

(51) International Patent Classification:
G06F 15/16 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2012/022939

(22) International Filing Date:

27 January 2012 (27.01.2012)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

61/437,4065	28 January 2011 (28.01.2011)	US
61/437,524	28 January 2011 (28.01.2011)	US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **THE DUN AND BRADSTREET CORPORATION** [US/US]; 103 JFK Parkway, Short Hills, NJ 07078 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **MORGAN, William** [US/US]; 2170 Barry Court, Easton, PA 18040 (US). **TAM, Robert** [US/US]; 75 Saybrook Street, Staten Island, NY 10314 (US). **GERASIMOVA, Nina** [US/US]; 7 Woodruff Court, Randolph, NJ 07869 (US). **GASTAUER, Keith** [US/US]; 5870 Stoney Hill Road, New Hope, PA 08938 (US). **RASGADO, Stacey** [US/US]; 50 West 34th Street, New York, NY 10001 (US). **EINSTEIN, Ken** [US/US]; 3401 Chris Lane, San Mateo, CA 94403 (US). **SWANSON, Chip** [US/US]; 4175 Harrison Grade Road, Sebastopol, CA 95472 (US). **LAMKA, Neil**; 250 Maple

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: INVENTORY DATA ACCESS LAYER

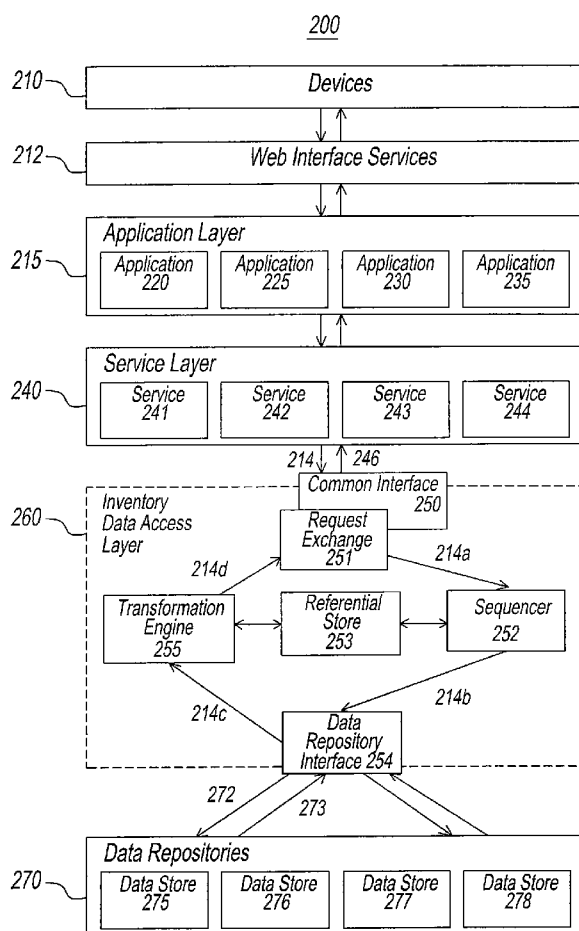


Fig. 2

(57) Abstract: There is provided a method that includes (a) receiving a request for access to data, (b) identifying a data store that stores the data, and (c) communicating with the data store, by way of an electronic communication, to access the data. There is also provided a system that performs the method, and a storage medium that includes a program module for controlling a processor to perform the method.



Lane, Port Ludlow, WA 98365 (US). **HOROWITZ, Dave** [US/US]; 38 Athens Road, Short Hills, NJ 07078 (US). **LONGO, Jim** [US/US]; 447 Molino Avenue, Mill Valley, CA 94941 (US). **TOWNSEND, Emmet** [IE/IE]; Park Road, Longford, County of Longford (IE). **PROW-ER, Julian** [GB/GB]; 1 Yew Tree Close, Tetsworth, Thame, Oxon OX9 7BP (GB).

(74) **Agent: GREELEY, Paul, D.**; Ohlandt, Greeley, Ruggiero & Perle, L.L.P., One Landmark Square, 10th Floor, Stamford, CT 06901-2682 (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, 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, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU,

RW, 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, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, 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, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

— *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))*

Published:

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