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Design of Web Portal - A Case Study

Portals are created by institutions, industries and agencies for facilitating and enabling accessing vast amounts of information through computer networks. However, portals are found a little difficult to manage by many as skilled persons are needed to manage them. An invention "Portal server that provides a customizable user interface for access to computer networks" was awarded a US patent on December, 2001; this invention is claimed to be highly user friendly.

Background and Prior Art

A browser permits a user to connect to a given network site and download informational content from that site e.g., an HTML document, for display at user's computers. To view additional information, or a different type of information, the user designates a new network address whose contents then replace the previously displayed information on the user's computer.

To alleviate the need to navigate from one network to another to view different informational content, portals are employed. A portal is an entry point or gateway for access to internet websites. One of the prominent advantages of a portal is the fact that information stored at a plurality of different network addresses, including different sites, can be simultaneously viewed on the display, rather than limiting the user to information from one site at a time. Many companies and organizations provide different types of portals for a variety of purposes including portals for general public, intranet portals for their employees and extranet portals for their

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Hague Agreement on Industrial Designs

The Hague Agreement Concerning the International Deposit of Industrial Designs first came into existence in 1925. The Agreement aims at providing a mechanism for securing protection of an industrial design in all the member countries by means of an international deposit. The international deposit could be in the form of the industrial product or drawing or photograph or any other graphic representation of the said design. The duration of protection was 15 years from the date of deposit, this term is divided in two periods namely, one period of five years and the other of ten years. This Agreement is now being implemented by the WIPO.

A Diplomatic Conference was held in June and July 1999 to bring out some amendments in the Hague Agreement. The revised agreement will come into effect after it has been ratified by six of the initial signatory nations to the Agreement. The idea is to provide a way through which a single design application can give rights to protection for that design in member countries. The international design application must designate countries where protection will be sought. The designated countries can refuse to award design rights, if the application does not meet the requirements of national laws. The Agreement does not lay down any particular standards for registrability of the design, leaving this to national laws. Once registered the international registration will have the

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customers, vendors, suppliers and other parties with whom they transact business.

The portal systems available at the time of filing this patent had some drawbacks (i) the portal server could work only with limited number of operating systems and web servers, (ii) time for installation of a portal and putting it to use was large, could take weeks and (iii) user could not change the look and feel aspect of the portal.

The present invention addresses all these issues.

Summary of the invention

The portal server provides services through a library of object oriented classes such as classes in the Java programming language developed by Sun Microsystems, that gives access to various databases, web servers, scripting environments and mail services.

At the user interface level, the portal server presents an initial view, or front page, that comprises a plurality of modules that are positioned in a predetermined layout. Each module represents a resource of a particular type that can be accessed by the user utilizing the portal. Some of the modules can be user-selectable, whereas others may be mandatory elements of the portal, as determined by an administrator, for example. Similarly, some aspects of the layout may be user-controllable, while others are fixed. The modular nature of the portal enables the various resources to be readily and independently updated by the entities who provide them, without affecting other features of the portal.

In another aspect of the invention, the portal server includes an administration interface that enables an administrator to select from various look-and-feel templates, as well as control access to site information and services. A variety of customizations can be done to the portal without requiring programming skills. At the same time, however, script writers can change pages, and programmers can extend functionality through additional classes.

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same effect as a national design registration in those designated countries that have not refused grant for national registration. Other main features of the revised agreement/ treaty are:-

1. International design protection will be available to nationals of a contracting country, domiciled in a contracting country or have industrial or commercial establishment in a contracting state.
2. An international design application may be filed either at the applicant's national office or directly with the International Bureau of WIPO.
3. Two dimensional designs (textile designs) would be eligible for protection.
4. A formalities examination will be carried out by the International Bureau and then the application will be published if it is found to satisfy the formalities. The publication will be made six months after the registration. This can be deferred to 30 months in some special cases.
5. The International Bureau will, after the registration, send a copy of the application to each of the designated countries. These countries have to inform the Bureau within six months if national requirements are not met. However, countries that examine design applications for novelty or where opposition system exists, this time is increased to 12 months.
6. Multiple designs may be included in the same application. It is however, required that all products to which such designs relate must be in the same class under the Locarno classification.

It can be seen that there are some similarities with the PCT system for patent applications. India is not yet a member of the Hague Agreement and hence, the above provisions or description may not be of immediate relevance to us. However, there is a strong need to monitor the developments in this area.

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Web Portal...

As a result, individual businesses and other entities can exercise complete ownership of their portals, from a hosting, branding and design perspective. The features and advantages of the present invention that offer these capabilities are described in detail hereinafter. The software programs that underlie the invention can be coded in different languages, for use with different platforms.

Description of the invention

A general depiction of a networked computer system in which the present invention can be implemented is given in Fig. 1.

In essence, the computer system enables individual users of communication devices 10, including personal computers 10a, workstations 10b, web access devices 10c, and the like, to view informational content provided by various servers 12a-12n. The communication devices 10 are connected to the servers 12 by means of a suitable communications network 14, such as a local area network, a wide area network, the internet, or the like. To view the content provided by the servers, the devices 10 run a browser application 16. At the servers 12, the available

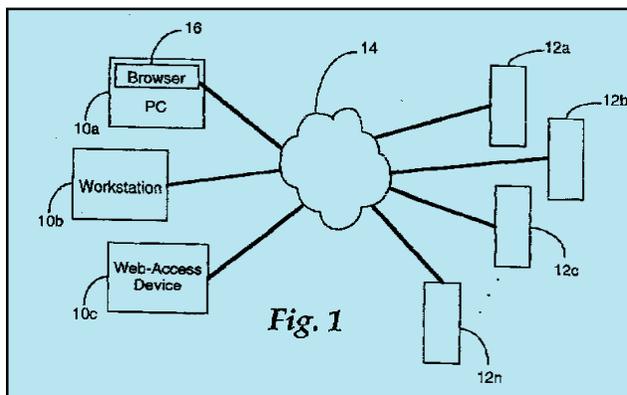


Fig. 1

content and services are stored on suitable storage media, such as magnetic or optical disk drives, in a format that is capable of being read by the browser applications, such as HTML or XML. Typically, each segment of information that can be accessed at once, e.g. file, is referred to as a web page and has an associated network address. Thus, by entering a particular address in a browser

application, the user is presented with one page of information that is stored at a particular server. A collection of web pages that related to a common topic and are interlinked with one another may form a web site.

Fig. 2 is a portal display that incorporates the features of the present invention.

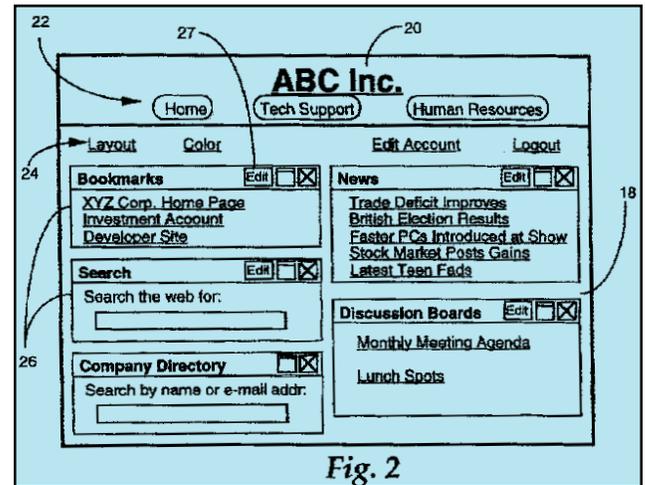


Fig. 2

The portal comprises an HTML web page 18, identified as a "front page". In essence, each page presents a predetermined layout of encapsulated modules containing the resources that are available to the user.

The server consists of process management services that are provided by a web server and suitable class libraries. These libraries connect to other servers and use other resources as needed, including a data store which provides object persistence via a suitable database interface. In one exemplary embodiment of the invention, this functionality might be provided by a JDBC interface over a SQL database. In another embodiment based upon a LDAP environment, user management can be provided via JNDI over LDAP. The server can connect to other network resources, for example to acquire information from the internet or an intranet.

An object-oriented software system consists of software objects. A software object represents an actor within an overall system design. Such actors may correspond to real-world concepts, or may exist purely to support the overall design. Software objects encapsulate the data and logical processes

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of the actor. This encapsulation makes objects easy to use, because the user of an object need not know how the object performs its processes. Software objects are also extensible: other objects can be built on top of existing objects, allowing the new object to expand the concept of the old object without having to rewrite the functionality. These properties of software objects make object-oriented systems flexible and extensible.

An object model comprises a collection of objects that work together in documented relationships. The objects that make up the portal server architecture include Components, Managers and Services, Modules, Views, Pages and Page Ordering, Layouts, Users, Permissions, Content Parsers, Data Storage and Tasks.

Managers and Services perform similar functions, but in slightly different and complementary ways. A Manager encapsulates details for handling the creation and manipulation of a set of objects. A Service can encapsulate any identifiable Application Programming Interface (API) within the portal server. Managers can be implemented as Services within the portal server; however, Services are not restricted to being Manager implementations. Both Managers and Services are not restricted to being Manager implementations. Both Managers and Services allow for run-time replacement of their implementation with specific

versions adapted to user-specific needs.

To be useful to a broad range of portal providers, a portal framework must easily allow different implementations of key services. Services such as user management, flexible schema storage, and search engines are likely to be different for different portals. To facilitate a high degree of customization, the portal server includes technology for allowing configuration-data driven resolution of service implementations within the portal server. This technology provides a means of allowing runtime resolution of the specific class used to implement the service, as well as configuration of all its properties.

Modules are objects that encapsulate a specific, bounded portion of content at a network address, and allow that portion to be administered as a unit. For example, a module might display news, sports scores, stock quotes, or weather forecasts.

Views are the means by which the portal server isolates the presentation logic so that it can be more easily customized. Examples of views are the front page of a portal, where the module is displayed within a box or other graphical region (as shown in FIG. 2); the page where a user customizes a module (for example, selects news categories or stocks of interest); and the page where the portal administrator customizes the global properties of a module. A new view object is created for

each HTTP request.

Properties are associated with modules to determine which modules users can access, which ones they can customize, which ones they cannot remove from their front pages, and which ones they can minimize on their front pages. For instance, in the example of FIG. 2, the "Company Directory" module does not include an edit button 27, so that the user is not able to edit its content.

One of the significant advantages of the portal framework of the present invention is the fact that the resources that are made available to the user via the modules can come from a variety of third-party sources. Consequently, however, the content for the modules may be largely unstructured, which can be problematic when it is to be made available for manipulation and display within the portal. To this end, therefore, a parsing technology is employed for retrieving data from external web sites and various other sources, translating the data into XML, and returning structured results as objects for use by other entities, such as modules. A Content Parsing object is used for executing a transaction script and obtaining the results produced by it. The Content Parsing Manager class, which manages Content Parsing objects, can be instantiated by a web server or called directly using code.

A portal is supported by an extensible database schema at

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the data storage tier of the overall architecture so that new data storage requirements do not in turn require a database administrator to modify the structure of underlying tables. The Data Storage object is a dynamically extensible, hierarchical data store, consisting of folders and documents, that enables modules to be developed that can store their own custom persistent properties, without having an impact on the overall schema.

Identifying information about registered site users is stored in a database. A registration page enables new users to be added to the database; a login page enables users to identify themselves to the portal server by entering their user name and password. The login information can be stored as a browser cookie so that users don't have to log in each time they visit a site.

Once a user has been registered, that user's front page is displayed via the browser application, for example as depicted in FIG. 2. Each module generates HTML, which the front page displays at that module's spot, as designated by the layout. A module displays various sets of information. A module provides these display capabilities by having a separate "view" object in charge of each type of display.

1. One such features is its platform independence. The

portal server can work with UNIX, Linux, and Windows NT, as well as with leading web servers, application servers, and database. Further advantage lie in the fact that installation is rapid.

2. An entire working portal can be up and running very quickly: in hours or days, rather than weeks or months that were required prior to the invention.
3. Organizations can at their own pace, change all aspects of the look and feel of the portal, integrate their own content, and use the portal server's development tools to extend out-of-the box functionality. The portal server is preferably based on Java, JSP, JDBC, XML, and other standards based technologies, thereby promoting integration with existing systems and reducing required learning time.

Claims:

The patent has in all, 12 claims; claims 1 and 5 are reported below:-

1. A portal server framework for providing a portal on a computer network, comprising; a software class configured to instantiate an information object, the information object encapsulating information; and, a permission class configured to instantiate a first permission object, the first permission object defining a first set of users having

access to, and a first set of administrative privileges associated with, the information object;

wherein the first set of administrative privileges includes permission to instantiate a second permission object, the second permission object defining a second set of users having access to the information object;

whereby, upon installation on the network, the classes are executable by a processor on the computer network.

2. A method of providing a portal server on the computer network, the method comprising;

providing a software class configured to instantiate an information object, the information object encapsulating information; and providing a permission class configured to instantiate a first permission object, the first permission object defining a first set of users having access to, and a first set of administrative privileges associated with, the information object;

wherein the first set of administrative privileges includes permission to instantiate a second permission object, the second permission object defining a second set of users having access to the information object; and

whereby the classes are executable by a processor on the computer network.

Case Law

Wrong declaration of applicant status- Leads to patent abandonment

There are various kinds of fees associated with a patent like filing fee, grant fee and maintenance fee. The patent acts of different countries have prescribed certain period in the act during which the fees for a particular action has to be paid. There are also provisions in the acts for extension of such periods by few months. For a patent to be valid it has to qualify the patentability criteria but along with it, the patent holder has to maintain it by paying correct maintenance fee. Government fees for filing a patent application and subsequent actions like maintenance of a patent, are dependent on the type of entity which has the ownership of the patent. According to the Indian Patent Act an individual has to pay Rs. 1500 as filing fee and a legal entity Rs. 5000. Similarly in USA, the filing fees for a small entity is US\$ 370 and that for a large entity is US\$ 740.

A small entity according to Canadian Patent Rules is defined as an individual, a university or an entity employing upto 50 employees. *This definition ceases to be valid if the invention is licensed to a party other than a small entity.* By virtue of small entity status, the firm may enjoy certain benefits like reduction in maintenance fees by 50%. Most importantly, fees has to be paid within the prescribed time limits. Presented below is a case decided in Canada wherein a patent was abandoned due to non payment of prescribed fees.

Dutch Industries Ltd was a firm of small entity status when it filed the patent application with the Canadian Patent Office. So it paid all fees including maintenance fee according to the requirements prescribed for a small entity firm.

Sometimes later, the status of the Dutch Industries changed from small entity to a large entity as the company licensed the invention to a large entity. The point where the company erred was that it continued to pay the maintenance fees as a small entity for several years. After the patent was granted, the company noticed this mistake and tried to correct it by paying “top-up” payments to the Patent Office. The Patent Office accepted the fees but the Federal Court of Canada ruled that failure to pay the right fees, on time, will result in patent applications being deemed abandoned. The Court further held that under the Canadian patent practice, it is possible to reinstate an abandoned application within 12 months of the

date of abandonment. While in the case of Dutch Industries the prescribed reinstatement fee and the “top up” payments were not submitted within 12 months after the first incorrect fee was paid, so there was no valid application to support the granting of the patent.

Also the Patent Commissioner did not have the jurisdiction to accept the top-up payments. Finally the patent application was abandoned.

Hence, it appears that whenever, an entity as an owner of a patent shifts from the category of small entity to large entity, the entity (patent owner) should start paying higher maintenance fees.

Some Questions on Designs

Is it mandatory to make the article by industrial process or means before making an application for registration of design?

No, design means a conception or suggestion or idea of a shape or pattern which can be applied to an article or intended to be applied by industrial process or means.

Why is it important to file the application at the earliest?

First to file rule is applicable for registrability of design. If two or more applications relating to an identical or a similar design are filed on different dates, *the first application will be considered for registration of design.*

Can the same applicant make an application for the same design again, if the prior application has been abandoned?

Yes, the same applicant can apply again since no publication of the abandoned application is made by the Patent Office, provided the applicant does not publish the said design in the meanwhile.

Are the registered designs open for public inspection?

Yes, registered designs are open for public inspection only after publication in the official gazette on payment of prescribed fee of Rs 500/- on a request in Form-5.

Is it essential to file an application through an attorney?

The application for registration of design can be filed by the applicant himself or through a professional person (i.e patent agent, legal practitioner). However, for the applicants not resident of India, an agent residing in India has to be employed.

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Patents for Opposition

The following patent applications have been accepted by the Patent Office and published in the Gazette of India. These can now be opposed by filing opposition applications within a period of four months from the dates given. Six digit numbers allotted after acceptance by the Patent Office are given before the applicant names and patent application numbers given in brackets. Names of the branches of the Patent Office are denoted in the application number, e.g. 'Bom' for Bombay branch. An opposition application should be submitted at the appropriate office where the concerned application was originally filed.

PATENT APPLICANTS	INVENTION
A. April 6, 2002	
187351. The Procter & Gamble Co, USA (406/Del/92)	A detergent composition
187352. CSIR, New Delhi (921/Del/92)	A process for the manufacture of cementitious light weight aggregate from thermal power plant ash
187353. Karm Home Appliances Pvt Ltd, Delhi (595/Del/92)	Food warming device
187354. CSIR, New Delhi (292/Del/93)	An improved naphtha reforming process for the preparation of a mixture of hydrocarbon rich in aromatics
187355. General Electric Co, USA (410/Del/93)	A cooling system for power converter for a traction vehicle
187356. Voest Alpine Industieania - Genbau Gmbh, Austria (503/Del/93)	A process for the manufacture of directly reduced iron oxide-containing particulate ore material by the fluidized bed method and a plant therefor
187357. Advanced Materials Technologies Pte Ltd, Singapore (564/Del/93)	A method of forming a metal injection - moulded article
187358. Comptoir -Lyon-Alemadn-Louyot, France (781/Del/93)	A thread structure
187359. The Procter & Gamble Co, USA (853/Del/93)	A liquid aqueous detergent composition
187360. CSIR, New Delhi (908/Del/93)	A process for the preparation of processed non-melting thermally stable liquid crystalline polymers
187361. Kameshwar Nath Mallik, New Delhi (679/Del/93)	A fuel additive
187362. Allied Signal Europe Service Techniques, France (968/Del/93)	Boosted brake device for a motor vehicle
187363. Bal Krishan Gupta Vikaram Gupta Aditya Gupta., New Delhi (1013/Del/93)	A device for detecting and measuring lek in an I p gas
187364. National Power Hill Business Park, United Kingdom (1107/Del/93)	An electrochemical apparatus for power delivery utilising -an air electrode
187365. Motorola Inc, USA (1149/Del/93)	A radio system
187366. Tencel Limited, United Kingdom (1146/Del/93)	A process for the manufacture of solvent cellulose fibre
187367. CSIR, New Delhi (1265/Del/93)	A lithium-antimony oxide cell

Domestic News

Lupin Laboratories is going in a big way to produce generic drugs. Lupin Laboratories has filed two abbreviated new drug applications (ANDS) with USFDA for ceftriaxone injection and cefotaxime injection in the cephalosporins segment. Both are patented injections. The patent for ceftriaxone injection (brand name Rocephin) is currently with Hoffman-La Roche Inc and is due to expire in July 2005. Presently this injection has a global market of \$ 1.3 billion. The patent for cefotaxime (brand name Claforan) which was with Aventis has already expired. This injection has a market size of \$ 56 million.

(Business Standard, 17 April 2002)

Among the public sectors in India, Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd has geared up for in-house protection of intellectual property. Several efforts are being initiated for filing patents. During the last fiscal year, BHEL filed 13 patents. It also filed two patents each in the US, Russia, Brazil, Iran and Turkey and also one copyright during the same period.

(Business Line, 13 April, 2002)

Reliance Life Sciences has filed 4 patents applications in the area of molecular diagnostics. The technologies deal primarily with DNA-based testing for infectious disease. Reliance Life Sciences is one of the few companies in India doing research in medical, plant and industrial biotechnology.

(The Economic Times, 20 April

2002)

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187368. Sulzer Chemtech Ag, Switzerland (1268/Del/93)	A crown element
187369. The Procter & Gamble Co, USA (1367/Del/63)	A laundry detergent bar composition
187370. CSIR, India (1458/Del/93)	A process for the preparation of activated carbon
B. April 13, 2002	
187371. De La Rue Giori S A, France (242/Del/94)	Counting apparatus for counting the notes
187372. CSIR, New Delhi (354/Del/94)	A device for loading/unloading of waste garbage/materials
187373. International Business Machines Corp, USA (390/Del/94)	A key board assembly
187374. CSIR, New Delhi (628/Del/94)	An improved process for the preparation of photo crosslinkable polymers
187375. Steel Authority Of India Ltd, New Delhi (1045/Del/94)	An improved process for producing high formable dual-phase 17 percent chromium containing ferric stainless steel
187376. Lomax Technologies Inc, Canada (166/Del/95)	Process for manufacturing meat analogs
187377. Rohm GmbH, Germany (1611/Del/95)	A process for the preparation of a thermoplastic material
187378. Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi (2472/Del/96)	A process for extracting starch from cassava tuber
187379. Panacea Biotec Ltd, New Delhi (792/Del/96)	Process for the production of a synergistic anti-spasmodic composition
187380. Montari Industries Ltd, New Delhi (2228/Del/98)	An improved process for preparing ir-cl-2 2-dimethyl-3-(1 -hydroxy-2 2 2-tribromo ethyl)-cyclopropane carboxylic acid (bromoacid)
187381. Wago Verwaltungsgesellschaft, Germany (200/Cal/96)	An unlocking device for use with a housing for electrical terminals modules installation equipment or the like
187382. Memminger-Iro GmbH, Germany (203/Cal/96)	A thread feeding device for supplying elastic threads in particular bare spandex to a knitting station of knitting machine and a method of manufacture of fabric by supplying elastic thread to a knitting station
188383. Siemens Medical Systems Inc, USA (440/Cal/96)	An apparatus for providing an extended field of view (xfov) image
178384. Daewoo Electronics Co Ltd, Korea (549/Cal/96)	A digital video signal encoder
178385. Daewoo Electronics Co Ltd, Korea (552/Cal/96)	Runlength coding apparatus for use in a video signal encoding system
178386. Vinodrai Vandravandas Barchha, Kolkata (578/Cal/96)	Burner and pressure stove incorporating the same
178387. Siemens Aktiengesellschaft, Germany (636/Cal/96)	A method of forming a coated body of a metal substrate for high temperature protection and a coated body of a metal substrate so produced
178388. Nur Advanced Technologies Ltd, Israel (638/Cal/96)	A printing system
178389. Mistuba Corp, Japan (938/Cal/96)	An engine starter
178390. Vertex Pharmaceuticals, USA (1547/Cal/98)	Process for preparing compounds processing neuronal activity

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Domestic News

Preparations are on for obtaining geographical indication (GI) for Darjeeling tea. The Tea Board in association with the Commerce and Industry Ministry is preparing the ground to protect GI for Darjeeling tea by putting in place a trade mark certification scheme.

(The Financial Express, 12 April 2002)

A formal mechanism, to enable R&D institutions to accept at least a part of their licensing fee as equity shares of the company which licenses their know how or technology, may soon be developed. Such a policy change would be an incentive to convert their know how while it still has some market value into much-needed additional funds for research. It would also reduce their current overwhelming dependence on government for funds and open additional sources of revenue.

(The Economic Times, 13 April, 2002)

A three-day international seminar on "Systems for Protection of Traditional Knowledge" from April 3-5, 2002 was organised in Delhi by the Commerce Ministry in Association with UNCTAD. Representatives attended the seminar from Brazil, Cambodia, Chile, Columbia, Cuba, Egypt, Kenya, Peru, Philippines, Sri Lanka, India and Thailand. While inaugurating the seminar, Commerce and Industry Minister, Shri Murali Manan called for a development coalition of biodiversity rich countries for

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178391. Digital Equipment Corp, USA (684/Del/91)	A digital computer system
178392. Digital Equipment Corp, USA (691/Del/91)	A computer system for deleting a cross domain call
178393. Delsey Society, France (1229/Del/92)	A pulling device for baggage with wheels
178394. G S Jain & Associates Pvt Ltd, New Delhi (0771/Del/93)	A device for drilling and boring of bores in the earth strata
178395. Khurshid Ahmad, India (00772/Del/93)	A mesh skin grafting apparatus
178396. Bergwerksverband Gmbh, Germany (813/Del/93)	Device for regulating the gas pressure of a coke oven retort
178397. The Procter & Gamble Co, USA (818/Del/93)	Detergent additives
178398. Seema Bhatjiwalw, Saharanpur (0901/Del/93)	A device for measuring freshness of the pulp online
178399. Honda Giken Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha, Japan (943/Del/93)	A taillight mounting device for a motorcycle
178400. Hercules Incorporated A Corp, USA (1527/Del/94)	A non nutritious multiple use pectin composition
C. April 20, 2002	
187401. Digital Equipment Corp, USA (692/Del/91)	A debugging device for use in a computer system
187402. Henry Chi Chuen Yuen, USA (878/Del/92)	Apparatus for using compressed codes for controlling the recording of television programs
187403. Mahesh Chand Gupta, India (530/Del/93)	Improved process for the insulation of electric conductors
187404. Arun Kumar Kashyap, Sabyasachi Sinharay et.al, Faridabad (574/Del/93)	An improved process for the preparation of star shaped block copolymers of isoprene and styrene
187405. CSIR, New Delhi (192/Del/93)	An improved process for producing matrix board useful for making rubber stereo plate
187406. Lexmark International Inc, USA (622/Del/93)	A self adjusting paper decurler
187407. The Procter & Gamble Co, USA (0725/Del/93)	A single laminae cellulosic fibrous artifact
187408. Showa Denko, Japan (738/Del/93)	Process for producing acetic acid
187409. General Electric Comp, USA (0841/Del/93)	A mounting arrangement for a single shaft gas steam combined cycle system
187410. International Business Machines Corp, USA (849/Del/93)	A personal computer apparatus
187411. The Procter & Gamble Co, A Corp, USA (0854/Del/93)	An absorbent article packed individually
187412. Northern Engineering Industries Plc, England (900/Del/93)	A burner nozzle for a fossil fuel and air mixture
187413. Rawell Group Holdings Limited, England (920/Del/93)	A method of making a water proofing laminate and the laminate thereof
187414. The Procter & Gamble Co, USA (957/Del/93)	An absorbent paper containing a chemical softening composition
187415. The Procter & Gamble Co, USA (983/Del/93)	An absorbent article
187416. Dowmus Pty Ltd, Australia (1023/Del/93)	A method for producing purified water which is free of biological contaminants from waste water

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Domestic News

evolving an internationally agreed instrument that recognises national-level systems to protect traditional knowledge. He further said that coalition should provide necessary impetus to the work already under way in various inter-governmental fora in this regard.

(Financial Express, 5 April 2002)

International News

To create greater awareness among the youth about the protection and use of creative works, the Copyright Society of the USA launched Copyright Awareness Week in April 2002. The campaign mainly focussed the students and educators. Copyright society members were called upon to address schools, colleges, universities, libraries and other organisations.

(Copyright World, April 2002)

A new pressure group called Digitalconsumer.org has been launched to help protect consumer's rights to unlimited personal, non commercial use of legally purchased copyrighted materials. The group mainly aims to get Congress to pass a six-point Consumer Technology Bill of Rights.

(Copyright World, April 2002)

The new Copyright Contract Law of Germany grants the author a statutory right to compensation and provides rules for collective compensation. Substantial changes have been made to the 'bestseller' provision

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187417. Modi Xerox Limited, India (1026/Del/93)	A process for the recovery of a mixture of selenium arsenic and tellurium from the mask strip effluent
187418. EVG Entwicklungs U, Austria (1077/Del/93)	Building element
187419. CSIR, New Delhi (1085/Del/93)	A process for preparation of a novel macroporous glycidyl copolymers beads useful as matrix for anchoring hydrophobic biomolecules
187420. CSIR, New Delhi (1237/Del/93)	An improved process for the preparation of semiconducting selenide films useful for fabricating solar cells and other semiconducting devices
187421. BM Birla Science & Technology Center, India (657/Del/93)	A device for driving a wheel chair
187422. CSIR, New Delhi (907/Del/93)	An improved process for the preparation of silicon wafer containing tungsten disulfide film useful for making integrated circuits and similar devices
187423. Honda Giken Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha A Corp, Japan (942/Del/93)	A carrier device for motor bicycle
187424. Honda Giken Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha A Corp, Japan (945/Del/93)	Headlight mounting device
187425. Cogifer Compagnie Generale D Installations Ferroviaires, France (1015/Del/93)	Seat for the movable point in a cradle or a crossing frog and process for the production of said seat
187426. Anfilco Limited, India (1041/Del/93)	An air filter for high capacity engines
187427. Colgate Palmolive Co, USA (1047/Del/93)	An improved hair conditioning composition
187428. Motorola Inc A Corp, USA (1109/Del/93)	An improved differential reference modulator apparatus for use in a frequency synthesizer
187429. Richard Voss Grubenausbau GmbH, Germany (1114/Del/93)	Pressure limiting valve for hydraulic support in underground mining and tunnel construction
187430. Buehler Ag A Swiss Co, Switzerland (1215/Del/93)	A device for the continuous damping of free flowing foodstuff
C. April 27, 2002	
187431. Hindustan Lever Limited, India (90/Bom/1996)	Cleaning composition comprising saturated dialkyl cationic surfactants
187432. United Phosphorus Ltd, Maharashtra (506/Bom/1998)	A process for the preparation of a synergistic insecticidal composition of cypermethrin and quinalphos
187433. Cipla Limited A Co, India (638/Bom/1999)	A novel process for the synthesis of sildenafil
187434. Sulphur Mills Limited, Maharashtra (644/Bom/1999)	Improved process of manufacturing fungicide composition of copper oxychloride in the dry flowable form
187435. Sulphur Mills Limited, Maharashtra (645/Bom/1999)	An improved process of manufacturing bactericide composition from copper oxychloride in the dry flowable form
187436. Sulphur Mills Limited, Maharashtra (646/Bom/1999)	Improved process of manufacturing fungicide composition of copper oxychloride in the dry flowable form
187437. Sulphur Mills Limited, Maharashtra (647/Bom/1999)	An improved process of manufacturing of fungicide composition from copper oxychloride in the dry flowable form

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International News

of the German Copyright Act.
(Copyright World, April 2002)

A new monthly magazine titled 'Media World' has been launched by UK publishers, Informa Law. The magazine provides insight on issues facing the world of media and entertainment. The contents of magazine include media contracts, legal developments, rental rights, privacy and data protection, antipiracy, censorship, breach of confidence and other topics. The magazine has a yearly subscription of US \$ 416. More information about the magazine can be accessed from www.informalaw.com

Very soon Canada is likely to conform to the Patent Cooperation Treaty. This has been possible in the light of the amendments made in the Canadian Patent Act in April 2002.

A basic framework on national intellectual property strategy is on the anvil in Japan. The aim of the patent policy-making panel is to transform Japan into knowledge oriented nation.

Lithuania now provides supplementary protection certificates for the owners of patents on pharmaceutical and plant protection products. Supplementary protection certificate grants extended protection for up to additional five years to patents granted for active ingredients of a medicine or active substances of a plant protection product. Application for the supplementary protection

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187438. Indofil Chemicals Co, India (670/Bom/1999)	A process of preparing a fungicidal composition with improved suspension properties
187439. Cipla Limited A Co, India (977/Bom/1999)	Process for preparing new polymorphic forms of olanzapine
187440. Indian Oil Corp Ltd, India (140/Bom/1996)	A process for oligomerising alpha olefins of refinery stream
187441. CSIR, New Delhi (1241/Del/93)	An improved process for the preparation of beneficiated ilmenite
187442. Bayer Aktiengesellschaft Germany (1249/Del/93)	Process for preparing [5 amino 2 (2 hydroxyethylamino) phenyl] (2 hydroxy ethyl) sulphone
187443. Honda Giken Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha, Japan (1300/Del/93)	A battery residual capacity measuring apparatus
187444. Honda Giken Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha, Japan (1429/Del/93)	Shroud for the intake of cooling air in an air cooled internal combustion engine
187445. The Director Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (286/Del/94)	Instrument for measuring wind velocity
187446. Imperial Chemical Industries Plc, United Kingdom (298/Del/94)	A process for the production of difluoromethane
187447. CSIR, New (320/Del/94)	A double walled battery container for improved performance of magnesium organic battery at sub zero (upto 40 degree c) temperatures
187448. Hampshire Chemical Corp, USA (0009/Del/98)	A process for preparing an alpha amino carboxylic acid amides
187449. Swami Dr Hariram Acharaya, Rajasthan (0730/Del/98)	A process for preparation of a novel ayurvedic medicinal composition useful for the treatment of jaundice
187450. Bayer Aktiengesellschaft, Germany (113/Del/97)	Process for the preparation of halogenopyrimidines
187451. EIN Engineering Co Ltd, Japan (1496/Cal/95)	Synthetic wood meal and method and apparatus for manufacturing the same
187452. Philipps Petroleum Co, USA (7/Cal/96)	A heat exchange apparatus
187453. Universite De Sherbrooke of University Boulevard, Canada (198/Cal/9)6book	A device for conducting a search in a code book
187454. Saint Gobin Vitrage, France (418/Cal/96)	Window pane ready to be mounted by adhesive bonding and demounted from a window opening particularly a motor vehicle window pane
187455. Horstmann Timers & Controls Limited, Slovenia (420/Cal/96)	Electricity measurement apparatus
187456. Daewoo Electronics Co Ltd, Korea (551/Cal/96)	A variable length coder using two VLC tables
187457. Ishikawajima Harima Heavy Industries Co, Australia (810/Cal/96)	A method of continuously casting steel strip
187458. Daewoo Electronics Co Ltd, Korea (616/Cal/96)	A fan guard for use in a freezing chamber of a refrigerator
187459. Refel Spa, Italy (664/Cal/96)	A mold assembly for the production of a block shaped component made of electrocast refractory structure
187460. EIN Engineering Co Ltd, Japan (31/Cal/2000)	Method and apparatus for the manufacture of a synthetic wood board and a synthetic board manufactured thereby

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International News

certificate has to be lodged with the Lithuanian State Patent Bureau within six months from the date on which the placement authorisation was issued, or the date on which patent was granted.

(Patent World, April 2002)

In an on-going trend of celebrities going for patenting, a Hollywood star, Jamie Lee Curtis has been granted a US patent on 'baby wipe diaper'. Manufacturers like Procter & Gamble have shown interest in the new nappy idea.

(The Times of India, 9 April, 2002)

A patent has been awarded to three inventors in Stanford for a credit card with a sensor that triggers a circuit to flash lights or beep sounds to attract attention when the wallet containing that credit card is opened. The card has a sensor that detects physical changes around it. The card can emit different tones or phrases or intermittent pulses of light or light pulse, produced according to predetermined pattern. The system is powered by a solar cell or a thin film lithium battery. A switch is provided for the system to be set for sound or light.

(The Times of India, 9 April, 2002)

For the first time Australian Trademark Office has registered a form of "moving" characters trademark. The trademark offers one of the M & M's brand character in a number of different poses.

Litigation Watch

Samsung Electronics has filed a patent infringement lawsuit against SanDisk Corp in the US District Court for allegedly infringing four patents. Samsung is seeking a preliminary and permanent injunction against unnamed SanDisk products as well as damages, attorney's fees and cost of the lawsuit.

A French company Sanofi-Synthelabo has filed a patent infringement lawsuit against Apotex Inc and Apotex Corp for infringing two of its patents relating to Plavix blood-clot drug. Dr Reddy's Laboratories has also filed an application to manufacture a generic version of Plavix. Sanofi also has plans to drag Dr Reddy's Labs to the court in near future.

Amazon.com Inc and Barnes & Noble.com Inc have settled a patent infringement lawsuit over Amazon's one-click technology. The suit alleged that Barnes & Noble.com was illegally copying technology that allows customers to return to a site and shop with one mouse - click without re-entering personal data.

Domain manager Afilias has recovered thousands of domain names such as science.info and www.cocacola.info from squatters who used false trademark claims to reserve them.

The Delhi High Court has restrained cigarette manufactures NTC Tobacco India Ltd and Chandamama Press Pvt Ltd from selling inferior quality cigarettes using the famous Lexington trademark of Rothmans International and the artistic features on the latter's cigarette packet.

The Delhi High Court has rejected an application for injunction filed by Pfizer's Products Inc against

the use of the brand name 'Penegra' and diamond-shaped tablets by Zydus Cadila.

Dimminaco AG, a Swiss company, applied for an Indian patent for a process involving the manufacture of a vaccine for infectious bursitis in poultry. The Assistant Controller of Patents & Designs refused to accept the application on the grounds that the patent application did not constitute an invention under the act as the end-product of the process contained a living organism. According to the Controller, the definition of manufacture does not mean and include a living organism. However, the Kolkata High Court rejecting the order of the Patent Office concluded that since the word manufacture has not been defined in the Act, the dictionary meaning shall apply if the end-product is a commercial entity. Also there is no statutory bar in the Act to accept a manner of manufacture as patentable even if the end product contains a living organism. Finally the Dimminaco's patent application has been accepted by the Controller of Patents & Designs.

PFC on the move

PFC organised two patent awareness workshops in the month of April 2002. First workshop was held at regional Engineering College, Jalandhar in association with Patent Information Centre, Chandigarh, Punjab on April 18, 2002. The workshop was attended by about 110 engineers from the state of Punjab and also scientists, academicians and industrialists from Jalandhar. Second workshop was organised at Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi on April 26 in association with Patent Information Centre, Lucknow, UP. About 120 delegates attended this workshop.

Please send us questions and topics you would like to see in the coming issues

NEXT ISSUE

- **Case Study**
- **Case Law**
- **Patents for Opposition**

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