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Patent Application Examiner
Commission for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
PO Box 1450
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Dear Examiner

Prior Art Claim on Microsoft Patent Applications 2006200771, 2006200476 & 2006200489

Over the past few months I have been in a dialogue with Microsoft Corporation who believe that it is my responsibility to inform you of Prior Art in respect of the above Patent Applications.

We deployed the capability as described in these patents in 1996. I have copied the abstract for each with a brief comment as noted below. We have full documentation of the original 1996 specification which was a re-write incorporating many features from the original DOS and Paradox based product which was built and deployed with early adopters in 1993. Since 1996 in the new version these software capabilities have been deployed in a variety of commercial situations, Government agencies and Healthcare both in EU and US. Access to the core attributes has been widely distributed, presented and readily available from our web site thus firmly in the public domain long before the Microsoft patent applications.

Microsoft Abstract 2006200771

An adaptable user interface is formed based on a role assumed by a user and the identification of tasks in a process that need to be performed. For each role assumed by the user, a set of tasks assigned to the role is identified. Each task is evaluated to determine if it is an active task that needs to be performed in one or more processes. For each active task, an element is added to the user interface.

Procession Prior Art.

This in detail is exactly how Procession manages presentation of information to users.

Microsoft Abstract 2006200476

The location of a drawing of an activity, a property of an element in the drawing and the structural relationship of elements in the drawing are stored in a database. The database is accessed to form a user interface that provides a hierarchical representation of activities and the elements within activities.

Procession Prior Art.

The storing in a database, via a graphical interface, of the process attributes down to task level is core to Procession's technology. The user interface is one of the task types made available dynamically to the user.

Microsoft Abstract 2006200489

A company is compared to a generic company model to identify differences between the company and the generic company model. The generic company model includes a work model that describes sequences of tasks that form processes performed within a generic company and a persona model that describes generic personas in the generic company and tasks that each generic persona performs. The differences between the generic company model and the company are used to modify the generic company model to form a company-specific model.

Procession Prior Art.

Procession's core design recognises "generic" task types. This patent touches upon a core principle but stays at a function driven "generic model" which is not part of Procession's approach. We believe function specific models are already a widely adopted capability. Procession takes a stage further that effectively creates a generic function independent application capability.

We at Procession would like reassurance that the review by your Office of the patent applications described above by Microsoft Corporation will duly acknowledge our Prior Art claims and as such not allow grant of these applications. In addition for future reference you should note the function-independent "generic application" capability we have developed using the core attributes as described above.

Yours faithfully

David S Chassels CA
Chief Executive