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United States Patent [19] Hansen

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[54] **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR GENERATING A WORKING WINDOW IN A COMPUTER SYSTEM**

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[73] Assignee: **U S West, Inc.**, Englewood, Colo.

[*] Notice: The term of this patent shall not extend beyond the expiration date of Pat. No. 5,568,604.

[21] Appl. No.: **655,516**

[22] Filed: **May 30, 1996**

Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation of Ser. No. 294,268, Aug. 23, 1992, Pat. No. 5,568,604, which is a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 999,489, Dec. 31, 1992, abandoned.

[51] Int. Cl.⁶ **G06F 15/00**

[52] U.S. Cl. **345/340; 345/173; 345/348**

[58] Field of Search 345/156, 157, 345/163, 173, 179, 180, 9, 16; 395/334, 339, 340, 341, 342, 348, 349, 350, 351, 358

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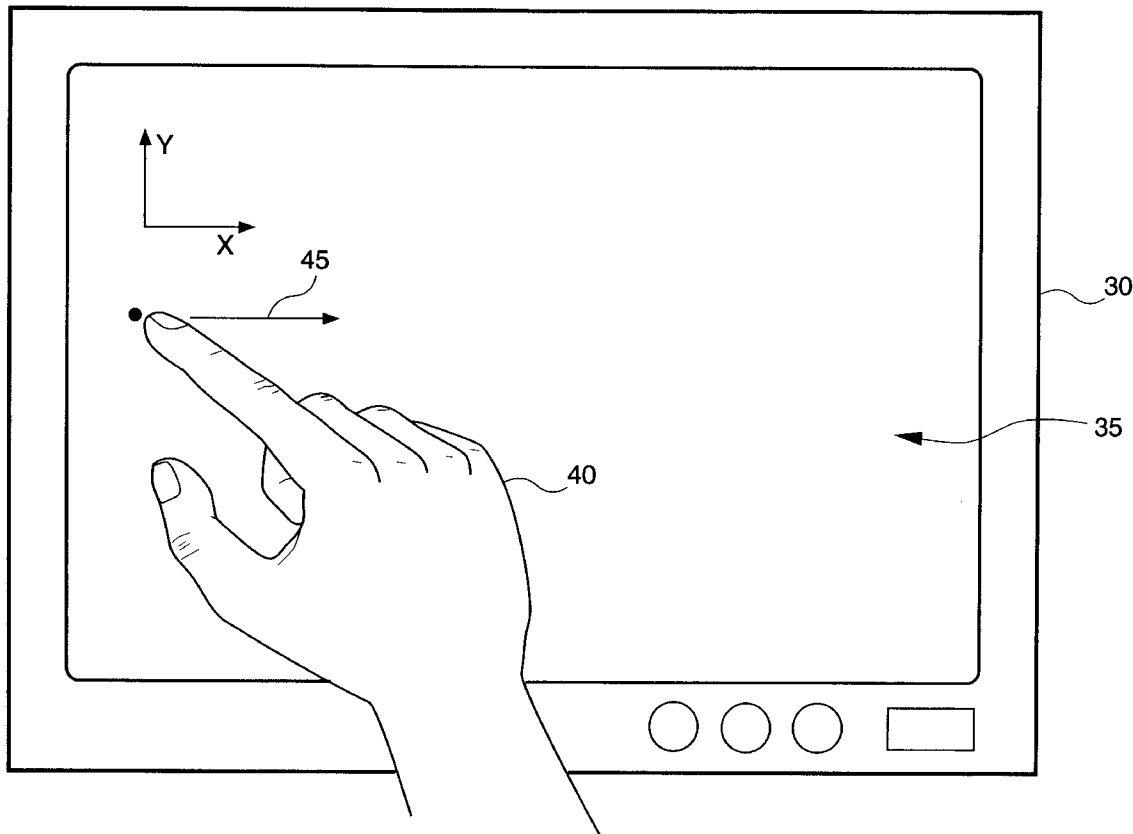
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Primary Examiner—Huynh Ba
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Peter J. Kinsella; Brooks & Kushman P.C.

[57] ABSTRACT

A method and system for generating a working window on a video monitor in a computer system is provided. The method comprises the steps of determining if a user has performed a first predetermined input stroke along at least a portion of a display screen. Upon determining that the user has drawn the predetermined input stroke, a plurality of icons are displayed. A user selects one of the plurality of icons via a second predetermined input stroke and a working window is scrolled onto the video monitor. A computer program that corresponds to the selected icon is then executed in the working window. The user can remove the working window from the screen by clicking and performing a third predetermined input stroke.

32 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets



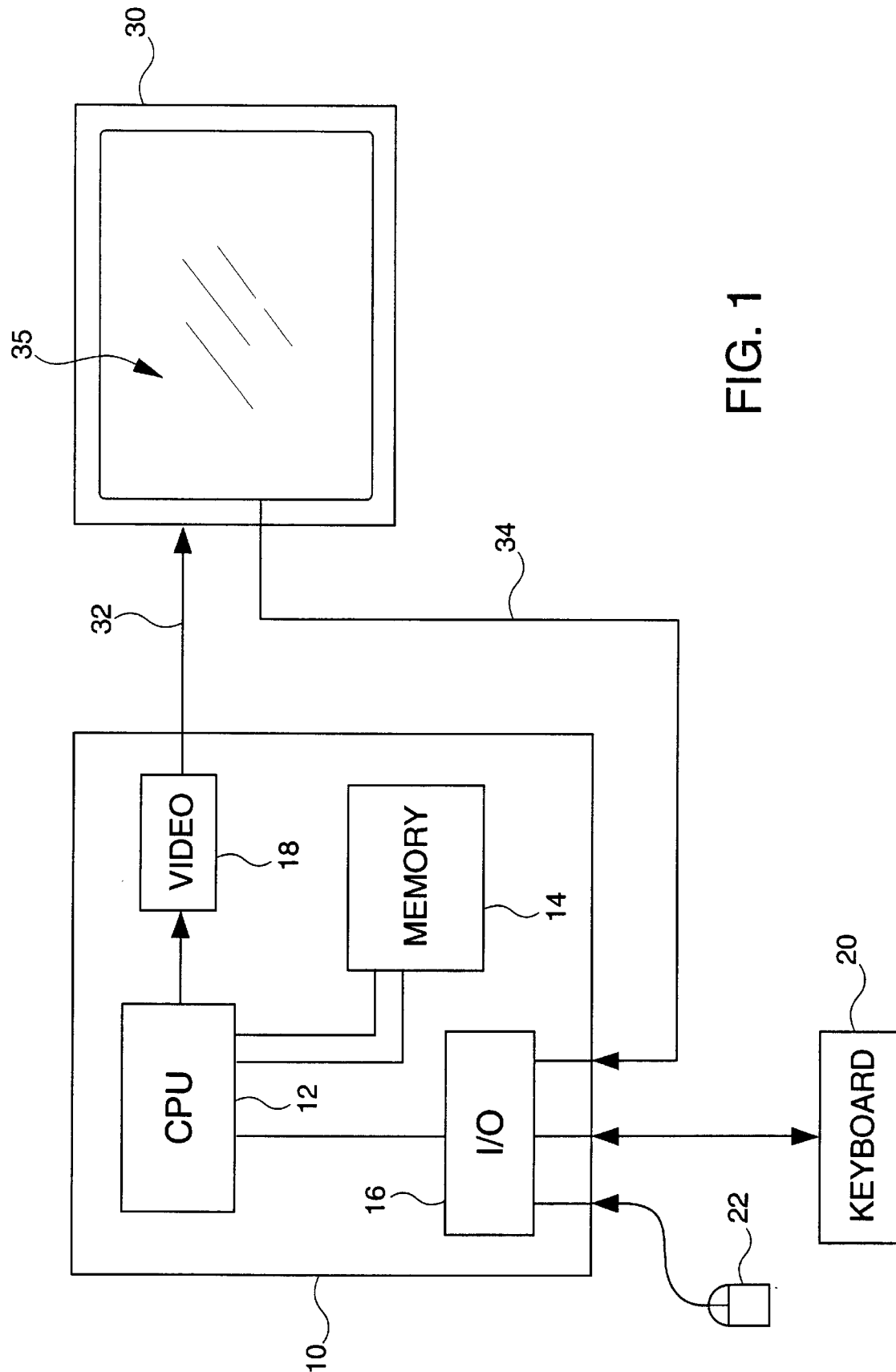
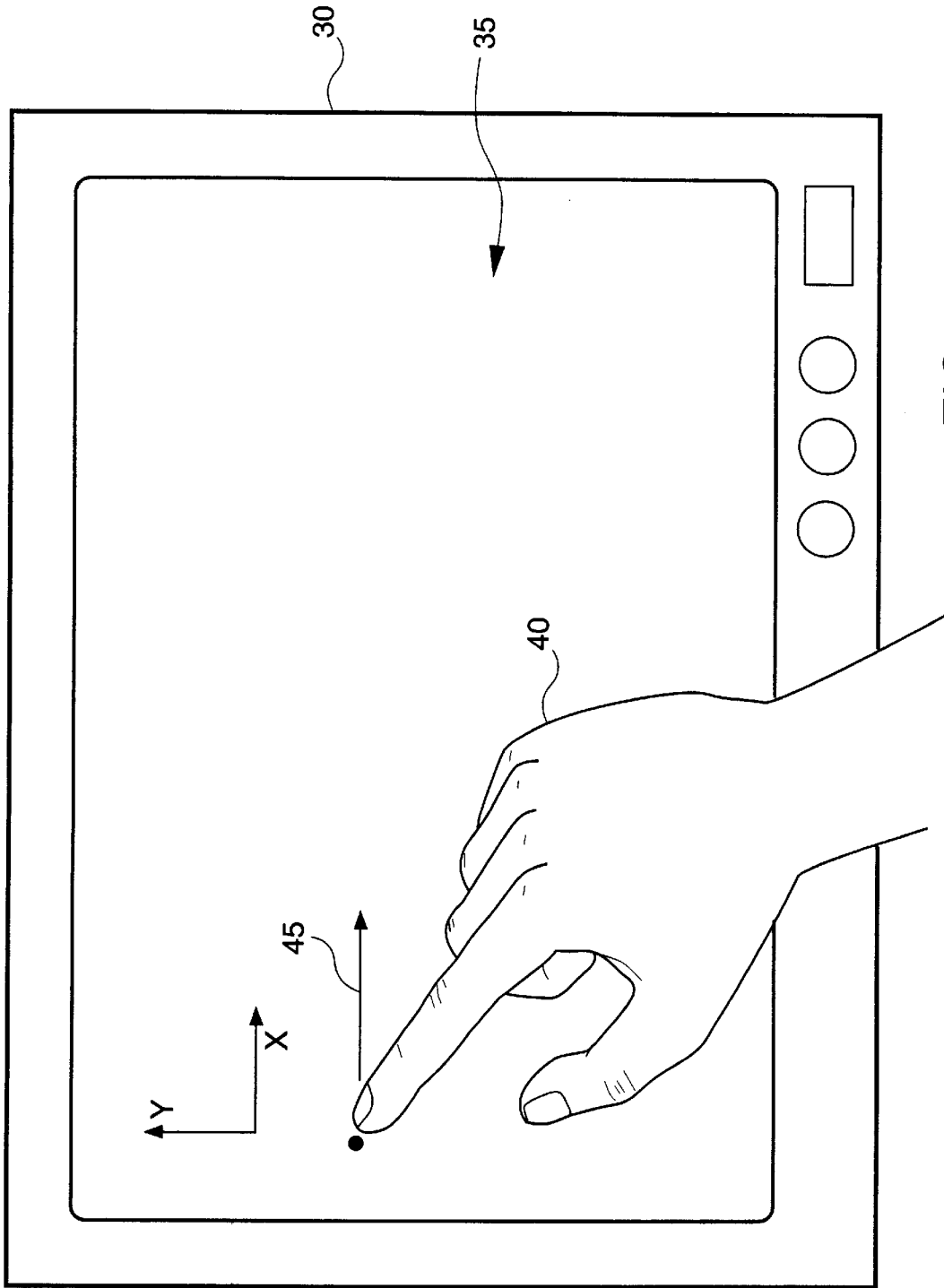


FIG. 1



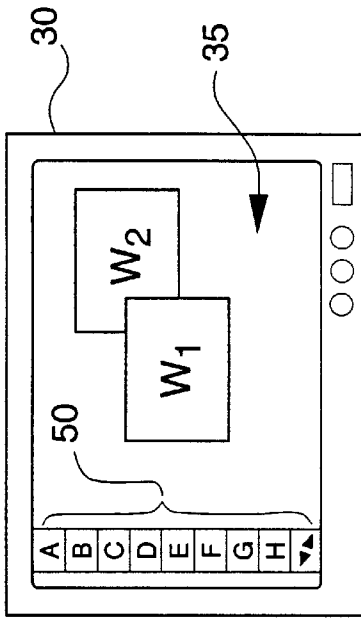


FIG. 3B

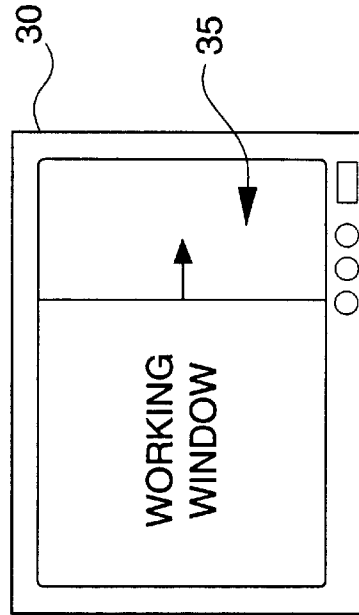


FIG. 3C

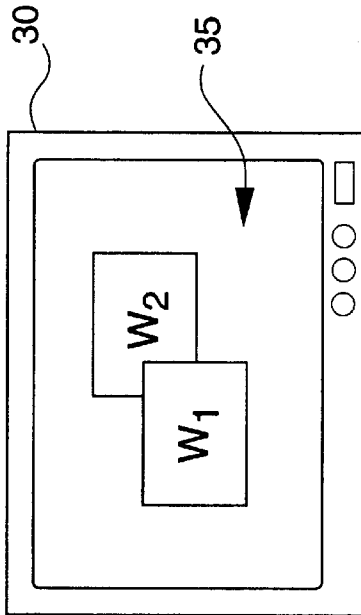
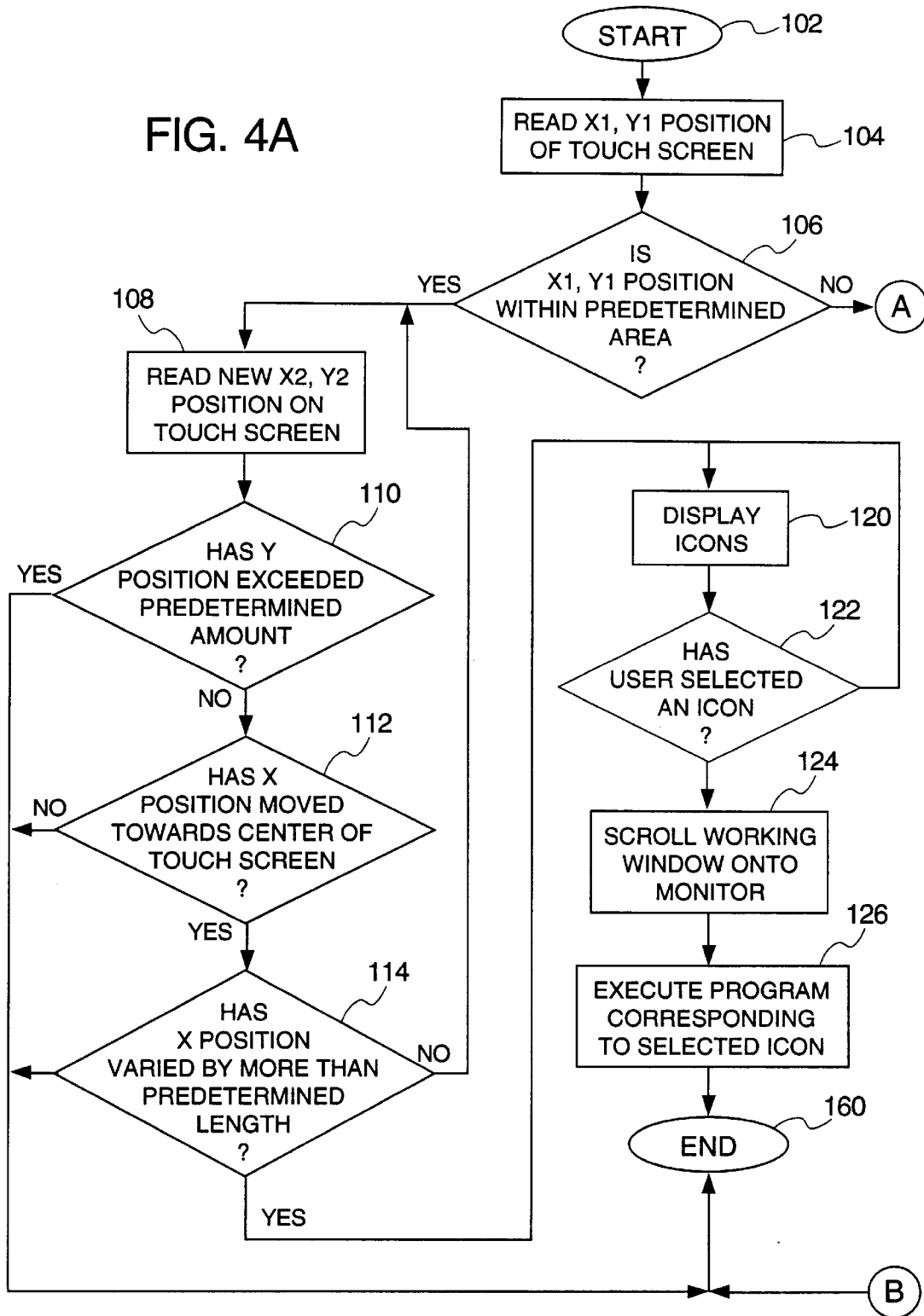


FIG. 3A

FIG. 4A



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