Exhibit 118

08/821004
345
Class
Subcl.
ISSUE CLASSIFICATION
SCANNED

[redacted]

6493002

UTILITY SERIAL NUMBER	08/821004	PATENT DATE DEC 10 2002	PATENT NUMBER 6493002

SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	GROUP ART UNIT	EXAMINER
08/[illegible]	[illegible]	345	776 / 764 / 779	2173	DelaTorre

APPLICANTS

STEVEN W. CHRISTENSEN, [illegible], CA.

ABANDONED

CONTINUING DATA [illegible]
VERIFIED [illegible] CON OF 08/316,[illegible], 09/30/94 now abandoned

Cna

FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATIONS******** NONE
VERIFIED

Cna

[redacted]

FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED 05/01/97

Foreign priority claimed ☐ yes ☒ no 35 USC 119 conditions met ☐ yes ☒ no Verified and Acknowledged — Cna — Examiner's Initials	AS FILED →	STATE OR COUNTRY	SHEETS DRWGS.	TOTAL CLAIMS	INDEP. CLAIMS	FILING FEE RECEIVED	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.
		CA	17	20	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

ADDRESS

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TITLE

METHOD AND APPARATUS [illegible] INFORMATION IN A COMPUTER SYSTEM

U.S. DEPT. OF COMM./ PAT. & TM—PTO-436L (Rev.12-94)

PARTS OF APPLICATION FILED SEPARATELY		Applications Examiner
NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE MAILED.	Assistant Examiner	CLAIMS ALLOWED
3-13-02		Total Claims: 50 — Print Claim: 1
ISSUE FEE	C dela Torre Crescelle N. dela Torre Primary Examiner	DRAWING
Amount Due: $1280.00 — Date Paid: 6/7/02		Sheets Drwg.: 17/13 — Figs. Drwg.: 17 — Print Fig.: 2A
Label Area	PREPARED FOR ISSUE	ISSUE BATCH NUMBER
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Form PTO-436A (Rev. 8/92) D IRVINE

SCAN
ISSUE FEE IN FILE BW

Formal Drawings(___shts) set______

(FACE)

002FH001

WI-Apple0000906

08/ 316237

Class	Subclass

ISSUE CLASSIFICATION

UTILITY SERIAL NUMBER	PATENT DATE	PATENT NUMBER
08/ 316237		

SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	GROUP ART UNIT	EXAMINER
8/316,237	09/30/94	~~364~~ 395	161	~~2305~~ 2415	De la Torre

TEVEN W. CHRISTENSEN, MILPITAS, CA.

*CONTINUING DATA********************* NONE
VERIFIED

Cma

*FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATIONS************ NONE
VERIFIED

Cma

OREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED 01/14/95

ign priority claimed / SC 119 conditions met / led and Acknowledged	AS FILED	STATE OR COUNTRY	SHEETS DRWGS.	TOTAL CLAIMS	INDEP. CLAIMS	FILING FEE RECEIVED	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.
☐ yes ☒ no / ☐ yes ☒ no / Cmd Examiner's Initials		CA	17	18	3	$840.00	04860.P1365

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR AND ZAFMAN
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METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DISPLAYING AND ACCESSING CONTROL AND STATUS INFORMATION IN A COMPUTER SYSTEM

U.S. DEPT. of COMM.-Pat. & TM Office-PTO-436L (rev. 10-78)

PARTS OF APPLICATION FILED SEPARATELY

Applications Examiner

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE MAILED

Assistant Examiner

CLAIMS ALLOWED

Total Claims	Print Claim

ISSUE FEE

Amount Due	Date Paid

DRAWING

Sheets Drwg.	Figs. Drwg.	Print Fig.

Primary Examiner

ISSUE BATCH NUMBER

PREPARED FOR ISSUE

Label Area

WARNING: The information disclosed herein may be restricted. Unauthorized disclosure may be prohibited by the United States Code Title 35, Sections 122, 181 and 368. Possession outside the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office is restricted to authorized employees and contractors only.

Form PTO-436A
(Rev. 8/92)

(FACE)

Atty. Docket No. 004860.P1365C2

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Steven W. Christensen		
Serial No.	08/821,004	Examiner:	Dela Torre, C.
Filed:	March 20, 1997	Art Unit:	2773
For:	METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DISPLAYING AND ACCESSING CONTROL AND STATUS INFORMATION IN A COMPUTER SYSTEM		

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 6, 1999, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (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 associated with different application programs that provide status and/or 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 the first window region is independently displayed and independently active of any application program, and wherein each of the plurality of display areas is associated with one of the plurality of individual programming modules, the first window region and the plurality of independent display areas implemented in a window layer that appears on top of application programming windows that may be generated;

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.

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11. (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 associated with different application programs that provide status and/or 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 the first window region is independently displayed and independently active of any application program, and wherein each of the plurality of display areas is associated with one of the plurality of individual programming modules, the first window region and the plurality of independent display areas implemented in a window layer that appears on top of application programming windows that may be generated;

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 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.

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

creating an operating environment for a plurality of individual programming modules associated with different application programs that provide status and/or 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, and wherein the first window is independently displayed and independently active of any application program, the first window region and the plurality of independent display areas implemented in a window layer that appears on top of application programming windows that may be generated;

displaying the indicia in each of said plurality of display 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 first programming module determining which of said plurality of display areas is selected and sending a message to a programming module of said plurality of individual programming modules responsible for generating a display of a selected indicia;

said programming module performing a function in response to a selection.

25. (Amended) A system comprising:

a window generation and control logic to create an operating environment for a plurality of individual programming modules associated with different application programs that provide status and/or control functions, wherein the window generation and control logic generates and displays a first window region having a plurality of display areas, wherein the first window region is independently displayed and independently active of any application program, and wherein each of the plurality of display areas is associated with one of the plurality of individual programming modules, the first window region and the plurality of independent display areas

implemented in a window layer that appears on top of application programming windows that may be generated;

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.

26. (Amended) A system comprising:

a window region independently displayed and independently active of any application program, the window region having interactive display areas;

each of a plurality of the display areas associated with one of a plurality of individual programming modules, the first window region and the plurality of independent display areas implemented in a window layer that appears on top of application programming windows that may be generated;

wherein at least one of the individual programming modules is executable to generate information for display in the plurality of display areas, and wherein at least one of the display areas sensitive to user input.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments and the following remarks are responsive to the Office Action mailed May 6, 1999. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of

the present application. Claims 1-31 remain in the application. Claims 1, 11, 15, 25, and 26 have been amended.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-31 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1, 11, 15, 26, and 26 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim what Applicant considers the invention.

The Examiner further rejected Claims 26-30 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Takagi et al. (U.S. Patent 4,885,704) ("Takagi I"). Takagi I teaches a document filing apparatus. Specifically, Takagi I teaches a document filing apparatus including"

> document window 201 for displaying document images including characters is substantially centered in the display screen. Icons (also called "selection marks" or "commands") are arrayed in the right portion of the document window 201, and give an operator various necessary indications, such as image-enlarging and reducing, and rotation and scroll of the displayed image. . . . The display further contains a function area 202 provided in connection with function keys F1 to F10. The function area contains icons F1 to F10 indicating various devices for inputting and outputting documents such as a scanner, printer, display, and file.

(Takagi I, column , lines). Thus, Takagi teaches a document filing apparatus, which is a single application that permits manipulation of documents. Takagi does not teach or suggest a "a window region independently displayed and independently active of any application program, as claimed in Claim 26. Rather, Takagi teaches displayed function keys that permit access to printing, scanning, saving, and other functions of a single "document filing apparatus" taught by Takagi. Furthermore, the present invention as claimed sets further that the "the first window region and the plurality of independent display areas implemented in a window layer that appears on top of application programming windows that may be generated." Takagi does not disclose

the first window region and independent display areas being in a window layer that appears on top of application programming windows that may be generated. Therefore, the present invention as claimed does not teach, mention, nor disclose the present invention as claimed.

Moreover, the display areas of Takagi are not interactive. Rather, the display areas display static information, such as "scanner," "printer," "display," etc. Therefore, Takagi does not anticipate, or make obvious claim 26, as amended.

The Examiner further rejected claims 1-3, 8-25 under 25 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cohausz in view of Takagi I. The Examiner states that Cohausz does not teach a status bar with a plurality of individual programming modules associated with different programs, nor does Cohausz teach that the first window region is displayed separately from any application program. The Examiner states that Takagi makes up the missing elements in Cohausz.

However, as discussed above, Takagi does not teach or suggest an independently displayed and independently active window region, as claimed. Rather, as can be seen in Figure 2, Takagi teaches a document filing apparatus that includes functionalities, including icons and a function area indicating various devices for inputting and outputting documents that are within the document filing apparatus. Therefore, Takagi does not teach or suggest a window region that is independently displayed and independently active of any application program. Therefore, Claims 1-3, and 8-25 are not anticipated by or obvious over Cohausz in view of Takagi.

The Examiner further rejected claims 4-7. Mills teaches a resizeable window. Mills does not make up the elements missing in Cohausz and Takagi. Mills does not teach or suggest a display area that is independently displayed and independently active of any application program. Therefore, claims 4-7 are not obvious over Cohausz, in view of Takagi, further in view of Mills.

Claim 31 was rejected over Takagi in view of Mills. Claim 31 depends on Claim 26, and incorporates all of the limitations of claim 26. As discussed above, Takagi and Mills, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest an independently active and independently displayed window, as claimed. Therefore, Claim 31 is not obvious over Takagi in view of Mills.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Such allowance is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to the prompt allowance of these claims that could be clarified with a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Judith A. Szepesi at (408) 720-8598.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 11/8, 1999

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FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
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on November 8, 1999
Date of Deposit

Angela M. Quinn
Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

Angela M. Quinn 11-8-99
Signature Date

04860.P1365 Patent

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		

AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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

IN THE SPECIFICATION

At page 2, line 11, please replace "it" with --It--.

At page 4, line 10, please replace "individiual" with --individual--.

At page 21, line 23, please insert --not-- after "has".

At page 28, lines 11-12, please delete "If the cursor location is determined to be within the control strip."

AT page 28, line 15, please insert --within the control strip-- after "occurs".

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (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 programming modules to generate information [data] for display in [at least] one of the plurality of display areas in the first window region, wherein [a] 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.

5. (Amended) The display system defined in Claim 4 wherein the first window region[s] is sized such that none of the plurality of display areas is [are] visible.

6. (Amended) The display system defined in Claim 4 wherein the first window region[s] is sized such that all of the plurality of display areas are visible.

7. (Amended) The display system defined in Claim 4 wherein the first window region[s] is sized such that a portion of the plurality of display areas is [are] visible.

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

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

10. (Amended) The display system defined in Claim 9 wherein said at least one of the plurality of display [data] areas displays an additional display element.

11. (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 [, wherein the first window region comprises at least one data display area];

at least one indicia graphics generation logic coupled to the processor and the window generation 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 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.

12. (Amended) The display system defined in Claim 11 wherein the first window region is always visible to the user.

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

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 [at least one] display areas for indicia resulting from [, wherein the step of generating the first window comprises] executing [a first] 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 an indicia in each of said at least one display area by executing one of a plurality of programming modules corresponding to each indicia;

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

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

Please add the following new claims:

19. (New) The display system defined in Claim 1 wherein each of the plurality of display areas is individually and variably sized.

20. (New) The display system defined in Claim 1 wherein the first window region always appears in front of application windows.

21. (New) The display system defined in Claim 1 wherein the first window region is implemented in a private window layer that appears in front of windows for all applications layers.

22. (New) The display system defined in Claim 11 wherein each of the plurality of display areas is individually and variably sized.

23. (New) The display system defined in Claim 11 wherein the first window region always appears in front of application windows.

24. (New) The display system defined in Claim 11 wherein the first window region is implemented in a private window layer that appears in front of windows for all applications layers.

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1-18 remain in the application. Claim 1, 5-12, and have been amended. Claims 19-24 have been added. No claims have been canceled.

The Examiner has listed a number of informalities and errors in the application. The Applicant has corrected these informalities and errors, as well as others, to put the application in correct form for allowance.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable over Mills et al. 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 window to control the playback rate of video. This control window is defined as having certain components such as standard playback direction/velocity indicators, reverse, stop and fast forward. Mills uses control icon to select one of these rates of display.

Claim 1 of the present invention as amended states, in part:

> ...
>
> 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;
>
> ...

Thus, the present invention provides logic that creates an operating environment like a shell for other programming modules to provide status and control functions. Mills does not provide such an environment. In Mills, the control window is used for controlling video generated by an application.

Claim 1 of the present invention also includes that "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" Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, Mills does not teach the use of message based communication for information exchange, particularly between control logic that creates an environment for the plurality of programming modules

which control the indicia generation logic. In one described embodiment, the message based communication comprises the control strip of the present invention passing messages to a module to either tell it what to do or to obtain information about the module and its capabilities (e.g., See Specification, pg. 32, lines 5-7). There is no indication in Mills that such message based communication is used. In view of the above discussion, Applicant respectfully submits that Mills does not anticipate the present invention as claimed in Claim 1, nor any of its dependent claims.

Independent Claims 11 and 15 also include a similar limitation regarding the creation of the operating environment. Therefore, based on the same rationale given above, Applicant respectfully submits Claims 11 and 15 and their dependent claims are not anticipated by Mills.

Applicant has added Claims 19-24. Claims 19-21 are dependent on Claim 1, and Claims 22-24 are dependent on Claim 11. Claims 19 and 22 provide that each of the plurality of display areas is individually and variably sized. Mills does not disclose such sizing. Claims 20 and 23 provide that the first window region always appears in front of application windows. Similarly, Claims 21 and 24 provide that the first window region is implemented in a private window layer that appears in front of windows for all applications layers. Mills clearly does not show this. In fact, as soon as another application is used in Mills, the control window will be overlapped and at least partially non-visible. Therefore, based on this, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 19-24 are allowable over the art of record.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) has been overcome by the amendments and the remarks and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested. Applicant submits

that Claims 1-18 as amended and Claims 19-24 as added 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

Dated: 8/20, 1996

Michael J. Mallie
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 36,591

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Angela Quinn — August 20, 1996 Date

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7/18/00

04860.P1365C2 *Patent*

Response under 37 CFR 1.116 — Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 2773

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Steven W. Christensen		
Serial No.	08/821,004	Examiner:	Dela Torre, C.
Filed:	March 20, 1997	Art Unit:	2773
For:	METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DISPLAYING AND ACCESSING CONTROL AND STATUS INFORMATION IN A COMPUTER SYSTEM		

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
BOX AF
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed January 28, 2000, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to consider the following remarks:

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1-31 remain in the application. No claims have been amended. No claims have been canceled.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cohausz, in view of Takagi, et al., and further in view of

Hansen, et al. Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention as claimed is not anticipated by the above-referenced combination. Specifically, the present invention sets forth displaying status information through a window in which the individual programming modules are associated with different programs to provide status and/or control functions. Each of the program modules is associated with the different individual display areas in the window. The Examiner admits that Cohausz does not disclose such programming modules. The programming modules are utilized to overcome the problem having a single program that must be located and entered before execution (of the program to obtain the specific control or status information) as well as having everything done by a single program, requires a greater amount of time and maybe unduly long. Thus, the use of the individual programming modules provides a less obtrusive way to access system control and status programming.

The Examiner asserts that Takagi as teaching such individual programming modules. Applicant disagrees with the assertion and believes there is nothing in Takagi that indicates that there are individual programming modules and the Applicant contends that the document filing apparatus is a single application. The fact that Takagi displays function keys and a function area does not change this fact. Importantly, Takagi is not directed to the problem that the use of the individual programming modules for which the present invention as claimed is directed. In Takagi, with status and control functions still require locating a single program for execution and the time to obtain any individual function of that single program may be long. Using the individual programming modules set forth and claimed in the present invention avoids this problem.

Furthermore, the present invention as claimed includes having a window region with its independent display areas in a window that appears on top of

application window programs that may be generated. Therefore, by implication, those window areas that are generated after the generation of the window layer will still not appear on top of the control/status window in the present invention as claimed when they are active. This allows the user to have an unobstructed view of the system/controller area regardless of the window that's selected as being active (even when the windows overlap each other). Thus, the window may be always visible to the user. The Examiner believes that this is clearly shown in Hansen, specifically referring to the dashboard interface. However, Hansen only allows the user an unobstructed view of the system if a button is selected (col. 4, lines 45-51). Thus, Applicant believes that one familiar with the art would not look to Hansen to arrive at the present invention because the present invention is directed at using individual programming modules that generate displays that are always visible on a top layer. It appears to Applicant that the Examiner is simply using impermissible hindsight to piece together parts of different patent in an attempt to reject the claims. Applicant respectfully submits that in view of the above, the present invention as claimed is not obvious in view of Cohausz, Takagi and Hansen.

The Examiner also rejected claims 26-31 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takagi in view of Hansen. Applicant respectfully submits that for the same reasons given above with respect to Takagi and Hansen, the present invention as claimed is not obvious in view of the cited references.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) have been overcome by the amendments and the remarks and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested. Applicant submits that Claims 1-31 are 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

Dated: June 28, 2000

Michael J. Mallie
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Angela M. Quinn — June 28, 2000 Date