EXHIBIT I

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B. Hilliard

04860.P1365

Patent

Response under 37 CFR 1.116 — Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 237

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
)
Steven W. Christensen) Examiner: Dela Torre, C.
)
Serial No. 08/316,237) Art Unit: 2415
)
Filing Date: September 30, 1994)
)
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)
DISPLAYING AND ACCESSING)
CONTROL AND STATUS)
INFORMATION IN A COMPUTER)
SYSTEM)

Upon Appeal, Please Enter Amendment B 1/29/97 Cma

AMENDMENT TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed November 20, 1996, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks:

FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

on January 17, 1997
Date of Deposit

Christine M. Gregovich
Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

Christine M. Gregovich
Signature

January 17, 1997
Date

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Twice Amended) An interactive computer-controlled display system comprising:

a processor;

a data display screen coupled to the processor;

a cursor control device coupled to said processor for positioning a cursor on said data display screen;

a window generation and control logic coupled to the processor and data display screen to create an operating environment for a plurality of individual programming modules that provide status and control functions, wherein the window generation and control logic generates and displays a first window region having a plurality of display areas on said data display screen, wherein each of the plurality of display areas is associated with one of the plurality of individual programming modules;

an indicia generation logic coupled to the data display screen to execute at least one of the plurality of individual programming modules to generate information for display in one of the plurality of display areas in the first window region, wherein at least one of the plurality of display areas and its associated programming module is sensitive to user input, and further wherein the window generation and control logic and the indicia generation logic use message-based communication to exchange information to coordinate activities of the indicia generation logic to enable interactive display activity.

3. (Once Amended) The display system defined in Claim 1 wherein said at least one of the plurality of display areas [area] is variably sized.

8. (Twice Amended) The display system defined in Claim 1 wherein said at least one of the plurality of [the] display areas only displays information.

9. (Twice Amended) The display system defined in Claim 1 wherein said at least one of the plurality of display areas acts to provide access to control information when selected.

11. (Twice Amended) An interactive computer-controlled display system comprising:

a processor;

a data display screen coupled to the processor;

a cursor control device coupled to said processor for positioning a cursor on said data display screen;

window generation and control logic coupled to the processor and data display screen to create an operating environment for a plurality of individual programming modules that provide status and control functions, wherein the window generation and control logic generates and displays a first window region having a plurality of display areas on said data display screen, wherein each of the plurality of display areas is associated with one of the plurality of individual programming modules;

at least one indicia graphics generation logic coupled to the processor and the window generation and control logic, wherein said at least one indicia graphics generation logic generates user sensitive graphics for display in [said] at least one data display area by executing at least one of the plurality of individual programming modules;

wherein the window generation and control logic determines when said at least one data display area has been selected by the user and signals said at least one indicia graphics generation logic in response to user selection, and further wherein said at least one indicia graphics generation logic initiates a response from said at least one of the plurality of programming modules.

14. (Amended) The display system defined in Claim 11 wherein said at least one data display area is variably sized.

15. (Twice Amended) A method for generating control information comprising the steps of:

creating [create] an operating environment for a plurality of individual programming modules that provide status and control functions;

generating a first window sized to accommodate a plurality of display areas for indicia resulting from executing at least one of the plurality of individual programming modules, wherein each of the plurality of display areas is associated with one of the plurality of individual programming modules;

displaying the [an] indicia in each of said plurality of [at least one] display [area] areas by executing one of a plurality of individual programming modules corresponding to each indicia;

selecting one of the indicia, wherein the step of selecting comprises a [the] first programming module determining which of said plurality of [at least one] display [area] areas is selected and sending a message to a [the] programming module of said plurality of individual programming modules responsible for generating a [the] display of a [the] selected indicia;

said programming module performing a function in response to a [the] selection.

16. (Amended) The method defined in Claim 15 wherein one of said [plurality of] indicia comprises status information.

17. (Amended) The method defined in Claim 15 wherein one of said [plurality of] indicia comprises control information.

18. (Amended) The method defined in Claim 15 further comprising the steps of:

the first programming module requesting a set of features supported by said programming module, wherein said step of requesting comprises sending a first message to said programming module; and

said programming module returning a second message indicative of features supported by said programming module, such that said first programming module interacts with said programming module in response to user interaction with the first programming module based on indicated features as set forth by said programming module.

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1-24 remain in the application. No claims have been canceled.

Claims 1-3, 8-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by EPO Patent No. 0 584 392 A1 to Cohausz ("Cohausz"). Cohausz teaches a status indicator which indicates the location at which one is in a

program, text or information range. The status indicator includes a number of individual fields represent portions of the individual program, text or information. Clicking on the field leads to the respective program area. The individual fields are arranged successively in accordance with the logical and/or timed running of the program. The sizes of the fields correspond to the size of the area represented.

Claim 1 of the present invention claims:

> *a window generation and control logic coupled to the processor and data display screen to create an operating environment for a plurality of individual programming modules that provide status and control functions, wherein the window generation and control logic generates and displays a first window region having a plurality of display areas on said data display screen, wherein each of the plurality of display areas is associated with one of the plurality of individual programming modules;*
>
> *an indicia generation logic coupled to the data display screen to execute at least one of the plurality of programming modules to generate information for display in one of the plurality of display areas in the first window region, wherein at least one of the plurality of display areas and its associated programming module is sensitive to user input, and further wherein the window generation and control logic and the indicia generation logic use message-based communication to exchange information to coordinate activities of the indicia generation logic to enable interactive display activity.* (Emphasis added.)

The present invention provides display areas which are associated with individual programming modules. Cohausz does not provide such display areas. Cohausz teaches a status indicator which is associated with a single program. The status indicator of Cohausz indicates the location within the one single program, text or information range. The Examiner refers to page 3, paragraph 2 as teaching plurality of individual programming modules. However, page 3, paragraph 2 of Cohausz specifically states that "the individual fields represent portions of the individual program, text of information, i.e. sections, paragraphs, chapters or segments of information."

Thus, Cohausz does not teach individual programming modules associated with each field. Therefore, claim 1 is not anticipated by Cohausz.

Claim 1 of the present invention also claims an indicia generation logic that uses message-based communication to exchange information to coordinate activities of the indicia generation logic." Cohausz does not teach the use of message based communication for information exchange. Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, Cohausz's teaching of individual fields which lead to respective program areas does not teach the use of message-based communication. The present invention sets forth message based communication, which means that the control strip passes messages to a module to, for example, either tell the module what to do or to obtain information about the module and its capabilities. (Specifications, pg. 32, lines 5-7). There is no indication in Cohausz that such message based communication is used. Therefore, Cohausz does not anticipate the present invention as claimed in Claim 1, or any of its dependent claims.

Independent Claims 11 and 15 also include similar limitations regarding the operating environment. Therefore, based on the same rational given above, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 11 and 15 and their dependent claims are not anticipated by Cohausz.

Claims 4-7 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Cohausz and U.S. Patent 5,202,961 to Mills et. al. ("Mills"). Mills teaches the use of a slider control bar for controlling the rate of display of sequential information. Specifically, Mills teaches the use of such a control strip to control the playback rate of video. This control strip is defined as having certain components such as standard playback direction/velocity indicators, reverse, stop and fast forward. Mills uses a control icon to select one of these rates of display. Claims 4-7 depend on independent Claim 1,

discussed above. The Examiner has acknowledged that Mills does not teach the indicia generator, or a plurality of programs corresponding to the plurality of fields as claimed in the present invention. Because Cohausz does not teach, or make obvious the use of a plurality of fields or message based communication, the present invention is not obvious in view of Cohausz further in view of Mills.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) and §103 have been overcome by the amendments and the remarks and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested. Applicant submits that Claims 1-24 are now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 1/17, 1997

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