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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: A SYSTEM, APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR HOSTING AND ASSIGNING DOMAIN NAMES ON A WIDE AREA NETWORK

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; db.webjump.com
;
@ IN SOA ns0.sbusiness.net. dns-admin.sbusiness.net. (
1999060400 ; Serial
604800 ; Refresh (3 hours)
3600 ;retry (1 hour)
1209600 ; Expire (1 week)
300 ) ; TTL (5min)

IN NS ns01.sbusiness.net.
IN NS ns02.sbusiness.net.
IN NS ns03.sbusiness.net.
IN NS ns04.sbusiness.net.

IN MX 10 mail.sbusiness.com.

@ IN A 216.49.10.14
*.webjump.com IN A 216.49.10.200
freehosting.at IN A 216.49.10.240

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(57) Abstract: Embodiments of the instant invention are directed to a domain management system, apparatus and method for hosting and assigning domain names. Embodiments of the domain management system comprise a name assignment system and a hosting system, wherein the hosting system comprises a domain retrieval system and a data storage apparatus. The name assignment system verifies availability and assigns domain names to requesting clients. The name assignment system comprises an input component, a confirmation mechanism and a name storage means. Preferred embodiments of the domain retrieval system comprise a scheduler, a parsing member having a plurality of redirectors and a plurality of servers. The domain retrieval system locates the domain referenced by the domain name by parsing header information and utilizing a wildcard DNS. Once the domain is located, the domain retrieval system forwards the domain to the user computer.



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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 IPC 7 H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	P. MOCKAPETRIS: "Domain Names - Concepts and Facilities" IETF RFC - 1034, 1 November 1987 (1987-11-01), XP002164250 page 25 -page 26 page 31	1-9
A	MOCKAPETRIS P V ET AL: "DEVELOPMENT OF THE DOMAIN NAME SYSTEM" SIGCOMM SYMPOSIUM COMMUNICATIONS ARCHITECTURES & PROTOCOLS, ACM PRESS, US, vol. 18, no. 4, 16 August 1988 (1988-08-16), pages 123-133, XP000199906 paragraph '02.2! paragraph '03.3!	1-9

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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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