

12-31-2003

Form PTO-1595

(Rev. 10/02)

OMB No. 0651-0027 (exp. 6/30/2005)

Tab settings  $\Rightarrow \Rightarrow \Rightarrow$ 

R



102636566

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

## 1. Name of conveying party(ies):

MARTIN L. GRONBERG AND C. WADE CHAMBERS

12-17-03

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

## 3. Nature of conveyance:



Assignment



Merger



Security Agreement



Change of Name



Other \_\_\_\_\_

Execution Date: 7 Dec. 2001 and 12/20/2001

## 2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)

Name: America Online, Inc.

Internal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: 22000 AOL Way

City: Dulles State: VA Zip: 20166

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

## 4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: \_\_\_\_\_

A. Patent Application No.(s) 10/008,772

B. Patent No.(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Additional numbers attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

## 5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:

Name: Michael A. Glenn

Internal Address: Glenn Patent Group

Street Address: 3475 Edison Way, Ste. L

City: Menlo Park State: CA Zip: 94025

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: ☐

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41).....\$ 40.00



Enclosed



Authorized to be charged to deposit account

## 8. Deposit account number:

07-1445

DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

## 9. Signature.

Michael A. Glenn, Reg. No. 30,176

Name of Person Signing

Signature

12/17/2003

Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents: ☐ 3

12/31/2003 LMUELLER 00000009 071445

10000772

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:  
Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box Assignments  
Washington, D.C. 20231

01 FC:8021

40.00 BA

PATENT  
REEL: 014828 FRAME: 0593

## ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, We, MARTIN L. GRONBERG AND C. WADE CHAMBERS, hereinafter referred to as "ASSIGNORS", have invented certain new and useful improvements, as described and set forth in the below-identified application for United States Letters Patent:

**TITLE OF INVENTION: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR COMMERCE ITEM INFORMATION  
HOMOGENIZATION IN ELECTRONIC COMMERCE SYSTEM**

Filing Date: December 6, 2001 Serial No. 10/008,772

WHEREAS, America Online, Inc., having its principal place of business at 22000 AOL Way, Dulles, Virginia 20166 hereinafter referred to as "ASSIGNEE", is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title, and interest in the said invention and application and in any Letters Patent which may be granted with regard to the same;

NOW, THEREFORE, TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Be it known that, for One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration, ASSIGNORS have sold, assigned, and transferred, and by these presents does sell, assign, and transfer unto the said ASSIGNEE, and ASSIGNEE'S successors and assigns, all right, title, and interest in and to said invention, said application for United States Letters Patent and any Letters Patent which may be hereafter granted on the same in the United States and all countries throughout the world, including any divisions, renewals, continuations in whole or part, substitutions, conversions, reissues, revivals, prolongation, or extensions thereof, said interest to be held and enjoyed by said ASSIGNEE as fully and exclusively as it would have been held and enjoyed by said ASSIGNORS had this assignment and transfer not been made, for all time.

ASSIGNORS further agree that they will, without charge to said ASSIGNEE, but at ASSIGNEE'S expense, cooperate with ASSIGNEE in the prosecution of said application and/or applications, execute, verify, acknowledge, and deliver all such further papers, including applications for Letters Patent and for the reissue thereof, and instruments of assignment and transfer thereof, and will perform such other acts as ASSIGNEE may lawfully request, to obtain or maintain Letters Patent for said invention and improvement in any and all countries, and to vest title thereto in said ASSIGNEE, or ASSIGNEE'S successors and assigns.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, ASSIGNORS have hereunto signed their names to the assignment on the date indicated below.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MARTIN L. GRONBERG

7 Dec, 2001  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
C. WADE CHAMBERS

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

## ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, We, MARTIN L. GRONBERG AND C. WADE CHAMBERS, hereinafter referred to as "ASSIGNORS", have invented certain new and useful improvements, as described and set forth in the below-identified application for United States Letters Patent:

**TITLE OF INVENTION: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR COMMERCE ITEM INFORMATION  
HOMOGENIZATION IN ELECTRONIC COMMERCE SYSTEM**

Filing Date: December 6, 2001 Serial No. 10/008,772

WHEREAS, America Online, Inc., having its principal place of business at 22000 AOL Way, Dulles, Virginia 20166 hereinafter referred to as "ASSIGNEE", is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title, and interest in the said invention and application and in any Letters Patent which may be granted with regard to the same;

NOW, THEREFORE, TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Be it known that, for One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration, ASSIGNORS have sold, assigned, and transferred, and by these presents does sell, assign, and transfer unto the said ASSIGNEE, and ASSIGNEE'S successors and assigns, all right, title, and interest in and to said invention, said application for United States Letters Patent and any Letters Patent which may be hereafter granted on the same in the United States and all countries throughout the world, including any divisions, renewals, continuations in whole or part, substitutions, conversions, reissues, revivals, prolongation, or extensions thereof, said interest to be held and enjoyed by said ASSIGNEE as fully and exclusively as it would have been held and enjoyed by said ASSIGNORS had this assignment and transfer not been made, for all time.

ASSIGNORS further agree that they will, without charge to said ASSIGNEE, but at ASSIGNEE'S expense, cooperate with ASSIGNEE in the prosecution of said application and/or applications, execute, verify, acknowledge, and deliver all such further papers, including applications for Letters Patent and for the reissue thereof, and instruments of assignment and transfer thereof, and will perform such other acts as ASSIGNEE may lawfully request, to obtain or maintain Letters Patent for said invention and improvement in any and all countries, and to vest title thereto in said ASSIGNEE, or ASSIGNEE'S successors and assigns.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, ASSIGNORS have hereunto signed their names to the assignment on the date indicated below.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MARTIN L. GRONBERG

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
C. WADE CHAMBERS

12/20/01  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.


PCT/US02/39038

**Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of Item 5 of the first sheet)**

The technical features mentioned in the abstract do not include a reference sign between parentheses (PCT Rule 8.1(d)).

**NEW ABSTRACT**

A system for use in an online merchant system which includes a system for homogenizing (62) the format of received commerce item information from at least two distinct online entities (3), an aggregate database (32) for storing the homogenized commerce item information, and a user interface (69) that accesses the aggregate database (62) for query and retrieval of competitive commerce item information from the online entities (3) and displays it within a user's Web browser window. The system comprises a method and apparatus for associating a commerce item information tag (52) with each separate unit of commerce item information (33) that is received to the online merchant system, the commerce item information tag (52) enabling recording and reporting commerce metrics related to the commercial activity of a commerce item for sale through the online merchant system.



## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US02/39038

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC(7) : G06F 17/60

US CL : 705/26, 27

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 705/26, 27

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A ✓	US 6,292,894 B1 (CHIPMAN et al.) 18 September 2001.	
A ✓	US 4,992,940 A (DWORKIN) 12 February 1991.	
A ✓	US 5,283,731 A (LALONDE et al.) 01 February 1994.	
A ✓	US 6,014,644 A (ERICKSON) 11 January 2000.	

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

08 July 2003 (08.07.2003)

Date of mailing of the international search report

15 JUL 2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Box PCT  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703)305-3230

Authorized officer

Richard Chilcot

Telephone No. (703) 308-1113

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1998)

## NOTES TO FORM PCT/ISA/220

These Notes are intended to give the basic instructions concerning the filing of amendments under Article 19. The Notes are based on the requirements of the Patent Cooperation Treaty and of the Regulations and the Administrative Instructions under that Treaty. In case of discrepancy between these Notes and those requirements, the latter are applicable. For more detailed information, see also the PCT Applicant's Guide, a publication of WIPO.

In these Notes, "Article", "Rule" and "Section" refer to the provisions of the PCT, the PCT Regulations and the PCT Administrative Instructions, respectively.

### INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING AMENDMENTS UNDER ARTICLE 19

The applicant has, after having received the international search report, one opportunity to amend the claims of the international application. It should however be emphasized that, since all parts of the international application (claims, description and drawings) may be amended during the international preliminary examination procedure, there is usually no need to file amendments of the claims under Article 19 except where, e.g. the applicant wants the letter to be published for the purposes of provisional protection or has another reason for amending the claims before international publication. Furthermore, it should be emphasized that provisional protection is available in some States only.

**What parts of the international application may be amended ?**

The claims only.

The description and the drawings may only be amended during international preliminary examination under Chapter II.

**When ?** Within 2 months from the date of transmittal of the international search report or 16 months from the priority date, whichever time limit expires later. It should be noted, however, that the amendments will be considered as having been received on time if they are received by the International Bureau after the expiration of the applicable time limit but before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication (Rule 46.1).

**Where not to file the amendments ?**

The amendments may only be filed with the International Bureau and not with the receiving Office or the International Searching Authority (Rule 46.2).

Where a demand for international preliminary examination has been/is filed, see below.

**How ?** Either by cancelling one or more entire claims, by adding one or more new claims or by amending the text of one or more of the claims as filed.

A replacement sheet must be submitted for each sheet of the claims which, on account of an amendment or amendments, differs from the sheet originally filed.

All the claims appearing on a replacement sheet must be numbered in Arabic numerals. Where a claim is cancelled, no renumbering of the other claims is required. In all cases where claims are renumbered, they must be renumbered consecutively (Administrative Instructions, Section 205(b)).

**What documents must/may accompany the amendments ?**

Letter (Section 205(b)):

The amendments must be submitted with a letter.

The letter will not be published with the international application and the amended claims. It should not be confounded with the "Statement under Article 19(1)" (see below, under "Statement under Article 19(1)").

The letter must indicate the differences between the claims as filed and the claims as amended. It must, in particular, indicate, in connection with each claim appearing in the international application (it being understood that identical indications concerning several claims may be grouped), whether

- (i) the claim is unchanged;
- (ii) the claim is cancelled;
- (iii) the claim is new;
- (iv) the claim replaces one or more claims as filed;
- (v) the claim is the result of the division of a claim as filed.

NOTES TO FORM PCT/ISA/220 (continued)

The following examples illustrate the manner in which amendments must be explained in the accompanying letter:

1. [Where originally there were 48 claims and after amendment of some claims there are 51]:  
"Claims 1 to 29, 31, 32, 34, 35, 37 to 48 replaced by amended claims bearing the same numbers; claims 30, 33 and 36 unchanged; new claims 49 to 51 added."
2. [Where originally there were 15 claims and after amendment of all claims there are 11]:  
"Claims 1 to 15 replaced by amended claims 1 to 11."
3. [Where originally there were 14 claims and the amendments consist in cancelling some claims and in adding new claims]:  
"Claims 1 to 6 and 14 unchanged; claims 7 to 13 cancelled; new claims 15, 16 and 17 added." or  
"Claims 7 to 13 cancelled; new claims 15, 16 and 17 added; all other claims unchanged."
4. [Where various kinds of amendments are made]:  
"Claims 1-10 unchanged; claims 11 to 13, 18 and 19 cancelled; claims 14, 15 and 16 replaced by amended claim 14; claim 17 subdivided into amended claims 15, 16 and 17; new claims 20 and 21 added."

"Statement under Article 19(1)" (Rule 46.4)

The amendments may be accompanied by a statement explaining the amendments and indicating any impact that such amendments might have on the description and the drawings (which cannot be amended under Article 19(1)).

The statement will be published with the international application and the amended claims.

The statement should be brief, it should not exceed 500 words if in English or if translated into English.

It should not be confounded with and does not replace the letter indicating the differences between the claims as filed and as amended. It must be filed on a separate sheet and must be identified as such by a heading, preferably by using the words "Statement under Article 19(1)."

It should not contain any disparaging comments on the international search report or the relevance of citations contained in that report. Reference to citations, relevant to a given claim, contained in the international search report, may be made only in connection with an amendment of that claim.

In what language?

The amendments must be made in the language in which the international application is published. The letter and any statement accompanying the amendments must be in the same language as the international application if that language is English or French; otherwise, it must be in English or French, at the choice of the applicant.

Consequence if a demand for international preliminary examination has already been filed?

If, at the time of filing any amendments under Article 19, a demand for international preliminary examination has already been submitted, the applicant must preferably, at the same time of filing the amendments with the International Bureau, also file a copy of such amendments with the International Preliminary Examining Authority (see Rule 62.2(a), first sentence).

Consequence with regard to translation of the international application for entry into the national phase?

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that, where upon entry into the national phase, a translation of the claims as amended under Article 19 may have to be furnished to the designated/elected Offices, instead of, or in addition to, the translation of the claims as filed.

For further details on the requirements of each designated/elected Office, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.