A system and method of interfacing includes a mobile web information exchange device. Information about a user is recorded on a mobile web recording medium. Information terminals are provided at locations which receive the mobile web recording medium. Information is stored on the Internet or terminals relating to the specific location. The mobile web recording medium, such as any media storage device, is connected to the terminals. A control is provided, either on the storage media or in the terminals for the interaction of the mobile web recording medium with the terminals. Thus information is exchanged by supplying the information about the user to the terminal and by recording selective information data from the terminal and/or Internet to the mobile web recording medium. Such exchange may be effected by inputting commands with a mouse or keyboard or touch screen connected to the terminals. The media storage device is then removed from the terminal and used as many terminals as desired. The mobile web communicates information between workstations and users. Workstations may include open houses, learning centers, conventions/shows, gyms, and the like, and users may respectively be realtors, students, attendees, exercisers, and the like.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Patent Number</th>
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<th>Classification</th>
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ATTENDEE ARRIVES AT THE EVENT

ATTENDEE PICKS UP PREPACKAGED MW AND/OR MW RECORDABLE MEDIUM (e.g. i DISK)

ATTENDEE AT SHOW/EVENT

ATTENDEE WALKS UP TO AN EXHIBITOR'S COMPUTER RUNNING i DISK ACCESS SOFTWARE

ATTENDEE INSERTS i DISK INTO EXHIBITOR'S i DISK STATION

ATTENDEE WALKS UP TO A STATION COMPATIBLE WITH THE MOBILE WEB SUCH AS A MESSAGE CENTER, DOC. SALES ETC.

DESIRED DATA IS STORED ONTO MOBILE WEB i DISK

ATTENDEE TAKES MOBILE WEB AWAY WITH HIM AFTER EVENT

Fig. 1-1
Fig. 1-2

1) The attendee's information record may be automatically stored on the exhibitor's station.
2) A web page for that exhibitor is created and linked into the attendee's mobile web on the I disk indicating that the attendee has visited that booth.

- If attendee selects action, files(s) are stored onto the attendee's I disk and linked into that exhibitor's web page on the I disk.
- Otherwise, attendee ejects I disk & leaves booth.

Attendee inserts I disk into their computer.

Attendee boots off the I disk to load MW or starts batch or executable program.

Attendee optionally copies MW files to the hard drive.

Fig. 1-3

1) Attendee loads world wide web browser (e.g., Netscape).
2) Attendee views files and loads them into word processor.

Off-line browsing of the mobile web.

Virtual exhibition (dynamic web mail) ↔ On-line browsing of the world wide web.
This is an I Disk Badge loaded with files you gathered from the Real Time Computer Show and Conference. To find out how to use your I Disk and the Mobile Web, click on Help in the left column.

Learn More about other conferences and exhibitions put on by THE RTC GROUP

Learn More about the I Disk Mobile Web technology developed by Nomadix

Fig. 2-2
<HEAD><TITLE>The Real-Time Computer &amp; Conference</TITLE></HEAD>

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<NOSTYLE> Your Browser Does not Support Frames Please Download <a href="Http://www.netscape.com">Netscape</a> </NOSTYLE>
In February 1992, Ampro converted its "MiniModule" form-factor into an open standard called the PC/104 Standard, and created the non-profit PC/104 Consortium to serve as custodian of the new standard. PC/104 rapidly became the most popular embedded-PC standard, used almost universally as the modular basis of many types of embedded systems. Over the past four years, several hundred companies joined the PC/104 Consortium and together offer...
NOMADIC '97

Ampro Computers Mobile Web Page

Fig. 6-1
MOBILE WEB

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of U.S. application Ser. No. 08/389,977, filed Apr. 24, 1997, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,194,992, issued Feb. 27, 2001, which claims the benefit of U.S. provisional application Ser. No. 60/016,136, filed Apr. 24, 1996.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The invention is a novel way to develop and view a record of an individual's transactions using a Mobile Web. The invention is a data storage device that allows one to have a database of all the information gathered at different sites as well as for service providers to have a database of interested participants, and/or their activities either via the internet or through other communication channels including conferences, exhibitions, and other events.

With the advent of the internet and teleconferencing along with numerous exhibitions, it is difficult for the organizers and participants of shows to keep track of the attendees as well as difficult for those attendees to keep track of all the information gathered at those sites. There is therefore a need for a device that can be easily carried along by attendees and by organizers for tracking each of the other and for exchanging information and constantly updating information on interested participants.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention addresses that problem by providing a Mobile Web. The Mobile Web is similar to the World Wide Web which is accessible using a browser such as Netscape except this Mobile Web need not rely on hosts or network access to retrieve pages of information (i.e., Web pages). This Mobile Web is even accessible without necessarily having any network-access (e.g., the Internet). All the information and navigational links are stored on any media storage device, such as a personal electronic recordable medium.

In a preferred embodiment, the mobile web ID system has a portable identification memory device with user’s identification data stored in the memory device. Storage readers/writers at exhibitor locations having a memory storage for storing exhibitor information about the exhibitors are provided. Memory device slots in the reader-writers temporarily receive the portable memory devices with reading heads adjacent the slots reading the identification data into the storage and writing heads adjacent the slots writing stored exhibitor information in the portable identification memory device.

Preferably, the reader-writer is a computer and the memory storage is a computer. The portable identification memory device may preferably be a 3.5" floppy disk, a PCMCIA or PC Card, a smart card, a Flash card, a ZipDisk, a Floptical disk, a swipe card of the like.

In the preferred embodiments, a conventional information exchange system has an exhibitor’s station having a programmable computer with a program for automatically receiving and storing information from a user’s identification data storage medium and for writing on that data storage medium information about the exhibitor and its products from a hard disk storage in the computer or from the Internet under control of the user according to the user’s selection of menus on a screen on the computer via devices such as a keyboard, touch screen, or mouse connected to the computer. The user’s identifying data is provided on the data storage medium such as identification data including the user’s name, title, organization and addresses.

Preferably, a data storage device may be provided at plural locations each having a computer with a memory for storing and providing information data, a screen for displaying menus, a keyboard, touch screen, or a mouse for entering selections from the menu. A control is stored either on the user carried device or on the data storage device. The data storage device received the user carried device and an interface in the data storage device receives and writes the identification data from the user carried device into the memory under direction of the control. Thus, the exhibitor information data from the memory is provided to the user carried device under direction of the control and the user’s inputs on the input device.

In the preferred embodiments, the user carried device includes a complementary user’s interface and the exhibitor station computer interface comprises an interface for communicating data with the user’s complementary interface by radio, infrared or wire. The control provides the exhibitor with a complete record of identification of users who visited the exhibitor’s booth.

The data storage device is provided at exhibitor booths at a show or convention, or at manufacturing plants where the information data comprises information about machines in the plants, and the user is an employee, such as a manager, checking on the machines by exchanging information about the machines via the user carried device. The data storage device may be provided at learning stations, and the user being a student exchanging information with the learning stations via the user carried device. The data storage device may be provided at home sales sites, and the user being a realtor exchanging information with the sites via the user carried device. The data storage device may be provided at gyms, with the user being an exerciser exchanging information with equipment in the gyms via the user carried device.

A preferred method of information exchange includes providing a mobile web recording medium to a user, recording information about the user on the mobile web recording medium, providing information terminals at locations for receiving the mobile web recording medium, storing information data on the terminals, communicating the mobile web recording medium with the terminals, providing a control for enabling the communicating of the mobile web recording medium with the terminals, exchanging information by supplying the information about the user to the terminal and by recording selective information data from or through the terminal to the mobile web recording medium by providing commands by inputting means, terminating communication of the mobile web recording medium with the terminal, and if desired repeating the above steps at a different terminal. Preferably, the terminals are computers. Inputting means may be a mouse, a keyboard, a touch screen, or the like attached to the terminals and the mobile web recording medium may be a floppy disk.

Preferably, the control is provided on the mobile web recording medium or the terminals as a batch of executable commands, scripts, or programs.

These and further and other objects and features of the invention are apparent in the disclosure, which includes the above and ongoing written specification, with the claims and the drawings.
BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is an attendee flow chart showing the operating or the invention.

FIG. 2 is an example of a web page print of a Mobile Web (MW) Home Page screen.

FIG. 3 shows the HTML code which generates the frame structure for FIG. 2.

FIG. 4 shows the HTML code dynamically updated at which exhibitor station.

FIG. 5 shows part of the HTML code gathered from an exhibitor with off-line and on-line navigational links and data.

FIG. 6 an example web page print of a Mobile Web page with the HTML code included as described in FIG. 5 for a particular exhibitor.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT(S)

The invention may be in the form of diskettes or other data storage devices. Data stored includes, but is not limited to, text files, Web pages, scripting code (e.g., Java), video clips (e.g., Quicktime or MPEG movies), audio clips, and any other forms of data readable or accessible through a Web browser.

Exemplary applications of this invention include (but are not limited to):

1. The record of an individual’s visits to a sequence of exhibitor (i.e., vendor) booths at a trade show wherein that individual performs a data exchange transfer of information with various exhibitors using a computer readable/writable medium such as a floppy disk (e.g., an IDisk which is an Identification Disk and/or an Information Disk) which he carries with him. The information exchange transfers the individual’s name and other of his relevant contact information to the exhibitor’s computer (e.g., laptop) and/or certain items of the exhibitor’s information may be selected manually or automatically to be transferred to his IDisk.

2. The record of an individual’s (such as a manager or formal) tour among a sequence of machines (stations) at a manufacturing plant wherein that individual exchanges information with these machines using a computer readable/writable medium such as a floppy disk (e.g., an IDisk which is an Identification Disk and/or an Information Disk) which he carries with him. The information exchange transfers the individual’s name and other of his relevant contact information to the machine’s computer (e.g., imbedded or attached digital device) and pieces of the machine’s status information (e.g., backlog of work, throughput, operating parameters, temperature, throughput, etc.) may be selected by the individual to be transferred back to his IDisk.

3. The record of a student’s tour through an automated school wherein that student exchanges information with various learning stations using a computer readable/writable medium such as a floppy disk (e.g., an IDisk which is an Identification Disk and/or Information Disk) which he carries with him. The information exchange transfers the student’s name, duration of visit at this station, and other of his relevant contact information to the learning station’s computer and certain information at the learning station may be selected by the student to be transferred back to his IDisk.

4. The record of a real-estate agent’s travels through a tour of open houses wherein that agent exchanges information with computers at the open houses using a computer readable/writable medium such as a floppy disk (e.g., an IDisk which is an Identification Disk and/or Information Disk) which he carries with him. The information exchange transfers the agent’s name and other of his relevant contact information to the open house computer (e.g., laptop) and certain pieces of information about the open house may be selected by the agent to be transferred to his IDisk.

5. The record of an exerciser’s workout on various pieces of gym equipment wherein that individual exchanges information with the equipment, computer, and/or kiosk at the gym using a machine readable/writable medium such as a floppy disk (e.g., an IDisk which is an Identification Disk and/or Information Disk) which he carries with him. The information exchange transfers the exerciser’s profile such as name, weight, height, workout history, health limitations, etc. to be used by each piece of equipment. Information from the equipment (such as reps, weight, time and calories burned) is manually entered or automatically transferred to his IDisk for later retrieval and/or analysis.

The Mobile Web is also able to link in with information stored onto the IDisk through systems other than the exhibitor booths (which are detailed below), message center or a documentation sales center, etc. For example, messages retrieved at the message center are stored onto the IDisk and linked in as part of the Mobile Web.

The ID disk initially contains a Mobile Web Home Page (the MW Home Page) from which booths visited and information gathered is accessed. In essence, this home page on the IDisk is dynamically modified as the attendee updates information on the IDisk.

The attendee collects information from each visited exhibitor by inserting his IDisk into the exhibitor’s laptop computer. The laptop contains software plus exhibitor-specific information which the attendee selects to be loaded onto his IDisk. This information is placed onto the IDisk in such a way as to dynamically create a Mobile Web or MW, (i.e., a set of Web pages or various links between them). This dynamic creation of the MW is based upon the attendee’s actions, namely:

a) which booths are visited
b) what data he selects from the exhibitor

The MW creation is also based upon the attendee’s preferences, such as keywords that he has loaded onto his IDisk; based on these preferences, the system automatically loads exhibitor information that is relevant to these keywords. The actions that are taken in creation of the MW are:

Selected data (selected either explicitly by the attendee via options shown on the exhibitor’s computer screen, or implicitly, via key word relevancy) is copied from the computer onto the IDisk.

Links among the collected pages are created on the IDisk.

All the information collected at a particular booth is dynamically updated on the IDisk which is accessed from the Web page contents and/or created specific to that exhibitor. Each exhibitor’s Web page is linked not only up to the Mobile Web Home Page but also down to each individual piece of data collected onto the IDisk from that exhibitor. Other dynamic links may link to data not stored on the IDisk itself but that exist on the www World Wide Web which can be accessed through the appropriate Universal Resource Locator (URL). All the Mobile Web information stored on the IDisk is retrieved through a Web Browser.

After the show, the attendee may then view the data he has collected on a computer as follows:

1. The IDisk is inserted into the computer’s floppy drive;
2. As an option, the user may choose to copy the IDisk contents directly to his hard drive;
3. An application on the IDisk (or its image on the hard disk) is started. This is done as follows:
1) First activate the ability to browse the Mobile Web by:
   a) In its simplest form, from the file manager, (e.g., Windows File Manager, Explorer, Apple Finder, etc.)
      the user views the drive in which the IDisk was inserted (probably “A.”). The user then loads the file
      “INDEX.HTM”. This will load the Web Browser and the Mobile Web Home Page.
   b) In a more sophisticated fashion, the user loads the their
      Web Browser. (Note: The user does not have to be
      connected to the Internet in order to use the IDisk;
      ignore any error messages from the Web Browser at
      this point.)
Under the “File” menu option, the user selects “Open
File” to load the file “INDEX.HTM” from the IDisk.
2) Secondly the collected data on the IDisk may then be
   read as follows:
   i) Off-line: Without a network connection to the (World
      Wide Web), the user uses all the functionality built into
      the browser to view his collected data which was
      created at the trade show in Web-readable form. The
      user interface is identical to that of a Web page. The
      collected data from the exhibitor looks just like a Web
      page produced by the exhibitor. All links are active
      (click on a menu item which was copied from the
      exhibitor’s computer and the user jumps to a page which
      displays the text or graphics that he had copied at
      the show). The user navigates, copies, etc., in all the
      usual ways as when on-line except the user is off-line
      from the WWW.
   ii) On-line: If the user’s computer is connected on-line to
      the World Wide Web, then the functionality in part (3b)
      is enhanced with the ability to click on exhibitor icons
      or other hyperlinks that were also created by the MW
      software at the trade show. These exhibitor icon links
      are now active and once selected, the user is linked
      through the WWW to the exhibitor’s home page. Of
      course the user has the full availability of the WWW as
      well as MW Web access to the data he collected at
      the show. When the user is on-line, information from the
      WWW may appear automatically on the attendees
      Mobile Web pages.
   In addition to the above:
   1. All information from all trade show exhibitors (plus all
      or partial material from any related components of the event
      such as technical conference proceedings, etc.) may be
      prepackaged on some storage medium (CD-ROM, Magnetic
      disk, etc.) in MW format so that it is viewed as described
      earlier. The user “visits” booths of his choice to create his
      personal IDisk as well as any time before, during or after the
      show.
   2. On the World Wide Web there may be a dynamic Web
      Mall (Virtual Exhibition) that acts as a continuing trade
      show and/or conference with the attendees “visiting” the
      mail on the Web in the same way he would at the physical
      trade show. That is, he downloads from the Web to his local
      disk the data he wanted to use to create a MW of his visit
      trail to the mall, and updates the visits over time. Indeed, he
      may have agents in the background that continually update
      these selected entries as they themselves were updated on
      the exhibitor’s home pages. Moreover, the agent based
      keyword searching of this mall generates entries for his MW.
   FIG. 1 shows an Attendee Flow Chart briefly summarizing
   the process of the invention.
   FIG. 2 shows a Web page print (generated by the Web
   browser Netscape) as an example of the MW Home Page
   screen that an attendee sees when the Web or MW browser
   is started up.
   FIG. 2 shows a web page print (generated by the Web
   browser Netscape) as an example of the MW Home Page
   screen that an attendee sees when the Web or MW browser
   is started up. The top left corner of the screen contains the
   name of the attendee who this MW Home Page has been
   customized for along with a link to the MW Home Page by
   clicking on the IDisk icon. The top right box on the screen
   displays sponsorship information which can be accessed by
   clicking on the information in that box. The bottom left box
   provides links to a complete list of exhibiting companies and
   links to their web pages. In this box is also a list of
   companies that the attendee visited at the show which can be
   selected by the attendee to load that exhibitor’s MW page.
   The bottom right box on the screen displays general show
   information and links to subsequent pages of information and
   web pages.
   FIG. 3 shows an HTML coded file (INDEX.HTM) which
determines the frame structure for the MW home page
illustrated in FIG. 2. This file is initially created when the
IDisk is prepared for the attendee’s use at a show.
FIG. 4 shows an HTML coded file (INDEX.HTM) which is initially created when the IDisk is prepared for the
attendee’s use at a show. This file is dynamically updated as
the attendee (owner of the IDisk on which this file is stored)
moves from booth to booth. This file contains a link to that
exhibitor’s MW page. This file generates the lower left box
illustrated in FIG. 2.
   FIG. 5 shows an HTML coded file (AMC.HTM) which is
dynamically created at the exhibitor station when an
attendee selected the information to be loaded onto the
IDisk. This file contains navigation links generated by the
control program along with links and data content from the
exhibitor’s station. The first page of code illustrated here
produces the lower right corner of the box shown in FIG. 6.
   FIG. 6 illustrates an example set of exhibitor information
(in this example with Ampro Computers) collected from the
exhibitor. As an example to the content of the exhibitor
information collected, at the top of the page is the company
name and link to that company’s home page. Below that is
an index to collected information. By selecting an index, that
particular item is then displayed on the screen. At the top of
each section is a link to return “Back To Top” to get back to the
initial index.

While the invention has been described with reference to
specific embodiments, modifications and variations of the
invention may be constructed without departing from the
scope of the invention, which is defined in the following
claims.

What is claimed is:
1. A method for organizing electronic information on a
   hand-held portable electronic device, the method comprising:
   storing a HyperText Markup Language (HTML) compli-
   ant home page on the hand-held portable electronic
   device, the home page accessible using a HTML
   enabled web browser;
   coupling the portable electronic device to a computer;
   receiving at the portable electronic device electronic
   information including a source identifier and related
   data from the computer;
   storing the electronic information on the portable elec-
   tronic device; and
   dynamically linking the stored electronic information on
   the portable electronic device to the home page on the
   portable electronic device for subsequent access of the
   stored electronic information on the portable electronic
   device using a HTML enabled web browser, wherein
the access to the stored electronic information on the portable electronic device by the HTML enabled web browser is independent of a connection between the portable electronic device and an Internet Web server.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of receiving electronic information comprises:
   storing at least one key word on the portable electronic device;
   and
   transferring information associated with the at least one key word to the portable electronic device.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein the step of transferring comprises automatically transferring the information associated with the at least one key word.

4. The method of claim 2 further comprising:
   presenting information associated with the at least one key word to a user for selection, wherein the step of transferring transfers only user selected information.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of dynamically linking comprises:
   adding the source identifier to the home page; and
   linking the data to the source identifier.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the source identifier comprises a graphic.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the source identifier comprises a hyperlink to a home page accessible via a computer network.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein the source identifier comprises a hyperlink to a home page accessible via the internet.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of receiving electronic information comprises receiving HTML information.

10. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
    accessing the home page, source identifier, and the related data using a web browser.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein the related data includes at least one link to a website accessible via the internet, the method further comprising accessing the website using a web browser.

12. The method of claim 1 further comprising transferring identification information from the hand-held portable electronic device to a computer.

13. A method for organizing electronic information on a portable electronic device, the method comprising:
    storing a HyperText Markup Language (HTML) compliant home page on the portable electronic device, the home page being accessible using a HTML enabled web browser;
    accessing and temporarily storing the home page using a reader for the portable electronic device;
    modifying the temporarily stored home page to dynamically link additional information to the temporarily stored home page;
    transferring the modified home page to the portable electronic device; and
    storing the modified home page on the portable electronic device for subsequent access to the additional information via a HTML enabled web browser, wherein the access to the stored modified home page on the portable electronic device by the HTML enabled web browser is independent of a connection between the portable electronic device and an Internet Web server.

14. The method of claim 13 further comprising storing user identification information on the portable electronic device.

15. The method of claim 14 further comprising retrieving the user identification information each time the step of accessing is performed.

16. The method of claim 13 further comprising automatically selecting the additional information to dynamically link to the home page.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the step of automatically selecting comprises automatically selecting the additional information based on key words stored on the portable electronic device.

18. The method of claim 13 further comprising:
    displaying available additional information for selection by a user, wherein the step of modifying comprises modifying the temporarily stored home page to link additional information selected by the user.

19. A computer readable storage medium having data representing instructions executable by a computer for organizing electronic information on a portable electronic device, the computer readable storage medium comprising:
    instructions for accessing and temporarily storing a HyperText Markup Language (HTML) compliant home page stored on a portable electronic device;
    instructions for modifying the temporarily stored home page to dynamically link additional information to the temporarily stored home page; and
    instructions for transferring the modified home page to the portable electronic device for subsequent access to the modified home page and to the additional information via a HTML enabled web browser, wherein the access to the modified home page on the portable electronic device by the HTML enabled web browser is independent of a connection between the portable electronic device and an Internet Web server.

20. The computer readable storage medium of claim 19 further comprising instructions for retrieving user identification information stored on the portable electronic device.

21. The computer readable storage medium of claim 19 further comprising instructions for automatically selecting the additional information to dynamically link to the home page.

22. The computer readable storage medium of claim 21 wherein the instructions for automatically selecting comprise instructions for automatically selecting the additional information based on key words stored on the portable electronic device.

23. The computer readable storage medium of claim 22 further comprising:
    instructions for retrieving user identification information stored on the portable electronic device; and
    instructions for associating the user identification information with the key words.

24. The computer readable storage medium of claim 19 further comprising:
    instructions for displaying available additional information for selection by a user, wherein the instructions for modifying comprise instructions for modifying the temporarily stored home page to link additional information selected by the user.
UNIVERSAL STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : 7,216,152 B2
APPLICATION NO. : 09/795069
DATED : May 8, 2007
INVENTOR(S) : Joel E. Short et al.

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 6, Line 65,

Delete “nortable” and insert -- portable --.

Signed and Sealed this

Twenty-first Day of August, 2007

[Signature]

JON W. DUDAS
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office