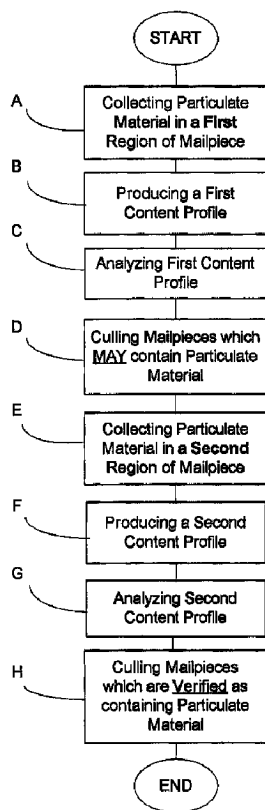




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(72) Inventeurs/Inventors:
QUINE, DOUGLAS B., US;
EUCHNER, JAMES A., US;
MASSUCCI, JOHN E., US
(73) Propriétaire/Owner:
PITNEY BOWES INC., US
(74) Agent: SIM & MCBURNEY

(54) Titre : METHODE ET SYSTEME PERMETTANT D'ATTENUER LES MENACES ET CANULARS PERPETRES PAR L'INTERMEDIAIRE D'UN SYSTEME DE COURRIER
(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MITIGATING THREATS AND HOAXES PERPETRATED THROUGH A MAIL SYSTEM



(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

A method is provided for identifying mail pieces which may contain a suspicious (biohazardous/chemical agents or hoax materials). The method includes the steps of (i) causing particulate material to collect in a first region of the mail piece; (ii) producing a first

(57) **Abrégé(suite)/Abstract(continued):**

content profile indicative of the internal contents of the mail piece; (iii) comparing the first content profile to a predefined baseline profile for determining whether the first content profile indicates the presence of a particulate material in the first region of the mail piece; and out-sorting a mail piece in response to the indicator. To ensure that other mail piece print, or physical characteristics, are not mistakenly identified as particulate material, steps (i) - (iii) may be repeated with certain modifications. These changes are directed to causing particulate material to collect in a second region of the mail piece envelope and comparing a newly developed second content profile with the first content profile to ascertain whether the particulate material is capable of movement, i.e., from the first to the second regions. In yet another embodiment of the inventive method and system, other detection schemes are employed which combine at least two non-specific triggering mechanisms to mitigate the instances of "false positive" indications. That is, by combining at least two such detection schemes, the probability of an accurate/valid assessment is dramatically increased.