

We claim:

1. A method of processing an e-mail message that includes a representation of an envelope containing a time stamp on a computer screen of a computer, said method comprising the steps of:
  - 5 receiving, at said computer, said e-mail message that includes said representation of said envelope containing said time stamp;
  - rendering on said computer screen, using said computer, a representation of a front of said envelope;
  - rendering on said computer screen, using said computer, a representation of said time stamp  
10 at a screen location that is within the front of the envelope;
  - causing, upon initiation of a user action when a cursor is positioned on said computer screen at a screen location corresponding to that of said time stamp, said computer to connect with a location associated with said time stamp.
- 15 2. A method according to claim 1 wherein said step of causing said computer to connect with said location associated with said time stamp uses a uniform resource locator to determine said location.
3. A method according to claim 1 wherein said step of rendering said envelope renders said  
20 envelope front so that it is rectangular in shape and said time stamp is located on the upper right hand corner of said rectangular envelope.
4. A method according to claim 3 wherein said e-mail message further includes a stamp, said stamp being displayed on said screen at the upper right hand corner of said rectangular envelope  
25 such that said time stamp overlaps said stamp, and said method further comprises the step of:
  - causing, upon initiation of another user action when said cursor is positioned on said computer screen in another screen location corresponding to that of said stamp, said computer to connect with another location associated with said stamp.
- 30 5. A method according to claim 4 wherein said step of causing said computer to connect with said another location associated with said stamp uses another uniform resource locator to determine said location.
6. A method according to claim 1 wherein said step of causing is performed by execution of  
35 executable software that is received by said computer with said e-mail message.