



(43) International Publication Date  
28 November 2013 (28.11.2013)

- (51) International Patent Classification:  
G06Q 30/00 (2012.01)
- (21) International Application Number:  
PCT/US2013/042043
- (22) International Filing Date:  
21 May 2013 (21.05.2013)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:  
61/650,195 22 May 2012 (22.05.2012) US
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BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

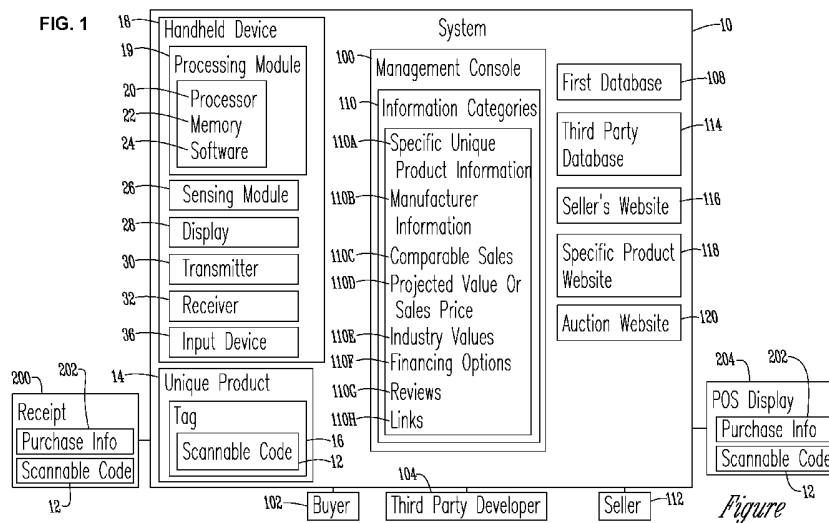
Published:

— with international search report (Art. 21(3))

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY,

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:  
18 June 2015

(54) Title: SCANNABLE CODE AND METHOD OF USE



(57) Abstract: A system for using a scannable code for use with unique products. A tag is produced having a scannable code thereon. The tag is affixed to a unique product. The scannable code is scanned by a handheld device, such as a smartphone. The handheld device deciphers the scannable code and accesses information about the unique product through a wireless electronic network. This information is presented to the user through a display on the handheld device. This system provides the advantage of instantaneously providing the user with pertinent information about the unique product that was previously unavailable without direction interaction with a sales person. The system also involves providing a receipt with a scannable code and scanning the scannable code using a handheld device thereby eliminating the need for or use of a physical receipt.

WO 2013/177174 A3

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US2013/042043

<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> IPC(8) - G06Q 30/00 (2013.01) USPC - 705/26.1 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b> Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC(8) - G06F 17/30; G07G 1/00; G06Q 20/00, 30/00 (2013.01) USPC - 705/14.38, 705/26.1, 705/26.3, 705/26.8 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched CPC - G06Q 30/02, 330/06, 30/0601, 20/20 (2013.01) Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) PatBase, Google Patents, ProQuest		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2012/0085828 A1 (ZIEGLER) 12 April 2012 (12.04.2012) entire document	1-12
Y	US 2004/0158502 A1 (ADAMS et al) 12 August 2004 (12.08.2004) entire document	1-12
Y	WO 2010/141656 A1 (KELLER) 09 December 2010 (09.12.2010) entire document	6
Y	US 2008/0189201 A1 (REDMARD et al) 07 August 2008 (07.08.2008) entire document	10-12
A	US 2012/0006891 A1 (ZHOU et al) 12 January 2012 (12.01.2012) entire document	13-18
A	US 2003/0004750 A1 (TERAOKA et al) 02 January 2003 (02.01.2003) entire document	13-18
A	US 6,540,143 B1 (MATSUMORI) 01 April 2003 (01.04.2003) entire document	13-18
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/>		
* Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date "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) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "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 "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 "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 "&" document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 04 November 2013		Date of mailing of the international search report <b>12 NOV 2013</b>
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. 571-273-3201		Authorized officer: Blaine R. Copenheaver PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300 PCT OSP: 571-272-7774

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US2013/042043

## Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2.  Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
  
3.  Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

See extra sheet.

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:  
1-12

### Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US2013/042043

Box No. III. Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be examined, the appropriate additional examination fees must be paid.

Group I, claims 1-12, drawn to a method of selling a unique product.

Group II, claims 13-18, drawn to a method of streamlining the process of handling receipts.

The inventions listed as Groups I-II do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: the special technical feature of the Group I invention: selling a unique product comprising making a tag which includes a unique code, associating the tag with merchandise through management console, scanning the code by a buyer and displaying information regarding the product on display of buyer's handheld device as claimed therein is not present in the invention of Group II. The special technical feature of the Group II invention: streamlining the process of handling receipts, comprising issuing a receipt with product information and a scannable code that is scanned, processed and stored into user accessible form as claimed therein is not present in the invention of Groups I.

Since none of the special technical features of the Group I or II inventions are found in more than one of the inventions, unity of invention is lacking.