

First Named Inventor : Stuart C. Salter
Appln. No. : 17/872,169
Page : 6

REMARKS

By way of this amendment, claims 1, 6, 11, 13-15, and 18-19 have been amended, and claims 2, 8-9, 12, and 20 have been cancelled. Claims 1-20 remain pending. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

In the Office Action, claim 19 was objected to because of an informality. Applicant has amended claim 19 to correct the informality.

Claims 1-3, 10-11, and 17-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Mpakaris (International Patent Application Publication No. WO 2021/063809 A1) in view of Hodgson (International Patent Application Publication No. WO 2015/123442 A1); claims 7 and 16 were rejected under U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Mpakaris in view of Hodgson and further in view of Boinais (U.S. Patent No. 10232802 B2); and claim 8 was rejected under U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Mpakaris in view of Hodgson and further in view of Ory (U.S. Patent No. 10583740 B2).

Further, in the Office Action, the Examiner acknowledged allowable subject matter in that claims 4-6, 9, 12-15, and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if re-written in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In order to advance the allowance of the present application, Applicant has amended the independent claims to incorporate allowable subject matter. Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the allowable limitations of dependent claim 9 and intervening claims 8 and 2, and claims 2, 8, and 9 have been cancelled. Additionally, independent claim 11 has been amended to incorporate the allowable limitations of dependent claim 12, and claim 12 has been cancelled. Further, independent claim 18 has been amended to incorporate the allowable limitations of dependent claim 20, and claim 20 has been cancelled.

By way of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant has amended the independent claims to incorporate the allowable subject matter so as to place the application in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully solicited.

First Named Inventor : Stuart C. Salter
Appln. No. : 17/872,169
Page : 7

If the Examiner has any questions regarding the patentability of any of the claims, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

December 28, 2023

Date

KTG/sbh

/Kevin T. Grzelak/

Kevin T. Grzelak, Registration No. 35169

Price Heneveld LLP

695 Kenmoor, S.E.

Post Office Box 2567

Grand Rapids, Michigan 49501

616.949.9610