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EXAMINER

*Rones, Charles*

ART UNIT                      PAPER NUMBER

*2175*

*12*

DATE MAILED: 09/16/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

*c/o Public Patent Foundation  
1375 Broadway, suite 600  
New York, NY 10018*

|  |                                   |   |  |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Office Action in Ex Parte Reexamination</b> | <b>Control No.</b><br>90/007,007  | <b>Patent Under Reexamination</b><br>MICROSOFT CORP |  |
|  | <b>Examiner</b><br>Charles Ronces | <b>Art Unit</b><br>2175                             |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

- a  Responsive to the communication(s) filed on 4-10-04.      b  This action is made FINAL.
- c  A statement under 37 CFR 1.530 has not been received from the patent owner.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 2 month(s) from the mailing date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in termination of the proceeding and issuance of an *ex parte* reexamination certificate in accordance with this action. 37 CFR 1.550(d). **EXTENSIONS OF TIME ARE GOVERNED BY 37 CFR 1.550(c).** If the period for response specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a response within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.

Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:

1.  Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892.      3.  Interview Summary, PTO-474.
2.  Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449.      4.  Detailed Office Action.

Part II SUMMARY OF ACTION

- 1a.  Claims 1-4 are subject to reexamination.
- 1b.  Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are not subject to reexamination.
2.  Claims \_\_\_\_\_ have been canceled in the present reexamination proceeding.
3.  Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are patentable and/or confirmed.
4.  Claims 1-4 are rejected.
5.  Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are objected to.
6.  The drawings, filed on 4-24-1995 are acceptable.
7.  The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ has been (7a)  approved (7b)  disapproved.
8.  Acknowledgment is made of the priority claim under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a)  All b)  Some\* c)  None of the certified copies have  
1  been received.  
2  not been received.  
3  been filed in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
4  been filed in reexamination Control No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
5  been received by the International Bureau in PCT application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
9.  Since the proceeding appears to be in condition for issuance of an *ex parte* reexamination certificate except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte* Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.
10.  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

cc: Requester (if third party requester)  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
PTOL-466 (Rev. 04-01)

Office Action in Ex Parte Reexamination

Part of Paper No. 09082004

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yasumatsu et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,307,494 ('Yasumatsu'), in view of Feigenbaum et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,367,671 ('Feigenbaum').

As to claim 1,

In a computer system (5) having a processor (deemed inherent in a computer system) running an operating system (program which operates on a computer system: See col. 2: lines 52-53) and

a memory means (See 3:17-18: Fig. 2: item 11) storing the operating system, a method comprising the computer-implemented (See Fig. 1; 2:40-56) steps of:

(a) storing in the memory means (11) a first directory entry (12) for a file wherein the first directory entry holds a short filename ("actual filename": 4) for the file, said short filename (4) including at most a maximum number of characters (predetermined length) that is permissible by the operating system; See 1:10-20;

(b) storing in the memory means (11) a second directory entry for a the file wherein the second directory entry holds a long filename ("provisional filename":2) for the file and said long filename (2) including more than the maximum number of characters that is permissible by the operating system; See 3:19-24; and

(c) accessing the first directory entry with the operating system; See Fig. 1; 2:50-53; 3:7-9.

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Yasumatsu discloses the claimed invention except for wherein the second directory entry includes an attributes field which may be set to make the second directory entry invisible to the operating system and the step of storing the second directory entry further comprises the step of setting the attributes field so that the second directory entry is invisible to the operating system.

Feigenbaum teaches that it is known to provide wherein the second directory entry includes an attributes field which may be set to make the second directory entry invisible to the operating system and the step of storing the second directory entry further comprises the step of setting the attributes field so that the second directory entry is invisible to the operating system.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide wherein the second directory entry includes an attributes field which may be set to make the second directory entry invisible to the operating system and the step of storing the second directory entry further comprises the step of setting the attributes field so that the second directory entry is invisible to the operating system as taught by Feigenbaum, since Feigenbaum states at column 6, lines 8-28 that such a modification would allow listings (directory entries/filenames) to use the standard DOS (disk operation system) attributes that define certain characteristics of the file including: dates and times ... and accessibility of the file as hidden or not hidden.

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As to claim 4,

In a computer system (5) having a processor (deemed inherent in a computer system) running an operating system (program which operates on a computer system: See col. 2: lines 52-53) and

a memory means ( See 3:17-18: Fig. 2: item 11) storing the operating system, a method comprising the computer-implemented (See Fig. 1; 2:40-56) steps of:

(a) storing in the memory means (11) a first directory entry (12) for a file wherein the first directory entry holds a short filename ("actual filename": 4) for the file, said short filename (4) including at most a maximum number of characters (predetermined length) that is permissible by the operating system; See 1:10-20;

(b) storing in the memory means (11) a second directory entry for a the file wherein the second directory entry holds a long filename ('provisional filename":2) for the file and said long filename (2) including more than the maximum number of characters that is permissible by the operating system; See 3:19-24; and

(c) accessing the first directory entry with the operating system; See Fig. 1; 2:50-53; 3:7-9;

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(d) storing in the memory means (11) at least one additional directory entry holding a next portion of the long filename (2) wherein the reserved section of the entry can provide a region for extension is deemed to be capable of holding a next portion of the long filename; See Figure 2; 3:42-43.

Yasumatsu discloses the claimed invention except for providing a signature that uniquely identifies which portion of the long filename.

Feigenbaum teaches that it is known to provide a (value) signature that uniquely identifies (each pointer designates a specific /unique location) which portion of the cluster (disk space allocation) wherein the long filename is an entry in the table (File Allocation Table).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for providing a signature that uniquely identifies which portion of the long filename as taught by Feigenbaum, since Feigenbaum states at column 7, lines 38-67 that such a modification would relative to each chain of clusters, the first cluster in the chain to be designated by the cluster pointer in the directory listing (entries) for the associated file name (long filename) and designate the File Allocation Table (FAT) location corresponding to the next cluster in the chain.

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Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yasumatsu et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,307,494 ('Yasumatsu'), in view of Ray Duncan, "Using Long Filenames and Extended Attributes, Part 2, (Power Programming Column Tutorial), PC Magazine, v9, n9, May 15, 1990 ('Duncan').

As to claim 1,

In a computer system (5) having a processor (deemed inherent in a computer system) running an operating system (program which operates on a computer system: See col. 2: lines 52-53) and

a memory means (See 3:17-18: Fig. 2: item 11) storing the operating system, a method comprising the computer-implemented (See Fig. 1; 2:40-56) steps of:

(a) storing in the memory means (11) a first directory entry (12) for a file wherein the first directory entry holds a short filename ("actual filename": 4) for the file, said short filename (4) including at most a maximum number of characters (predetermined length) that is permissible by the operating system; See 1:10-20;

(b) storing in the memory means (11) a second directory entry for a the file wherein the second directory entry holds a long filename ("provisional filename":2) for the file and said long filename (2) including more than the maximum number of characters that is permissible by the operating system; See 3:19-24; and



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(c) accessing the first directory entry with the operating system; See Fig. 1; 2:50-53; 3:7-9.

Yasumatsu discloses the claimed invention except for wherein the second directory entry includes an attributes field which may be set to make the second directory entry invisible to the operating system and the step of storing the second directory entry further comprises the step of setting the attributes field so that the second directory entry is invisible to the operating system. Garcia discloses having hidden (invisible) resource files wherein hidden directories would resultantly contain hidden files; See 2:25-27.

Duncan teaches that it is known to provide wherein the second directory entry includes an attributes field which may be set to make the second directory entry invisible to the operating system and the step of storing the second directory entry further comprises the step of setting the attributes field so that the second directory entry is invisible to the operating system.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide wherein the second directory entry includes an attributes field which may be set to make the second directory entry invisible to the operating system and the step of storing the second directory entry further comprises the step of setting the attributes field so that the second directory entry is invisible to the operating system as taught by Duncan, since Duncan states at page 2, paragraph 2, that such a modification would allow application programs to be "long-name-aware,"

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otherwise the OS/2 (IBM Operation System 2) file system will "hide" (make invisible) files with long names from it (application programs) in the interest of backward compatibility.

Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yasumatsu et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,307,494 ('Yasumatsu'), in view of Platteter et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,083,264 ('Platteter').

As to claim 2,

In a computer system (5) having a processor (deemed inherent in a computer system) running an operating system (program which operates on a computer system: See col. 2: lines 52-53) and

a memory means ( See 3:17-18: Fig. 2: item 11) storing the operating system, a method comprising the computer-implemented (See Fig. 1; 2:40-56) steps of:

(a) storing in the memory means (11) a first directory entry (12) for a file wherein the first directory entry holds a short filename ("actual filename": 4) for the file, said short filename (4) including at most a maximum number of characters (predetermined length) that is permissible by the operating system; See 1:10-20;

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(b) storing in the memory means a second directory entry for the file wherein the second directory entry holds a long filename (2) for the file; and said long filename including more than the maximum number of characters that is permissible by the operating system; and

(c) accessing the first directory entry with the operating system; See Fig. 1; 2:50-53; 3:7-9.

Yasumatsu discloses the claimed invention except for storing a checksum of the short filename in the second directory entry.

Platteter teaches that it is known to provide storing a checksum of the short (regular) filename (4) in the second directory entry.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide for storing a checksum of the short filename (4) in the second directory entry as taught by Platteter, since Platteter states at column 4, lines 45-50 and column 5, lines 16-24; that such a modification would allow file directories (entries) to contain a checksum (Figure 5: 248/252) which is used to insure that the directory (entries) is not corrupt.

As to claim 3,

In a computer system (5) having a processor (deemed inherent in a computer system) running an operating system (program which operates on a computer system: See col. 2: lines 52-53) and

a memory means ( See 3:17-18: Fig. 2: item 11) storing the operating system, a method comprising the computer-implemented (See Fig. 1; 2:40-56) steps of:

(a) storing in the memory means (11) a first directory entry (12) for a file wherein the first directory entry holds a short filename ("actual filename": 4) for the file, said short filename (4) including at most a maximum number of characters (predetermined length) that is permissible by the operating system; See 1:10-20;

(b) storing in the memory means (11) a second directory entry for a the file wherein the second directory entry holds a long filename ("provisional filename":2) for the file and said long filename (2) including more than the maximum number of characters that is permissible by the operating system; See 3:19-24; and

(c) accessing the first directory entry with the operating system; See Fig. 1; 2:50-53; 3:7-9;

(d) storing in the memory means (11) at least one additional directory entry holding a next portion of the long filename (2) wherein the reserved section of the entry can provide a region for extension is deemed to be capable of holding a next portion of the long filename; See Figure 2; 3:42-43.

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Yasumatsu discloses the claimed invention except for storing a checksum of the short filename in the second directory entry.

Platteter teaches that it is known to provide storing a checksum of the short (regular) filename (4) in the second directory entry.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide for storing a checksum of the short filename (4) in the second directory entry as taught by Platteter, since Platteter states at column 4, lines 45-50 and column 5, lines 16-24; that such a modification would allow file directories (entries) to contain a checksum (Figure 5: 248/252) which is used to insure that the directory (entries) is not corrupt.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Garcia et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,359,725 ('Garcia'), in view of Feigenbaum et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,367,671 ('Feigenbaum').

As to claim 1,

In a computer system (100) having a processor (102) running an operating system (program which operates on a computer system (MD-DOS or HFS: See col. 1: lines 11-14) and

a memory means (104) storing the operating system, a method comprising the computer-implemented (computer instructions: See 1:50-51) steps of:

(a) storing in the memory means (104) a first directory entry ("GUIDEDXX" in Table 1: See 2:60-65) for a file wherein the first directory entry holds a short filename ("GUIDEDXX") for the file, said short filename including at most a maximum number of characters (See 2:36-45) that is permissible by the operating system;

(b) storing in the memory means (104) a second directory entry for a the file wherein the second directory entry holds a long filename ("GUIDED\_TOUR" in Table 1: See 2:60-65) for the file and said long filename including more than the maximum number of characters that is permissible by the operating system; See 2:36-45; and

(c) accessing the first directory entry with the operating system; See 2:46-65.

Garcia discloses the claimed invention except for wherein the second directory entry includes an attributes field which may be set to make the second directory entry invisible to the operating system and the step of storing the second directory entry further comprises the step of setting the attributes field so that the second directory entry is invisible to the operating system. Garcia discloses having hidden (invisible) resource files wherein hidden directories would resultantly contain hidden files; See 2:25-27.

Feigenbaum teaches that it is known to provide wherein the second directory entry includes an attributes field which may be set to make the second directory entry invisible to the operating system and the step of storing the second directory entry further comprises the step of setting the attributes field so that the second directory entry is invisible to the operating system.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide wherein the second directory entry includes an attributes field which may be set to make the second directory entry invisible to the operating system and the step of storing the second directory entry further comprises the step of setting the attributes field so that the second directory entry is invisible to the operating system as taught by Feigenbaum, since Feigenbaum states at column 6, lines 8-28 that such a modification would allow listings (directory entries/filenames) to use the standard DOS (disk operation system) attributes that define certain characteristics of the file including: dates and times ... and accessibility of the file as hidden or not hidden.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Garcia et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,359,725 ('Garcia'), in view of Ray Duncan, "Using Long Filenames and Extended Attributes, Part 2, (Power Programming Column Tutorial), PC Magazine, v9, n9, May 15, 1990 ('Duncan').

As to claim 1,

In a computer system (100) having a processor (102) running an operating system (program which operates on a computer system (MD-DOS or HFS: See col. 1: lines 11-14) and

a memory means (104) storing the operating system, a method comprising the computer-implemented (computer instructions: See 1:50-51) steps of:

(a) storing in the memory means (104) a first directory entry ("GUIDEDXX" in Table 1: See 2:60-65) for a file wherein the first directory entry holds a short filename ("GUIDEDXX") for the file, said short filename including at most a maximum number of characters (See 2:36-45) that is permissible by the operating system;

(b) storing in the memory means (104) a second directory entry for a the file wherein the second directory entry holds a long filename ("GUIDED\_TOUR" in Table 1: See 2:60-65) for the file and said long filename including more than the maximum number of characters that is permissible by the operating system; See 2:36-45; and

(c) accessing the first directory entry with the operating system; See 2:46-65.

Garcia discloses the claimed invention except for wherein the second directory entry includes an attributes field which may be set to make the second directory entry invisible to the operating system and the step of storing the second directory entry



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further comprises the step of setting the attributes field so that the second directory entry is invisible to the operating system. Garcia discloses having hidden (invisible) resource files wherein hidden directories would resultantly contain hidden files; See 2:25-27.

Duncan teaches that it is known to provide wherein the second directory entry includes an attributes field which may be set to make the second directory entry invisible to the operating system and the step of storing the second directory entry further comprises the step of setting the attributes field so that the second directory entry is invisible to the operating system.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide wherein the second directory entry includes an attributes field which may be set to make the second directory entry invisible to the operating system and the step of storing the second directory entry further comprises the step of setting the attributes field so that the second directory entry is invisible to the operating system as taught by Duncan, since Duncan states at page 2, paragraph 2, that such a modification would allow application programs to be "long-name-aware," otherwise the OS/2 (IBM Operation System 2) file system will "hide" (make invisible) files with long names from it (application programs) in the interest of backward compatibility.

### **Conclusion**

In order to ensure full consideration of any amendments, affidavits or declarations, or other documents as evidence of patentability, such documents must be submitted in response to this Office action. Submissions after the next Office action, which is intended to be a final action, will be governed by the requirements of 37 CFR 1.116, which will be strictly enforced.

Extensions of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) will not be permitted in these proceedings because the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 apply only to "an applicant" and not to parties in a reexamination proceeding. Additionally, 35 U.S.C. 305 requires that reexamination proceedings "will be conducted with special dispatch" (37 CFR 1.550(a)). Extension of time in *ex parte* reexamination proceedings are provided for in 37 CFR 1.550(c).

The patent owner is reminded of the continuing responsibility under 37 CFR 1.565(a) to apprise the Office of any litigation activity, or other prior or concurrent proceeding, involving Patent No. 5,579,517 throughout the course of this reexamination proceeding. The third party requester is also reminded of the ability to similarly apprise the Office of any such activity or proceeding throughout the course of this reexamination proceeding. See MPEP §§ 2207, 2282 and 2286.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles Rones whose telephone number is 703-306-3030. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 9am-4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dov Popovici can be reached on 703-305-3830.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Charles Rones  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2175

September 14, 2004