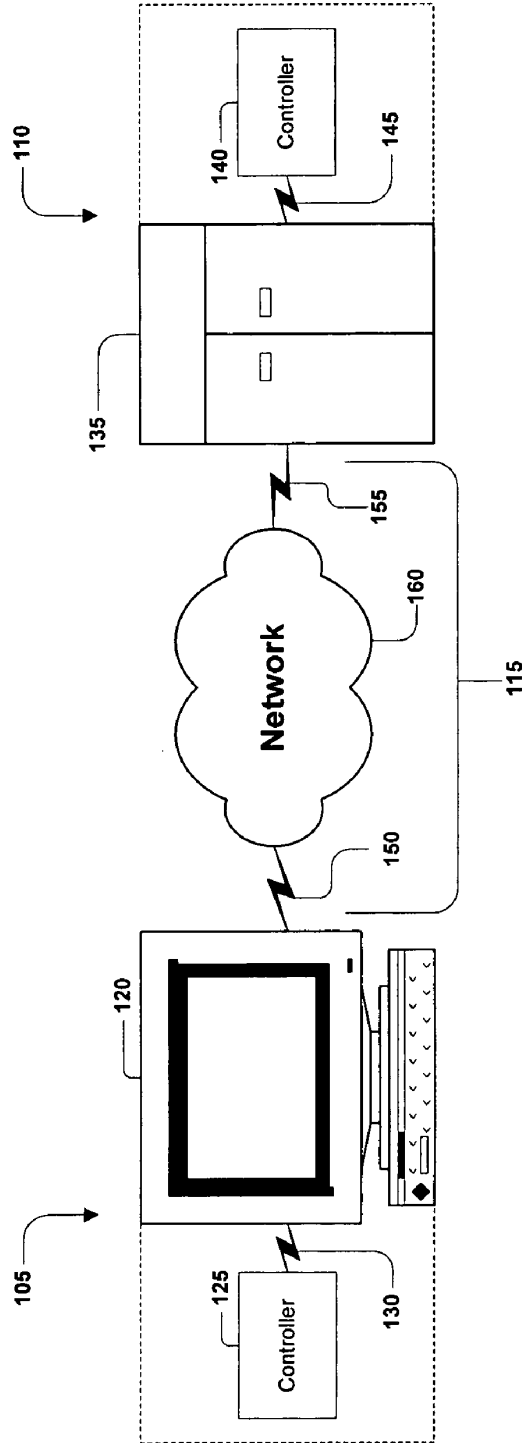


Fig. 2

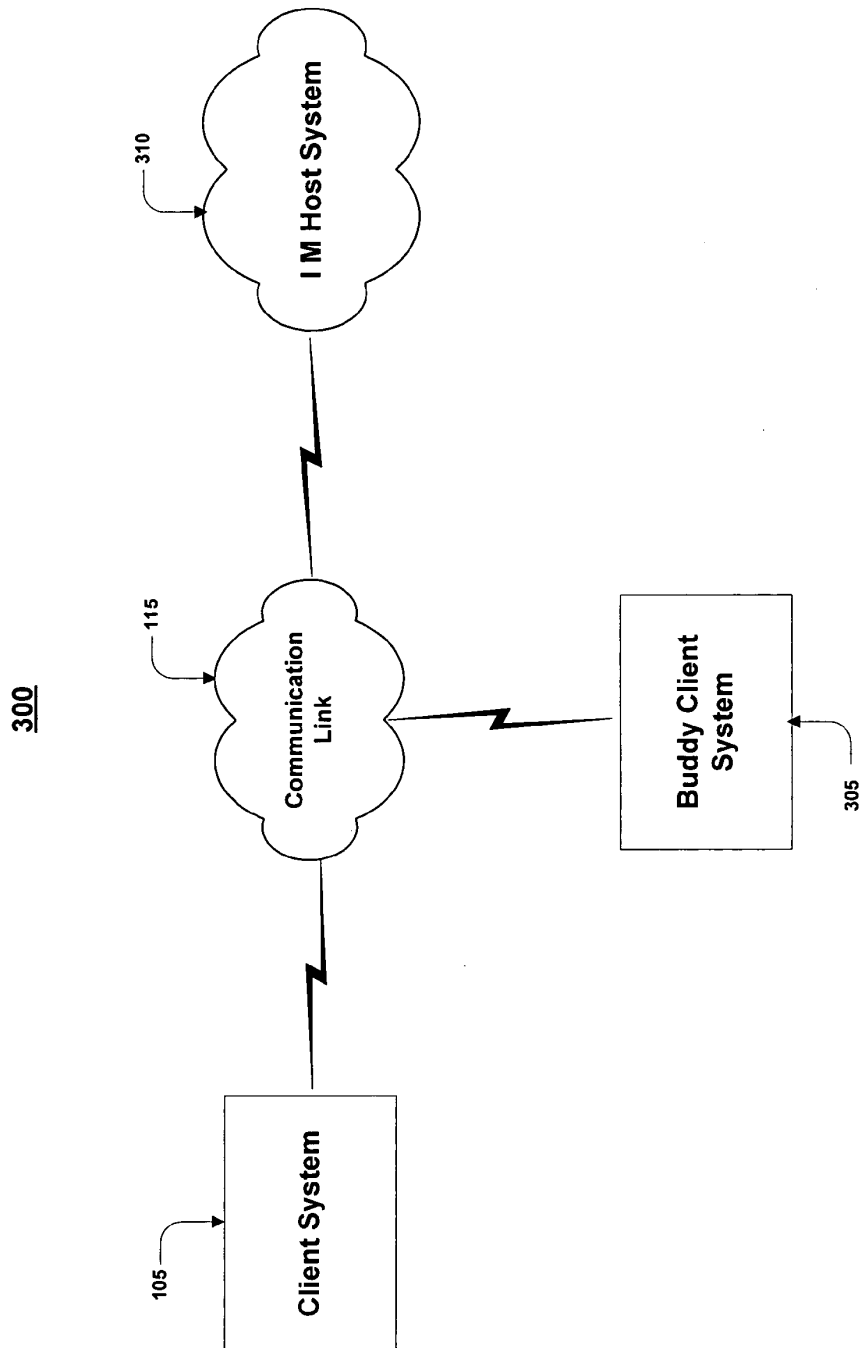


Fig. 3

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.