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(57) Abstract

A database which stores various forms of communication as digitized data (1) on a computer-readable memory (10-16) for future access and retrieval. Using the proven reliability of a native file structure of a computer operating system (22), the database reduces overall complexity (24), increase stability (26), decrease access time to data (28), and decrease access time to various attributes about the data (30). These objectives are achieved by creating a flat database using the native operating system file structure (46), thus bypassing a more easily corruptible indexed database design created by a database engine. A single algorithm is used to find a path to data file which can be accessed using conventional search algorithms and techniques (20). Furthermore, information concerning data file attributes can be accessed from the names of the digitized data files themselves (10-12).

