

(19)



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(11)

EP 1 008 969 A3

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3:
24.07.2002 Bulletin 2002/30

(51) Int Cl. 7: G07F 17/32

(43) Date of publication A2:
14.06.2000 Bulletin 2000/24

(21) Application number: 99124083.9

(22) Date of filing: 10.12.1999

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE
Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK RO SI

(30) Priority: 10.12.1998 JP 35101598
18.12.1998 JP 36038298
02.11.1999 JP 31232499
12.11.1999 JP 32197399
30.11.1999 JP 34020199

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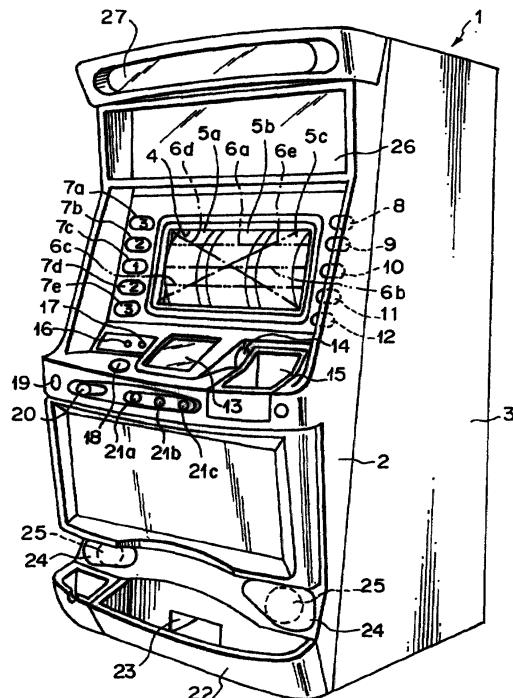
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(54) **Gaming machine**

(57) In a gaming machine (1) comprising a variable display device (5a to 5c) for variably displaying a plurality of kinds of symbols necessary for gaming, a starting device (20) for starting variable display of the symbols, and a stopping device (21), disposed so as to be operable by a player, for stopping the symbols being variably displayed, wherein, on condition that a combination of symbols displayed when the symbols are stopped constitutes a predetermined special winning mode, the player is allowed to start playing a special game which is more advantageous to the player than is a normal game; an image display section (13) for displaying special game information in the special game to the player is provided.

F I G . 1





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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim							
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A	GB 2 262 642 A (MAYGAY MACHINES) 23 June 1993 (1993-06-23) * claims; figure *	1-21							
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)						
			G07F						
<p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">Place of search</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Date of completion of the search</td> <td style="width: 34%;">Examiner</td> </tr> <tr> <td>THE HAGUE</td> <td>27 May 2002</td> <td>Reule, D</td> </tr> </table>				Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	THE HAGUE	27 May 2002	Reule, D
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<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> 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 </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document </td> </tr> </table>				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 E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document				
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EP 99 12 4083

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