

ABSTRACT

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR GENERATING A DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM

Described is a system and method for developing specialized data processing systems for tracking items through a business process. The method allows rapid creation of a specific data processing system based upon a series of generic process rules previously developed and stored in the system. Process activity definitions, activity paths transitions, data access, and operator interaction panels are defined. Based upon the user supplied inputs and generic rules, a complete data processing system is generated. In operation, the generated system operates using a process flow controller to manage the processing steps. Each item being tracked through the system has an associated item status. The controller is conditionally responsive to item state and item data content when determining the activities which are available for selection and the processes and their authorized operators. The present invention implements state sensitive process automation in that the tasks are assigned and processed only when such assignment is indicated by the current item state and associated data content.

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