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

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
22 October 2015 (22.10.2015)

WIPO | PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2015/160782 A1

(51) **International Patent Classification**:
G06Q 10/08 (2012.01)

(21) **International Application Number**:
PCT/US2015/025713

(22) **International Filing Date**:
14 April 2015 (14.04.2015)

(25) **Filing Language**: English

(26) **Publication Language**: English

(30) **Priority Data**:
61/979,460 14 April 2014 (14.04.2014) US

(71) **Applicant**: **ZIPCAR, INC.** [US/US]; 35 Thomson Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02210 (US).

(72) **Inventors**: **CHU, Will**; c/o Zipcar, Inc., 35 Thomson Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02210 (US). **LAMBERT, David**; c/o Zipcar, Inc., 35 Thomson Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02210 (US). **SPENCER, Dylan**; c/o Zipcar, Inc., 35 Thomson Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02210 (US). **WHEELER, Chris**; c/o Zipcar, Inc., 35 Thomson Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02210 (US). **MAHONEY, Griffin**; c/o Zipcar, Inc., 35 Thomson Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02210 (US). **GUGGEMOS, Russen**; c/o Zipcar, Inc., 35 Thomson Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02110 (US). **MARTINEAU, James**; c/o Zipcar, Inc., 35 Thomson Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02210 (US). **BARTOLONI, Guido**; c/o Zipcar, Inc., 35 Thomson Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02210 (US). **HOFFMAN, Miles**; c/o Zipcar, Inc., 35 Thomson Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02210 (US). **CHU, Chris**; c/o Zipcar, Inc., 35 Thomson Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02210 (US). **MOORE-NIEMI, Alex**; c/o Zipcar, Inc., 35 Thomson Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02210 (US). **MOTTLA, Lesley**; c/o Zipcar, Inc., 35 Thomson Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02210 (US). **SEELY, Al**; c/o Zipcar, Inc., 35 Thomson Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02210 (US). **RUDBERG, Scott**; c/o Zipcar, Inc., 35 Thomson Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02210 (US).

(74) **Agents**: **PELLIGRINO, Jeffrey S.** et al.; Choate, Hall & Stewart LLP, Two International Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02110 (US).

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

(84) **Designated States** *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available)*: ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE,

[Continued on next page]

(54) **Title**: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR VEHICLE FLEET SHARING

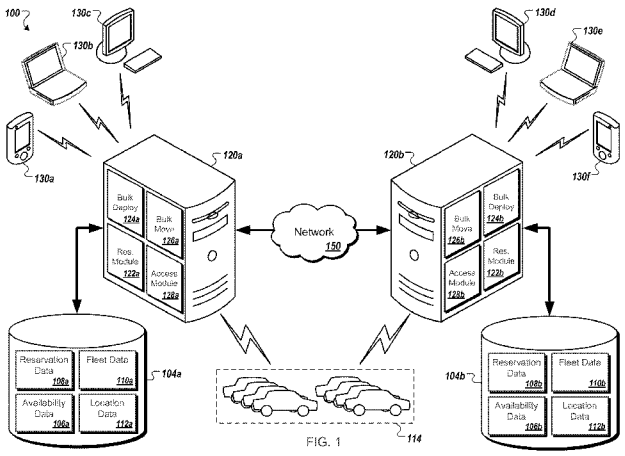


FIG. 1

(57) **Abstract**: The disclosed technology relates generally to methods and systems for sharing vehicles between fleets. Vehicle sharing services typically experience the most use during the weekend. Thus, many vehicles used by vehicle sharing services sit idle during the week. Meanwhile, vehicle rental companies experience the most demand during the week and their vehicles are underutilized during the week. The disclosed technology, in certain embodiments, provides systems and methods for sharing vehicles between a vehicle sharing entity and a vehicle renting entity. This allows the entities to lower fleet costs and obtain better fleet utilization by moving vehicles between fleets when one entity anticipates a spike in demand. For example, the ability for the vehicle sharing service to utilize a rental vehicle agency's excess weekend inventory will allow them to meet its strong weekend demand without the need for purchasing and maintaining additional vehicles.

WO 2015/160782 A1

DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*

— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))*