



APPLICATION NO.	ISSUE DATE	PATENT NO.	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
16/531,536	03/10/2020	10583365	163485.02	4956

25944 7590 02/19/2020
OLIFF PLC
P.O. BOX 320850
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320-4850

ISSUE NOTIFICATION

The projected patent number and issue date are specified above.

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment is 0 day(s). Any patent to issue from the above-identified application will include an indication of the adjustment on the front page.

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Application Assistance Unit (AAU) of the Office of Data Management (ODM) at (571)-272-4200.

APPLICANT(s) (Please see PAIR WEB site <http://pair.uspto.gov> for additional applicants):

- Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA, Tokyo, JAPAN;
- GREE, INC., Tokyo, JAPAN;
- Tomohiro TSUKIHARA, Tokyo, JAPAN;
- Norikazu KATO, Tokyo, JAPAN;
- Tomoki YASUHARA, Tokyo, JAPAN;

The United States represents the largest, most dynamic marketplace in the world and is an unparalleled location for business investment, innovation, and commercialization of new technologies. The USA offers tremendous resources and advantages for those who invest and manufacture goods here. Through SelectUSA, our nation works to encourage and facilitate business investment. To learn more about why the USA is the best country in the world to develop technology, manufacture products, and grow your business, visit SelectUSA.gov.

PART B-FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with the applicable fee(s), by mail or fax, or via EFS-Web.

By mail, send to: Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By fax, send to: (571) 273-2885

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

OLIFF PLC
P.O. Box 320850
Alexandria, Virginia 22320

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being transmitted to the USPTO via EFS-Web or by facsimile to (571) 273-2885, on the date below.

(Typed or printed name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO	CONFIRMATION NO
16/531,536	08/05/2019	Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA	163485.02	4956

TITLE OF INVENTION: GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM

APPLN: TYPE	ENTITY STATUS	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	UNDISCOUNTED	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00	02/03/2020

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
J. S. McClellan	3715	463-042

<p>1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-09 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.</p>	<p>2. For printing on the patent front page, list</p> <p>1. Oliff PLC</p> <p>(1) The names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,</p> <p>2.</p> <p>(2) The name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.</p> <p>3.</p>
--	--

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document must have been previously recorded, or filed for recordation, as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11 and 37 CFR 3.81(a). Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE: GREE, INC.

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE or COUNTRY) Tokyo, Japan

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): Individual Corporation or other private group entity Government

4a. Fees Submitted: Issue Fee Publication Fee (if required) Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Method of Payment (Please first reapply any previously paid fee shown above):

Electronic Payment via EFS-Web Enclosed check Non-electronic payment by credit card (Attach form PTO-2038)

The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0461

5. Change of Entity Status (from status indicated above)

Applicant certifying micro entity status. See 37 CFR 1.29. NOTE: Absent a valid Certification of Micro Entity Status (see forms PTO/SB/15A and 15B), issue fee payment in the micro entity amount will not be accepted at the risk of application abandonment.

Applicant asserting small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. NOTE: If the application was previously under micro entity status, checking this box will be taken as a notification of loss of entitlement to micro entity status.

Applicant changing to regular undiscounted fee status. NOTE: Checking this box will be taken as a notification of loss of entitlement to small or micro entity status, as applicable.

NOTE: This form must be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.31 and 1.33. See 37 CFR 1.4 for signature requirements and certifications.

Authorized Signature / B. Graham Nelson / Date January 31, 2020
 Typed or printed name B. Graham Nelson Registration No. 72,699

Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal

Application Number:	16531536			
Filing Date:	05-Aug-2019			
Title of Invention:	GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM			
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA			
Filer:	Joel S. Armstrong/Dakota Thompson			
Attorney Docket Number:	163485.02			
Filed as Large Entity				
Filing Fees for Utility under 35 USC 111(a)				
Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
Basic Filing:				
Pages:				
Claims:				
Miscellaneous-Filing:				
Petition:				
Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:				
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:				
UTILITY APPL ISSUE FEE	1501	1	1000	1000

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
Extension-of-Time:				
Miscellaneous:				
Total in USD (\$)				1000

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt	
EFS ID:	38461793
Application Number:	16531536
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	4956
Title of Invention:	GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA
Customer Number:	25944
Filer:	Joel S. Armstrong/Dakota Thompson
Filer Authorized By:	Joel S. Armstrong
Attorney Docket Number:	163485.02
Receipt Date:	31-JAN-2020
Filing Date:	05-AUG-2019
Time Stamp:	15:28:28
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment Type	DA
Payment was successfully received in RAM	\$1000
RAM confirmation Number	E20201UF28520031
Deposit Account	
Authorized User	

The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows:

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File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Issue Fee Payment (PTO-85B)	Issue_Fee_Transmittal.pdf	36958	no	1
			990f743d09c5806df42eafe01ef6422c6c84a570		

Warnings:

Information:

2	Fee Worksheet (SB06)	fee-info.pdf	30621	no	2
			6099fde4ff69a857173892e542ef2c8f5f256725		

Warnings:

Information:

Total Files Size (in bytes):	67579
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This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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www.uspto.gov

Table with 5 columns: APPLICATION NO., FILING DATE, FIRST NAMED INVENTOR, ATTORNEY DOCKET NO., CONFIRMATION NO. Includes application details for 16/531.536 and 25944, inventor Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA, and examiner MCCLELLAN, JAMES S.

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

OfficeAction25944@oliff.com
jarmstrong@oliff.com

Corrected Notice of Allowability	Application No. 16/531,536	Applicant(s) YOSHIKAWA et al.	
	Examiner JAMES S MCCLELLAN	Art Unit 3715	AIA (FITF) Status No

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to an IDS submitted on 11/27/2019.
 A declaration(s)/affidavit(s) under **37 CFR 1.130(b)** was/were filed on _____.

2. An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on _____; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.

3. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18. As a result of the allowed claim(s), you may be eligible to benefit from the **Patent Prosecution Highway** program at a participating intellectual property office for the corresponding application. For more information, please see http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/pph/index.jsp or send an inquiry to PPHfeedback@uspto.gov.

4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

Certified copies:

a) All b) Some *c) None of the:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment
2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____.	6. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
3. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material _____.	7. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.
4. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date. _____.	

/James S. McClellan/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3715	
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Doc code: IDS
 Doc description: Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Filed

PTO/SB/08a (02-18)
 Approved for use through 11/30/2020. OMB 0651-0031
 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number	16531536
	Filing Date	2019-08-05
	First Named Inventor	Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA
	Art Unit	3715
	Examiner Name	J. S. McClellan
	Attorney Docket Number	163485.02

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Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Patent Number	Kind Code ¹	Issue Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Foreign Document Number ³	Country Code ²ⁱ	Kind Code ⁴	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁵
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, pages(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁵

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		16531536
	Filing Date		2019-08-05
	First Named Inventor	Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA	
	Art Unit	3715	
	Examiner Name	J. S. McClellan	
	Attorney Docket Number	163485.02	

/JSM/	1	Gamecast, "SHOWING REALLY HOW MUCH MONEY IS SPENT ON GANDAM CARD COLLECTIONS AND GACHA: TAKING A LOOK AT SOCIAL GAMES", <http://gamecast-blog.com/archives/65683438.html>, June 10, 2012	
/JSM/	2	October 29, 2019 Office Action issued in Japanese Patent Application No. 2018-221107.	×

If you wish to add additional non-patent literature document citation information please click the Add button

EXAMINER SIGNATURE

Examiner Signature	/James S. McClellan/	Date Considered	12/21/2019
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through a citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.USPTO.GOV or MPEP 901.04. ² Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ³ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁴ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁵ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		16531536
	Filing Date		2019-08-05
	First Named Inventor	Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA	
	Art Unit		3715
	Examiner Name	J. S. McClellan	
	Attorney Docket Number		163485.02

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Please see 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 to make the appropriate selection(s):

That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

OR

That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

- See attached certification statement.
 - The fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17 (p) has been submitted herewith.
- A certification statement is not submitted herewith.

SIGNATURE

A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with CFR 1.33, 10.18. Please see CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.

Signature	/B. Graham Nelson/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2019-11-27
Name/Print	B. Graham Nelson	Registration Number	72,699

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether the Freedom of Information Act requires disclosure of these records.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspections or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number	16531536
	Filing Date	2019-08-05
	First Named Inventor	Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA
	Art Unit	3715
	Examiner Name	J. S. McClellan
	Attorney Docket Number	163485.02

U.S.PATENTS							Remove	
Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Patent Number	Kind Code ¹	Issue Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
	1							
If you wish to add additional U.S. Patent citation information please click the Add button.							Add	
U.S.PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS							Remove	
Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Publication Number	Kind Code ¹	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
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Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Foreign Document Number ³	Country Code ²ⁱ	Kind Code ⁴	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁵
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, pages(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.					T ⁵	

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	Filing Date		2019-08-05
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	Attorney Docket Number	163485.02	

1	Gamecast, "SHOWING REALLY HOW MUCH MONEY IS SPENT ON GANDAM CARD COLLECTIONS AND GACHA: TAKING A LOOK AT SOCIAL GAMES", <http://gamecast-blog.com/archives/65683438.html>, June 10, 2012.	
2	October 29, 2019 Office Action issued in Japanese Patent Application No. 2018-221107.	×

If you wish to add additional non-patent literature document citation information please click the Add button

EXAMINER SIGNATURE

Examiner Signature	<input type="text"/>	Date Considered	<input type="text"/>
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through a citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.USPTO.GOV or MPEP 901.04. ² Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ³ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁴ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁵ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

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	Attorney Docket Number	163485.02

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OR

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Signature	/B. Graham Nelson/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2019-11-27
Name/Print	B. Graham Nelson	Registration Number	72,699

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether the Freedom of Information Act requires disclosure of these records.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspections or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal

Application Number:	16531536				
Filing Date:	05-Aug-2019				
Title of Invention:	GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM				
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA				
Filer:	Joel S. Armstrong/Darrisaw Tatum				
Attorney Docket Number:	163485.02				
Filed as Large Entity					
Filing Fees for Utility under 35 USC 111(a)					
Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)	
Basic Filing:					
Pages:					
Claims:					
Miscellaneous-Filing:					
Petition:					
Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:					
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:					
Extension-of-Time:					

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
Miscellaneous:				
SUBMISSION- INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STMT	1806	1	240	240
Total in USD (\$)				240

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt	
EFS ID:	37884450
Application Number:	16531536
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	4956
Title of Invention:	GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA
Customer Number:	25944
Filer:	Joel S. Armstrong/Darrisaw Tatum
Filer Authorized By:	Joel S. Armstrong
Attorney Docket Number:	163485.02
Receipt Date:	27-NOV-2019
Filing Date:	05-AUG-2019
Time Stamp:	17:14:51
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment Type	DA
Payment was successfully received in RAM	\$ 240
RAM confirmation Number	E2019AQH15071874
Deposit Account	
Authorized User	

The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows:

File Listing:					
Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Transmittal Letter	Information_Disclosure_Statement.pdf	24428 26ceff94b8937025528019eb8aced7403955485e	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
2	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Form (SB08)	20191127_-_Information_Disclosure_Statement_Fillable_PDF.pdf	1034632 24aa6f5740017dd4fce297d0aa0df32b26b816b0	no	4
Warnings:					
Information:					
A U.S. Patent Number Citation or a U.S. Publication Number Citation is required in the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) form for autoloading of data into USPTO systems. You may remove the form to add the required data in order to correct the Informational Message if you are citing U.S. References. If you chose not to include U.S. References, the image of the form will be processed and be made available within the Image File Wrapper (IFW) system. However, no data will be extracted from this form. Any additional data such as Foreign Patent Documents or Non Patent Literature will be manually reviewed and keyed into USPTO systems.					
3	Non Patent Literature	D019_CameCast2012.PDF	367189 4714b8c7356810e985eba632c587d5f60ff62efd	no	7
Warnings:					
Information:					
4	Non Patent Literature	S020_0060D_20191029OA.PDF	319841 256717fc844e3bc0bab6832ddf5a74c9255b028c	no	6
Warnings:					
Information:					
5	Non Patent Literature	S020_0060D_20191029OA_1.PDF	75989 2431e7f2a8b48b739181d9ee16d88e06839e0b2e	no	6
Warnings:					
Information:					

6	Fee Worksheet (SB06)	fee-info.pdf	30828 1b9f33ec216996ba265ac04ed0e7f5ee26299d9	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
Total Files Size (in bytes):				1852907	
<p>This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.</p> <p><u>New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111</u> If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.</p> <p><u>National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371</u> If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.</p> <p><u>New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office</u> If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.</p>					

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA et al.	Attorney Docket No.: 163485.02
Application No.: 16/531,536	Confirmation No.: 4956
Filed: August 5, 2019	Art Unit: 3715
For: GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM	Examiner: J. S. McClellan

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT WITH 30-DAY CERTIFICATION

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

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 Form. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance, or other action that closes prosecution (e.g., Quayle Action), but on or before payment of the Issue Fee. The fees associated with this filing under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) are being paid electronically with this filing. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated for this filing to Deposit Account No. 15-0461.
- a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

2. Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement:
- (i) Was first cited in any communication from a patent office in a counterpart foreign or international application or from the Office, and this communication was not received by an individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; or
- (ii) Is a communication that was issued by a patent office in a counterpart foreign or international application or by the Office, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

3. With respect to the following foreign language document, for which a translation is not submitted:

NPL Cite No	Abstract Provided	Discussed in	Discussed in	Corresponds to
1			NPL. cite <u>2</u>	

Respectfully submitted,

Electronic signature: / B. Graham Nelson /
 James A. Oliff
 Registration No.: 27,075
 B. Graham Nelson
 Registration No.: 72,699

JAO:BGN/dkt

Date: November 27, 2019

OLIFF PLC
 P.O. Box 320850
 Alexandria, Virginia 22320-4850
 Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p style="text-align: center;">DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry of this filing; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

Table with 4 columns: APPLICATION NUMBER (16/531,536), FILING OR 371(C) DATE (08/05/2019), FIRST NAMED APPLICANT (Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA), ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE (163485.02)

CONFIRMATION NO. 4956

PUBLICATION NOTICE

25944
OLIFF PLC
P.O. BOX 320850
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320-4850



Title:GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM

Publication No.US-2019-0351330-A1

Publication Date:11/21/2019

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF APPLICATION

The above-identified application will be electronically published as a patent application publication pursuant to 37 CFR 1.211, et seq. The patent application publication number and publication date are set forth above.

The publication may be accessed through the USPTO's publically available Searchable Databases via the Internet at www.uspto.gov. The direct link to access the publication is currently http://www.uspto.gov/patft/.

The publication process established by the Office does not provide for mailing a copy of the publication to applicant. A copy of the publication may be obtained from the Office upon payment of the appropriate fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.19(a)(1). Orders for copies of patent application publications are handled by the USPTO's Public Records Division. The Public Records Division can be reached by telephone at (571) 272-3150 or (800) 972-6382, by facsimile at (571) 273-3250, by mail addressed to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Public Records Division, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or via the Internet.

In addition, information on the status of the application, including the mailing date of Office actions and the dates of receipt of correspondence filed in the Office, may also be accessed via the Internet through the Patent Electronic Business Center at www.uspto.gov using the public side of the Patent Application Information and Retrieval (PAIR) system. The direct link to access this status information is currently https://portal.uspto.gov/pair/PublicPair. Prior to publication, such status information is confidential and may only be obtained by applicant using the private side of PAIR.

Further assistance in electronically accessing the publication, or about PAIR, is available by calling the Patent Electronic Business Center at 1-866-217-9197.

Office of Data Management, Application Assistance Unit (571) 272-4000, or (571) 272-4200, or 1-888-786-0101



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

25944 7590 11/01/2019
OLIFF PLC
P.O. BOX 320850
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320-4850

EXAMINER

MCCLELLAN, JAMES S

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3715

DATE MAILED: 11/01/2019

Table with 5 columns: APPLICATION NO., FILING DATE, FIRST NAMED INVENTOR, ATTORNEY DOCKET NO., CONFIRMATION NO.
16/531,536 08/05/2019 Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA 163485.02 4956

TITLE OF INVENTION: GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM

Table with 7 columns: APPLN. TYPE, ENTITY STATUS, ISSUE FEE DUE, PUBLICATION FEE DUE, PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE, TOTAL FEE(S) DUE, DATE DUE
nonprovisional UNDISCOUNTED \$1000 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$1000 02/03/2020

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the ENTITY STATUS shown above. If the ENTITY STATUS is shown as SMALL or MICRO, verify whether entitlement to that entity status still applies.

If the ENTITY STATUS is the same as shown above, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

If the ENTITY STATUS is changed from that shown above, on PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, complete section number 5 titled "Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)".

For purposes of this notice, small entity fees are 1/2 the amount of undiscounted fees, and micro entity fees are 1/2 the amount of small entity fees.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Maintenance fees are due in utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due. More information is available at www.uspto.gov/PatentMaintenanceFees.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), by mail or fax, or via EFS-Web.

By mail, send to: Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

By fax, send to: (571)-273-2885

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

25944 7590 11/01/2019
OLIFF PLC
 P.O. BOX 320850
 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320-4850

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being transmitted to the USPTO via EFS-Web or by facsimile to (571) 273-2885, on the date below.

	(Typed or printed name)
	(Signature)
	(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
16/531.536	08/05/2019	Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA	163485.02	4956

TITLE OF INVENTION: GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM

APPLN. TYPE	ENTITY STATUS	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	UNDISCOUNTED	\$1000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1000	02/03/2020

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
MCCLELLAN, JAMES S	3715	463-042000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).
 Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
 "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-09 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list
 (1) The names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 _____
 (2) The name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 _____
 3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)
 PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document must have been previously recorded, or filed for recordation, as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11 and 37 CFR 3.81(a). Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.
 (A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE _____ (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY) _____

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): Individual Corporation or other private group entity Government

4a. Fees submitted: Issue Fee Publication Fee (if required) Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Method of Payment: (Please first reapply any previously paid fee shown above)

Electronic Payment via EFS-Web Enclosed check Non-electronic payment by credit card (Attach form PTO-2038)
 The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. _____

5. **Change in Entity Status** (from status indicated above)
 Applicant certifying micro entity status. See 37 CFR 1.29
 Applicant asserting small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27
 Applicant changing to regular undiscounted fee status.

NOTE: Absent a valid certification of Micro Entity Status (see forms PTO/SB/15A and 15B), issue fee payment in the micro entity amount will not be accepted at the risk of application abandonment.
NOTE: If the application was previously under micro entity status, checking this box will be taken to be a notification of loss of entitlement to micro entity status.
NOTE: Checking this box will be taken to be a notification of loss of entitlement to small or micro entity status, as applicable.

NOTE: This form must be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.31 and 1.33. See 37 CFR 1.4 for signature requirements and certifications.

Authorized Signature _____ Date _____
 Typed or printed name _____ Registration No. _____



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Table with 5 columns: APPLICATION NO., FILING DATE, FIRST NAMED INVENTOR, ATTORNEY DOCKET NO., CONFIRMATION NO. Includes application details for 16/531,536 and 25944/7590, inventor Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA, and examiner MCCLELLAN, JAMES S.

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)
(Applications filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Office has discontinued providing a Patent Term Adjustment (PTA) calculation with the Notice of Allowance.

Section 1(h)(2) of the AIA Technical Corrections Act amended 35 U.S.C. 154(b)(3)(B)(i) to eliminate the requirement that the Office provide a patent term adjustment determination with the notice of allowance. See Revisions to Patent Term Adjustment, 78 Fed. Reg. 19416, 19417 (Apr. 1, 2013). Therefore, the Office is no longer providing an initial patent term adjustment determination with the notice of allowance. The Office will continue to provide a patent term adjustment determination with the Issue Notification Letter that is mailed to applicant approximately three weeks prior to the issue date of the patent, and will include the patent term adjustment on the patent. Any request for reconsideration of the patent term adjustment determination (or reinstatement of patent term adjustment) should follow the process outlined in 37 CFR 1.705.

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

OMB Clearance and PRA Burden Statement for PTOL-85 Part B

The Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 requires Federal agencies to obtain Office of Management and Budget approval before requesting most types of information from the public. When OMB approves an agency request to collect information from the public, OMB (i) provides a valid OMB Control Number and expiration date for the agency to display on the instrument that will be used to collect the information and (ii) requires the agency to inform the public about the OMB Control Number's legal significance in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.5(b).

The information collected by PTOL-85 Part B is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.** Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b) (2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

Notice of Allowability	Application No. 16/531,536	Applicant(s) YOSHIKAWA et al.	
	Examiner JAMES S MCCLELLAN	Art Unit 3715	AIA (FITF) Status No

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to claims filed on 8/5/2019.
 A declaration(s)/affidavit(s) under **37 CFR 1.130(b)** was/were filed on _____.

2. An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on _____; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.

3. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18. As a result of the allowed claim(s), you may be eligible to benefit from the **Patent Prosecution Highway** program at a participating intellectual property office for the corresponding application. For more information, please see http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/pph/index.jsp or send an inquiry to PPHfeedback@uspto.gov.

4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

Certified copies:

a) All b) Some *c) None of the:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment
2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____.	6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
3. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material _____.	7. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.
4. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date. _____.	

/James S. McClellan/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3715	
---	--

Reasons for Allowance

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: **claim 1** recites a game control method comprising, among other recited features, a screen comprising a plurality of cells arranged in a matrix manner, wherein an item is associated with each of the cells, a rarity value is set to each item, an icon and a letter are included in each of the cells, a color of each of the cells depends on the rarity of the value of the associated item, and the screen further comprises a number of obtainable items for each rarity value. No single reference or reasonable combination of prior art anticipate or make obvious the claimed invention, including the features listed above for claim 1.

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0282634 to Yamada discloses a game control method that includes tracking and displaying rare game items in a matrix, but fails to disclose, among other features, color coding and the number of obtainable items for each rarity value. U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2014/0038716 to Endo, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2011/0257442 to Hawkins, and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2006/0082068 to Patchen disclose game control methods including a matrix of game objects, but each fails to disclose the above listed features of claim 1. Further, independent **claims 7 and 13** also recited the allowed features. **Claims 2-6, 8-12, and 14-18** depend from allowable base claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAMES S MCCLELLAN whose telephone number is (571)272-7167. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:30AM-5:00PM).

Examiner interviews are available via telephone, in-person, and video conferencing using a USPTO supplied web-based collaboration tool. To schedule an interview, applicant is encouraged to use the USPTO Automated Interview Request (AIR) at <http://www.uspto.gov/interviewpractice>.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Sean Hunter** can be reached at 571-270-7791. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/James S. McClellan/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3715

Application/Control Number: 16/531,536
Art Unit: 3715

Page 4

Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 16/531,536	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination YOSHIKAWA et al.	
	Examiner JAMES S MCCLELLAN	Art Unit 3715	Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*	Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	CPC Classification	US Classification
*	A US-20050282634-A1	12-2005	Yamada, Yoichi	A63F13/12	463/39
*	B US-20140038716-A1	02-2014	Endo; Taku	A63F13/12	463/31
*	C US-20110275442-A1	11-2011	Hawkins, III; William M.	G06Q10/00	463/42
*	D US-20060082068-A1	04-2006	Patchen; Jeffery Allen	A63F9/183	273/430
E					
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*	Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	CPC Classification
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*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

Search Notes 	Application/Control No. 16/531,536	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination YOSHIKAWA et al.
	Examiner JAMES S MCCLELLAN	Art Unit 3715

CPC - Searched*		
Symbol	Date	Examiner
A63F 13/30, 55, 67, 69, 79, and 798	10/28/2019	JSM

CPC Combination Sets - Searched*		
Symbol	Date	Examiner


US Classification - Searched*			
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner

* See search history printout included with this form or the SEARCH NOTES box below to determine the scope of the search.

Search Notes		
Search Notes	Date	Examiner
EAST Text Search	10/28/2019	JSM
Consulted Prosecution History of related application 16/531,536	10/28/2019	JSM
Claim term search for interference	10/28/2019	JSM

Interference Search			
US Class/CPC Symbol	US Subclass/CPC Group	Date	Examiner
A63F	13/30, 55, 67, 69, 79, and 798	10/28/2019	JSM

/James S. McClellan/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3715	
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Issue Classification 	Application/Control No. 16/531,536	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination YOSHIKAWA et al.
	Examiner JAMES S MCCLELLAN	Art Unit 3715


CPC						
Symbol					Type	Version
A63F	/	13	/	69	F	2014-09-02
A63F	/	13	/	35	I	2014-09-02
A63F	/	13	/	79	A	2014-09-02
A63F	/	2300	/	609	A	2013-01-01
A63F	/	2300	/	575	A	2013-01-01



CPC Combination Sets				
Symbol	Type	Set	Ranking	Version
/				

NONE	Total Claims Allowed:	
(Assistant Examiner)	(Date)	18
/James S. McClellan/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3715	28 October 2019	O.G. Print Claim(s) | O.G. Print Figure
(Primary Examiner)	(Date)	1 | 10B

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Part of Paper No.: 20191028

Issue Classification 	Application/Control No. 16/531,536	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination YOSHIKAWA et al.
	Examiner JAMES S MCCLELLAN	Art Unit 3715

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A63F13/35		13	
			
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US ORIGINAL CLASSIFICATION	
CLASS	SUBCLASS

CROSS REFERENCES(S)					
CLASS	SUBCLASS (ONE SUBCLASS PER BLOCK)				

NONE		Total Claims Allowed:	
(Assistant Examiner)	(Date)	18	
/James S. McClellan/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3715	28 October 2019	O.G. Print Claim(s)	O.G. Print Figure
(Primary Examiner)	(Date)	1	10B

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Doc code: IDS
 Doc description: Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Filed

PTO/SB/08a (02-18)
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number	16531536
	Filing Date	2019-08-05
	First Named Inventor	Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA
	Art Unit	3715
	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
	Attorney Docket Number	163485.02

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	1	20110294558	A1	2011-12-01	Kim	
	2	20030008710	A1	2003-01-09	Yamaoka et al.	
	3	20050282634	A1	2005-12-22	Yamada et al.	
	4	20140038716	A1	2014-02-06	Endo	
	5	20040259642	A1	2004-12-23	Tanaka et al.	

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	Art Unit	3715		
	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned		
	Attorney Docket Number	163485.02		

6	20120004038	A1	2012-01-05	Van Luchene
7	20140143687	A1	2014-05-22	Tan et al.
8	20120202575	A1	2012-08-09	Matsuno
9	20090247260	A1	2009-10-01	Goto et al.
10	20110124415	A1	2011-05-26	SHIMONO
11	20130337906	A1	2013-12-19	Ikeda

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Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Foreign Document Number ³	Country Code ² i	Kind Code ⁴	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁵
	1	2002-236773	JP	A	2002-08-23	Dainippon Printing Co Ltd		×
	2	2002-366852	JP	A	2002-12-20	Hiitoshinku Kk		☒
	3	2001-353371	JP	A	2001-12-25	Konami Co Ltd,		☒

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		16531536	
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	First Named Inventor	Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA		
	Art Unit	3715		
	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned		
	Attorney Docket Number	163485.02		

4	2003-019356	JP	A	2003-01-21	Konami Comp Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	2003-154172	JP	A	2003-05-27	Konami Co Ltd,	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6	2005-318995	JP	A	2005-11-17	Nintendo Co Ltd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7	2013-027477	JP	A	2013-02-07	Konami, Digital Entertainment Co Ltd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8	2003-016333	JP	A	2003-01-17	Sharp Kk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9	2008-220984	JP	A	2008-09-25	Nintendo Co Ltd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10	2011067534	JP	A	2011-04-07	Juno Gaming Co Ltd	<input type="checkbox"/>
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12	2001218981	JP	A	2001-08-14	Kceo Inc	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
13	2003260266	JP	A	2003-09-16	Namco Ltd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14	2001259228	JP	A	2001-09-25	Enix Corp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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	Attorney Docket Number	163485.02

15	2014000103	JP	A	2014-01-09	Dna KK	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	1	September 10, 2013 International Search Report issued in Application No. PCT/JP2013/003899.	
	2	March 11, 2014 Japanese Office Action issued in Application No. 2013-544606.	✗
	3	March 11, 2014 Japanese Office Action issued in Application No. 2014-007086.	☒
	4	June 10, 2014 Japanese Office Action issued in Application No. 2013-544606.	☒
	5	September 16, 2014 Japanese Office Action issued in Application No. 2014-142613.	☒
	6	November 19, 2013 Japanese Office Action issued in Application No. 2013-544606.	☒
	7	Social Game Review 7: Social Gacha's payment encouragement scheme has overwhelmed network games [online], GameCast iPhone, February 11, 2012, (with partial translation).	<input type="checkbox"/>
	8	"POWER PRO KUN POCKET 14 OFFICIAL COMPLETE GUIDE", Enterbrain, 1st Edition, page 157, February 22, 2012, (with partial translation).	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	
	Attorney Docket Number		163485.02

9	"DENGKIII YOEN KUNOICHI", Appli Fan, Cosmic Publishing, Vol. 2, pages 116-117, April 15, 2012.	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	"WONDER LIFE SPECIAL, NINTENDO OFFICIAL GUIDEBOOK, POKEMON XD, GALE OF DARKNESS, DARK LUGIA", Shogakukan Inc., 1st Edition, page 152, October 1, 2005.	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	February 3, 2015 Office Action issued in Japanese Patent Application No. 2014-208126.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12	December 22, 2015 Office Action issued in Japanese Patent Application No. 2015-131303.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
13	October 4, 2016 Office Action issued in Japanese Patent Application No. 2016-051444.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14	December 1, 2016 Office Action Issued In U.S. Patent Application No. 14/409,219	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	February 21, 2017 Office Action issued in Japanese Patent Application No. 2016-051444.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
16	Nintendo DREAM August issue separate volume, Tomodachi Collection, Shima No Seikatsu Mankitsu Guide, Mainichi Communications Inc., Vol. 14, No. 8, pg. 19, 2009.	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	May 9, 2017 Office Action issued in Japanese Patent Application No. 2016-051444.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
18	Saka Tsuku DS Touch and Direct Perfect Guide, ENTERBRAIN, INC., First Version, pp. 74-76, January 8, 2009.	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	August 25, 2017 Office Action issued in U.S. Patent Application No. 14/409,219.	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Attorney Docket Number		163485.02

20	February 9, 2018 Office Action issued in U.S. Patent Application No. 14/409,219.	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	June 26, 2018 Office Action issued in Japanese Patent Application No. 2017-126020.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
22	May 25, 2018 Notice of Allowance issued in U.S. Patent Application No. 14/409,219.	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	September 18, 2018 Office Action issued in Japanese Patent Application No. 2017-126020.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24	Media Works Inc. "YOSHI'S ISLAND DS, THE COMPLETE GUIDE". 3rd Edition, pp. 6-9, June 5, 2007.	<input type="checkbox"/>
25	DigiCube Co., Ltd. "KINGDOM HEART'S ULTIMANIA". Revised Edition, pp. 17, 308, 312, June 12, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>
26	Enterbrain Inc. 7th DRAGON 2020, COMPLETE GUIDE". 1st Edition, pp. 28, January 10, 2012.	<input type="checkbox"/>
27	Supercell, "THIRD ASSERTION DOCUMENT BY OBLIGORS," submitted in Case No. H30(YO)22064 of JP Patent No. 6276314, pp. 1-24, September 3, 2018.	<input type="checkbox"/>
28	GMO, "SIGNIFICANTLY RENEWED 'GACHA AND PONTA,'" submitted in Case No. H30(YO)22064 of JP Patent No. 6276314, pp. 1-2, November 19, 2009.	<input type="checkbox"/>
29	BANGACHA, "SUMMARY OF SPEC DESCRIPTION OF GACHA AND PONTA 2," submitted in Case No. H30(YO)22064 of JP Patent No. 6276314, pp. 1-11, November 21, 2009.	<input type="checkbox"/>
30	YAMAGUCHI Masahiro, "WHAT IS THE NEW "WINDOWS TOUCH" FUNCTION IN WINDOWS 7?" submitted in Case No. H30(YO)22064 of JP Patent No. 6276314, pp. 1-13, October 23, 2009.	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Art Unit		3715
	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	
	Attorney Docket Number		163485.02

31	NIKKEI Trendy Net, ""WINDOWS 7 SALES START!" RELATED ARTICLE TO BE FURTHER ACQUAINTED WITH 7," submitted in Case No. H30(YO)22064 of JP Patent No. 6276314, pp. 1-4, October 23, 2009.	<input type="checkbox"/>
32	HobbyJAPAN Co., Ltd., "GANDAM NETWORK OPERATION 3 - FIRST STEP GUIDE," submitted in Case No. H30(YO)22064 of JP Patent No. 6276314, pp. 006, 007, 042, 043, March 1, 2010.	<input type="checkbox"/>
33	TAKIZAWA Osamu, "BANDAI NAMCO, WIN "GANDAM NETWORK OPERATION 3,"" submitted in Case No. H30(YO)22064 of JP Patent No. 6276314, pp. 1-6, February 25, 2010.	<input type="checkbox"/>
34	TAKIZAWA Osamu, "BANDAI NAMCO, WIN "GANDAM NETWORK OPERATION 3,"" submitted in Case No. H30(YO)22064 of JP Patent No. 6276314, pp. 1-2, printed on August 9, 2018.	<input type="checkbox"/>
35	Supercell's Agent, "FUNCTION CONFIRMATION REPORT," submitted in Case No. H30(YO)22064 of JP Patent No. 6276314, pp. 1-2, September 3, 2018.	<input type="checkbox"/>

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EXAMINER SIGNATURE

Examiner Signature	/James S. McClellan/	Date Considered	10/28/2019
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through a citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.USPTO.GOV or MPEP 901.04. ² Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ³ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁴ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁵ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

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	Art Unit		3715
	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	
	Attorney Docket Number		163485.02

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Please see 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 to make the appropriate selection(s):

That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

OR

That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

See attached certification statement.

The fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17 (p) has been submitted herewith.

A certification statement is not submitted herewith.

SIGNATURE

A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with CFR 1.33, 10.18. Please see CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.

Signature	/B. Graham Nelson/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2019-08-26
Name/Print	B. Graham Nelson	Registration Number	72,699

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
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5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspections or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /JSM/

EAST Search History

EAST Search History (Prior Art)

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	Time Stamp
L1	1042563	virtual	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/10/28 11:56
L2	552508	online	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/10/28 11:56
L3	1010	"scratch card" or "scratch cards"	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/10/28 11:56
L4	1399335	1 or 2	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/10/28 11:57
L5	71	4 near2 3	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/10/28 11:57
L6	9381843	@ad< "20120621"	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/10/28 11:57
L7	45	5 and 6	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/10/28 11:57
L17	221336	inventory	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/10/28 12:04
L18	6753	a63f13/30,55,67,69,79,798.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/10/28 12:04
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L20	384718	rare or rarity	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/10/28 12:04
L21	136	19 and 20	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/10/28 12:04
L22	677387	reveal or scratch\$	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/10/28 12:05
L23	34	21 and 22	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/10/28 12:05
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S2	6567737	item\$2 or object\$2	US- PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2016/11/28 11:03
S3	176873	inventory	US- PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2016/11/28 11:03
S4	42	S1 with S2 with S3	US- PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2016/11/28 11:03
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S6	25	S5 and S4	US- PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2016/11/28 11:04
S7	1	("20140038716").PN.	US- PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2016/11/28 11:04
S8	3	("20040259642" | "20050282634" | "20090124393").PN.	US- PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2016/11/28 11:05
S9	3	S8 and S5	US- PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2016/11/28 11:05
S10	8	("2005/0282634").URPN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2016/11/28 11:05
S11	17	"409,219"	USPAT	OR	OFF	2016/11/28 11:06
S12	3975	a63f13/30,55,67,69,79,798.cpc.	US- PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2016/11/28 12:02
S13	3545	S2 and S12	US- PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2016/11/28 12:02
S14	524	S13 and S3	US- PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2016/11/28 12:03
S15	280	S14 and S5	US- PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2016/11/28 12:03
S16	101490	video adj game\$2	US- PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2017/07/10 13:46
S17	6819081	item\$2 or object\$2	US- PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2017/07/10 13:46
S18	185308	inventory	US- PGPUB;	OR	OFF	2017/07/10 13:46

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S30	5619	virtual adj game	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/05/14 14:38
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S32	14434	game adj server	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/01/07 10:14
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S35	81	S32 and S33	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/01/07 10:14
S36	5	S34 and S35	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/01/07 10:14
S37	5916	a63f13/30,55,67,69,79,798.cpc.	US-	OR	OFF	2019/01/07

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S40	1	("9208636").PN.	US- PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/02/18 10:13
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S42	3	("20040259642" "20050282634" "20090124393").PN.	US- PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/04/29 13:52
S43	3	S42 and S41	US- PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/04/29 13:52
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S45	7563523	item\$2 or object\$2	US- PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/04/29 13:52
S46	212322	inventory	US- PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/04/29 13:52
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S49	124748	video adj game\$2	US- PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/04/29 13:52
S50	14965	game adj server	US- PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/04/29 13:55
S51	604	rare adj item\$2	US- PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/04/29 13:55
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S53	85	S50 and S51	US- PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/04/29 13:55
S54	5	S52 and S53	US- PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/04/29 13:55
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S56	7563523	item\$2 or object\$2	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/04/29 13:55
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S58	67	S55 with S56 with S57	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/04/29 13:55
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S60	28	S59 and S58	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/04/29 13:55
S61	1	("20080113809").PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/05/08 15:50
S62	6049	walker-j\$.in.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/05/10 14:18
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S64	1118	S62 and S63	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/05/10 14:19
S65	15	walker-jay.in.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/05/10 14:19
S66	31555	wager	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/05/10 14:19
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Table with columns: APPLICATION NO., FILING DATE, FIRST NAMED INVENTOR, ATTORNEY DOCKET NO., CONFIRMATION NO., EXAMINER, ART UNIT, PAPER NUMBER, NOTIFICATION DATE, DELIVERY MODE. Contains application details for 16/531.536 filed 08/05/2019 by Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA.

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

OfficeAction25944@oliff.com
jarmstrong@oliff.com

<i>Decision Granting Request for Prioritized Examination (Track I)</i>	Application No. 16/531,536	Applicant(s) YOSHIKAWA et al.	
	Examiner CHERYL P GIBSON BAYLOR	Art Unit OPET	AIA (FITF) Status No
<p>1. THE REQUEST FILED <u>05 August 2019</u> IS GRANTED .</p> <p>The above-identified application has met the requirements for prioritized examination</p> <p>A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for an original nonprovisional application (Track I).</p> <p>B. <input type="checkbox"/> for an application undergoing continued examination (RCE).</p> <p>2. The above-identified application will undergo prioritized examination. The application will be accorded special status throughout its entire course of prosecution until one of the following occurs:</p> <p>A. filing a <u>petition for extension of time</u> to extend the time period for filing a reply;</p> <p>B. filing an <u>amendment to amend the application to contain more than four independent claims, more than thirty total claims</u>, or a multiple dependent claim;</p> <p>C. filing a <u>request for continued examination</u> ;</p> <p>D. filing a notice of appeal;</p> <p>E. filing a request for suspension of action;</p> <p>F. mailing of a notice of allowance;</p> <p>G. mailing of a final Office action;</p> <p>H. completion of examination as defined in 37 CFR 41.102; or</p> <p>I. abandonment of the application.</p> <p>Telephone inquiries with regard to this decision should be directed to CHERYL GIBSON BAYLOR at (571)272-3213. In his/her absence, calls may be directed to Petition Help Desk at (571) 272-3282.</p>			
/CHERYL GIBSON BAYLOR/ Paralegal Specialist, OPET			

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number	16531536
	Filing Date	2019-08-05
	First Named Inventor	Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA
	Art Unit	3715
	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
	Attorney Docket Number	163485.02

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	1	20110294558	A1	2011-12-01	Kim	
	2	20030008710	A1	2003-01-09	Yamaoka et al.	
	3	20050282634	A1	2005-12-22	Yamada et al.	
	4	20140038716	A1	2014-02-06	Endo	
	5	20040259642	A1	2004-12-23	Tanaka et al.	

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	Art Unit	3715
	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
	Attorney Docket Number	163485.02

	6	20120004038	A1	2012-01-05	Van Luchene
	7	20140143687	A1	2014-05-22	Tan et al.
	8	20120202575	A1	2012-08-09	Matsuno
	9	20090247260	A1	2009-10-01	Goto et al.
	10	20110124415	A1	2011-05-26	SHIMONO
	11	20130337906	A1	2013-12-19	Ikeda

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Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Foreign Document Number ³	Country Code ² i	Kind Code ⁴	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁵
	1	2002-236773	JP	A	2002-08-23	Dainippon Printing Co Ltd		×
	2	2002-366852	JP	A	2002-12-20	Hiitoshinku Kk		☒
	3	2001-353371	JP	A	2001-12-25	Konami Co Ltd,		☒

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		16531536	
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	First Named Inventor		Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA	
	Art Unit		3715	
	Examiner Name		Not Yet Assigned	
	Attorney Docket Number		163485.02	

4	2003-019356	JP	A	2003-01-21	Konami Comp Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	2003-154172	JP	A	2003-05-27	Konami Co Ltd,	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6	2005-318995	JP	A	2005-11-17	Nintendo Co Ltd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7	2013-027477	JP	A	2013-02-07	Konami, Digital Entertainment Co Ltd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8	2003-016333	JP	A	2003-01-17	Sharp Kk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9	2008-220984	JP	A	2008-09-25	Nintendo Co Ltd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10	2011067534	JP	A	2011-04-07	Juno Gaming Co Ltd	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	2007117656	JP	A	2007-05-17	Konami Digital Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	2001218981	JP	A	2001-08-14	Kceo Inc	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
13	2003260266	JP	A	2003-09-16	Namco Ltd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14	2001259228	JP	A	2001-09-25	Enix Corp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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	Attorney Docket Number	163485.02

	15	2014000103	JP	A	2014-01-09	Dna KK	<input type="checkbox"/>
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NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, pages(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁵
	1	September 10, 2013 International Search Report issued in Application No. PCT/JP2013/003899.	
	2	March 11, 2014 Japanese Office Action issued in Application No. 2013-544606.	×
	3	March 11, 2014 Japanese Office Action issued in Application No. 2014-007086.	☒
	4	June 10, 2014 Japanese Office Action issued in Application No. 2013-544606.	☒
	5	September 16, 2014 Japanese Office Action issued in Application No. 2014-142613.	☒
	6	November 19, 2013 Japanese Office Action issued in Application No. 2013-544606.	☒
	7	Social Game Review 7: Social Gacha's payment encouragement scheme has overwhelmed network games [online], GameCast iPhone, February 11, 2012, (with partial translation).	<input type="checkbox"/>
	8	"POWER PRO KUN POCKET 14 OFFICIAL COMPLETE GUIDE", Enterbrain, 1st Edition, page 157, February 22, 2012, (with partial translation).	<input type="checkbox"/>

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9	"DENGKII!! YOEN KUNOICHI", Appli Fan, Cosmic Publishing, Vol. 2, pages 116-117, April 15, 2012.	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	"WONDER LIFE SPECIAL, NINTENDO OFFICIAL GUIDEBOOK, POKEMON XD, GALE OF DARKNESS, DARK LUGIA", Shogakukan Inc., 1st Edition, page 152, October 1, 2005.	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	February 3, 2015 Office Action issued in Japanese Patent Application No. 2014-208126.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12	December 22, 2015 Office Action issued in Japanese Patent Application No. 2015-131303.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
13	October 4, 2016 Office Action issued in Japanese Patent Application No. 2016-051444.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14	December 1, 2016 Office Action Issued In U.S. Patent Application No. 14/409,219	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	February 21, 2017 Office Action issued in Japanese Patent Application No. 2016-051444.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
16	Nintendo DREAM August issue separate volume, Tomodachi Collection, Shima No Seikatsu Mankitsu Guide, Mainichi Communications Inc., Vol. 14, No. 8, pg. 19, 2009.	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	May 9, 2017 Office Action issued in Japanese Patent Application No. 2016-051444.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
18	Saka Tsuku DS Touch and Direct Perfect Guide, ENTERBRAIN, INC., First Version, pp. 74-76, January 8, 2009.	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	August 25, 2017 Office Action issued in U.S. Patent Application No. 14/409,219.	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Attorney Docket Number	163485.02

20	February 9, 2018 Office Action issued in U.S. Patent Application No. 14/409,219.	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	June 26, 2018 Office Action issued in Japanese Patent Application No. 2017-126020.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
22	May 25, 2018 Notice of Allowance issued in U.S. Patent Application No. 14/409,219.	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	September 18, 2018 Office Action issued in Japanese Patent Application No. 2017-126020.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24	Media Works Inc. "YOSHI'S ISLAND DS, THE COMPLETE GUIDE". 3rd Edition, pp. 6-9, June 5, 2007.	<input type="checkbox"/>
25	DigiCube Co., Ltd. "KINGDOM HEART'S ULTIMANIA". Revised Edition, pp. 17, 308, 312, June 12, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>
26	Enterbrain Inc. 7th DRAGON 2020, COMPLETE GUIDE". 1st Edition, pp. 28, January 10, 2012.	<input type="checkbox"/>
27	Supercell, "THIRD ASSERTION DOCUMENT BY OBLIGORS," submitted in Case No. H30(YO)22064 of JP Patent No. 6276314, pp. 1-24, September 3, 2018.	<input type="checkbox"/>
28	GMO, "SIGNIFICANTLY RENEWED 'GACHA AND PONTA,'" submitted in Case No. H30(YO)22064 of JP Patent No. 6276314, pp. 1-2, November 19, 2009.	<input type="checkbox"/>
29	BANGACHA, "SUMMARY OF SPEC DESCRIPTION OF GACHA AND PONTA 2," submitted in Case No. H30(YO)22064 of JP Patent No. 6276314, pp. 1-11, November 21, 2009.	<input type="checkbox"/>
30	YAMAGUCHI Masahiro, "WHAT IS THE NEW "WINDOWS TOUCH" FUNCTION IN WINDOWS 7?" submitted in Case No. H30(YO)22064 of JP Patent No. 6276314, pp. 1-13, October 23, 2009.	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Art Unit	3715	
	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	
	Attorney Docket Number	163485.02	

31	NIKKEI Trendy Net, ""WINDOWS 7 SALES START!" RELATED ARTICLE TO BE FURTHER ACQUAINTED WITH 7," submitted in Case No. H30(YO)22064 of JP Patent No. 6276314, pp. 1-4, October 23, 2009.	<input type="checkbox"/>
32	HobbyJAPAN Co., Ltd., "GANDAM NETWORK OPERATION 3 - FIRST STEP GUIDE," submitted in Case No. H30(YO)22064 of JP Patent No. 6276314, pp. 006, 007, 042, 043, March 1, 2010.	<input type="checkbox"/>
33	TAKIZAWA Osamu, "BANDAI NAMCO, WIN "GANDAM NETWORK OPERATION 3,"" submitted in Case No. H30(YO)22064 of JP Patent No. 6276314, pp. 1-6, February 25, 2010.	<input type="checkbox"/>
34	TAKIZAWA Osamu, "BANDAI NAMCO, WIN "GANDAM NETWORK OPERATION 3,"" submitted in Case No. H30(YO)22064 of JP Patent No. 6276314, pp. 1-2, printed on August 9, 2018.	<input type="checkbox"/>
35	Supercell's Agent, "FUNCTION CONFIRMATION REPORT," submitted in Case No. H30(YO)22064 of JP Patent No. 6276314, pp. 1-2, September 3, 2018.	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you wish to add additional non-patent literature document citation information please click the Add button

EXAMINER SIGNATURE

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through a citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.USPTO.GOV or MPEP 901.04. ² Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ³ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁴ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁵ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number	16531536
	Filing Date	2019-08-05
	First Named Inventor	Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA
	Art Unit	3715
	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
	Attorney Docket Number	163485.02

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Please see 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 to make the appropriate selection(s):

That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

OR

That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

See attached certification statement.

The fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17 (p) has been submitted herewith.

A certification statement is not submitted herewith.

SIGNATURE

A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with CFR 1.33, 10.18. Please see CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.

Signature	/B. Graham Nelson/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2019-08-26
Name/Print	B. Graham Nelson	Registration Number	72,699

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether the Freedom of Information Act requires disclosure of these records.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspections or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA et al.	Attorney Docket No.: 163485.02
Application No.: 16/531,536	Confirmation No.: 4956
Filed: August 5, 2019	Art Unit: 3715
For: <u>GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM</u>	Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 Form. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

2. The references cited herein were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent Application No. 16/053,149, filed August 2, 2018, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Thus, no copy of any such reference is attached. 37 CFR §1.98(d). It is also understood that the Examiner will consider in this application all of the information that has been considered by the Office in the parent application(s), including the Office Actions and other papers issued in such application(s). See MPEP §609.02.

Respectfully submitted,

Electronic signature: / B. Graham Nelson /
James A. Oliff
Registration No.: 27,075
B. Graham Nelson
Registration No.: 72,699

JAO:BGN/azk

Date: August 26, 2019

OLIFF PLC
P.O. Box 320850
Alexandria, Virginia 22320-4850
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry of this filing; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt	
EFS ID:	36976098
Application Number:	16531536
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	4956
Title of Invention:	GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA
Customer Number:	25944
Filer:	Joel S. Armstrong/Allison Kuhnell
Filer Authorized By:	Joel S. Armstrong
Attorney Docket Number:	163485.02
Receipt Date:	26-AUG-2019
Filing Date:	05-AUG-2019
Time Stamp:	13:54:28
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no
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File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Form (SB08)	20190826_-_Information_Disclosure_Statement_Fillable_PDF.pdf	1037141 58848a4c0827ade5cf23432f77c4e737a524aed7	no	9

Warnings:

Information:					
2	Transmittal Letter	Information_Disclosure_Statement.pdf	21585	no	2
			e0ab3be5aa49347bf8f066dd4f0a9fa2f28a17a2		
Warnings:					
Information:					
			Total Files Size (in bytes):	1058726	
<p>This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.</p> <p><u>New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111</u> If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.</p> <p><u>National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371</u> If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.</p> <p><u>New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office</u> If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.</p>					



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Table with 8 columns: APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING or 371(c) DATE, GRP ART UNIT, FIL FEE REC'D, ATTY.DOCKET.NO, TOT CLAIMS, IND CLAIMS. Values: 16/531,536, 08/05/2019, 1720, 163485.02, 18, 3.

CONFIRMATION NO. 4956

FILING RECEIPT

25944
OLIFF PLC
P.O. BOX 320850
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320-4850



Date Mailed: 08/16/2019

Receipt is acknowledged of this non-provisional utility patent application. The application will be taken up for examination in due course. Applicant will be notified as to the results of the examination. Any correspondence concerning the application must include the following identification information: the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF FIRST INVENTOR, and TITLE OF INVENTION. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection.

Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please submit a written request for a corrected Filing Receipt, including a properly marked-up ADS showing the changes with strike-through for deletions and underlining for additions. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" or other Notice requiring a response for this application, please submit any request for correction to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections provided that the request is grantable.

Inventor(s)

Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA, Tokyo, JAPAN;
Tomohiro TSUKIHARA, Tokyo, JAPAN;
Norikazu KATO, Tokyo, JAPAN;
Tomoki YASUHARA, Tokyo, JAPAN;

Applicant(s)

GREE, INC., Tokyo, JAPAN;

Assignment For Published Patent Application

GREE, INC., Tokyo, JAPAN

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 25944

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a CON of 16/053,149 08/02/2018
which is a CON of 14/409,219 12/18/2014 PAT 10076708
which is a 371 of PCT/JP2013/003899 06/21/2013

Foreign Applications (You may be eligible to benefit from the Patent Prosecution Highway program at the USPTO. Please see http://www.uspto.gov for more information.)
JAPAN 2012-140213 06/21/2012 No Access Code Provided

Permission to Access Application via Priority Document Exchange: Yes

Permission to Access Search Results: Yes

Applicant may provide or rescind an authorization for access using Form PTO/SB/39 or Form PTO/SB/69 as appropriate.

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 08/15/2019

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US 16/531,536**

Projected Publication Date: 11/21/2019

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title

GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM

Preliminary Class

Statement under 37 CFR 1.55 or 1.78 for AIA (First Inventor to File) Transition Applications: No

PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html>.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, <http://www.stopfakes.gov>. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific

page 2 of 4

countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4258).

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Title 35, United States Code, Section 184
Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15**

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PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD
Substitute for Form PTO-875

Application or Docket Number
16/531,536

APPLICATION AS FILED - PART I

(Column 1)		(Column 2)	SMALL ENTITY		OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
FOR	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE(\$)	FEE(\$)		RATE(\$)	FEE(\$)
BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	300
SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (l), or (m))	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	660
EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	760
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(i))	18	minus 20 = *			OR	x 100 =	0.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	3	minus 3 = *				x 460 =	0.00
APPLICATION SIZE FEE (37 CFR 1.16(s))	If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is \$310 (\$155 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).						0.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))							0.00
* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.			TOTAL			TOTAL	1720

APPLICATION AS AMENDED - PART II

AMENDMENT A	(Column 1)	(Column 2)	(Column 3)	SMALL ENTITY		OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE(\$)	ADDITIONAL FEE(\$)		RATE(\$)	ADDITIONAL FEE(\$)
Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	x	=	OR	x	=
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	x	=	OR	x	=
Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))						OR		
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))						OR		
				TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	
AMENDMENT B	(Column 1)	(Column 2)	(Column 3)	SMALL ENTITY		OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE(\$)	ADDITIONAL FEE(\$)		RATE(\$)	ADDITIONAL FEE(\$)
Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	x	=	OR	x	=
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	x	=	OR	x	=
Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))						OR		
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))						OR		
				TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.
 ** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".
 *** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".
 The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest found in the appropriate box in column 1.

**CERTIFICATION AND REQUEST FOR PRIORITIZED EXAMINATION
 UNDER 37 CFR 1.102(e)** (Page 1 of 1)

First Named Inventor:	Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA	Nonprovisional Application Number (if known):	New U.S. Patent Application
Title of Invention:	GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM		

APPLICANT HEREBY CERTIFIES THE FOLLOWING AND REQUESTS PRIORITIZED EXAMINATION FOR THE ABOVE-IDENTIFIED APPLICATION.

1. The processing fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(i)(1) and the prioritized examination fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(c) have been filed with the request. The publication fee requirement is met because that fee, set forth in 37 CFR 1.18(d), is currently \$0. The basic filing fee, search fee, and examination fee are filed with the request or have been already been paid. I understand that any required excess claims fees or application size fee must be paid for the application.
2. I understand that the application may not contain, or be amended to contain, more than four independent claims, more than thirty total claims, or any multiple dependent claims, and that any request for an extension of time will cause an outstanding Track I request to be dismissed.
3. The applicable box is checked below:

I. Original Application (Track One) - Prioritized Examination under § 1.102(e)(1)

- i. (a) The application is an original nonprovisional utility application filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(a). This certification and request is being filed with the utility application via EFS-Web.
 ---OR---
 (b) The application is an original nonprovisional plant application filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(a). This certification and request is being filed with the plant application in paper.
- ii. An executed inventor's oath or declaration under 37 CFR 1.63 or 37 CFR 1.64 for each inventor, or the application data sheet meeting the conditions specified in 37 CFR 1.53(f)(3)(i) is filed with the application.

II. Request for Continued Examination - Prioritized Examination under § 1.102(e)(2)

- i. A request for continued examination has been filed with, or prior to, this form.
- ii. If the application is a utility application, this certification and request is being filed via EFS-Web.
- iii. The application is an original nonprovisional utility application filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(a), or is a national stage entry under 35 U.S.C. 371.
- iv. This certification and request is being filed prior to the mailing of a first Office action responsive to the request for continued examination.
- v. No prior request for continued examination has been granted prioritized examination status under 37 CFR 1.102(e)(2).

Signature	/B. Graham Nelson/	Date	2019-08-05
Name (Print/Typed)	B. Graham Nelson	Practitioner Registration Number	72,699
<p>Note: This form must be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33. See 37 CFR 1.4(d) for signature requirements and certifications. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required.*</p>			
<p><input type="checkbox"/> *Total of _____ forms are submitted.</p>			

DESCRIPTION

GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application is a continuation of US 16/053,149 filed August 2, 2018, which is a continuation of US 14/409,219 filed December 18, 2014, which is a National Stage of PCT/JP2013/003899 filed June 21, 2013 and is based on and claims priority to and the benefit of Japanese Patent Application No. 2012-140213 filed June 21, 2012, the entire contents of the above applications being incorporated herein by reference.

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0002] The present invention relates to a game control method, a game server, and a program.

BACKGROUND ART

[0003] Conventionally, in a battle game server, each user's deck is formed by a plurality of battle cards or the like stored for each user, and the battle game server allows a plurality of users to compete with each other based on the total value of the attack strength and defense strength of the deck (for example, see Patent Literature 1). In such a battle game server, the user acquires a battle card by methods such as purchasing the battle card or obtaining the battle card by winning a battle against an opponent.

CITATION LIST

Patent Literature

[0004] Patent Literature 1: JP 2008-220984 A

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

(Technical Problem)

[0005] In a conventional battle game server, however, the methods for acquiring battle cards and the like are limited, causing the user to lose interest in the game. In particular, since it is difficult to acquire a battle card or the like with a high rarity value, the user ends up with the impression that such an item cannot be acquired at all and suffers a drastic loss of interest in the game.

[0006] Accordingly, the present invention has been conceived in light of

the above problems and provides a game control method, a game server, and a program that can increase the variations on methods for acquiring battle cards and the like, increase the predictability of acquisition of a card or the like with a high rarity value or the like, and heighten interest in the game.

5 (Solution to Problem)

[0007] A game control method according to the present invention for solving the above problems includes the steps of: (a) presenting a communication terminal, connected over a communication line, with acquirable item information that, for each item type, includes a total count and
10 an acquisition count or a non-acquisition count of items when receiving, from the communication terminal, a request to present information related to items acquirable by the communication terminal; (b) determining an item to provide to the communication terminal when receiving an item acquisition request from the communication terminal; and (c) changing the acquirable item
15 information when receiving a reset request from the communication terminal.

[0008] In the game control method according to the present invention, in step (a), a method for presenting the acquirable item information presented to the communication terminal may differ between a first item and a second item, a numerical value of the item type being at least a predetermined value for the
20 first item, and the numerical value of the item type being less than the predetermined value for the second item.

[0009] In the game control method according to the present invention, the acquirable item information for the first item may include identification information or an image for an item.

25 [0010] In the game control method according to the present invention, information on another user who has acquired the first item may be presented.

[0011] In the game control method according to the present invention, in step (b), based on a selection request from the communication terminal, one item selected from among items for which the count of necessary attempts for
30 acquisition is at most the predetermined value may be determined to be the item to provide.

[0012] A game server according to the present invention includes: information presentation means for presenting a communication terminal, connected over a communication line, with acquirable item information that,

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for each item type, includes a total count and an acquisition count or a non-acquisition count of items when a request to present information related to items acquirable by the communication terminal is received from the communication terminal; and control means for determining an item to provide to the communication terminal when an item acquisition request is received from the communication terminal, such that the control means changes the acquirable item information when receiving a reset request from the communication terminal.

[0013] In the game server according to the present invention, the information presentation means may adopt a different method for presenting the acquirable item information presented to the communication terminal for a first item than for a second item, a numerical value of the item type being at least a predetermined value for the first item, and the numerical value of the item type being less than the predetermined value for the second item

[0014] In the game server according to the present invention, the acquirable item information for the first item may include identification information or an image for an item.

[0015] In the game server according to the present invention, the information presentation means may present information on another user who has acquired the first item.

[0016] In the game server according to the present invention, based on a selection request from the communication terminal, the control means may determine one item selected from among items for which the count of necessary attempts for acquisition is at most the predetermined value to be the item to provide.

[0017] A program according to the present invention is for causing a computer that functions as a battle game server to perform the steps of: (a) presenting a communication terminal, connected over a communication line, with acquirable item information that, for each item type, includes a total count and an acquisition count or a non-acquisition count of items when receiving, from the communication terminal, a request to present information related to items acquirable by the communication terminal; (b) determining an item to provide to the communication terminal when receiving an item acquisition request from the communication terminal; and (c) changing the

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acquirable item information when receiving a reset request from the communication terminal.

[0018] In the program according to the present invention, in step (a), a method for presenting the acquirable item information presented to the communication terminal may differ between a first item and a second item, a numerical value of the item type being at least a predetermined value for the first item, and the numerical value of the item type being less than the predetermined value for the second item.

[0019] In the program according to the present invention, the acquirable item information for the first item may include identification information or an image for an item.

[0020] In the program according to the present invention, in step (a), information on another user who has acquired the first item may be presented.

[0021] In the program according to the present invention, in step (b), based on a selection request from the communication terminal, one item selected from among items for which the count of necessary attempts for acquisition is at most the predetermined value may be determined to be the item to provide.

(Advantageous Effect of Invention)

[0022] According to the game control method, game server, and program of the present invention, it is possible to increase the variations on methods for acquiring battle cards and the like, increase the predictability of acquisition of a card or the like with a high numerical value for the item type, and heighten interest in the game.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[0023] The present invention will be further described below with reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a battle game server in Embodiment 1;

FIGS. 2(a), 2(b), and 2(c) are examples of an item information table in Embodiment 1;

FIG. 3 is an example of a user information table in Embodiment 1;

FIG. 4 is an example of item data in Embodiment 1;

FIG. 5 is an example of acquirable item information in Embodiment 1;

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FIG. 6 is a flowchart of operations by the battle game server in Embodiment 1;

FIGS. 7(a) and 7(b) are examples of acquirable item information in Embodiment 2;

5 FIG. 8 is an example of acquirable item information in Embodiment 3;

FIG. 9 is an example of a scratch card for selection in Embodiment 3; and

FIGS. 10(a) and 10(b) are examples of a screen for selecting an item to acquire.

10

DESCRIPTION OF EMBODIMENTS

[0024] The following describes embodiments of the present invention.

[0025] Embodiment 1

15 FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a battle game server 1 in Embodiment 1 of the present invention. The battle game server 1 according to Embodiment 1 of the present invention includes a communication unit 10, a memory unit 11, an information presentation unit 12, and a control unit 13.

[0026] The communication unit 10 communicates with a communication terminal 2 over either or both of a wireless and wired connection.

20 [0027] In association with identification information uniquely allocated to each user that operates a communication terminal 2 (referred to below as user identification information), the memory unit 11 stores information on items to provide, a total count of items, item type, and an acquisition count. An "item" refers to any of a variety of objects used within a game, such as a battle card
25 constituting a user's deck, a character, a weapon, armor, an ornament, a plant, food, and the like. The item type is a numerical value representing the rarity value of the item, a numerical value representing the category of the item, or the like.

30 [0028] Specifically, the memory unit 11 stores this information by dividing the information among tables. A plurality of item information tables 111a to 111c, a user information table 112, and item data 113 are stored in the memory unit 11. While three item information tables are described here, this example is not limiting, and the number of item information tables may be two or fewer, or four or more.

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[0029] The item information tables 111a to 111c are tables including information on the total count of items and the item type. FIGS. 2(a) to 2(c) illustrate examples of the item information tables 111a to 111c. As illustrated in FIGS. 2(a) to 2(c), for example the item information table 111a includes
5 item identification information "UNI1", an item name "item A", and an item type "3". The item identification information is an identifier for uniquely identifying an item in the present system. The item information tables 111a to 111c are provided with table identification information for uniquely identifying an item information table in the battle game server 1. Here, the
10 item information tables 111a to 111c are respectively provided with "TID1", "TID2", and "TID3" as the table identification information.

[0030] The user information table 112 is a table storing, for each user, the provided items and information for calculating an item acquisition count. The user information table 112 associates the user identification information, table
15 identification information, and identification information of provided items.

[0031] FIG. 3 illustrates an example of the user information table 112. As illustrated in FIG. 3, the user information table 112 includes user identification information "UID1", table identification information "TID1", identification information of provided items "UNI2" and "UNI4", and the
20 like.

[0032] The item data 113 stores data on an image for an item provided to the user in association with item identification information. FIG. 4 illustrates an example of the item data 113. As illustrated in FIG. 4, the item data for example includes item identification information "UNI1", an item image
25 "item A image", and the like. The image data may be in any image format, such as JPEG, GIF, PNG, or the like.

[0033] When receiving a request to present information from the communication terminal 2, then based on information, stored in the memory unit 11, that corresponds to the user identification information pertaining to
30 the communication terminal 2, the information presentation unit 12 presents the communication terminal 2, via the communication unit 10, with acquirable item information that includes information, for each item type, on a total count and an acquisition count of items.

[0034] Specifically, when a request to present information is received

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from the communication terminal 2 via the communication unit 10, then based on the item information tables 111a to 111c, the information presentation unit 12 tallies the total count of items for each item type. The information presentation unit 12 also refers to the user information table 112 to calculate the acquisition count of items for each item type based on the identification information of provided items and the table identification information that correspond to the user identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2. The information presentation unit 12 then presents the communication terminal 2, via the communication unit 10, with the result of calculation as the acquirable item information.

[0035] FIG. 5 is an example of the acquirable item information that the information presentation unit 12 presents. FIG. 5 illustrates an example of the acquirable item information presented when a request to present information is received from the communication terminal 2 and the user identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2 is "UID1". As illustrated in FIG. 5, information 501 on the total count and information 502 on the acquisition count of items for each item type are presented to the communication terminal 2. The case of presenting the acquisition count has been described above, yet this example is not limiting. For example, a non-acquisition count may be presented by subtracting the acquisition count from the total count of items.

[0036] The control unit 13 performs a variety of control pertaining to the battle game server 1. For example, when receiving an item acquisition request from the communication terminal 2, the control unit 13 determines one item to provide to the communication terminal 2 based on information corresponding to the user identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2.

[0037] Specifically, when receiving an item acquisition request from the communication terminal 2 via the communication unit 10, the control unit 13 refers to the user information table 112, and based on the table identification information that corresponds to the user identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2, retrieves the item information table. Next, the control unit 13 refers to the user information table 112 and retrieves the identification information of provided items that corresponds to the user

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identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2. Subsequently, the control unit 13 refers to one of the item information tables 111a to 111c, randomly selects an item not included in the identification information of provided items, and determines that the selected item is the item to provide to the communication terminal 2.

5 [0038] The control unit 13 then provides the item to the communication terminal 2 via the communication unit 10. Specifically, the control unit 13 refers to the item data 113 and provides the communication terminal 2, via the communication unit 10, with the item image corresponding to the item identification information pertaining to the item to be provided. The control unit 13 also adds the item identification information pertaining to the provided item to the user information table 112 as identification information of provided items.

10 [0039] For example, when an item acquisition request is received from the communication terminal 2, and the user identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2 is "UID1", then the control unit 13 refers to the user information table 112, and based on the table identification information "TID1" corresponding to UID1, retrieves the item information table 111a. Next, the control unit 13 refers to the user information table 112 and retrieves the identification information of provided items that corresponds to "UID1". Subsequently, the control unit refers to the item information table 111a, randomly selects item identification information not included in the identification information of provided items (for example, "UNI1"), and determines that the selected item is the item to provide to the communication terminal 2. The control unit 13 then refers to the item data 113 and provides the communication terminal 2, via the communication unit 10, with the item image "item A image" corresponding to the item identification information "UNI1" pertaining to the item to be provided. The control unit 13 also adds the item identification information "UNI1" pertaining to the provided item to the user information table 112 as identification information of provided items.

20 25 30 [0040] Furthermore, in the present invention, the battle game server 1 is configured to allow for receipt of a reset request at any time from the communication terminal 2. In general terms, the reset request is a request for resetting the current user information table 112. When receiving a reset

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request from the communication terminal 2 pertaining to predetermined user identification information, the control unit 13 changes and stores, in the memory unit 11, the table identification information and identification information of provided items that correspond to the user identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2.

5 [0041] Specifically, when receiving a reset request from the communication terminal 2 via the communication unit 10, the control unit 13 changes the table identification information that corresponds to the user identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2 and that was stored in the user information table 112 of the memory unit 11 to other table identification information.

10 [0042] For example, when a reset request is received from the communication terminal 2, and the user identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2 is "UID1", the control unit 13 changes the table identification information that corresponds to "UID1" of the user information table 112 randomly from "TID1" to "TID2" or "TID3".

15 [0043] Next, operations by the battle game server 1 in Embodiment 1 of the present invention are described using the flowchart in FIG. 6. It is assumed that the tables illustrated in FIGS. 2(a), 2(b), and 2(c) through FIG. 4 have been stored in advance in the memory unit 11 at the time of operation by the battle game server 1.

20 [0044] First, when a request to present information is received from the communication terminal 2 (step S1), then based on information, stored in the memory unit 11, that corresponds to the user identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2, the information presentation unit 12 presents the communication terminal 2, via the communication unit 10, with acquirable item information that includes information, for each item type, on the total count and the acquisition count of items (step S2).

25 [0045] Specifically, when a request to present information is received from the communication terminal 2 via the communication unit 10, then based on the item information tables 111a to 111c, the information presentation unit 12 tallies the total count of items for each item type. The information presentation unit 12 also refers to the user information table 112 to calculate the acquisition count of items for each item type based on the identification

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information of provided items and the table identification information that correspond to the user identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2. The information presentation unit 12 then presents the communication terminal 2, via the communication unit 10, with the result of calculation as the acquirable item information.

5 [0046] Subsequently, when receiving an item acquisition request from the communication terminal 2 (step S3), the control unit 13 determines one item to provide to the communication terminal 2 based on information corresponding to the user identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2 (step S4).

10 [0047] Specifically, when receiving an item acquisition request from the communication terminal 2 via the communication unit 10, the control unit 13 refers to the user information table 112, and based on the table identification information that corresponds to the user identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2, retrieves the item information table. Next, the control unit 13 refers to the user information table 112 and retrieves the identification information of provided items that corresponds to the user identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2. Subsequently, the control unit 13 refers to one of the item information tables 15 111a to 111c, randomly selects an item not included in the identification information of provided items, and determines that the selected item is the item to provide to the communication terminal 2.

20 [0048] Subsequently, the control unit 13 provides the item to the communication terminal 2 via the communication unit 10 (step S5). Specifically, the control unit 13 refers to the item data 113 and provides the communication terminal 2, via the communication unit 10, with the item image corresponding to the item identification information pertaining to the item to be provided. The control unit 13 also adds the item identification information pertaining to the provided item to the user information table 112 30 as identification information of provided items.

[0049] Subsequently, when receiving a reset request from the communication terminal 2 pertaining to predetermined user identification information (step S6), the control unit 13 changes and stores, in the memory unit 11, the table identification information and identification information of

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provided items that correspond to the user identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2 (step S7).

5 [0050] Specifically, when receiving a reset request from the communication terminal 2 via the communication unit 10, the control unit 13 changes the table identification information that corresponds to the user identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2 and that was stored in the user information table 112 of the memory unit 11 to other table identification information.

10 [0051] In this way, according to the battle game server 1 of Embodiment 1, based on information in the memory unit 11, the information presentation unit 12 presents the communication terminal 2 with acquirable item information that includes information, for each item type of items, on a total count and an acquisition count of items, thereby increasing the predictability of acquisition of an item with a predetermined item type (for example, an item with a high
15 rarity value or the like). Furthermore, the battle game server 1 receives a reset request at any time from the communication terminal 2 and changes information pertaining to items that are provided, the total count of items, and the item type and acquisition count for each item, thereby increasing the variations on methods for acquiring items, increasing the predictability of
20 acquisition of an item for which the numerical value of the item type is at least a predetermined value, and heightening interest in the game.

[0052] After step S7, the information presentation unit 12 may present the communication terminal 2 with post-reset acquirable item information based on the item information tables 111a to 111c and the table identification
25 information of the user information table 112 in the memory unit 11. By doing so, the user can more easily grasp the number of items for each item type after the reset, thereby further increasing the predictability of acquisition of an item for which the numerical value of the item type is at least a predetermined value and heightening interest in the game.

30 [0053] The remaining number of all items may be included in the acquirable item information that the information presentation unit 12 presents. Specifically, the information presentation unit 12 may calculate the remaining number of items by subtracting the item acquisition count from the total number of items stored in the item information tables 111a to 111c and include

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the result of calculation in the acquirable item information.

[0054] In step S5, the control unit 13 may adopt a different method for presenting the acquirable item information to the communication terminal 2 for an item (first item) for which the numerical value of the item type is at least a predetermined value and an item (second item) for which the numerical value of the item type is less than the predetermined value. For example, the information presentation unit 12 may display an image for the first item yet display only the item name or the like, without displaying an image, for the second item. In other words, the acquirable item information that the information presentation unit 12 presents for the first item may include identification information (item name or the like) or an image for the item.

[0055] The information presentation unit 12 may present information related to another user who has acquired the first item.

[0056] Embodiment 2

The following describes Embodiment 2 of the present invention. Since the structure of the battle game server 1 according to Embodiment 2 is the same as the structure of the battle game server 1 according to Embodiment 1, the same reference numerals are used in the following description. In general terms, Embodiment 2 differs from Embodiment 1 in that the acquirable item information presented by the information presentation unit 12 includes a count of necessary attempts for acquisition for each item for which the numerical value of the item type is at least a predetermined value. The count of necessary attempts for acquisition is retrieved based on information corresponding to the user identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2.

[0057] Specifically, the information presentation unit 12 refers to the user information table 112, and based on the table identification information that corresponds to the user identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2, retrieves the item information table pertaining to the user identification information. Next, the information presentation unit 12 refers to the user information table 112 and retrieves the identification information of provided items pertaining to the communication terminal 2. Subsequently, the information presentation unit 12 randomly extracts, from the item information table, 19 pieces of item identification information not

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included in the identification information of provided items. The information presentation unit 12 stores the 19 extracted pieces of item identification information and stores provision sequence numbers (1 to 19) in the memory unit 11. When receiving an item acquisition request, the control unit 13
5 determines the item to provide based on the provision sequence numbers stored in the memory unit. In other words, the numbers 1 to 19 each represent the count of acquisition attempts that are necessary in order to acquire the item corresponding to the item identification information (referred to below as the count of necessary attempts for acquisition).

10 [0058] Subsequently, the information presentation unit 12 retrieves the item and item type pertaining to each piece of item identification information from one of the item information tables 111a to 111c. Next, for the retrieved items, the information presentation unit 12 retrieves the count of necessary attempts for acquisition for each item for which the numerical value of the
15 item type is at least a predetermined value. The information presentation unit 12 then presents the communication terminal 2 with acquirable item information that includes the retrieved count of necessary attempts for acquisition for each item for which the numerical value of the item type is at least a predetermined value.

20 [0059] FIG. 7(a) illustrates an example of acquirable item information presented by the information presentation unit 12 in Embodiment 2. FIG. 7(a) illustrates an example of displaying the provision sequence of items provided to the communication terminal 2 as a gauge when a request to present information is received from the communication terminal 2. The gauge is
25 composed of a plurality of boxes. Items are associated with the boxes 201 to 219 so that the respective counts of necessary acquisition attempts are 1 to 19. Each box is displayed with a pattern that differs in accordance with the item type of the corresponding item.

[0060] As illustrated in the example in FIG. 7(a), when the numerical
30 value of the item type is at least a predetermined value, the pattern shown in box 204 and the like is displayed. Here, the case of the predetermined value being four is illustrated. Conversely, when the numerical value of the item type is less than the predetermined value, the pattern shown in box 201 and the like is displayed. In other words, FIG. 7(a) displays the count of necessary

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attempts for acquisition for each item for which the numerical value of the item type is at least a predetermined value. FIG. 8(a) also displays each count of necessary attempts for acquisition when the numerical value of the item type is less than a predetermined value.

5 [0061] When an item acquisition request is received from the communication terminal 2, an item is provided, and the count of acquisition attempts increases by one, then the count of necessary attempts for acquisition decreases by one for all items. In this case, as illustrated in FIG. 8(b), the items corresponding to boxes 201 to 219 each shift (move) one box to the left.
10 Accordingly, with this gauge, the user can intuitively grasp the predictability of acquisition of items for which the numerical value of the item type is at least a predetermined value.

[0062] In this way, according to the battle game server 1 of Embodiment 2, the information presentation unit 12 presents the communication terminal 2
15 with the count of necessary attempts for acquisition for each item for which the numerical value of the item type is at least a predetermined value, thereby increasing the variations on methods for acquiring items, increasing the predictability of acquisition of an item for which the item type is at least a predetermined value, and heightening interest in the game. Furthermore,
20 displaying the count of necessary attempts for acquisition when the numerical value of the item type is at least a predetermined value further increases the user's sense of anticipation, enticing the user to continue to play the game longer.

[0063] The patterns for displaying the boxes 201 to 219 are not limited to
25 these examples. The boxes 201 to 219 may be painted a predetermined color in accordance with the item type, or a predetermined icon, character, or the like may be displayed in the boxes 201 to 219.

[0064] A certain percentage of the boxes for which the numerical value of the item type is less than a predetermined value may be displayed with the
30 same pattern as boxes corresponding to items for which the numerical value of the item type is at least a predetermined value. In this way, items for which the numerical value of the item type is less than a predetermined value are mixed in among the boxes displayed with the pattern corresponding to items for which the numerical value of the item type is at least a predetermined

value, thereby making the game more interesting and enticing the user to continue to play the game longer.

[0065] When the count of necessary attempts for acquisition is at most a predetermined value, detailed information on the item to be provided (referred to below as item detail information) may be presented. The item detail information is preferably the item name and item type. The predetermined value is, for example, two. FIG. 8 is an example of presenting item detail information. The counts of necessary acquisition attempts for boxes 201 and 202 are respectively one and two. Accordingly, the item name is displayed as the item detail information in boxes 201 and 202. With this configuration, the user can grasp the item detail information for items that can be acquired in a range in which the count of necessary attempts for acquisition is at most a predetermined value. Therefore, the user is provided with incentive to increase the occasions of an item acquisition request and is enticed to continue to play the game longer.

[0066] In the example in FIGS. 7(a) and 7(b), the boxes are displayed with two types of patterns, using the numerical value of the item type as a standard, yet this example is not limiting. A plurality of standard predetermined values may be established to display the boxes with three or more types of patterns. The patterns that are displayed may also be increased as the count of necessary attempts for acquisition is smaller. With this approach, as the count of necessary attempts for acquisition is smaller, the item type of the item to be acquired can be grasped in greater detail. Therefore, the user is provided with incentive to increase the occasions of an item acquisition request and is enticed to continue to play the game longer.

[0067] Note that while the gauges in FIGS. 7(a), 7(b), and 8 are composed of 19 boxes, the number of boxes is not limited to 19. The number may be 18 or less, or 20 or more. Furthermore, the approach gauge illustrated in FIG. 8 has an I shape, yet this example is not limiting. Many variations are possible, such as a winding S shape, or a Y shape with a forking tip. In the forking variation, predetermined dummy boxes assigned randomly by the battle game server 1 may be displayed in one of the two forks.

[0068] In FIGS. 7(a), 7(b), and 8, examples are illustrated in which information, for each item type, on the total count and the acquisition count of

items is also displayed, yet these examples are not limiting. Display may be limited to the gauge, without displaying the information, for each item type, on the total count and the acquisition count of items. In other words, in FIGS. 7(a), 7(b), and 8, examples are illustrated in which the acquirable item information includes information, for each item type, on the total count and the acquisition count of items and includes the count of necessary attempts for acquisition for each item for which the numerical value of the item type is at least a predetermined value, yet these examples are not limiting. The acquirable item information may be configured to include only the count of necessary attempts for acquisition for each item for which the numerical value of the item type is at least a predetermined value.

[0069] Embodiment 3

The following describes Embodiment 3 of the present invention. Since the structure of the battle game server 1 according to Embodiment 3 is the same as the structure of the battle game server 1 according to Embodiment 1, the same reference numerals are used in the following description. In general terms, Embodiment 3 differs from Embodiment 1 in that the acquirable item information presented by the information presentation unit 12 includes the total count of items, for each item type, among items for which the count of necessary attempts for acquisition is at most a predetermined value.

[0070] The acquirable item information presented by the information presentation unit 12 in Embodiment 3 includes the total count of items for which the numerical value of the item type is at least a predetermined value among items for which the count of necessary attempts for acquisition is at most a predetermined value, as retrieved based on the information corresponding to the user identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2.

[0071] Specifically, the information presentation unit 12 refers to the user information table 112, and based on the table identification information that corresponds to the user identification information pertaining to the communication terminal 2, retrieves the item information table pertaining to the user identification information. Next, the information presentation unit 12 refers to the user information table 112 and retrieves the identification information of provided items pertaining to the communication terminal 2.

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Subsequently, the information presentation unit 12 randomly extracts, from the item information table, 25 pieces of item identification information not included in the identification information of provided items. The information presentation unit 12 stores the 25 extracted pieces of item identification information and stores provision sequence numbers (1 to 25) in the memory unit 5 11. When receiving an item acquisition request, the control unit 13 determines the item to provide based on the provision sequence numbers stored in the memory unit. In other words, the numbers 1 to 25 each represent the count of necessary attempts for acquisition corresponding to the item identification information.

[0072] Subsequently, the information presentation unit 12 retrieves the item and item type pertaining to each piece of item identification information from one of the item information tables 111a to 111c. The information presentation unit 12 then tallies the total count of items for which the numerical value of the retrieved item type is at least a predetermined number and presents the communication terminal 2 with acquirable item information that includes the tallied total count of items for each item type.

[0073] FIG. 9 illustrates an example of acquirable item information presented by the information presentation unit 12 in Embodiment 3. In FIG. 9, items for which the count of necessary attempts for acquisition is 25 or less are displayed with a sheet (scratch card) composed of 25 cells 301 to 325. Each cell corresponds to an item for which the count of necessary attempts for acquisition is 25 or less. The items for which the count of necessary attempts for acquisition is 25 or less are randomly associated with the cells 301 to 325.

[0074] As illustrated in the example in FIG. 9, when the numerical value of the item type is at least a predetermined value, the pattern shown in cell 301 and the like is displayed. Here, the predetermined value is four. Conversely, when the item type is less than the predetermined value, the pattern shown in cell 302 and the like is displayed. In other words, FIG. 9 displays the total count of items for which the numerical value of the item type is at least a predetermined value among items for which the count of necessary attempts for acquisition is 25 or less.

[0075] In this way, according to the battle game server 1 of Embodiment 3, the information presentation unit 12 presents the communication terminal 2

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with the total count of items for which the numerical value of the item type is at least a predetermined value among items for which the count of necessary attempts for acquisition is at most a predetermined value, thereby increasing the variations on methods for acquiring items, further increasing the predictability of acquisition of an item for which the numerical value of the item type is at least a predetermined value, and heightening interest in the game.

5 [0076] The patterns for displaying the cells 301 to 325 are not limited to these examples. The cells 301 to 325 may be painted a predetermined color in accordance with the item type, or a predetermined icon, character, or the like may be displayed in the cells 301 to 325.

10 [0077] Furthermore, based on a selection request from the communication terminal 2, the control unit 13 may select one item, from among items for which the count of necessary attempts for acquisition is at most a predetermined value, as the item to provide. In this case, the information presentation unit 12 may present the communication terminal 2 with a scratch card for selection in which all cells are displayed with the same pattern to prompt the communication terminal 2 to select one of the cells.

15 [0078] FIG. 10(a) illustrates an example of a screen for selecting an item to acquire. The screen displays the scratch card for selection. Each cell in the scratch card in FIG. 10(a) corresponds to an item for which the count of necessary attempts for acquisition is 25 or less. As illustrated in FIG. 10(a), the cells of the scratch card are displayed with the same pattern, and the user cannot tell what items corresponds to which cells.

20 [0079] The user can select any location on the scratch card using an operation unit (not illustrated) such as a key or a touch panel of the communication terminal 2, and the communication terminal 2 transmits a selection request to the battle game server 1 based on the user operation. The control unit 13 of the battle game server 1 then determines that the item corresponding to the cell pertaining to the selection request is the item to provide to the communication terminal 2.

25 [0080] FIG. 10(b) illustrates an example of cells 308, 316, and 320 being selected. The selected cells are displayed with the same pattern as the cells in the scratch card shown in FIG. 9. Note that the item detail information

corresponding to the selected cells may be displayed in the selected cells.

[0081] In this way, the variations on methods for acquiring items can be further increased, the predictability of acquisition of an item with a high item type can be further increased, and interest in the game can be heightened.

5 [0082] The scratch cards in FIGS. 9, 10(a), and 10(b) are composed of 25 cells in a sheet with 5 rows and 5 columns, yet this example is not limiting. The scratch card may be composed of $M \times N$ cells in a sheet with M rows and N columns (M and N being integers greater than or equal to 2). Furthermore, the scratch cards in FIGS. 10(a) and 10(b) are not limited to a square shape.
10 For example, the scratch cards may be a polygon, or instead of being two-dimensional, the scratch cards may be in a three-dimensional rectangular shape of a die.

[0083] In FIGS. 9, 10(a), and 10(b), examples are illustrated in which information, for each item type, on the total count and the acquisition count of
15 items is also displayed, yet these examples are not limiting. Display may be limited to the scratch card, without displaying the information, for each item type, on the total count and the acquisition count of items. In other words, in FIGS. 10(a), 10(b), and 11, examples are illustrated in which the acquirable item information includes information, for each item type, on the total count
20 and the acquisition count of items and includes the total count of items, for each item type, among items for which the count of necessary attempts for acquisition is at most a predetermined value, yet these examples are not limiting. The acquirable item information may be configured to include only the total count of items, for each item type, among items for which the count
25 of necessary attempts for acquisition is at most a predetermined value.

[0084] A computer is preferably used to function as the battle game server 1. A program containing a description of the processing for achieving the functions of the battle game server 1 is stored in the memory unit of the computer, and the functions are achieved by the central processing unit (CPU)
30 of the computer reading and executing the program.

[0085] Although the present invention has been described based on drawings and examples, it is to be noted that various changes and modifications will be apparent to those skilled in the art based on the present disclosure. Therefore, such changes and modifications are to be understood as

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included within the scope of the present invention. For example, the functions and the like included in the various units and steps may be reordered in any logically consistent way. Furthermore, units or steps may be combined into one or divided. For example, in Embodiments 1 to 3, a separate one of the
5 item information tables 111a to 111c is associated with each user identification number, yet for example a plurality of users may share one of the item information tables 111a to 111c.

REFERENCE SIGNS LIST

- 10 [0086] 1: Battle game server
2: Communication terminal
10: Communication unit
11: Memory unit
12: Information presentation unit
15 13: Control unit
111a to 111c: Item information table
112: User information table
113: Item data
201 to 219: Box
20 301 to 325: Cell
501: Information on the total count of items
502: Information on the acquisition count

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CLAIMS

1. A game control method comprising:
sending information to a user terminal for displaying, on a display of a user terminal, a screen comprising a plurality of cells arranged in a matrix manner, wherein
an item is associated with each of the cells,
a rarity value is set to each item,
an icon and a letter are included in each of the cells,
a color of each of the cells depends on the rarity value of the associated item, and
the screen further comprises a number of obtainable items for each rarity value;
receiving a selection of a certain cell among the plurality of cells in response to an operated position of a touch panel of the user terminal corresponding to the certain cell;
in response to receiving the selection of the certain cell, sending information to the user terminal for displaying the certain cell in a display manner different from cells other than the certain cell;
providing to the user terminal the item associated with the certain cell; and
sending information to the user terminal for displaying an image of the item associated with the certain cell.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein
the number of the obtainable items for each rarity value is displayed above the cells arranged in the matrix manner.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein
the cells arranged in the matrix manner comprise five cells arranged in a vertical direction.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein
a shape of each cell is substantially rectangle.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein
the item is a battle card or a character composing a deck of the user.
6. The method of claim 1, further comprising
determining the number of the obtainable items for each rarity value; and
according to a determination result, sending information to the user terminal for
displaying the number of obtainable items for each rarity value on the screen.
7. A server comprising:
a controller configured to
send information to a user terminal for displaying, on a display of a user terminal,
a screen comprising a plurality of cells arranged in a matrix manner, wherein
an item is associated with each of the cells,
a rarity value is set to each item,
an icon and a letter are included in each of the cells,
a color of each of the cells depends on the rarity value of the associated item, and
the screen further comprises a number of obtainable items for each rarity value;
receive a selection of a certain cell among the plurality of cells in response to an
operated position of a touch panel of the user terminal corresponding to the certain cell;
in response to receiving the selection of the certain cell, send information to the
user terminal for displaying the certain cell in a display manner different from cells other than
the certain cell;
provide to the user terminal the item associated with the certain cell; and

send information to the user terminal for displaying an image of the item associated with the certain cell.

8. The server of claim 7, wherein the number of the obtainable items for each rarity value is displayed above the cells arranged in the matrix manner.

9. The server of claim 7, wherein the cells arranged in the matrix manner comprise five cells arranged in a vertical direction.

10. The server of claim 7, wherein a shape of each cell is substantially rectangle.

11. The server of claim 7, wherein the item is a battle card or a character composing a deck of the user.

12. The server of claim 7, wherein the controller is further configured to determine the number of the obtainable items for each rarity value; and according to a determination result, send information to the user terminal for displaying the number of obtainable items for each rarity value on the screen.

13. A non-transitory computer readable recording medium having stored thereon instructions to be executed on a computer, the instructions causing the computer to perform the steps of:

sending information to a user terminal for displaying, on a display of a user terminal, a screen comprising a plurality of cells arranged in a matrix manner, wherein

an item is associated with each of the cells,

a rarity value is set to each item,

an icon and a letter are included in each of the cells,
a color of each of the cells depends on the rarity value of the associated item, and
the screen further comprises a number of obtainable items for each rarity value;
receiving a selection of a certain cell among the plurality of cells in response to an
operated position of a touch panel of the user terminal corresponding to the certain cell;
in response to receiving the selection of the certain cell, sending information to the user
terminal for displaying the certain cell in a display manner different from cells other than the
certain cell;
providing to the user terminal the item associated with the certain cell; and
sending information to the user terminal for displaying an image of the item associated
with the certain cell.

14. The non-transitory computer readable recording medium of claim 13, wherein
the number of the obtainable items for each rarity value is displayed above the cells
arranged in the matrix manner.

15. The non-transitory computer readable recording medium of claim 13, wherein
the cells arranged in the matrix manner comprise five cells arranged in a vertical
direction.

16. The non-transitory computer readable recording medium of claim 13, wherein
a shape of each cell is substantially rectangle.

17. The non-transitory computer readable recording medium of claim 13, wherein
the item is a battle card or a character composing a deck of the user.

18. The non-transitory computer readable recording medium of claim 13, wherein the
instructions further cause the computer to perform

determining the number of the obtainable items for each rarity value; and
according to a determination result, sending information to the user terminal for
displaying the number of obtainable items for each rarity value on the screen.

ABSTRACT

A game control method, game server, and program can increase variations on methods for acquiring items, increase the predictability of acquisition of an item with a high rarity value or the like, and heighten interest in the game. Included are the steps of presenting a communication terminal, connected over a communication line, with acquirable item information that, for each item type, includes a total count and an acquisition count or a non-acquisition count of items when receiving, from the communication terminal, a request to present information related to items acquirable by the communication terminal, determining an item to provide to the communication terminal when receiving an item acquisition request from the communication terminal, and changing the acquirable item information when receiving a reset request from the communication terminal.

FIG. 1

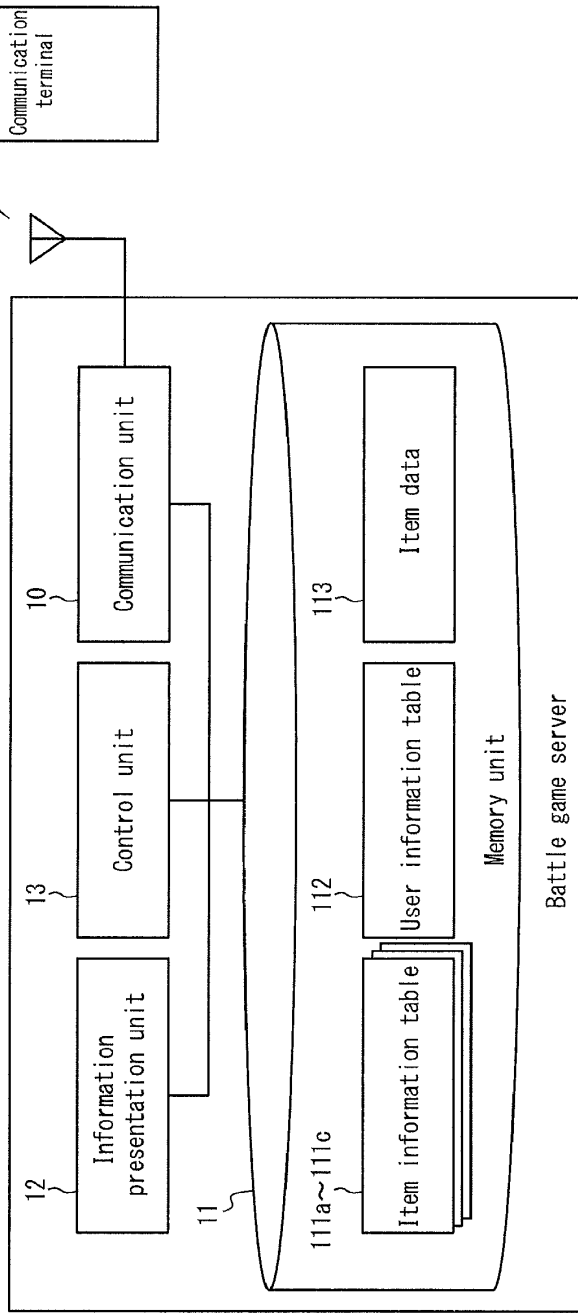


FIG. 2C

TID3		
Item identification information	Item name	Item type
UNI201	Item A2	5
UNI202	Item B2	2
UNI203	Item C2	1
UNI204	Item D2	5
UNI205	Item E2	2
UNI206	Item F2	2
UNI207	Item G2	2
UNI208	Item H2	3
UNI209	Item I2	2
UNI210	Item J2	3
UNI211	Item K2	1
UNI212	Item L2	1
UNI213	Item M2	3
UNI214	Item N2	2
UNI215	Item O2	2
UNI216	Item P2	2
UNI217	Item Q2	4
UNI218	Item R2	2
UNI219	Item S2	6
UNI220	Item T2	2
UNI221	Item U2	3
UNI222	Item V2	3
UNI223	Item W2	4
UNI224	Item X2	2
UNI225	Item Y2	1
UNI226	Item Z2	1
UNI227	Item AA2	6
UNI228	Item AB2	2
UNI229	Item AC2	1
UNI230	Item AD2	1

FIG. 2B

TID2		
Item identification information	Item name	Item type
UNI101	Item A1	2
UNI102	Item B1	3
UNI103	Item C1	1
UNI104	Item D1	5
UNI105	Item E1	2
UNI106	Item F1	2
UNI107	Item G1	2
UNI108	Item H1	3
UNI109	Item I1	4
UNI110	Item J1	2
UNI111	Item K1	2
UNI112	Item L1	2
UNI113	Item M1	2
UNI114	Item N1	1
UNI115	Item O1	2
UNI116	Item P1	2
UNI117	Item Q1	2
UNI118	Item R1	2
UNI119	Item S1	1
UNI120	Item T1	5
UNI121	Item U1	5
UNI122	Item V1	3
UNI123	Item W1	5
UNI124	Item X1	5
UNI125	Item Y1	1
UNI126	Item Z1	1
UNI127	Item AA1	6
UNI128	Item AB1	2
UNI129	Item AC1	1
UNI130	Item AD1	1

FIG. 2A

TID1		
Item identification information	Item name	Item type
UNI1	Item A	3
UNI2	Item B	1
UNI3	Item C	2
UNI4	Item D	5
UNI5	Item E	1
UNI6	Item F	1
UNI7	Item G	1
UNI8	Item H	3
UNI9	Item I	4
UNI10	Item J	2
UNI11	Item K	2
UNI12	Item L	2
UNI13	Item M	2
UNI14	Item N	1
UNI15	Item O	1
UNI16	Item P	1
UNI17	Item Q	4
UNI18	Item R	2
UNI19	Item S	1
UNI20	Item T	1
UNI21	Item U	1
UNI22	Item V	3
UNI23	Item W	3
UNI24	Item X	5
UNI25	Item Y	2
UNI26	Item Z	1
UNI27	Item AA	1
UNI28	Item AB	6
UNI29	Item AC	2
UNI30	Item AD	1

FIG. 3

User identification information	Table identification information	Identification information of provided items
UID1	TID1	UNI4 ...
UID2	TID2	UNI119 ...
UID3	TID1	UNI12 ...
UID4	TID3	UNI204 ...
UID5	TID2	UNI10 ...
...

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FIG. 4

Item identification information	Item image
UN11	Item A image
UN12	Item B image
UN13	Item C image
UN14	Item D image
UN15	Item E image
...	...

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FIG. 5

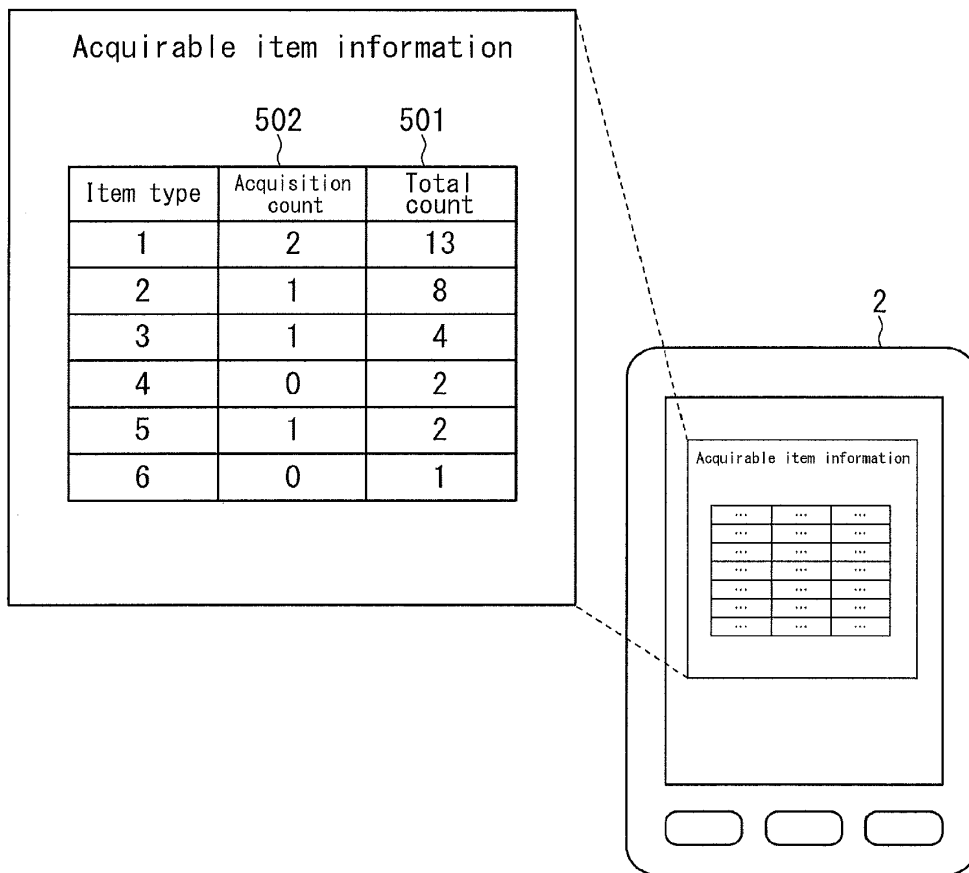


FIG. 6

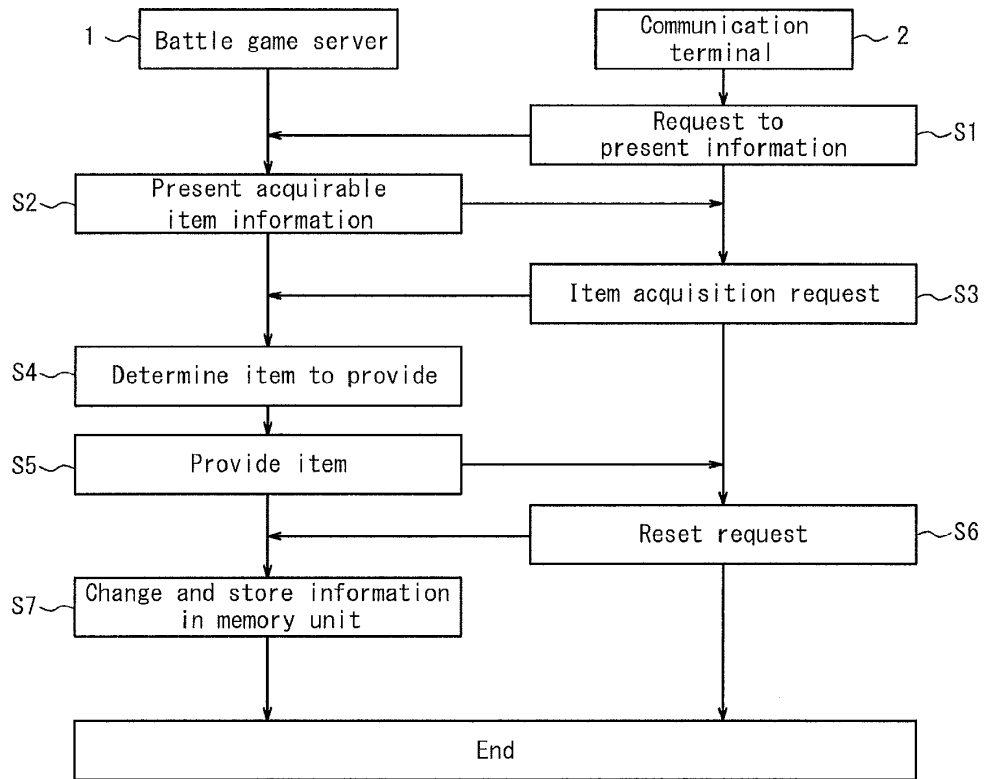


FIG. 7A

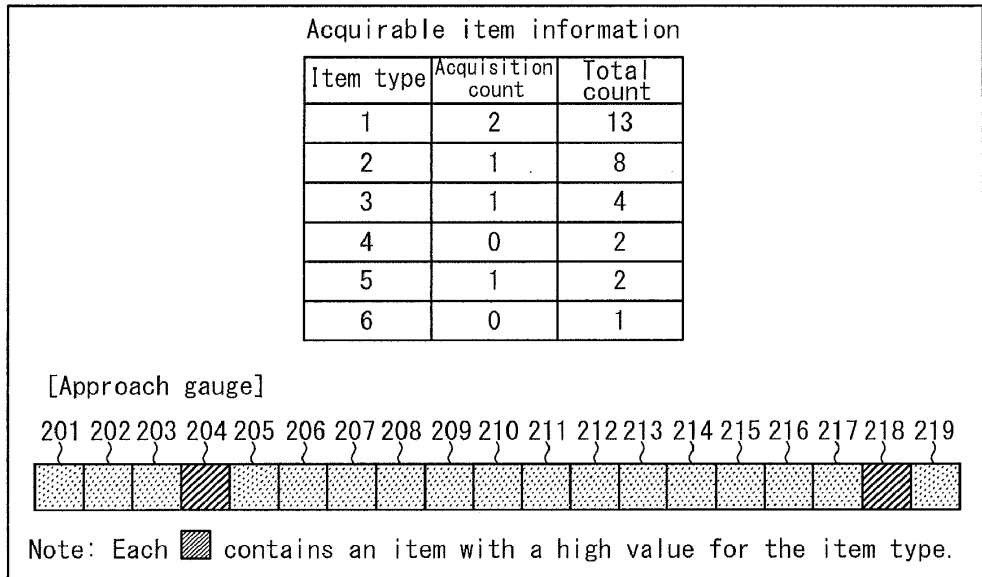


FIG. 7B

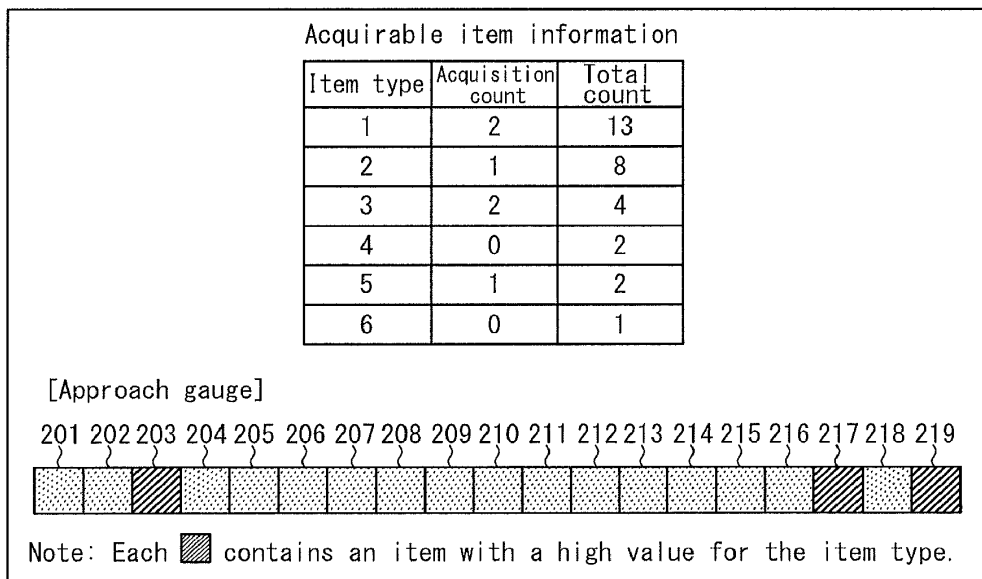


FIG. 8

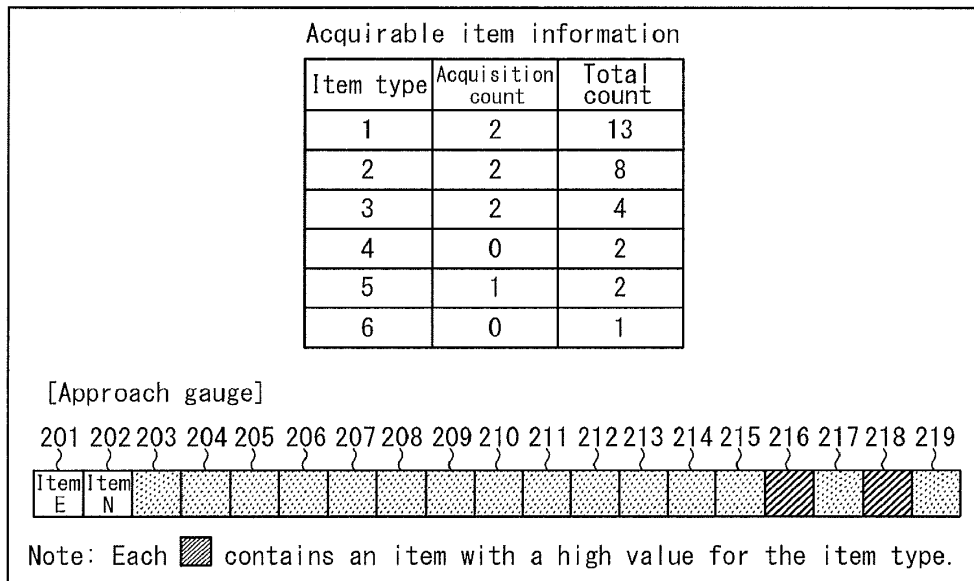


FIG. 9

Acquirable item information

Item type	Acquisition count	Total count
1	2	13
2	1	8
3	1	4
4	0	2
5	1	2
6	0	1

Scratch card

<u>301</u>	<u>302</u>	<u>303</u>	<u>304</u>	<u>305</u>
<u>306</u>	<u>307</u>	<u>308</u>	<u>309</u>	<u>310</u>
<u>311</u>	<u>312</u>	<u>313</u>	<u>314</u>	<u>315</u>
<u>316</u>	<u>317</u>	<u>318</u>	<u>319</u>	<u>320</u>
<u>321</u>	<u>322</u>	<u>323</u>	<u>324</u>	<u>325</u>

FIG. 10B

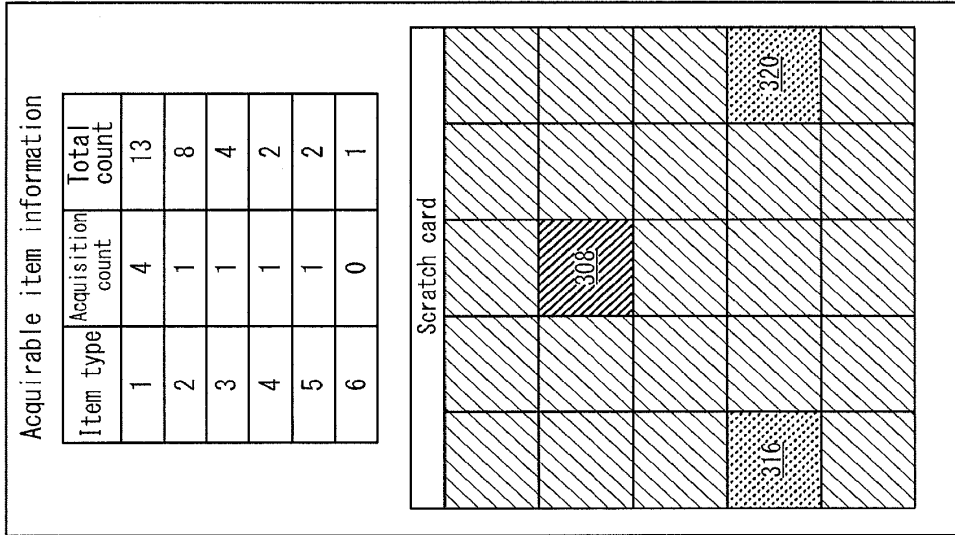
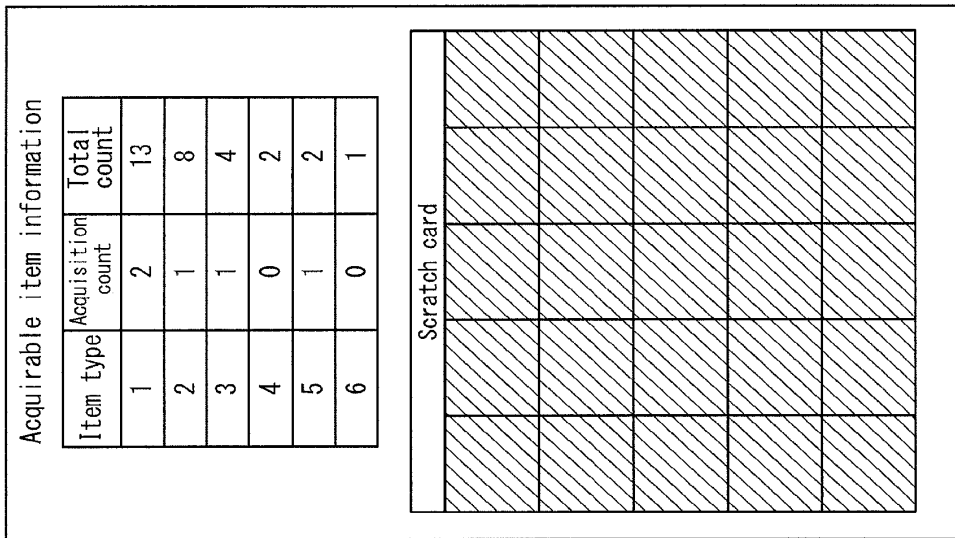


FIG. 10A



ASSIGNMENT (BEING FILED FOR DUAL PURPOSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.63(e))
For Application with Filing Date on or after September 16, 2012

2012年9月16日以降の日付で提出する出願における
(37 CFR 1.63(e)に基づき兼用で提出する)譲渡証

Japanese Language Assignment

(1-8) Insert Legal Name(s) of Inventor(s)

発明者の氏名を記入すること

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(2) Tomohiro TSUKIHARA

(3) Norikazu KATO

(4) Tomoki YASUHARA

(5)

(6)

(7)

(8)

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(9) Insert Name of Assignee

譲受人氏名を記入すること

(9) GREE, Inc.

(10) Insert Address of Assignee

譲受人住所を記入すること

(10) 6-10-1, Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-6112, JAPAN

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(11) Insert Identification such as Title, Case Number, or Foreign Application Number

名称、事件番号、もしくは外国出願番号のような確認事項を記入のこと

(11) GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM

(Attorney Docket No. 163485

), filed on even date herewith or as

(弁護士整理番号 _____) この譲渡書の提出と同日にもしくは

(12) Alternative Identification for filed applications

提出された出願のための代案識別事項

(12) U.S. Application Serial Number

右記の米国出願整理番号で
filed

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6) 各々の署名人は、この書類の記録上、米国特許商標庁の規定に従うために、必要もしくは所望であればこの譲渡証にさらに確認事項を記入するための権利を OLIFF PLC に付与する。

(13) 宣言書

私は、上記に氏名を記載した発明者として、以下のとおり宣言する：

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1) Each undersigned agrees to execute all papers necessary in connection with any application and/or patent for the invention, and also to execute separate assignments in connection with such applications and patents as the Assignee may deem necessary.

2) Each undersigned agrees to execute all papers necessary in connection with any interference or post-grant proceeding which may be declared concerning any application or patent for the invention and to cooperate with the Assignee in every way possible in obtaining evidence and going forward with such interference or post-grant proceeding.

3) Each undersigned agrees to execute all papers and documents and perform any act which may be necessary in connection with claims or provisions of the International Convention for Protection of Industrial Property or similar agreements.

4) Each undersigned agrees to perform all affirmative acts which may be necessary to obtain, maintain or confirm by reissue or reexamination a grant of a valid United States patent to the Assignee.

5) Each undersigned authorizes and requests the Commissioner of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to issue any and all patents resulting from said application(s) to the said Assignee, as Assignee of the entire interest, and covenants that he or she has full right to convey the entire interest herein assigned, and that he or she has not executed, and will not execute, any agreement(s) in conflict herewith, and agrees that this assignment is binding on Assignor and Assignor's heirs, successors, assigns and legal representatives.

6) Each undersigned hereby grants the firm of OLIFF PLC the power to insert on this assignment any further identification that may be necessary or desirable in order to comply with the rules of the United States Patent and Trademark Office for recordation of this document.

(13) Declaration

As an above named inventor, I hereby declare that:

I believe I am the original inventor or an original joint inventor of a claimed invention (or claimed design) in the above-identified application for which this declaration is being submitted.

上記出願は、自己によりなされたか、もしくは自己によりなされるように許可を受けたものであった。

私は、請求項を含む上記出願の内容を検討および理解し、連邦施行規則第37章第1条第56項に定義されるごとく、特許性に関して重要であると認識している全ての情報を米国特許商標庁に開示すべき義務を有することを認める。

私は、この宣言書において故意に虚偽の陳述等を行った場合、米国内法第18章第1001条により、罰金もしくは最高5年の禁錮に処せられるか、またはこれらの刑が併科されることを理解する。

The application was made or authorized to be made by me.

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified application, including the claims, and am aware of the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56.

I hereby acknowledge that any willful false statement made in this declaration is punishable under 18 U.S.C. 1001 by fine or imprisonment of not more than five (5) years, or both.

署名人宛の隣の日付をもってこの署名が履行される。

In witness whereof, executed by the undersigned on the date(s) opposite the undersigned name(s).

Date 日付	<u>December 10, 2014</u>	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	<u>吉川 毅</u> (SEAL) Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA 印
Date 日付	.....	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	..... (SEAL) Tomohiro TSUKIHARA 印
Date 日付	.....	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	..... (SEAL) Norikazu KATO 印
Date 日付	<u>December 10, 2014</u>	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	<u>安原 香</u> (SEAL) Tomoki YASUHARA 印
Date 日付	.....	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	..... (SEAL) 印
Date 日付	.....	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	..... (SEAL) 印
Date 日付	Inventor Signature 発明者署名 (SEAL) 印
Date 日付	Inventor Signature 発明者署名 (SEAL) 印

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Date 日付	Witness 証人
Date 日付	Witness 証人

上記出願は、自己によりなされたか、もしくは自己によりなされるように許可を受けたものであった。

私は、請求項を含む上記出願の内容を検討および理解し、連邦施行規則第37章第1条第56項に定義されるごとく、特許性に関して重要であると認識している全ての情報を米国特許商標庁に開示すべき義務を有することを認める。

私は、この宣誓書において故意に虚偽の陳述等を行った場合、米国法第18章第1001条により、罰金もしくは最高5年の禁錮に処せられるか、またはこれらの刑が併科されることを理解する。

The application was made or authorized to be made by me.

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified application, including the claims, and am aware of the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56.

I hereby acknowledge that any willful false statement made in this declaration is punishable under 18 U.S.C. 1001 by fine or imprisonment of not more than five (5) years, or both.

署名人覧の隣の日付をもってこの署名が履行される。

In witness whereof, executed by the undersigned on the date(s) opposite the undersigned name(s).

Date 日付	.....	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	..... Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA	(SEAL) 印
Date 日付	.....	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	..... Tomohiro TSUKIHARA	(SEAL) 印
Date 日付	December 10, 2014	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	..... 加藤 康一 Norikazu KATO	(SEAL) 印
Date 日付	.....	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	..... Tomoki YASUHARA	(SEAL) 印
Date 日付	.....	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	.....	(SEAL) 印
Date 日付	.....	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	.....	(SEAL) 印
Date 日付	.....	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	.....	(SEAL) 印
Date 日付	.....	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	.....	(SEAL) 印

この譲渡証は(a)米国内で署名される際には公証人の目前で、(b)米国外で署名される際には米国領事の目前で署名されることが望ましい。(a)もしくは(b)が不可能な際には、下記に署名する少なくとも二人の証人の目前で署名されることが望ましい。

This assignment should preferably be signed before: (a) a Notary Public if within the U.S.A. (b) a U.S. Consul if outside the U.S.A. If neither, then it should be signed before at least two witnesses who also sign here:

Date 日付	.....	Witness 証人	.....
Date 日付	.....	Witness 証人	.....

上記出願は、自己によりなされたか、もしくは自己によりなされるように許可を受けたものであった。

私は、請求項を含む上記出願の内容を検討および理解し、連邦施行規則第 37 章第 1 条第 56 項に定義されるごとく、特許性に関して重要であると認識している全ての情報を米国特許商標庁に開示すべき義務を有することを認める。

私は、この宣誓書において故意に虚偽の陳述等を行った場合、米国法第 18 章第 1001 条により、罰金もしくは最高 5 年の禁錮に処せられるか、またはこれらの刑が併科されることを理解する。

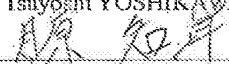
The application was made or authorized to be made by me.

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified application, including the claims, and am aware of the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56.

I hereby acknowledge that any willful false statement made in this declaration is punishable under 18 U.S.C. 1001 by fine or imprisonment of not more than five (5) years, or both.

署名人数の隣の日付をもってこの署名が履行される。

In witness whereof, executed by the undersigned on the date(s) opposite the undersigned name(s).

Date 日付	.....	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	..... (SEAL) 印
Date 日付	November 6, 2015	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA  (SEAL) 印
Date 日付	.....	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	Tomohiro SUKIHARA (SEAL) 印
Date 日付	.....	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	Norikazu KATO (SEAL) 印
Date 日付	.....	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	Tomoki YASUHARA (SEAL) 印
Date 日付	.....	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	..... (SEAL) 印
Date 日付	.....	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	..... (SEAL) 印
Date 日付	.....	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	..... (SEAL) 印
Date 日付	.....	Inventor Signature 発明者署名	..... (SEAL) 印

この譲渡証は(a)米国内で署名される際には公証人の目前で、(b)米国外で署名される際には米国領事の目前で署名されることが望ましい。(a)もしくは(b)が不可能な際には、下記に署名する少なくとも二人の証人の目前で署名されることが望ましい:

This assignment should preferably be signed before: (a) a Notary Public if within the U.S.A. (b) a U.S. Consul if outside the U.S.A. If neither, then it should be signed before at least two witnesses who also sign here:

Date 日付	.....	Witness 証人	.....
Date 日付	.....	Witness 証人	.....

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA et al.	Attorney Docket No.: 163485.02
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned	Confirmation No.: N/A
Filed: Concurrently Herewith	Art Unit: N/A
For: GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM	Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

AFFIRMATION OF ACCURACY OF TRANSLATION OF DECLARATION

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

The Declaration filed herewith is a combined English-language/foreign-language Declaration. On information and belief, the English-language portions of the Declaration are accurate translations of the foreign-language portions.

Respectfully submitted,

Electronic signature: / B. Graham Nelson /
James A. Oliff
Registration No.: 27,075
B. Graham Nelson
Registration No.: 72,699

JAO:BGN/ezm

Date: August 5, 2019

OLIFF PLC
P.O. Box 320850
Alexandria, Virginia 22320-4850
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry of this filing; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

GENERAL POWER OF ATTORNEY

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

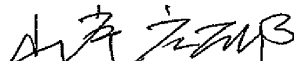
Owner Name: GREE, Inc.

hereby appoints the patent practitioners associated with Oliff & Berridge, PLC Customer No. 25944 as attorneys of record to prosecute any and all patents and patent applications in which this General Power of Attorney is filed, and all continuations and divisions thereof, owned in whole or in part by the above-named owner, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office.

The undersigned is authorized to execute this document as or on behalf of the owner.

**ALL CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE SENT TO OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC,
CUSTOMER NO. 25944, TELEPHONE (703) 836-6400.**

November 7, 2013
Date


Signature

Typed Name: Kotaro Yamagishi

Title: Co-Founder and Executive Vice
President
(if acting on behalf of an Owner)

Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal

Application Number:				
Filing Date:				
Title of Invention:	GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM			
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA			
Filer:	Joel S. Armstrong/Ellen McDowell			
Attorney Docket Number:	163485.02			
Filed as Large Entity				
Filing Fees for Track I Prioritized Examination - Nonprovisional Application under 35 USC 111(a)				
Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
Basic Filing:				
UTILITY APPLICATION FILING	1011	1	300	300
UTILITY SEARCH FEE	1111	1	660	660
UTILITY EXAMINATION FEE	1311	1	760	760
REQUEST FOR PRIORITIZED EXAMINATION	1817	1	4000	4000
Pages:				
Claims:				
Miscellaneous-Filing:				
PROCESSING FEE, EXCEPT PROV. APPLS.	1830	1	140	140

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
Petition:				
Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:				
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:				
Extension-of-Time:				
Miscellaneous:				
Total in USD (\$)				5860

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt	
EFS ID:	36782656
Application Number:	16531536
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	4956
Title of Invention:	GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Tsuyoshi YOSHIKAWA
Customer Number:	25944
Filer:	Joel S. Armstrong/Ellen McDowell
Filer Authorized By:	Joel S. Armstrong
Attorney Docket Number:	163485.02
Receipt Date:	05-AUG-2019
Filing Date:	
Time Stamp:	14:40:36
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment Type	DA
Payment was successfully received in RAM	\$5860
RAM confirmation Number	E201985E41169997
Deposit Account	
Authorized User	

The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows:

File Listing:					
Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Application Data Sheet	20190805_-_Application_Data_Sheet_Fillable_PDF.pdf	1256252 2ba067a8ab7ff6e3db7772a859226e835fb26a6	no	10
Warnings:					
Information:					
2	TrackOne Request	Track_One_Form.PDF	125748 8c3efb182ce827fbfb81d822669a6dbbf6ef59e6	no	1
Warnings:					
Information:					
3		Specification.PDF	1302302 46a5fb1a5ee54d6fe3df51dcffda12ac5e4ed6a	yes	26
Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description					
Document Description			Start	End	
Specification			1	20	
Claims			21	25	
Abstract			26	26	
Warnings:					
Information:					
4	Drawings-only black and white line drawings	Drawings.PDF	302863 d5b8d0347b7a1524f1eb80c65f52a3bb80b300fd	no	10
Warnings:					
Information:					
5	Oath or Declaration filed	Declaration_for_Filing.PDF	370571 8c1897e70b3ff52befe8466e94219a1d8331a6de	no	5

Warnings:					
Information:					
6	Petition for Expedited Foreign Filing Licenses	AFFIRMATION_OF_ACCURACY_OF_TRANSLATION_OF_DECLARATION.pdf	17110 cf8d3f2da706f40c140c31021720d2f0758e6a82	no	1
Warnings:					
Information:					
7	Power of Attorney	Gen_POA.PDF	40102 5d41f5273beda79e661c023c006750c8491080cf	no	1
Warnings:					
Information:					
8	Fee Worksheet (SB06)	fee-info.pdf	38672 86d92b8e7430325fc2877111b8e95964375b1098	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
Total Files Size (in bytes):				3453620	
<p>This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.</p> <p><u>New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111</u> If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.</p> <p><u>National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371</u> If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.</p> <p><u>New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office</u> If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.</p>					

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76	Attorney Docket Number	163485.02
	Application Number	
Title of Invention	GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM	
The application data sheet is part of the provisional or nonprovisional application for which it is being submitted. The following form contains the bibliographic data arranged in a format specified by the United States Patent and Trademark Office as outlined in 37 CFR 1.76. This document may be completed electronically and submitted to the Office in electronic format using the Electronic Filing System (EFS) or the document may be printed and included in a paper filed application.		

Secrecy Order 37 CFR 5.2:

Portions or all of the application associated with this Application Data Sheet may fall under a Secrecy Order pursuant to 37 CFR 5.2 (Paper filers only. Applications that fall under Secrecy Order may not be filed electronically.)

Inventor Information:

Inventor	1				Remove
Legal Name					
Prefix	Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name	Suffix	
	Tsuyoshi		YOSHIKAWA		
Residence Information (Select One) US Residency <input type="radio"/> Non US Residency Active US Military Service					
City	Tokyo	Country of Residence ⁱ	JP		
Mailing Address of Inventor:					
Address 1	c/o GREE, Inc.				
Address 2	6-10-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku				
City	Tokyo	State/Province			
Postal Code	106-6112	Country ⁱ	JP		
Inventor	2				Remove
Legal Name					
Prefix	Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name	Suffix	
	Tomohiro		TSUKIHARA		
Residence Information (Select One) US Residency <input checked="" type="radio"/> Non US Residency Active US Military Service					
City	Tokyo	Country of Residence ⁱ	JP		
Mailing Address of Inventor:					
Address 1	c/o GREE, Inc.				
Address 2	6-10-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku				
City	Tokyo	State/Province			
Postal Code	106-6112	Country ⁱ	JP		
Inventor	3				Remove
Legal Name					

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	163485.02
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM		

Prefix	Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name	Suffix
	Norikazu		KATO	
Residence Information (Select One) US Residency <input checked="" type="radio"/> Non US Residency Active US Military Service				
City	Tokyo	Country of Residence ⁱ	JP	

Mailing Address of Inventor:

Address 1	c/o GREE, Inc.			
Address 2	6-10-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku			
City	Tokyo	State/Province		
Postal Code	106-6112	Country ⁱ	JP	
Inventor	4	<input type="button" value="Remove"/>		

Legal Name

Prefix	Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name	Suffix
	Tomoki		YASUHARA	
Residence Information (Select One) US Residency <input checked="" type="radio"/> Non US Residency Active US Military Service				
City	Tokyo	Country of Residence ⁱ	JP	

Mailing Address of Inventor:

Address 1	c/o GREE, Inc.			
Address 2	6-10-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku			
City	Tokyo	State/Province		
Postal Code	106-6112	Country ⁱ	JP	

All Inventors Must Be Listed - Additional Inventor Information blocks may be generated within this form by selecting the **Add** button.

Correspondence Information:

Enter either Customer Number or complete the Correspondence Information section below.
For further information see 37 CFR 1.33(a).

An Address is being provided for the correspondence information of this application.

Customer Number	25944		
Email Address	email@oliff.com	<input type="button" value="Add Email"/>	<input type="button" value="Remove Email"/>

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	163485.02
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM		

Application Information:

Title of the Invention	GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM		
Attorney Docket Number	163485.02	Small Entity Status Claimed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Application Type	Nonprovisional		
Subject Matter	Utility		
Total Number of Drawing Sheets (if any)	10	Suggested Figure for Publication (if any)	1

Filing By Reference:

Only complete this section when filing an application by reference under 35 U.S.C. 111(c) and 37 CFR 1.57(a). Do not complete this section if application papers including a specification and any drawings are being filed. Any domestic benefit or foreign priority information must be provided in the appropriate section(s) below (i.e., "Domestic Benefit/National Stage Information" and "Foreign Priority Information").

For the purposes of a filing date under 37 CFR 1.53(b), the description and any drawings of the present application are replaced by this reference to the previously filed application, subject to conditions and requirements of 37 CFR 1.57(a).

Application number of the previously filed application	Filing date (YYYY-MM-DD)	Intellectual Property Authority or Country

Publication Information:

Request Early Publication (Fee required at time of Request 37 CFR 1.219)

Request Not to Publish. I hereby request that the attached application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b) and certify that the invention disclosed in the attached application **has not and will not** be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing.

Representative Information:

Representative information should be provided for all practitioners having a power of attorney in the application. Providing this information in the Application Data Sheet does not constitute a power of attorney in the application (see 37 CFR 1.32). Either enter Customer Number or complete the Representative Name section below. If both sections are completed the customer Number will be used for the Representative Information during processing.

Please Select One:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Customer Number	US Patent Practitioner	<input type="radio"/> Limited Recognition (37 CFR 11.9)
Customer Number	25944		

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	163485.02
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM		

Domestic Benefit/National Stage Information:

This section allows for the applicant to either claim benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e), 120, 121, 365(c), or 386(c) or indicate National Stage entry from a PCT application. Providing benefit claim information in the Application Data Sheet constitutes the specific reference required by 35 U.S.C. 119(e) or 120, and 37 CFR 1.78.

When referring to the current application, please leave the "Application Number" field blank.

Prior Application Status	Pending				Remove
Application Number	Continuity Type		Prior Application Number	Filing or 371(c) Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	
	Continuation of		16/053149	2018-08-02	
Prior Application Status	Patented				Remove
Application Number	Continuity Type	Prior Application Number	Filing Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	Patent Number	Issue Date (YYYY-MM-DD)
16/053149	Continuation of	14/409219	2014-12-18	10076708	2018-09-18
Prior Application Status					Remove
Application Number	Continuity Type		Prior Application Number	Filing or 371(c) Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	
14/409219	a 371 of international		PCT/JP2013/003899	2013-06-21	
Additional Domestic Benefit/National Stage Data may be generated within this form by selecting the Add button.					Add

Foreign Priority Information:

This section allows for the applicant to claim priority to a foreign application. Providing this information in the application data sheet constitutes the claim for priority as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b) and 37 CFR 1.55. When priority is claimed to a foreign application that is eligible for retrieval under the priority document exchange program (PDX)¹ the information will be used by the Office to automatically attempt retrieval pursuant to 37 CFR 1.55(i)(1) and (2). Under the PDX program, applicant bears the ultimate responsibility for ensuring that a copy of the foreign application is received by the Office from the participating foreign intellectual property office, or a certified copy of the foreign priority application is filed, within the time period specified in 37 CFR 1.55(g)(1).

Application Number	Country ⁱ	Filing Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	Access Code ⁱ (if applicable)	Remove
2012-140213	JP	2012-06-21		
Additional Foreign Priority Data may be generated within this form by selecting the Add button.				Add

Statement under 37 CFR 1.55 or 1.78 for AIA (First Inventor to File) Transition Applications

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	163485.02
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM		

<p>This application (1) claims priority to or the benefit of an application filed before March 16, 2013 and (2) also contains, or contained at any time, a claim to a claimed invention that has an effective filing date on or after March 16, 2013.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NOTE: By providing this statement under 37 CFR 1.55 or 1.78, this application, with a filing date on or after March 16, 2013, will be examined under the first inventor to file provisions of the AIA.</p>
--

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	163485.02
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM		

Authorization or Opt-Out of Authorization to Permit Access:

When this Application Data Sheet is properly signed and filed with the application, applicant has provided written authority to permit a participating foreign intellectual property (IP) office access to the instant application-as-filed (see paragraph A in subsection 1 below) and the European Patent Office (EPO) access to any search results from the instant application (see paragraph B in subsection 1 below).

Should applicant choose not to provide an authorization identified in subsection 1 below, applicant **must opt-out** of the authorization by checking the corresponding box A or B or both in subsection 2 below.

NOTE: This section of the Application Data Sheet is **ONLY** reviewed and processed with the **INITIAL** filing of an application. After the initial filing of an application, an Application Data Sheet cannot be used to provide or rescind authorization for access by a foreign IP office(s). Instead, Form PTO/SB/39 or PTO/SB/69 must be used as appropriate.

1. Authorization to Permit Access by a Foreign Intellectual Property Office(s)

A. Priority Document Exchange (PDX) - Unless box A in subsection 2 (opt-out of authorization) is checked, the undersigned hereby **grants the USPTO authority** to provide the European Patent Office (EPO), the Japan Patent Office (JPO), the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), the State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China (SIPO), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and any other foreign intellectual property office participating with the USPTO in a bilateral or multilateral priority document exchange agreement in which a foreign application claiming priority to the instant patent application is filed, access to: (1) the instant patent application-as-filed and its related bibliographic data, (2) any foreign or domestic application to which priority or benefit is claimed by the instant application and its related bibliographic data, and (3) the date of filing of this Authorization. See 37 CFR 1.14(h)(1).

B. Search Results from U.S. Application to EPO - Unless box B in subsection 2 (opt-out of authorization) is checked, the undersigned hereby **grants the USPTO authority** to provide the EPO access to the bibliographic data and search results from the instant patent application when a European patent application claiming priority to the instant patent application is filed. See 37 CFR 1.14(h)(2).

The applicant is reminded that the EPO's Rule 141(1) EPC (European Patent Convention) requires applicants to submit a copy of search results from the instant application without delay in a European patent application that claims priority to the instant application.

2. Opt-Out of Authorizations to Permit Access by a Foreign Intellectual Property Office(s)

A. Applicant **DOES NOT** authorize the USPTO to permit a participating foreign IP office access to the instant application-as-filed. If this box is checked, the USPTO will not be providing a participating foreign IP office with any documents and information identified in subsection 1A above.

B. Applicant **DOES NOT** authorize the USPTO to transmit to the EPO any search results from the instant patent application. If this box is checked, the USPTO will not be providing the EPO with search results from the instant application.

NOTE: Once the application has published or is otherwise publicly available, the USPTO may provide access to the application in accordance with 37 CFR 1.14.

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	163485.02
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM		

Applicant Information:

Providing assignment information in this section does not substitute for compliance with any requirement of part 3 of Title 37 of CFR to have an assignment recorded by the Office.

Applicant	1	<input type="button" value="Remove"/>
<p>If the applicant is the inventor (or the remaining joint inventor or inventors under 37 CFR 1.45), this section should not be completed. The information to be provided in this section is the name and address of the legal representative who is the applicant under 37 CFR 1.43; or the name and address of the assignee, person to whom the inventor is under an obligation to assign the invention, or person who otherwise shows sufficient proprietary interest in the matter who is the applicant under 37 CFR 1.46. If the applicant is an applicant under 37 CFR 1.46 (assignee, person to whom the inventor is obligated to assign, or person who otherwise shows sufficient proprietary interest) together with one or more joint inventors, then the joint inventor or inventors who are also the applicant should be identified in this section.</p>		
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Assignee	<input type="radio"/> Legal Representative under 35 U.S.C. 117	<input type="radio"/> Joint Inventor
<input type="checkbox"/> Person to whom the inventor is obligated to assign.	<input type="checkbox"/> Person who shows sufficient proprietary interest	
If applicant is the legal representative, indicate the authority to file the patent application, the inventor is:		
<input type="text"/>		
Name of the Deceased or Legally Incapacitated Inventor: <input type="text"/>		
If the Applicant is an Organization check here. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Organization Name	GREE, INC.	
Mailing Address Information For Applicant:		
Address 1	6-10-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku	
Address 2		
City	Tokyo	State/Province
Country	JP	Postal Code
Phone Number		Fax Number
Email Address		
Additional Applicant Data may be generated within this form by selecting the Add button. <input type="button" value="Add"/>		

Assignee Information including Non-Applicant Assignee Information:

Providing assignment information in this section does not substitute for compliance with any requirement of part 3 of Title 37 of CFR to have an assignment recorded by the Office.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	163485.02
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM		

Assignee	1		
Complete this section if assignee information, including non-applicant assignee information, is desired to be included on the patent application publication. An assignee-applicant identified in the "Applicant Information" section will appear on the patent application publication as an applicant. For an assignee-applicant, complete this section only if identification as an assignee is also desired on the patent application publication.			
<input type="button" value="Remove"/>			
If the Assignee or Non-Applicant Assignee is an Organization check here. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Organization Name	GREE, INC.		
Mailing Address Information For Assignee including Non-Applicant Assignee:			
Address 1	6-10-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku		
Address 2			
City	Tokyo	State/Province	
Country ⁱ	JP	Postal Code	106-6112
Phone Number		Fax Number	
Email Address			
Additional Assignee or Non-Applicant Assignee Data may be generated within this form by selecting the Add button. <input type="button" value="Add"/>			

Signature:

NOTE: This Application Data Sheet must be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33(b). However, if this Application Data Sheet is submitted with the **INITIAL** filing of the application and either box A or B is **not** checked in subsection 2 of the "Authorization or Opt-Out of Authorization to Permit Access" section, then this form must also be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.14(c).

This Application Data Sheet **must** be signed by a patent practitioner if one or more of the applicants is a **juristic entity** (e.g., corporation or association). If the applicant is two or more joint inventors, this form must be signed by a patent practitioner, **all** joint inventors who are the applicant, or one or more joint inventor-applicants who have been given power of attorney (e.g., see USPTO Form PTO/AIA/81) on behalf of **all** joint inventor-applicants.

See 37 CFR 1.4(d) for the manner of making signatures and certifications.

Signature	/B. Graham Nelson/ for James A. Oliff		Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2019-08-05	
First Name	B. Graham	Last Name	Nelson	Registration Number	72,699
Additional Signature may be generated within this form by selecting the Add button. <input type="button" value="Add"/>					

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Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	163485.02
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	GAME CONTROL METHOD, GAME SERVER, AND PROGRAM		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.76. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 23 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application data sheet form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

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5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspections or an issued patent.
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