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

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
9 October 2003 (09.10.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/083683 A2

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: G06F 15/16

(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP03/02674

(22) International Filing Date: 14 March 2003 (14.03.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
10/112,134 29 March 2002 (29.03.2002) US

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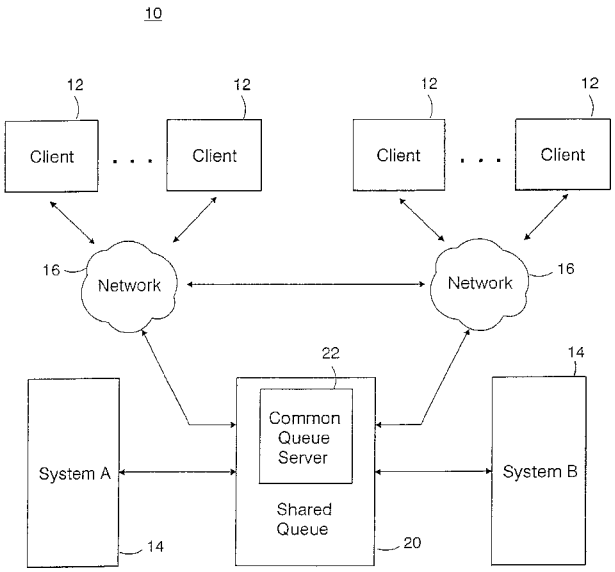
(81) Designated States *(national)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT,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

(84) Designated States *(regional)*: ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (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 patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— *without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: MOST ELIGIBLE SERVER IN A COMMON WORK QUEUE ENVIRONMENT



(57) Abstract: A system and method for managing servers. The system comprises a plurality of servers for processing messages, at least one client for transmitting messages to and receiving messages from the servers, and processor means for maintaining a list indicating whether at least one of the servers is eligible to process messages. Preferably, the servers are adapted to process messages of different types; and the processor means includes means to indicate on said list whether, for each of the different types of messages, at least one of the servers is eligible to process each of the different types of messages. Also, in the preferred embodiment, each of the clients includes means to read the list, before the client transmits a message of a given type to one of the servers, to determine whether at least one of the servers is eligible to process messages of the given type.

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