

waits for another event to be initiated by the recipient, as has been previously described with reference to FIG. 13.

If a specific format of response was requested in step 144, then step 150 follows and determination is made whether the sender's request requested a specific input from the recipient type of response. If it did not, then the senders configured response is sent in step 152 to addresses specified by the sender, which may be the senders own e-mail address, the address of another, or the address of many others. Thereafter a step 154, like step 148 previously described, follows.

If a response from recipient was requested, then the requested response is made known in step 156 and collected and compiled in step 158. Thereafter, the recipient's response is automatically transmitted in step 160 and another wait step 162 follows.

The return receipt responses transmitted back to the sender in steps 146, 152, and 160 are each automatically sent using the API provided by respective e-mail clients. For SMTP, routines to send mail can be written using public domain information.

FIGs. 16A, 16B1-16B2 and 16C1-16C4 illustrate example data structures for an envelope container having a company logo as an object component according to the invention. FIGs. 17A-17D illustrate views and actions that result from the data structures such as set forth in FIGs. 16A, 16B1-16B2 and 16C1-16C4. So that the capabilities of the present invention can be appreciated, it should be noted that FIG. 17A is represented by the data structure of FIGs. 16a, 16C1 and 16C2; FIG. 17B is represented by the data structure in FIG. 16A; FIG. 17C is represented by the data structure in FIG. 16C3; and FIG. 17D is represented by the data structure in FIG. 16C4.

Of particular note, a mouse over 180 in FIG. 17A results in a bubble 180-A, which corresponds to data associated with the bubble as defined by mouse over action in FIG. 16C1 that has a text sub-component. Similarly, FIG. 16C2 data defines that the mouse over 182 will cause a process launch attribute that will result in audio music being played by a program containing program instructions to launch the audio content, which programs can also have been transmitted from the sender with the originally sent enhanced e-mail message.

A digital time stamp 184 is also included and indicates either sender transmission time or, in the alternative, a certified time stamp from a dedicated time stamp server. Object components 188-204 are also illustrated on both sides of the envelope, and represent the ability of the present invention to depict, as desired by the user, many different forms, in many different manners, as well as attributes that then lead to the recipient to other areas. For instance, Figure 16C3, when a mouse click over the stamp object component 186 occurs, if the user is on-line at the time, will result in the user automatically being connected to the home page 206 illustrated in FIG. 17A. If, however, that mouse click over the stamp object