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An example report for a patent analysis

MCL

34/132 Laxmi Industrial Estate
New Link Road, Andheri West
Mumbai 400 053, India
Phone: 1-408-800-6250
+91-22-40167705
Email : info@mcl.in

www.mcl.in

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PATENT NUMBER :	6,336,114
PATENT TITLE :	System and method for restricting access to a data table within a database
APPLICATION NUMBER :	09/146,404
COUNTRY :	USA
FILING DATE :	09/03/1998
ISSUE DATE :	01/01/2002
PRIORITY DATE :	09/03/1998
CALCULATED PATENT EXPIRY DATE :	09/02/2018
INVENTORS :	Garrison; Greg B. (Woodstock, GA)
ASSIGNEE :	WESTCORP SOFTWARE SYSTEMS
FAMILY ID :	22517212
REFERENCES COUNT :	76
ANALYSIS DATE :	June 25, 2012

Click here to view the patent full-text on USPTO

Number of Independent Claims : **5**

Number of Dependent Claims : **13**

Broadest Independent Claim :

5. A system for preventing unauthorized access of databases, comprising:

a client computer associated with a user;

a database configured to receive a query, to retrieve data stored in a column of a data table in said database based on said query, and to transmit said data; and

a server computer configured to receive said data, to determine whether said data is accessible to said user based on predefined security information stored in said server, to discard a portion of said data inaccessible to said user, and to transmit a remaining portion of said data to said client computer.

Brief description of invention in simple terms :

A system utilizing a method of securing access to data in a database, whereby column data of a table is retrieved from a query, a user's authorization to the data is checked, and the data the user is not authorized for is omitted from the result set before being returned to the user.

Summary of Analysis :

Value - High

Describes a system/method of securing access to data in a database, whereby column data of a table is retrieved from a query, a user's authorization to the rows of data is checked, rows the user is not authorized for are omitted from the result set before being returned to the user. One of several alternatives. Some database products appear to read via module and/or app server configuration, though several alternatives exist. Crowded field.

Current Use :

Used in Narrow Areas

Future Use :

One of several alternatives

Technology Coverage :

Reasonable coverage of a technique

Relevance to Standards :

RDBMS row level security

Claim Quality :

Average. M+F for Claim 11 and its dependents

Prior Art :

Somewhat crowded field.
Several solutions to row level security.

PeopleSoft's Query Security Tree and Row Level Security ('98):
http://www.highbeam.com/doc/1G1-53151689.html

Visual FoxPro row level rules ('95):
http://www.accessmylibrary.com/coms2/summary_0286-9375607_ITM

Single Infringer Concerns :

Potential convolution between database provider and implementing application server (though could be the same, ie : Oracle and WebLogic, Microsoft .Net and Sql Server)

Infringement detection Concerns :

Detection is largely observable through documentation.

Current Value :

High

Explanation to Current Value :

The process of a server authenticating a user after a query has been processed by the database speaks to row level security and to a solution programmed, versus being productized per se. At the application layer several products can be configured to comply - most application servers could infringe through security policies, resources, other programming. At the database level alternatives exist as well, such as row labeling. Single sign-on solutions also potentially read, but likewise appear in several alternative forms and predate the patent. Best potential assertion is on database/app server products.

Future Value Trend :

Stable Value

Explanation to Future Value Trend :

Research indicates there may be no appreciable increase or decrease in its application in the future and therefore no significant change in value.

Technology search keyword terms :

Row level security authentication permission levels

Licensing Candidates :

Database/app server solution providers

Potential reads :

Oracle -
http://www.oracle.com/technology/pub/articles/dikmans-toplink-security.html

Microsoft -
http://www.microsoft.com/technet/prodtechnol/sql/2005/multisec.mspx

Development Possibilities :

PCT/US99/14179 filed on 06-21-1999 which is Published claims the benefit of 09/146,404