

[0239] In alternative embodiments, the methods of the present invention may be applicable to implementations of the invention in integrated circuits, field programmable gate arrays (FPGAs), chip sets or application specific integrated circuits (ASICs), DSP circuits, wireless implementations and other communication system products.

[0240] It is intended that the appended claims cover all such features and advantages of the invention that fall within the spirit and scope of the present invention. As numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is intended that the invention not be limited to the limited number of embodiments described herein. Accordingly, it will be appreciated that all suitable variations, modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the spirit and scope of the present invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A method of delivering personal computer (PC) content over a network, said method comprising the steps of:

rendering, on a multimedia server (MMS), a plurality of PC based items as really simple syndication (RSS) documents and storing said RSS documents in memory;

generating, on a multimedia client (MMC), a request for one or more RSS documents;

in response to said request, retrieving one or more RSS documents on said server from said memory; and

sending said one or more RSS documents retrieved to said multimedia client.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of rendering comprises the steps of:

reading a directory or file name from among said PC content; and

encapsulating said directory or file name into an RSS element.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of rendering comprises the steps of:

communicating with an application via an application programming interface (API) corresponding thereto;

storing user specified data selections from said application in a configuration database;

retrieving application data selections; and

generating a representation of said application data selections for storing in said database.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein said request comprises an application ID and an element ID.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of retrieving comprises the step of retrieving configuration and related data from a configuration database based on an application ID extracted from said request.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of rendering comprises the steps of:

creating an index of application data derived from a plurality of applications; and

storing index and configuration information for accessing application data in response to client requests in a configuration database.

7. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of registering said MMS on an authentication server wherein each MMS is assigned a unique serial number.

8. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of obtaining an internet protocol (IP) address of an MMS from an authentication server in response to a unique serial number corresponding to said MMS provided thereto.

9. The method according to claim 1, wherein said MMC comprises a conventional web browser.

10. A method of delivering personal computer (PC) content over a network, said method comprising the steps of:

requesting from an authentication service a location of a multimedia server (MMS) running on a user's PC;

establishing a peer-to-peer connection between a multimedia client (MMC) and said MMS;

rendering, on said MMS, a plurality of PC based items as really simple syndication (RSS) documents and storing said RSS documents in memory;

generating on said MMC a request for one or more RSS documents and forwarding said request to said MMS;

in response to said request, retrieving one or more RSS documents on said MMS from said memory; and

sending said one or more RSS documents retrieved to said MMC.

11. The method according to claim 10, wherein said MMC comprises a conventional web browser.

12. The method according to claim 10, wherein said step of rendering comprises the steps of:

creating a unique application ID for each application, each application having a dataset comprising a plurality of data elements; and

creating a unique element ID for each data element within an application's dataset as identified by the user.

13. A system for delivering personal computer (PC) content over a network, comprising:

a really simple syndication (RSS) document database located on one or more servers, said RSS document database for storing one or more RSS documents, each RSS document associated with a particular PC based item;

one or more multimedia clients (MMCs) coupled to said network, each MMC operative to generate a request message for an RSS document in response to a user input command, each MMC operative to send said request message to a multimedia server (MMS) coupled to said network, and to process and display said requested RSS document received from said MMS; and

said MMS operative to render a plurality of PC items, each PC item rendered as an RSS document stored in said RSS document database, said MMS operative to receive said request message from said MMC and, in response thereto, to retrieve said requested RSS document from said RSS database and forward said requested RSS document to said MMC.

14. The system according to claim 13, wherein said MMS is operative to render a PC item by reading a directory or file name from among said PC content and encapsulating said directory or file name into an RSS element.