(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
3 March 2005 (03.03.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/020087 A1

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: G06F 15/16, 15/173, H04L 9/00

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US2004/005817

(22) International Filing Date: 26 February 2004 (26.02.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/494,325 11 August 2003 (11.08.2003) US
10/775,962 10 February 2004 (10.02.2004) US

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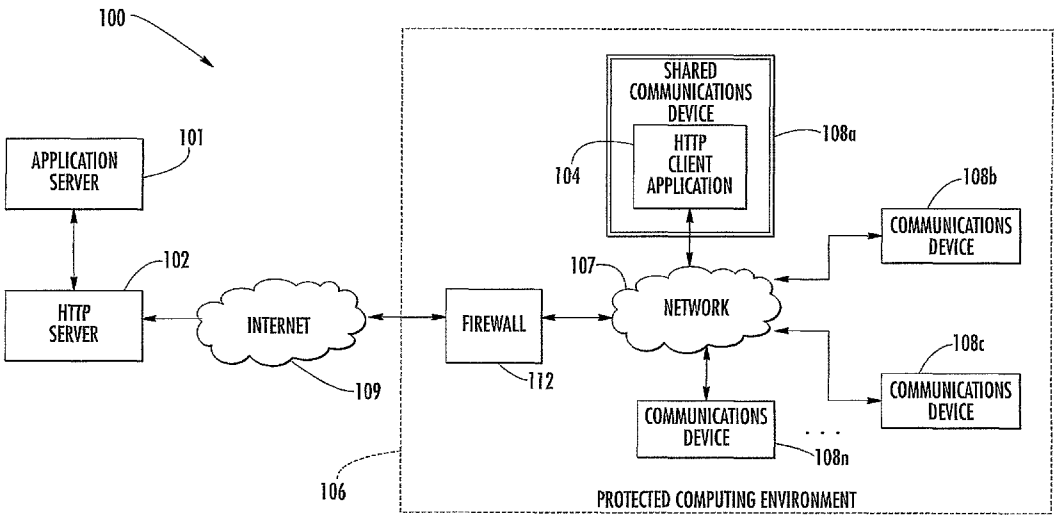
(81) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available)*: ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— *with international search report*

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM PROVIDING SHARED CLIENT-SERVER COMMUNICATIONS INTERFACE AND RELATED METHODS



(57) Abstract: A communications system (100) includes a plurality of communications devices (108) connected together in a network (107) and having a plurality of user accounts associated therewith. At least one of the communications devices processes requests using an HTTP client application (104) associated therewith. The system also include an application server (101) for accessing the user accounts via the HTTP client application (104), and an HTTP server (102) for interfacing the HTTP client application (104) with the application server (101). The HTTP server (102) and HTTP client application (104) formats requests to be communicated therebetween in an HTTP format, and each provide additional state information with the HTTP formatted requests recognizable by the other for authentication purposes. Furthermore, the HTTP client application (104) request a first URL from the HTTP server (102) for accepting work requests from the application server (101), and a second URL different from the first URL for responding to work requests.

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