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Ratcliff

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(54) **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IDENTIFYING DOCUMENTS USING A HANDHELD DEVICE**

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G06F 15/16 (2006.01)

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(58) **Field of Classification Search** 709/205, 709/217; 707/E17.008; 370/389; 250/236
See application file for complete search history.

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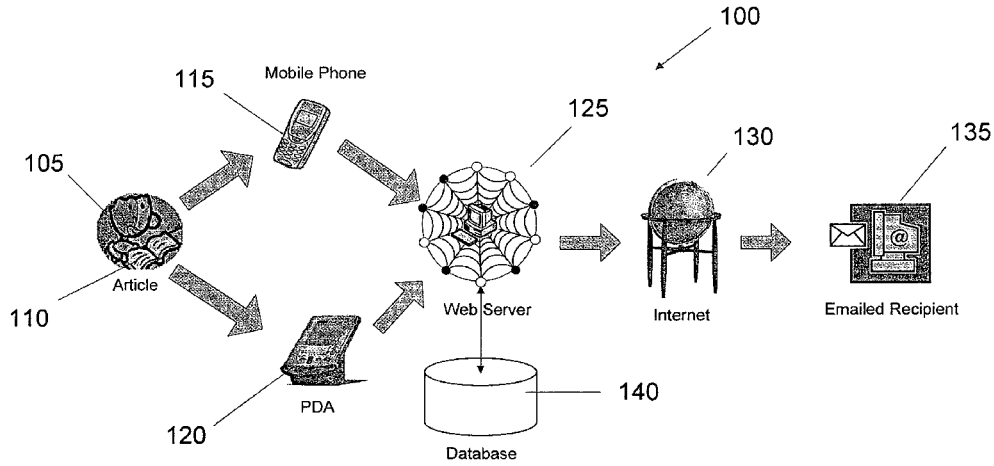
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method and apparatus for sending information to a data processing apparatus for identifying a document to share with a recipient. A handheld device is capable of communicating with the data processing apparatus. Human-readable information is captured from the document and stored in the handheld device as document data. A communications path is established between the handheld device and the data processing apparatus. The document data is sent to the data processing apparatus through the communications path. Reference documents are provided. Each reference document has reference data stored in a memory. At least a portion of the received document data is extracted as scanning data. The reference data is retrieved from the memory. The scanning data is compared with the reference data. When the scanning data matches at least a portion of the reference data of one of the reference documents, the one reference document is selected as the identified document for forwarding to the recipient.

56 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets