



(12) **United States Patent**
Pearce

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,411,441 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Aug. 9, 2016**

(54) **INTERACTIVE WHITEBOARD FOR PRIVATE USE**

(75) Inventor: **Nigel Pearce**, Lancashire (GB)

(73) Assignee: **Promethean Limited** (GB)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 843 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **12/862,029**

(22) Filed: **Aug. 24, 2010**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2011/0050611 A1 Mar. 3, 2011

(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Aug. 25, 2009 (GB) 0914842.0

(51) **Int. Cl.**

G06F 3/038 (2013.01)
G06F 3/046 (2006.01)
G06F 3/0354 (2013.01)
G06F 3/041 (2006.01)
G06F 9/44 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC **G06F 3/038** (2013.01); **G06F 3/03545** (2013.01); **G06F 3/046** (2013.01); **G06F 3/0416** (2013.01); **G06F 9/4443** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC G06F 3/0488; G06F 3/04883; G06F 3/04886; G06F 3/038; G06F 3/0416; G06F 3/046; G06F 3/03545; G06F 9/4443; G06F 2203/04101
USPC 345/1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 2.3, 173, 345/156-158, 163, 166, 168, 174, 179; 715/733-747, 751, 759

See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,252,951 A * 10/1993 Tannenbaum et al. 345/156
2004/0189706 A1* 9/2004 Ieperen 345/773

(Continued)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EP 1049066 A2 11/2000
WO WO 99/31571 A1 6/1999

(Continued)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Combined Search and Examination Report prepared by the United Kingdom Intellectual Property Office for Application No. GB0914842.0 on Dec. 15, 2009.

(Continued)

Primary Examiner — Aneeta Yodichkas

Assistant Examiner — Saifeldin Elnafia

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Brient Globberman, LLC; Kyle M. Globberman

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method of controlling a computer system is disclosed. The computer system is adapted to receive inputs from an interactive display surface and one or more other input devices. The computer system is further adapted to display images on the interactive display surface and a further display surface. The interactive display surface and the further display surface forms a contiguous desktop display for the computer system. The method includes receiving input data from the one or more input devices, where a foreground application is determined in dependence upon the input data from the one or more input devices and receiving input data from the interactive display surface, where the input data from the interactive display surface does not affect the determination of the foreground application.

19 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets

