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(54) **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TRACKING FUNCTIONAL STATES OF A WEB-SITE AND REPORTING RESULTS TO WEB DEVELOPERS**

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Related U.S. Application Data

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(58) **Field of Search** 709/224, 223, 709/217, 218, 219, 203; 707/10, 102; 717/124

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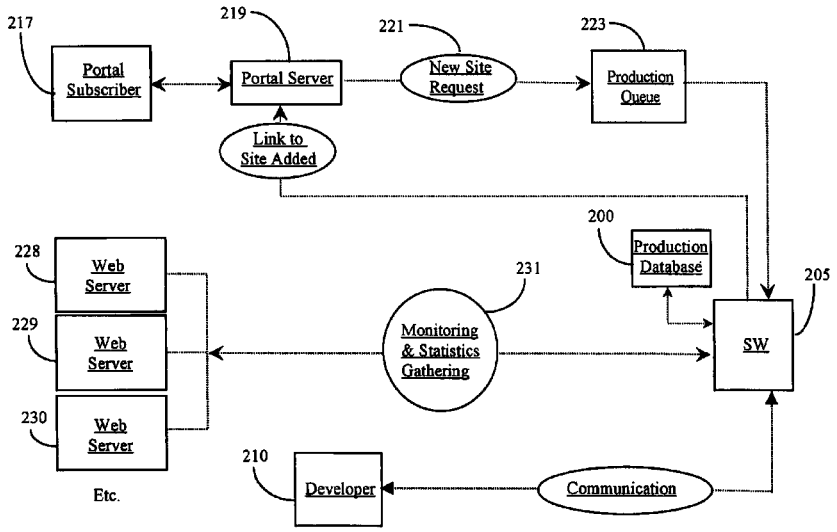
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A software tool for enabling automated tracking of activity related to the status and usage statistics of a plurality of Web sites on a data packet network is provided. The software tool comprises a network communication capability for establishing network communication between the software tool and the tracked Web sites; a plurality of data-reporting modules for obtaining and reporting data about tracked Web sites; a data input function for excepting data from the reporting modules and from external sources; a data recording function for recording and logging the data received from the reporting modules and from the external sources; and a data management function for organizing and storing the received data and rendering the data accessible for use in software development. A software engineer or developer accesses the site-tracking software and connected database through a Web browser from a network-connected workstation in order to utilize data mined from Web sites for the purpose of creating routines enabling automated navigation and site manipulation by proxy for subscribed users.

23 Claims, 10 Drawing Sheets