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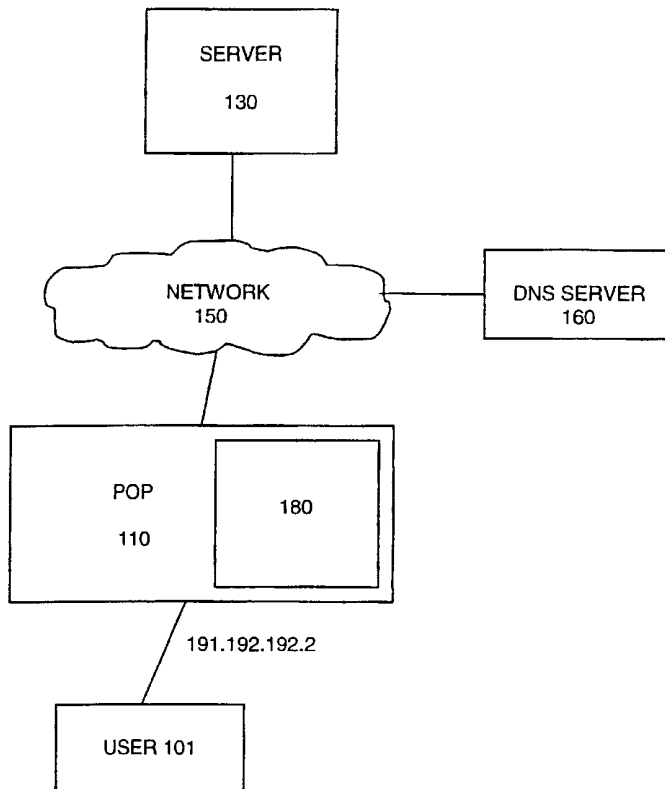
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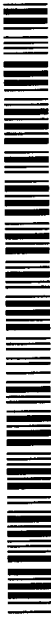
- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: H04L 29/12, G06F 17/30 (74) Agents: CONOVER, Michele, L. et al.; AT & T Corp., P.O. Box 4110, Middletown, NJ 07748-4110 (US).
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/32513 (81) Designated States (national): CA, JP.
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- (71) Applicant: AT & T CORP. [US/US]; 32 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10013-2412 (US).
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*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ENCODING USER INFORMATION IN DOMAIN NAMES



(57) Abstract: The present invention utilizes a technique based on a domain name system to provide additional information about a user to a service connected to a communication network. User information is stored and encoded into a domain name that is generated and interpreted dynamically. In an embodiment of the present invention, a specialized domain name server is placed at or near a point of presence and has access to private user information on the users who connect through the particular point of presence. Services can utilize a standard domain name query, requesting a domain name given a user's network address, to obtain a name constructed by the specialized server. The name can contain different pieces of information regarding the user encoded cryptographically by different keys to permit only selected disclosure of user information. The present invention provides a way of readily supplying selected user information to a service in a manner that can be authenticated and that is transparent to the user while, at the same time, protecting the privacy of the user.



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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internationa Application No
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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC 7 H04L29/12 G06F17/30

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 G06F

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, IBM-TDB

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5 815 665 A (BALAZ RUDOLPH ET AL) 29 September 1998 (1998-09-29)  abstract column 3, line 65 - column 4, line 14 column 11, line 13 - line 33 column 9, line 38 - line 49 figures 1,2  --- -/--	1-5, 7, 8, 10-13, 15, 16, 18-23, 25, 26, 28

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

- \* Special categories of cited documents :
- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
  - \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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  - \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed
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Date of the actual completion of the international search  <b>7 August 2001</b>	Date of mailing of the international search report  <b>21/08/2001</b>
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Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040. Tx. 31 651 epo nl. Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer  <b>Bertolissi, E</b>
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internat. Application No  
PCT/US 00/32513

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	<p>P. VIXIE: "RFC 2671 - Extension Mechanism for DNS (EDNSO)"                      REQUEST FOR COMMENTS, 'Online!                      August 1999 (1999-08), XP002174062                      Retrieved from the Internet:                      &lt;URL:http://www.cis.ohio-state.edu/cgi-bin/rfc/rfc2671.txt&gt;                      'retrieved on 2001-08-06!                      Abstract                      1 - Rationale and Scope                      4 - OPT pseudo-RR                      ----</p>	<p>1-5,7,8,                      10-13,                      15,16,                      18-23,                      25,26,28</p>
A	<p>US 5 708 780 A (LEVERGOOD THOMAS MARK ET AL) 13 January 1998 (1998-01-13)                      abstract                      column 3, line 7 - line 21                      column 8, line 51 - line 58                      ----</p>	<p>1-28</p>
A	<p>M. CRAWFORD: "RFC 2673 - Binary Labels in the Domain Name System"                      REQUEST FOR COMMENTS, 'Online!                      August 1999 (1999-08), XP002174065                      Retrieved from the Internet:                      &lt;URL:http://www.cis.ohio-state.edu/cgi-bin/rfc/rfc2673.txt&gt;                      'retrieved on 2001-08-06!                      abstract                      -----</p>	<p>1-28</p>

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Information on patent family members

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PCT/US 00/32513	

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US 5708780    A	13-01-1998	AU    694367 B	16-07-1998
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