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27.12.07

Reference EP36141DK900kap	Application No./Patent No. 05018280.7 - 2210
Applicant/Proprietor Aruze Corp.	

Communication

The extended European search report is enclosed.

The extended European search report includes, pursuant to Rule 62 EPC, the European search report (R. 61 EPC) or the partial European search report/ declaration of no search (R. 63 EPC) and the European search opinion.

Copies of documents cited in the European search report are attached.

1 additional set(s) of copies of such documents is (are) enclosed as well.

The following have been approved:

Abstract Title

The Abstract was modified and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract: 1

Refund of the search fee

If applicable under Article 9 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.



The examination is being carried out on the following application documents:

The application documents as originally filed

1. The following documents are referred to in this communication; the numbering will be adhered to in the rest of the procedure:

D1: JP-A-09319445 and the corresponding English abstract;
D2: JP-A-2000035888 and the corresponding English abstract;
D3: EP-A-0774716.

2.) The present application does not meet the requirements of Article 52(1) EPC because the subject-matter of claim 1 does not involve an inventive step within the meaning of Article 56 EPC; for the following reasons:

The applicant's attention is drawn to D1 which discloses:

an information process device comprising:
a first memory device (FROM 104) for storing a boot program executed when the information process device is started to operate;
a second memory device (HDD 111) for storing an application program ("AP");
a control device (CPU 103) for executing a fault inspection program (diagnosing routine) to inspect whether or not a fault occurs in the second memory device (HDD 111; see abstract of D1); wherein the fault inspection program (diagnosing routine for diagnosing the hardware equipment; see abstract of D1) is stored in the first memory device (FROM 104; see abstract of D1); and
wherein the control device (CPU) executes the fault inspection program (when the information process device is started to operate (when the power source is turned on; see abstract of D1).

D1 does not explicitly mentions a mother board on which the first memory device (FROM 104) is provided but it is obvious to the skilled person that for the kind of device mentioned on D1 (combined FAX and telephone) all the hardware elements should preferably be concentrated on a single circuit board. It is also obvious that the HDD must be connected to this board.

Therefore all the features of D1 can in an obvious manner be derived from D1.

The subject-matter of claim 1 also lacks an inventive step with respect to D2 for similar reasons (see D2 , HDD 24 containing an application program, ROM 22 containing fault processing program run by the CPU (20), it is obvious to the skilled person to have the ROM containing the system boot program and the CPU and the ROM on a mother board).

3.) The additional feature of claim 2 is known from either D1 or D2 and adds nothing inventive.

4.) The additional feature of claim 3 is known from D2 and adds nothing inventive.

5.) If the application is pursued and new claims are filed the indications listed below should be followed:

- The applicant should indicate in the letter of reply the difference of the subject-matter of the new claim vis-à-vis the state of the art and the significance thereof. Any argument showing the presence of an inventive step should be mentioned in the letter of reply.
 - The two part form should be used for the independent claims on the basis of D1, D2 or D3 (Rule 43(1) EPC).
 - Reference signs in parentheses should be inserted in the claims to increase their intelligibility, Rule 43(7) EPC. This applies to both the preamble and characterising portion (see the Guidelines, C-III, 4.19).
 - To meet the requirements of Rule 42(1)(b) EPC, the documents D1,D2,D3 should be identified in the description and the relevant background art disclosed therein should be briefly discussed.
 - The text of the description should be put into conformity with the new claims (Rule 42(1)(c) EPC).
 - In order to facilitate the examination of the conformity of the amended application with the requirements of Article 123(2) EPC, the applicant is requested to clearly identify the amendments carried out, irrespective of whether they concern amendments by addition, replacement or deletion, and to indicate the passages of the application as filed on which these amendments are based.
- If the applicant regards it as appropriate these indications could be submitted in handwritten form on a copy of the relevant parts of the application as filed.



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	JP 09 319445 A (NEC SHIZUOKA LTD) 12 December 1997 (1997-12-12) * abstract *	1-3	INV. G06F3/06 G11B19/04
X	JP 2000 035888 A (YAMAHA CORP) 2 February 2000 (2000-02-02) * abstract *	1-3	
X	EP 0 774 716 A (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD [JP]) 21 May 1997 (1997-05-21) * column 4, line 46 - column 5, line 3 * * column 7, line 7 - line 20; figures 5,7 *	1-3	
A	US 6 449 735 B1 (EDWARDS DAVID A [US] ET AL) 10 September 2002 (2002-09-10) * column 9, line 44 - line 55; figure 2 *	1-3	
A	EP 0 801 387 A (CANON KK [JP]) 15 October 1997 (1997-10-15) * column 5, line 34 - line 42; figure 1 *	1-3	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			G11B G06F
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich		11 December 2007	Chaumeron, Bernard
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 05 01 8280

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

11-12-2007

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
JP 9319445	A	12-12-1997	NONE	

JP 2000035888	A	02-02-2000	NONE	

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			DE 69626463 T2	26-02-2004
			US 5860122 A	12-01-1999

US 6449735	B1	10-09-2002	AU 3580697 A	21-01-1998
			DE 69730430 D1	30-09-2004
			DE 69730430 T2	15-09-2005
			EP 0909416 A1	21-04-1999
			HK 1017451 A1	06-05-2005
			KR 20000022506 A	25-04-2000
			WO 9800781 A1	08-01-1998

EP 0801387	A	15-10-1997	JP 9274541 A	21-10-1997
			US 6233108 B1	15-05-2001

EPO FORM P0459

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82