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(54) **AUTOMATIC DATA COLLECTION AND WORKFLOW MANAGEMENT IN A BUSINESS PROCESS**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method and system for data collection and workflow management in a business process using the Internet includes: defining a plurality of steps of a business process on a network; and automatically implementing the plurality of steps, including sending a request for data, receiving the data with tags, where the tags comprise identifying information concerning the data, and storing the data based on the tags. The method and system include the ability to integrate a digital image capture device into the business process, where the web server creates an executable file which is downloadable into the digital image capture device. The executable file creates tags for the digital images captured by the digital image capture device. The web server uses these tags to match an image to corresponding stored data. In this manner, there is less chance of confusion or mistake, and the speed of performance is also increased.

15 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets

