



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets



(11) **EP 1 076 872 B1**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION**

(45) Date of publication and mention
of the grant of the patent:

06.11.2002 Bulletin 2002/45

(21) Application number: **99944137.1**

(22) Date of filing: **05.03.1999**

(51) Int Cl.7: **G06F 17/60**

(86) International application number:
PCT/GB99/00659

(87) International publication number:
WO 99/052052 (14.10.1999 Gazette 1999/41)

(54) **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR COLLECTING INFORMATION ASSOCIATED WITH
MOVEMENT BETWEEN LOCATIONS**

VERFAHREN UND VORRICHTUNG ZUM SAMMELN VON INFORMATIONEN ÜBER
BEWEGUNGEN ZWISCHEN MEHREREN STELLEN

TECHNIQUE DE COLLECTE D'INFORMATION ASSOCIEE A UN MOUVEMENT ENTRE
EMPLACEMENTS ET APPAREIL CORRESPONDANT

(84) Designated Contracting States:
DE FR GB IE

(30) Priority: **03.04.1998 US 54924**

(43) Date of publication of application:
21.02.2001 Bulletin 2001/08

(73) Proprietor: **International Business Machines
Corporation**
Armonk, NY 10504 (US)
Designated Contracting States:
DE FR GB IE

(72) Inventors:

- **DYER, Joan G.**
New York, NY 10024 (US)
- **GOLDMAN, Kenneth, Alan**
Norwalk, CT 06850 (US)
- **PALMER, Elaine Rivette**
New York, NY 10526 (US)

- **ROHATGI, Pankaj**
New York, NY 10598 (US)
- **SMITH, Sean William**
New York, NY 12518 (US)

(74) Representative: **Moss, Robert Douglas et al**
IBM United Kingdom Limited
Intellectual Property Department
Hursley Park
Winchester Hampshire SO21 2JN (GB)

(56) References cited:

EP-A- 0 649 109 **EP-A- 0 742 524**
WO-A-95/21428 **WO-A-97/44750**
WO-A-98/38589 **FR-A- 2 682 502**
US-A- 5 056 019

- **PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN** vol. 096, no.
011, 29 November 1996 & JP 08 190672 A
(HITACHI LTD;HITACHI COMPUT ENG CORP
LTD), 23 July 1996

Note: Within nine months from the publication of the mention of the grant of the European patent, any person may give notice to the European Patent Office of opposition to the European patent granted. Notice of opposition shall be filed in a written reasoned statement. It shall not be deemed to have been filed until the opposition fee has been paid. (Art. 99(1) European Patent Convention).

EP 1 076 872 B1

