

# ALICE PREY: CONTENT EXTRACTION & TRANSMISSION LLC

Case No. 2013-1588, 2013-1589, 2014-1112, and 2014-1687

Subject Patent(s): U.S. Patent Nos. 5,258,855 | 5,369,508 | 5,625,465  
| 5,768,416

CET sued Wells Fargo and PNC Bank for patent infringement, targeting the banks’ ATM check deposit software (check-data processing).

## U.S. PATENT NO. 5,258,855

The broadest claim of '855 is directed to a method of 1) extracting data from hard copy documents using an automated digitizing unit such as a scanner, 2) recognizing specific information from the extracted data, and 3) storing that information in a memory.

## BROADEST INDEPENDENT CLAIM

1. A method of **processing information from a diversity of types of hard copy documents**, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) **receiving output** representing a diversity of types of hard copy documents **from an automated digitizing unit** and **storing information** from said diversity of types of hard copy documents **into a memory**, said information not fixed from one document to the next, said receiving step not preceded by scanning, via said automated digitizing unit, of a separate document containing format requirements;

(b) **recognizing portions of said hard copy documents corresponding to a first data field**; and

(c) **storing information from said portions of said hard copy documents** corresponding to said first data field **into memory locations** for said first data field.

## ABSTRACT? WHY?

Yes, as it discloses an abstract concept of data collection + data recognition + data storage.

CET’s claims merely recite the use of this existing scanning and processing technology to recognize and store data from specific data fields such as amounts, addresses, and dates.

The use of scanners to extract information and computers to translate printed shapes into typeface was well known before filing of subject patents.

There is no “inventive concept” in CET’s use of a generic scanner (for data recognition) and computer (for processing recognized data) to perform well-understood, routine, and conventional activities commonly used in industry.

## ANALOGY

Banks use to manually review checks, recognized relevant data such as the amount, account number, and identity of an account holder, and stored that information in their records. '855 patent automate the process of data recognition using generic recognition devices such as a scanner, and then further processes the data using generic processing devices such as computers.

## KEY TAKEAWAYS

**Alice:** Generic computing device to be insufficient to lift otherwise ineligible claims.

**Ultramercial:** Use of the Internet to be insufficient to lift otherwise ineligible claims.

**Content Extraction:** Use of generic devices (scanner with OCR in this case) to perform generic and expected functions (such as data recognition) to be insufficient to lift otherwise ineligible claims.