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# EXHIBIT 4

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Serial No.: 12/324,122 Attorney Docket No.: 10963.3819 PATENT

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re appl | ication of: Malcolm K. Beyer, Jr.        |  |
|------------|--|--|
| Serial No  | .: 12/324,122                            |  |
| Filed: N   | ovember 26, 2008                         |  |
| Entitled:  | METHOD OF UTILIZING<br>FORCED ALERTS FOR |  |
|            | INTERACTIVE REMOTE<br>COMMUNICATIONS     |  |
|            |  |  |

Confirmation No: 9036

Group Art Unit: 2617

Examiner: LEBASSI, Amanuel

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 December 17, 2010

Filed Electronically

#### **RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

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In response to the Office Action dated September 20, 2010, please amend the above referenced patent application as follows and consider the remarks below. This Response is believed to be timely. However, in the event that any further extension of time is required, please consider this a request therefor. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees due or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 13-1130.

Please amend the claims as shown on pages 2-7.

Remarks begin on page 8.

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#### CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims (strikethrough indicating deletion and <u>underline</u> indicating insertion) as follows:

1. (Cancelled)

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2. (Currently Amended) <u>A communication system for transmitting, receiving,</u> confirming receipt, and responding to an electronic message, comprising:

a predetermined network of participants, wherein each participant has a similarly equipped PC or PDA/cell phone that includes a CPU and a touch screen display a CPU and memory;

a data transmission means that facilitates the transmission of electronic files between said PCs and said PDA/cell phones in different locations;

a sender PC or PDA/cell phone and at least one recipient PC or PDA/cell phone for each electronic message; and

<u>a forced message alert software application program loaded on each participating PC or</u> <u>PDA/cell phone [.] ;</u>

The system as in claim 1, wherein the forced message alert software application program on the sender PC or PDA/cell phone:

means for attaching a forced message alert software packet to a voice or text message creating a forced message alert that is transmitted by said sender PC or PDA/cell phone to the recipient PC or PDA/cell phone, wherein said forced message alert software packet contains containing a response list and requires requiring the forced message alert software on said recipient PC or PDA/cell phone to transmit an automatic acknowledgment to the sender PC or

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PDA/cell phone as soon as said forced message alert is received by the recipient PC or PDA/cell phone;

means for receiving and displaying a listing of which recipient PCs or PDA/cell phones have automatically acknowledged the forced message azlert alert and which recipient PCs or PDA/cell phones have not automatically acknowledged the forced message alert;

means for periodically resending said forced message alert to said recipient PCs or PDA/cell phones that have not automatically acknowledged the forced message alert; and

means for receiving and displaying a listing of which recipient PCs or PDA/cell phones have transmitted a manual response to said forced message alert and details the response from each recipient PC or PDA/cell phone that responded.

3. (Currently Amended) The system as in claim  $4 \ \underline{2}$ , wherein the forced message alert software application program on the recipient PC or PDA/cell phone <u>includes</u>:

means for transmitting the acknowledgment of receipt to said sender PC or PDA/cell phone immediately upon receiving a forced message alert from the sender PC or PDA/cell phone;

means for controlling of the recipient PC or PDA/cell phone upon transmitting said automatic acknowledgment and eauses <u>causing</u>, in cases where the force message alert is a text message, the text message and a response list to be shown on the display of the recipient PC or PDA/cell phone or causes, in cases where the force message alert is a voice message, the voice message to be <u>being</u> periodically repeated by the speakers of the recipient PC or PDA/cell phone while said response list is shown on the display;

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means for allowing a manual response to be manually selected from the response list or manually recorded and transmits transmitting said manual response to the sender PC or PDA/cell phone; and

means for clearing the text message and a response list from the display of the recipient PC or PDA/cell phone or stops stopping the repeating voice message and clears clearing the response list from the display of the recipient PC or PDA/cell phone once the manual response is transmitted.

4. (Currently Amended) The system as in claim 4 <u>2</u>, wherein said data transmission means is TCP/IP or another communications protocol.

5. (Currently Amended) The system as in claim  $\pm 2$ , wherein the response list that is transmitted within the forced message alert software packet is a default response list that is embedded in the forced message alert software application program.

6. (Currently Amended) The system as in claim  $\pm 2$ , wherein the response list that is transmitted within the forced message alert software packet is a custom response list that is created at the time the specific forced message alert is created on the sender PC or PDA/cell phone.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of sending a forced message alert to one or more recipient PCs or PDA/cell phones within a predetermined communication network, wherein the receipt and response to said forced message alert by each intended recipient PC or PDA/cell phone is tracked, said method comprising the steps of:

accessing a forced message alert software application program on a sender PC or PDA/cell phone;

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