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(54) Title: METHODS AND/OR SYSTEMS FOR ACCESSING INFORMATION

(57) Abstract

A system for accessing information stored in a distributed information database provides a community of intelligent software agents (105). Each agent (105) can be built as an extendion of a known viewer (400) for a distributed information system such as the Internet WorldWide Web (W3). The agent (105) is effectively integrated with the viewer (400) and can extract pages by means of the viewer (400) for storage in an intelligent page store. The text from the information system is abstracted and is stored with additional information, optionally selected by the user. The agent-based access system uses keyword sets to locate information of interest to a user, together with user profiles such that pages being stored by one user can be notified to another whose profile indicates potential interest. The keyword sets can be extended by use of a thesaurus.

