



US 20060123412A1

(19) **United States**

(12) **Patent Application Publication**

Hunt et al.

(10) **Pub. No.: US 2006/0123412 A1**

(43) **Pub. Date: Jun. 8, 2006**

(54) **SELF-DESCRIBING ARTIFACTS AND APPLICATION ABSTRACTIONS**

(22) Filed: **Dec. 7, 2004**

**Publication Classification**

(75) Inventors: **Galen Hunt**, Bellevue, WA (US); **Thomas Roeder**, Ithaca, NY (US); **James R. Larus**, Mercer Island, WA (US); **Manuel Fahndrich**, Seattle, WA (US); **John D. DeTreville**, Seattle, WA (US); **Steven P. Levi**, Redmond, WA (US); **Benjamin Zorn**, Woodinville, WA (US); **Wolfgang Grieskamp**, Redmond, WA (US)

(51) **Int. Cl.**  
**G06F 9/445** (2006.01)  
(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... 717/174

(57) **ABSTRACT**

Described herein is at least one implementation employing multiple self-describing software artifacts persisted on one or more computer-storage media of a software-based computer. In this implementation, each artifact is representative of at least part of the software components (e.g., load modules, processes, applications, and operating system components) of the computing system and each artifact is described by at least one associated "manifest," which include metadata declarative descriptions of the associated artifact.

Correspondence Address:  
**LEE & HAYES PLLC**  
**421 W RIVERSIDE AVENUE SUITE 500**  
**SPOKANE, WA 99201**

(73) Assignee: **Microsoft Corporation**, Redmond, WA

(21) Appl. No.: **11/007,808**

