



US008365221B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Schlarb et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 8,365,221 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Jan. 29, 2013**

(54) **SELECTIVE SEARCH AND DISPLAY FOR CATEGORIZED CHANNELS IN A SUBSCRIBER TELEVISION SYSTEM**

(76) Inventors: **John M. Schlarb**, Alpharetta, GA (US);
Arturo A. Rodriguez, Norcross, GA (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 248 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **12/351,256**

(22) Filed: **Jan. 9, 2009**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2009/0119713 A1 May 7, 2009

Related U.S. Application Data

(60) Division of application No. 09/709,167, filed on Nov. 10, 2000, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/071,602, filed on May 1, 1998, now Pat. No. 6,243,145.

(51) **Int. Cl.**

G06F 3/00 (2006.01)

G06F 13/00 (2006.01)

H04N 5/445 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **725/45; 725/40; 725/44; 725/46; 725/47; 725/52; 725/56; 725/61**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **725/40, 725/44-47, 52, 56, 61**
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,353,121 A * 10/1994 Young et al. 725/52
5,532,754 A * 7/1996 Young et al. 725/47
5,585,865 A * 12/1996 Amano et al. 725/14
5,589,892 A * 12/1996 Knee et al. 725/43
5,619,249 A 4/1997 Billock et al.
5,673,089 A * 9/1997 Yuen et al. 725/38

6,005,631 A 12/1999 Anderson et al.
6,163,345 A 12/2000 Noguchi et al.
6,243,145 B1 6/2001 Schlarb et al. 348/906
6,367,078 B1 * 4/2002 Lasky 725/52
6,445,306 B1 * 9/2002 Trovato et al. 340/825.24
6,445,754 B1 9/2002 Itoi
6,760,537 B2 * 7/2004 Mankovitz 386/83
8,321,891 11/2012 Schlarb et al.
2009/0119714 A1 5/2009 Schlarb et al. 725/47

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EP 0 790 738 A2 8/1997
WO 97/49242 12/1997

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

U.S. Official Action mailed Jan. 7, 2009 in U.S. Appl. No. 09/709,167.

U.S. Official Action mailed Aug. 11, 2009 in U.S. Appl. No. 09/709,167.

U.S. Official Action mailed Jan. 22, 2010 in U.S. Appl. No. 09/709,167.

U.S. Official Action mailed Mar. 4, 2010 in U.S. Appl. No. 12/351,254.

U.S. Official Action mailed Aug. 26, 2010 in U.S. Appl. No. 12/351,254, 13 pages.

* cited by examiner

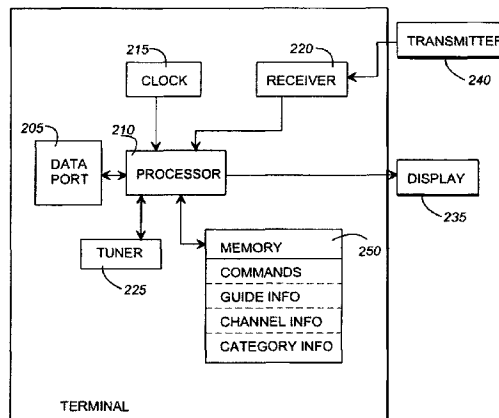
Primary Examiner — Jason Salce

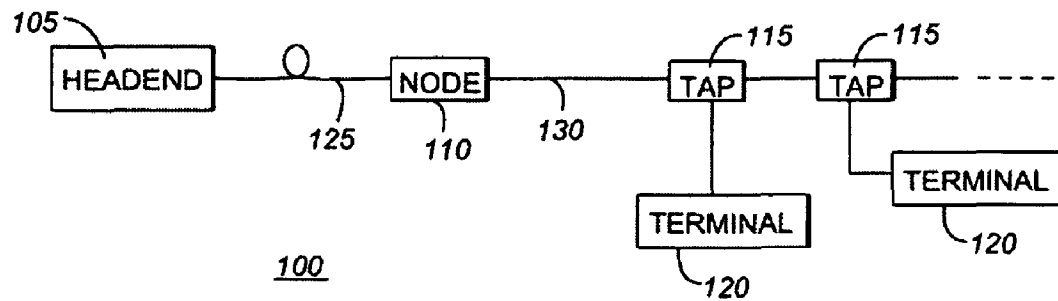
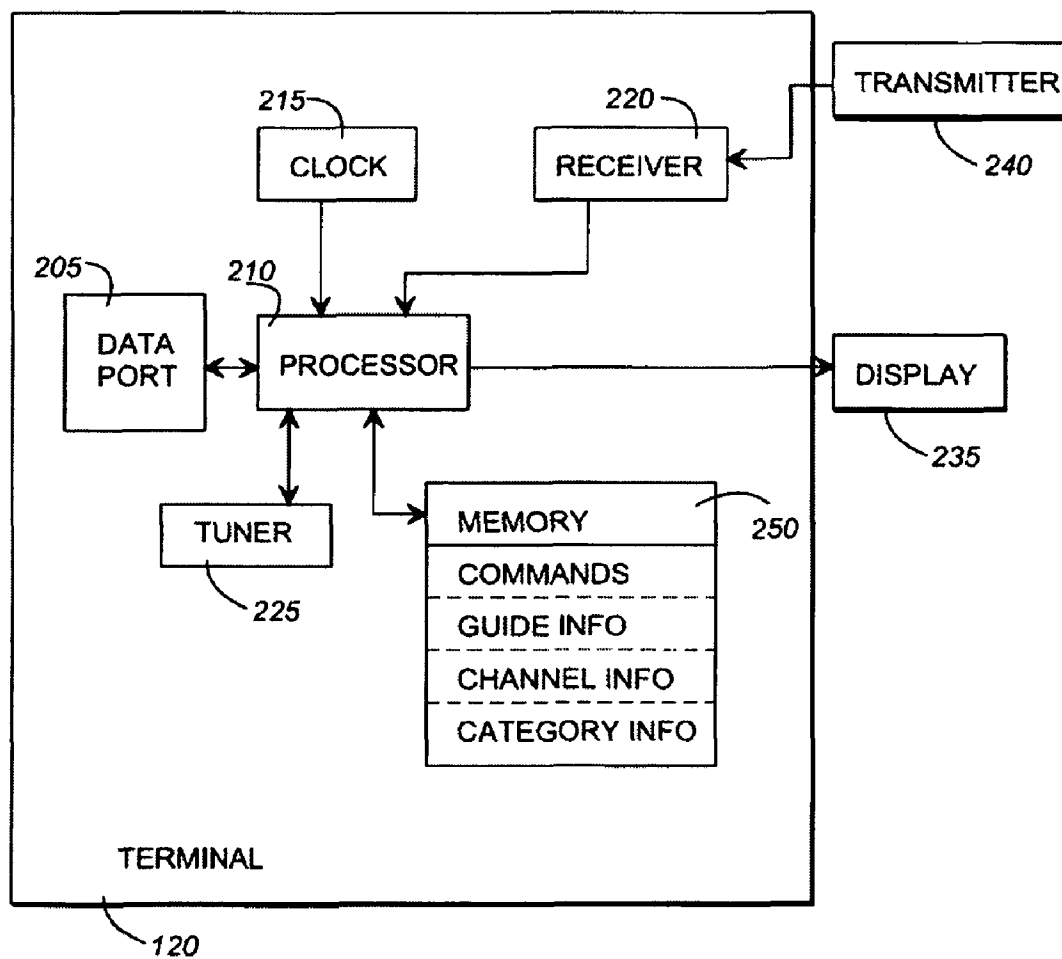
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Merchant & Gould

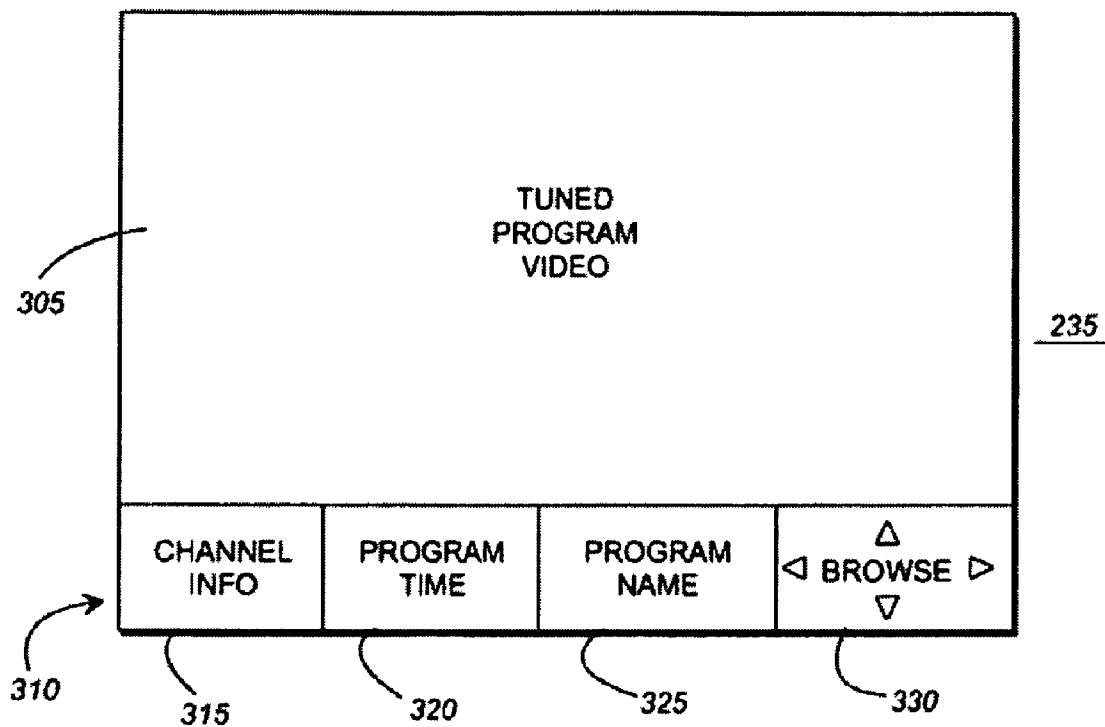
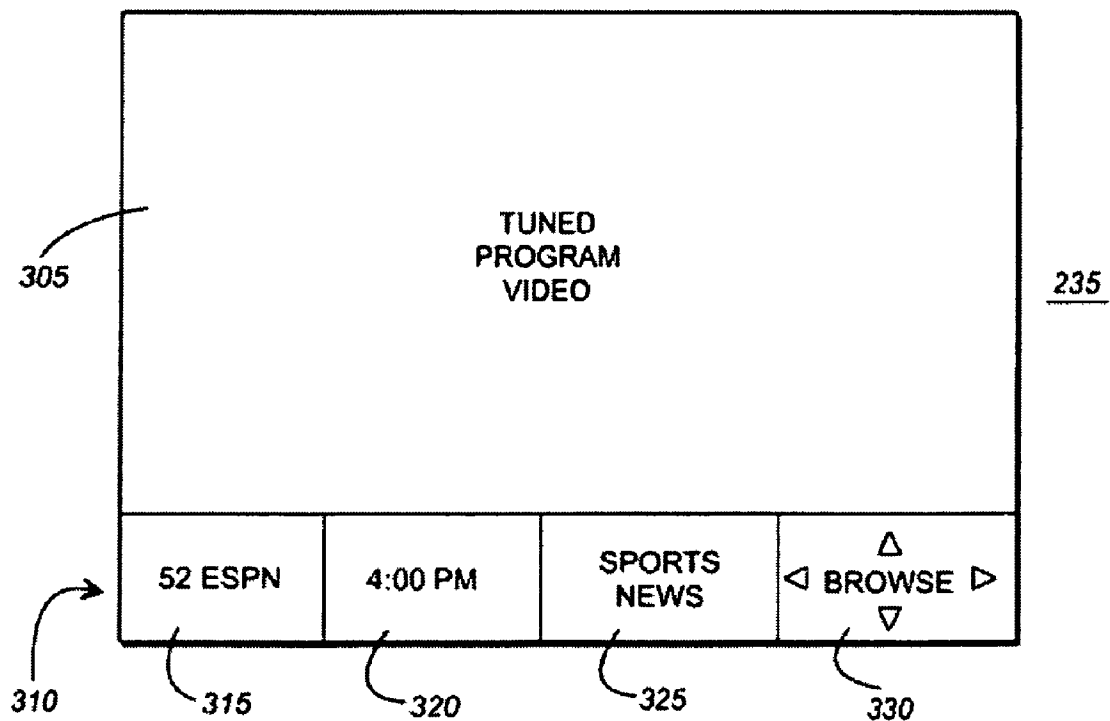
(57) **ABSTRACT**

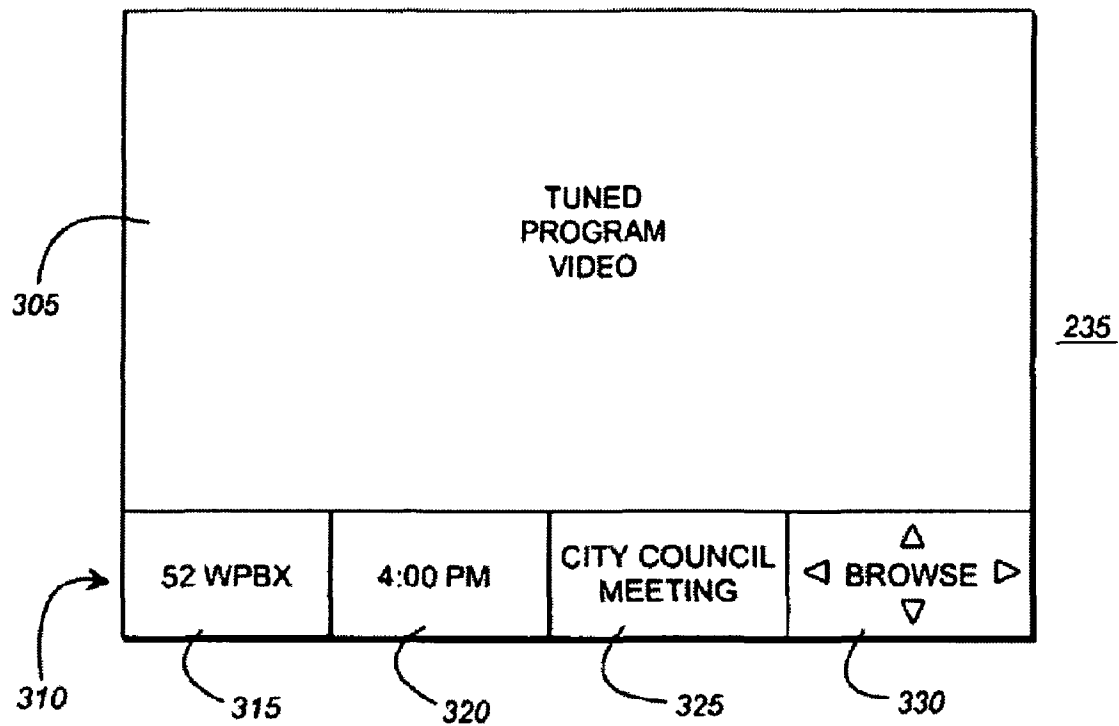
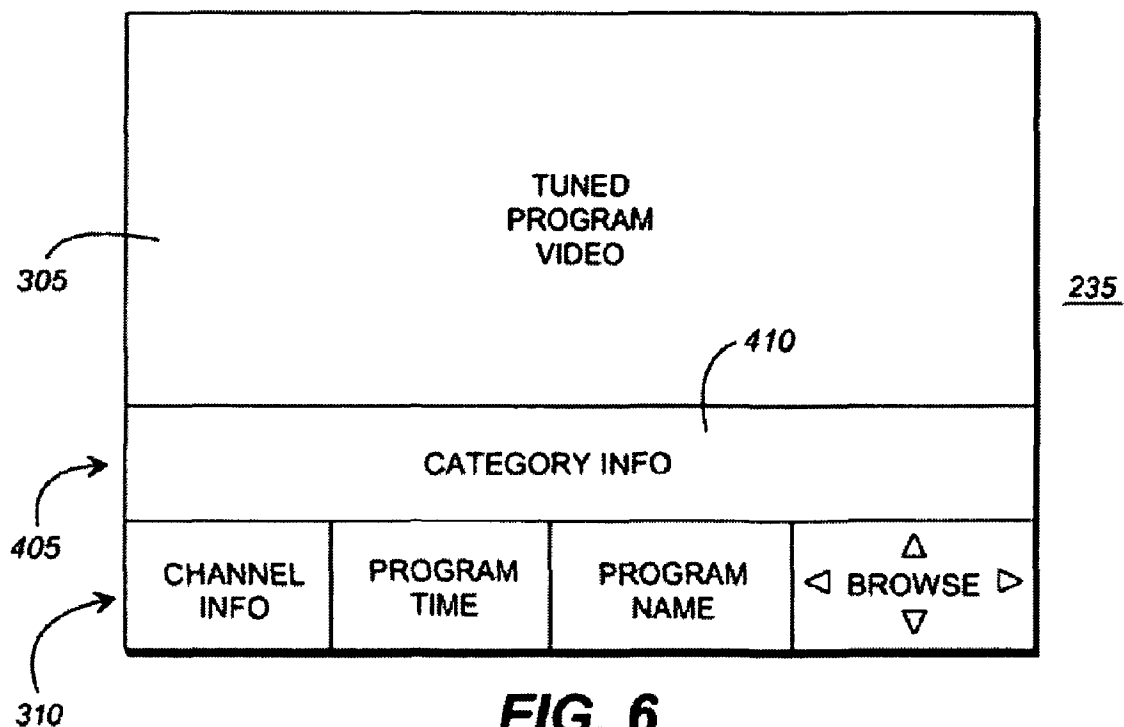
In a subscriber television system, assigning categories to a channel as an entity reduces the searching requirements associated with searching a database of thousands of individual program records, identifying the channel on which an identified program will be displayed, and then sorting the resultant information. The channel information is searched for the assigned category information and the associated program information for just those channels is retrieved. This reduces the processor requirements for searching the thousands of records in the program records database. With the reduced processor requirements and the increased efficiency of information organization for searching, a single machine state change is possible between viewing full screen video and a browse banner or between viewing full screen program information and video with a browse banner.

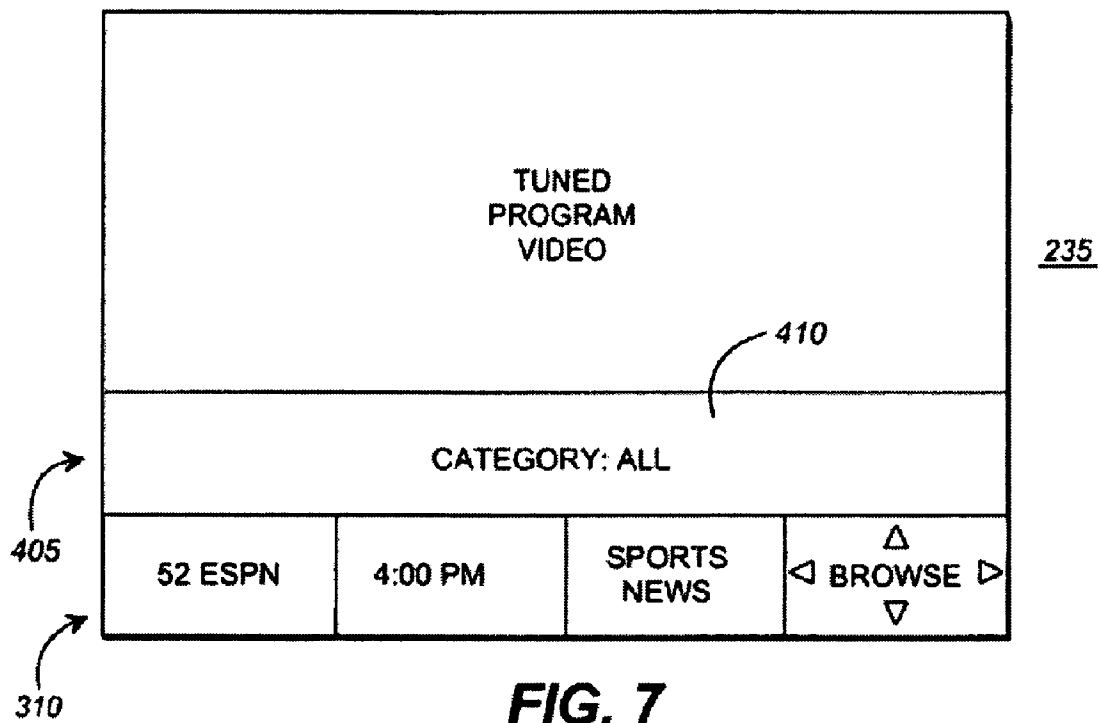
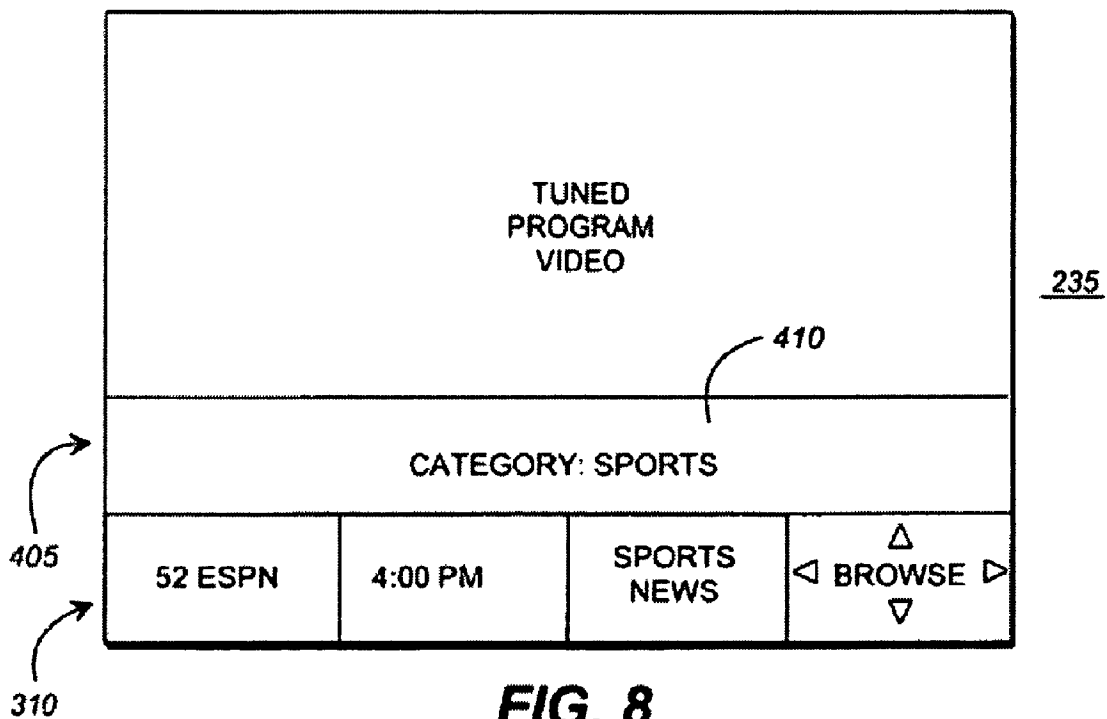
20 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets



**FIG. 1****FIG. 2**

**FIG. 3****FIG. 4**

**FIG. 5****FIG. 6**

**FIG. 7****FIG. 8**

Explore Litigation Insights

Docket Alarm provides insights to develop a more informed litigation strategy and the peace of mind of knowing you're on top of things.

Real-Time Litigation Alerts



Keep your litigation team up-to-date with **real-time alerts** and advanced team management tools built for the enterprise, all while greatly reducing PACER spend.

Our comprehensive service means we can handle Federal, State, and Administrative courts across the country.

Advanced Docket Research



With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

Identify arguments that have been successful in the past with full text, pinpoint searching. Link to case law cited within any court document via Fastcase.

Analytics At Your Fingertips



Learn what happened the last time a particular judge, opposing counsel or company faced cases similar to yours.

Advanced out-of-the-box PTAB and TTAB analytics are always at your fingertips.

API

Docket Alarm offers a powerful API (application programming interface) to developers that want to integrate case filings into their apps.

LAW FIRMS

Build custom dashboards for your attorneys and clients with live data direct from the court.

Automate many repetitive legal tasks like conflict checks, document management, and marketing.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.