



(12) **United States Patent**
Chan

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(54) **INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION AND PROCESSING SYSTEM**

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This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

An information distribution and processing system contains a remote site, a sender and a receiving apparatus. The remote site contains a first set of digital data. The sender delivers a second set of digital data to the receiving device. In one embodiment of the present invention, the receiving device contain a timing device for automatically receiving the second set of digital data at predetermined times. The second set of digital data contains a first set of displayable data, a second set of displayable data, at least one non-displayable symbol, and at least one linking reference associated with the second set of displayable data. If desired, a user can select the second set of displayable data. The associated linking reference is sent to the remote site. The associated linking reference is used by the remote site to search for the additional information, and returns the requested information to the user.

18 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets

