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1c957 U.S. PTO

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PTO/SB/16 (8-00)

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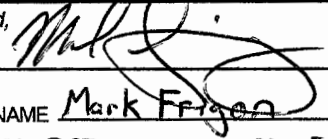
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PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT COVER SHEET

This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT under 37 CFR 1.53(c).

1c714 U.S. PTO
60/248994
11/15/00

INVENTOR(S)					
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname		Residence (City and either State or Foreign Country)	
Mark Frederick		Frigon		Avon, CO	
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional inventors are being named on the ___ separately numbered sheets attached hereto					
TITLE OF THE INVENTION (280 characters max)					
Method and System for Identifying objects in a digital image over a communications network					
Direct all correspondence to: CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS					
<input type="checkbox"/> Customer Number		_____ →		Place Customer Number Bar Code Label here	
OR Type Customer Number here					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Firm or Individual Name		Mark Frigon			
Address		McCoy Peak Lodge #702			
Address		15 Highlands Lane			
City		State	ZIP		
Avon		CO	81620		
Country		Telephone	Fax		
USA		970 845 0797	631 614 3591		
ENCLOSED APPLICATION PARTS (check all that apply)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification		Number of Pages	7	<input type="checkbox"/> CD(s), Number	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)		Number of Sheets	7	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76					
METHOD OF PAYMENT OF FILING FEES FOR THIS PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.				FILING FEE AMOUNT (\$)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check or money order is enclosed to cover the filing fees				\$75	
<input type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge filing fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number: _____					
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.					
The invention was made by an agency of the United States Government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the name of the U.S. Government agency and the Government contract number are: _____					

Respectfully submitted, 
SIGNATURE _____
TYPED or PRINTED NAME Mark Frigon
TELEPHONE 917 597 1098 or 970 845 0797

Date 11/15/00
REGISTRATION NO. _____
(if appropriate)
Docket Number: _____

USE ONLY FOR FILING A PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.51. The information is used by the public to file (and by the PTO to process) a provisional application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 8 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the complete provisional application to the PTO. 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, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Box Provisional Application, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Box Provisional Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, District of Columbia 20231

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Sir:

Please file the enclosed Provisional Patent Application (PPA) papers listed below under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b)(2).

Each of the undersigned understands:

- A. This PPA is not a substitute for a Regular Patent Application (RPA), cannot be converted to an RPA, cannot get into interference with an RPA of another person, cannot be amended, will not be published, cannot claim any foreign priority, and will not mature into a patent;
- B. If an RPA referring to this PPA is not filed within one year of the filing date of this PPA, this PPA will be worthless and will be destroyed;
- C. Any desired foreign Convention applications (including PCT applications) based upon this PPA *must* be filed within one year of the filing date of this PPA;
- D. This PPA *must* contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same, and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention. 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 1. Otherwise this PPA will be worthless.
- E. Any RPA will be entitled to claim the benefit of this PPA only if such RPA names at least one inventor of this PPA and this PPA discloses such inventor's invention, as claimed in at least one claim of the RPA, in the matter provided in Item D above.

Tentative Applicant # 1, Name: Mark Frigon

Tentative Applicant # 2, Name: _____

Title: Method and system for Identifying objects in a digital image over a communications network

Specification, sheets: 7 Drawing(s), sheets: 7

Small Entity Declaration(s), number: _____

Check for \$ 75 for small entity () large entity filing fee

Return Receipt Postcard Addressed to Applicant # 1.

Very respectfully, 

Applicant # 1 Signature
McCoy Peak Lodge # 902 - 15 Highlands Lane
Address (Send Correspondence Here)
Avon, CO 81620

Applicant # 2 Signature

Address

Express Mail Label # EL154885308US ; Date of Deposit 200 11/15/00

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Fee Transmittal

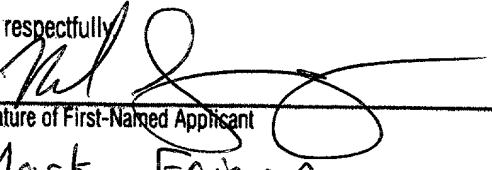
First-Named Applicant Mark Frigon

Title of Invention: "Method and system for identifying objects in a digital image over a communications network."

Total Payment Enclosed (From Calculation Below): \$ 75 Check Money Order

Sir:
Enclosed is the following small entity filing fee for the above patent application:

Fee Code	Fee Description	Fee (\$)
214	Provisional Pat. Appn. Filing Fee	<u>75</u>
201	Basic Utility Appn. Filing Fee	<u>—</u>
206	Basic Design Appn. Filing Fee	<u>—</u>
	Subtotal (1)	<u><u>75</u></u>
203	Total Claims: <u>0</u> - 20 = _____ ; X _____ (fee for each claim over 20) = <u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
202	Tot. Indep. Claims <u>0</u> - 3 = _____ ; X _____ (fee for each indep. claim over 3) = <u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	Subtotal (2)	<u><u>0</u></u>
Total Payment Enclosed [Sum of Subtotals (1) and (2)]		<u><u>75</u></u>

Very respectfully

 Signature of First-Named Applicant
Mark Frigon
 Print Name of First-Named Applicant
McCoy Peak Lodge # 702
 Address
15 Highlands Lane
Avon, CO 81620

First/Sole Applicant: Mark Frigon

Joint/Second Applicant: _____

Title: "Method and System for identifying objects in a digital image over a communications network"

Small Entity Declaration—Independent Inventor(s)

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35 United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to my above-identified invention described in the specification filed herewith. I have not assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed—and am under no obligation under any contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license—any rights in the invention to either (a) any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or (b) any concern which would not qualify as either (i) a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or (ii) a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern, or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed—or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license—any rights in the invention is listed below:

There is no such person, concern, or organization.

Any applicable person, concern, or organization is listed below:*

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

I acknowledge a duty to file, in the above application for patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Mark Frigon
Signature of Sole/First Inventor

Mark Frigon
Print Name of Sole/First Inventor

8/15/00
Date of Signature

Signature of Joint/Second Inventor

Print Name of Joint/Second Inventor

Date of Signature

*Note: A separate Small Entity Statement is required from any listed entity.

DESCRIPTION OF INVENTION

Summary

The present invention is system and method for identifying and displaying objects (in most cases, a person) within a digital image over a client/server system. For example, a client, while viewing an image (or digital photograph) can identify a person who appears within the image by clicking on the image and selecting this person from a list of people. By identifying people within images, the system is able to search for images where a specified person(s) appears as well as generate output that recognizes where in the image a person appears. This output is also capable of creating hyperlinks and calls to client-side scripts from the otherwise "static" image file.

While, one embodiment of this invention utilizes the Internet as the medium for communication and web pages for displaying data, the scope of this invention is not limited specifically to the Internet and/or to web pages. However, in the interest of brevity, I will use the words "web page" to describe any display output in a client/server environment. Also in the interest brevity, I will use the words "person" or "people" to describe any object(s) (e.g. a pet, a possession, a place) a client wishes to identify within a digital image. This most frequently will, in fact, be a person. Finally, I will use the verb "to map" as meaning to identify a specific user within a specific image. For example the sentence, "John Doe is mapped to Image #7 by coordinates 0,2,100,100" is analogous to the sentences "John Doe has been identified as appearing within Image #7. John Doe can be found the region of Image #7 bound by the coordinates 0,2,100,100."

Depending on the client/server environment, different media will be used for output and display to the client. On the Internet, the most accessible and most common output is Hypertext Markup Language ("HTML"). An HTML element that is frequently used in the present invention is the image map. Image maps, specifically server side image maps, are images displayed in a browser with the capability of sending back to server the location of a cursor over an image (the "coordinates") when cursor is clicked. The functionality of the HTML image map can be duplicated or configured in other non-HTML media. For example, Macromedia's Flash player, through the use of a plotting object, can plot transparent buttons over the top of an image. When a user clicks one of these invisible buttons (which lay over the image), the button can send the corresponding coordinates to the server. For the sake of both brevity and clarity, I will outline an embodiment of the present invention that utilizes HTML. This embodiment of the present invention (i.e. utilizing the Internet and HTML) is presently the preferred embodiment due to the broad reach of the Internet and wide acceptance of HTML. However the scope of the current invention is not intended to be limited to the HTML or the Internet.

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