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(12) **United States Patent**
Philyaw

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(54) **CONTROL OF SOFTWARE INTERFACE
WITH INFORMATION INPUT TO ACCESS
WINDOW**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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This patent is subject to a terminal dis-
claimer.

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tinuation-in-part of application No. 09/378,221, filed
on Aug. 19, 1999, now Pat. No. 6,745,234, which is a
continuation-in-part of application No. 09/151,471,
filed on Sep. 11, 1998, now abandoned, and a continu-
ation-in-part of application No. 09/151,530, filed on
Sep. 11, 1998, now Pat. No. 6,098,106.

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G06F 15/16 (2006.01)
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(58) **Field of Classification Search** **709/204,**
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method is disclosed for controlling the software interface of
a user's computing device to display information on a display
in proximity to the physical location of the user's computing
device. The interface is operable to display to a user on the
display at least one access window that is operable to access
information about a product, which access window requires
the user to input a unique string of characters associated with
the product, which user's computing device is connected to a
network at a user location on the network. In response to the
input of the unique string of characters, the user's computing
device is controlled from a remote intermediate location on
the network to connect over the network to a content provider
location on the network, which content provider has an asso-
ciative relationship with the string of characters at the remote
intermediate location on the network.

16 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets

