



Europäisches Patentamt  
European Patent Office  
Office européen des brevets



Publication number:

**0 349 455 A3**

12

## EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

21 Application number: **89480077.0**

51 Int. Cl.<sup>5</sup>: **G09G 5/14, G09G 1/16**

22 Date of filing: **23.05.89**

30 Priority: **30.06.88 US 213427**

43 Date of publication of application:  
**03.01.90 Bulletin 90/01**

84 Designated Contracting States:  
**DE FR GB IT**

88 Date of deferred publication of the search report:  
**20.03.91 Bulletin 91/12**

71 Applicant: **International Business Machines Corporation**  
**Old Orchard Road**  
**Armonk, N.Y. 10504(US)**

72 Inventor: **Barker, Barbara Ann**  
**2800 Carmel Drive**  
**Round Rock Texas 78681(US)**  
Inventor: **Edel, Thomas R.**  
**9410 Topridge Drive**  
**Austin, Texas 78750(US)**  
Inventor: **Stark, Jeffrey A.**  
**2905 Valleyview Drive**  
**Grapevine Texas 76051(US)**

74 Representative: **Tubiana, Max**  
**Compagnie IBM France Département de**  
**Propriété Intellectuelle**  
**F-06610 La Gaude(FR)**

54 **Method for controlling the presentation of nested overlays.**

57 A method is disclosed for controlling the presentation of nested overlays on a display medium. An overlay function resource is provided which includes its own environment specification which is independent of the space and data environment specifications. Mixing attributes are associated with each overlay and are utilized to determine which overlay space and data are to take precedence and be visible when the overlaid spaces are combined and imaged on a display medium. In a preferred mode of the present invention, the foreground and background of each overlay are separately controlled by the mixing attributes which define the mixing rules for the layered presentation of multiple overlays. Additionally, the order of precedence for displaying multiple overlays may be selectively altered or varied to provide multiple displays and to permit an individual overlay to be repetitively utilized.

**EP 0 349 455 A3**



European  
Patent Office

## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 89 48 0077

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
A	GB-A-2 176 677 (MITSUBISHI DENKI K.K.) * Claim 1 * - - - -	1	G 09 G 5/14 G 09 G 1/16
A	EP-A-0 019 045 (IBM) * Page 16, lines 10-24 * - - - -	1	
A	US-A-4 574 364 (TABATA et al.) * Column 6, lines 7-60 * - - - - -	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			G 09 G
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of search 27 December 90	Examiner TIBAUX M.J.P.G.
<div>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</div> <div>X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document T: theory or principle underlying the invention</div> <div>E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons ----- &amp;: member of the same patent family, corresponding document</div>			