

EXHIBIT F

(12) **United States Patent**
Foygel

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(45) **Date of Patent:** **Feb. 28, 2006**

(54) **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING
WORK LOAD DISTRIBUTION AMONG A
PLURALITY OF IMAGE OUTPUT DEVICES**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **10/726,453**

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(65) **Prior Publication Data**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**
G06F 7/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **700/213**; 399/8

(58) **Field of Classification Search** 700/213;
399/8, 75, 82; 270/1.01, 1.02
See application file for complete search history.

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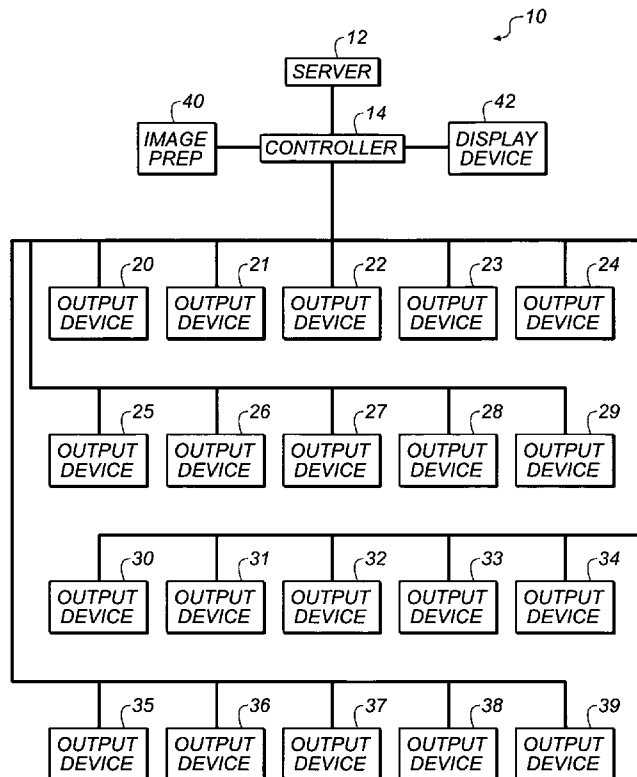
Primary Examiner—Khoi H. Tran

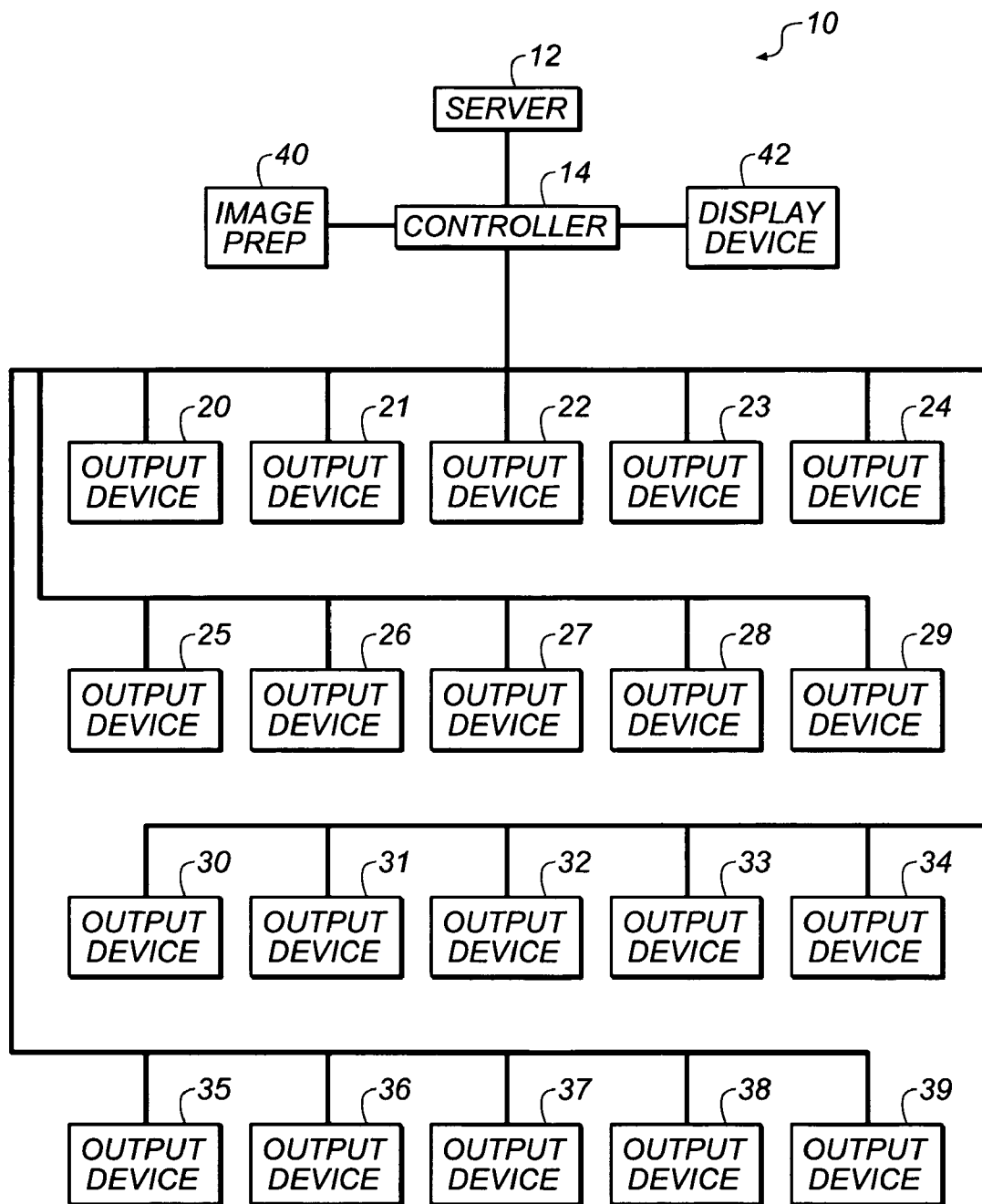
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method, system, and computer software program for controlling operation of a photofinishing lab having a plurality of output devices for producing a plurality of different output products for a plurality of different job orders wherein each of the output devices capable of outputting one or more of the plurality of different output products. The system includes a controller for monitoring and controlling operations of the plurality of different output devices with respect to the job orders in queue. A display device connected to the controller displays the operational status of each of the plurality of the output devices in a predetermined format. The controller producing a visual indication when the operational efficiency reaches a predetermined criteria and automatically adjusting the operational status of at least one of the plurality of output devices or prep device for in response to reaching the predetermined criterion.

12 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets



**FIG. 1**

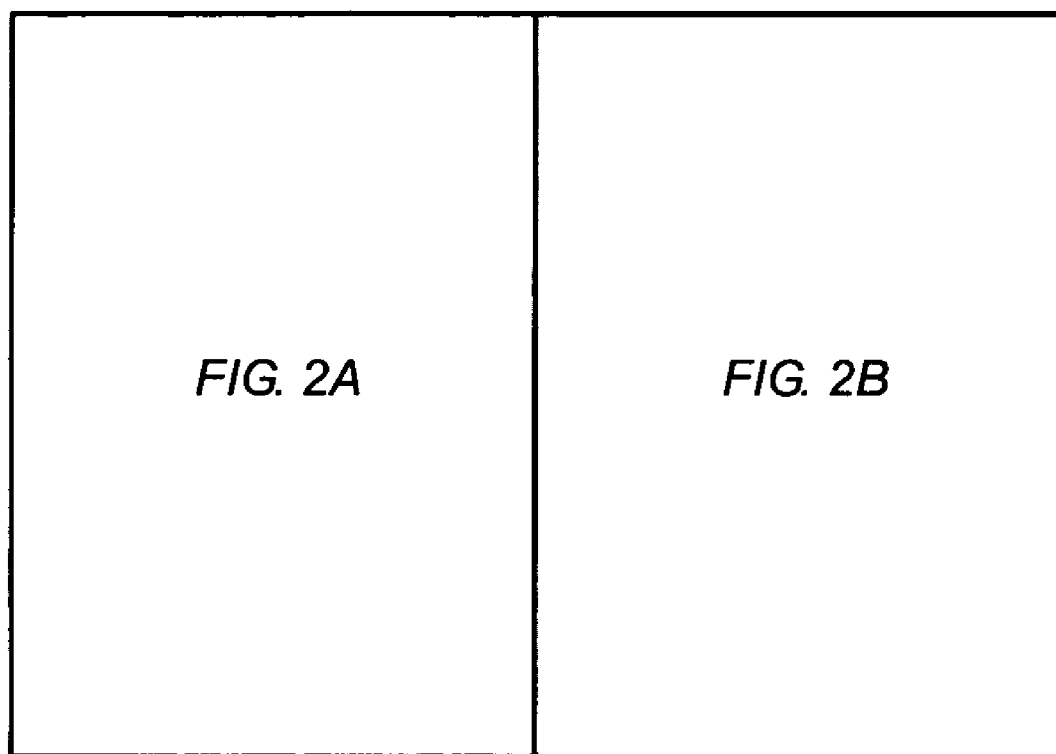


FIG. 2

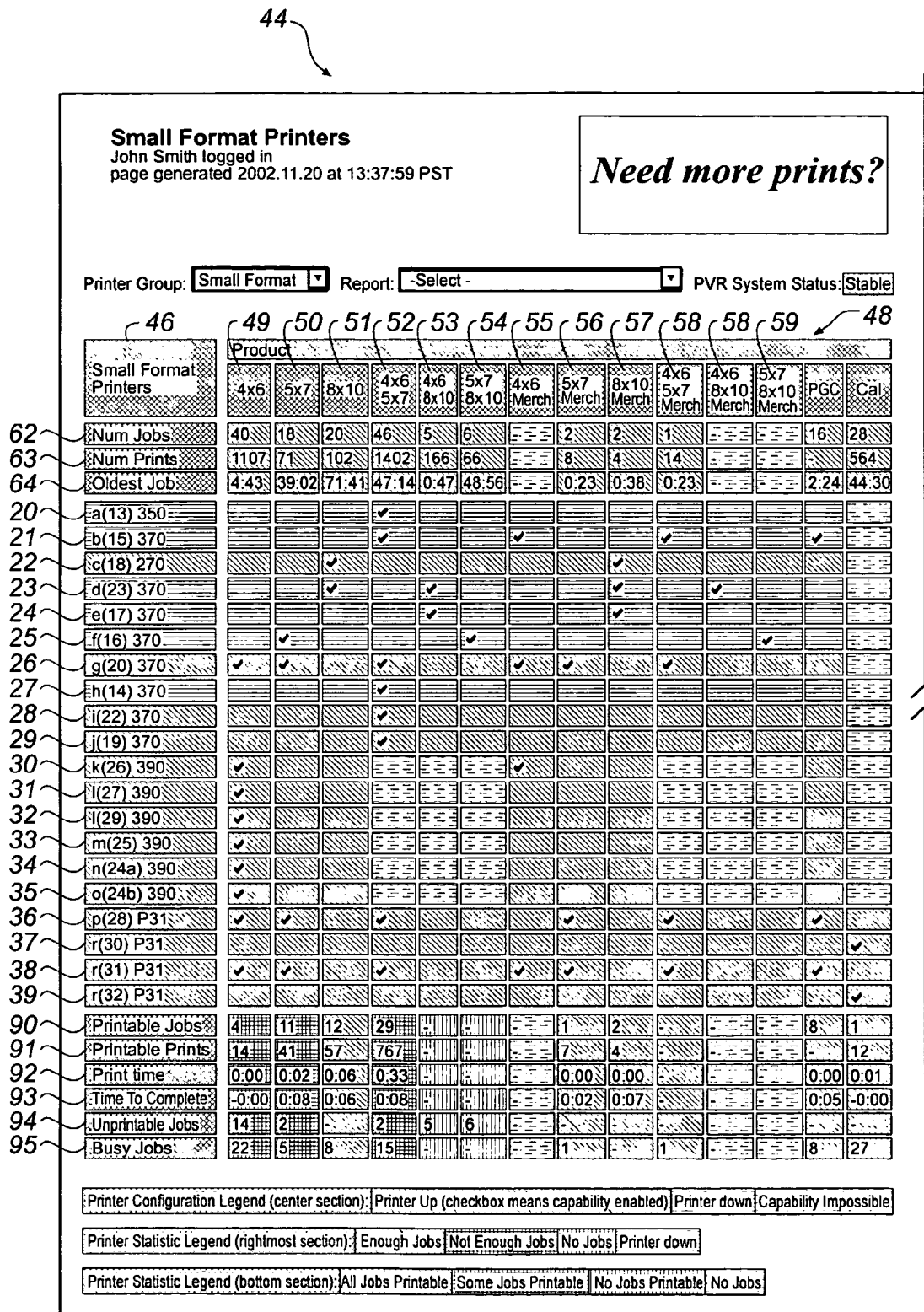


FIG. 2A

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