METHODS AND APPARATUS TO ENABLE A TRADING DEVICE TO ACCEPT A USER INPUT

BACKGROUND

[0001] An electronic trading system generally includes a trading device in communication with an electronic exchange. The electronic exchange sends information about a market, such as prices and quantities, to the trading device. The trading device sends messages, such as messages related to orders, to the electronic exchange. The electronic exchange attempts to match quantity of an order with quantity of one or more contra-side orders.

[0002] Advances in mobile devices have resulted in improved touch screens that allow users to directly interact with what is displayed. For example, a user may play a game, write an email, file taxes, etc., by directly interacting with the user interface of the touch screen, rather than using an intermediary device such as a mouse, a keyboard, etc.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

[0002a] According to a first aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method comprising: generating, via a computing device, a user interface of a trading application, the user interface including a locked portion that displays market data; detecting a gestural input with respect to the user interface; detecting a gestural event with respect to the user interface associated with the gestural input; and in response to the detected gestural event, unlocking the locked portion of the user interface.

[0002b] According to a second aspect of the present invention, there is provided an apparatus comprising: a computing device to: generate a user interface of a trading application, the user interface to include a locked portion that displays market data; detect a gestural input with respect to the user interface; detect a gestural event with respect to the user interface associated with the gestural input; and in response to the detected gestural event, unlock the locked portion of the user interface.

[0002c] According to a third aspect of the present invention, there is provided tangible computer readable storage medium including computer program code to be executed by a processor, the computer program, when executed, to implement a method comprising: generating, via a computing device, a user interface of a trading application, the user interface including a locked portion that displays market data; detecting a gestural input with respect to the user interface; detecting a gestural event with respect to the user interface associated with the gestural input; and in response to the detected gestural event, unlocking the locked portion of the user interface.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

[0003] Certain embodiments are disclosed with reference to the following drawings.

[0004] FIG. 1 illustrates a block diagram representative of an example electronic trading system in which certain embodiments may be employed.

[0005] FIG. 2 illustrates a block diagram of another example electronic trading system in which certain embodiments may be employed.

[0006] FIG. 3 illustrates a block diagram of an example computing device which may be used to implement the disclosed embodiments.

[0007] FIG. 4 illustrates a block diagram of an example trading device which may be employed with certain disclosed embodiments.

[0008] FIG. 5 illustrates a flow diagram representative of example machine readable instructions that may be executed to implement disclosed embodiments.

[0009] FIGS. 6a-6g illustrate an example user interface in accordance with disclosed embodiments.