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

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
27 January 2005 (27.01.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/008514 A1

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: G06F 17/00, 161/00, G07F 17/34, A63F 9/24

(21) International Application Number: PCT/AU2004/000964

(22) International Filing Date: 16 July 2004 (16.07.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

2003903769	18 July 2003 (18.07.2003)	AU
2003905792	21 October 2003 (21.10.2003)	AU
2004900978	26 February 2004 (26.02.2004)	AU
2004902469	10 May 2004 (10.05.2004)	AU
2004902465	10 May 2004 (10.05.2004)	AU
2004902460	10 May 2004 (10.05.2004)	AU
2004902459	10 May 2004 (10.05.2004)	AU

(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **PALTRONICS AUSTRALASIA PTY LIMITED** [AU/AU]; Units 1-4, 1260 Princess Highway, Heathcote, NSW 2233 (AU).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **COWAN, Stephen, Wayne** [AU/AU]; Paltronics Australasia Pty Limited, Units 1-4, 1260 Princess Highway, Heathcote, NSW 2233 (AU). **WRIGHT, Dean** [AU/AU]; Paltronics Australasia Pty Limited, Units 1-4, 1260 Princess Highway, Heathcote, NSW 2233 (AU).

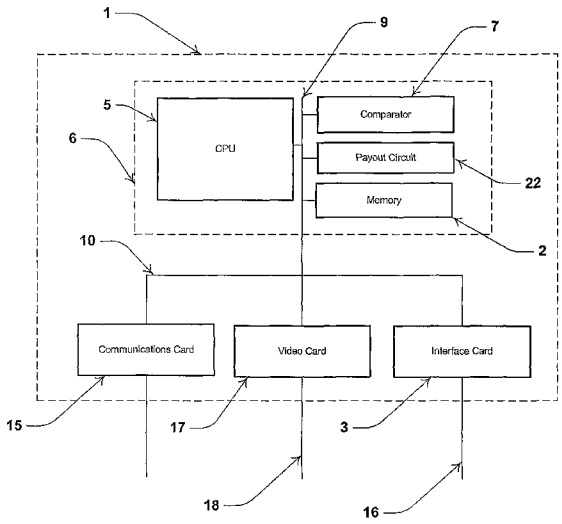
(74) Agent: **SHELSTON IP**; 60 Margaret Street, Sydney, NSW 2000 (AU).

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

(84) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available)*: ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: AN APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR AWARDING A PRIZE



(57) Abstract: Apparatus (1) and associated methods are disclosed for determining the award of a plurality of prizes having respective prize values. The apparatus includes memory (2) for storing data indicative of a current prize value; an input device (3) being responsive to input signals from a respective plurality of gaming terminals (4) for providing an increment signal; a controller (5) for defining a prize value between upper and lower prize values and for incrementing an accumulated value toward the current prize value in response to the increment signal; a comparator (7) being responsive to the current prize value and the accumulated value for determining if the current prize value is to be awarded and, if so, generating an award signal that actuates the controller (5) to define a second prize value. Methods are disclosed in which, upon payment of a prize, the accumulated value is reset to the prize value or the upper or lower prize value and in which subsequent prize values are selected between a preceding prize value and either the upper prize value or the lower prize value.

WO 2005/008514 A1

ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declaration under Rule 4.17:

— *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*

Published:

— *with international search 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.