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## (12) United States Patent

#### Thompson et al.

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#### (54) SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PERFORMING SUBSTITUTE FULFILLMENT INFORMATION COMPILATION AND NOTIFICATION

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- (\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

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- (22) Filed: Oct. 15, 1999

#### **Related U.S. Application Data**

- (63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 09/217,116, filed on Dec. 21, 1998, now Pat. No. 6,334,133.
- (51) Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup> ..... G06F 17/60
- (52) U.S. Cl. ..... 705/9
- (58) Field of Search ...... 705/9

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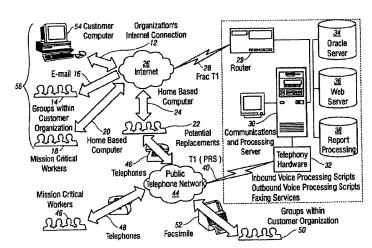
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#### (57) ABSTRACT

A system and method for automating the performance of substitute fulfillment to assign a replacement worker to substitute for a worker during a temporary absence, performing placement of floating workers, tracking absences and entitlements of workers, notifying interested parties regarding unexpected events and daily announcements, and bidding for temporary workers. Substitute fulfillment, contact, absence, entitlement and notification data is stored centrally in a database on a server at a common site for multiple organizations employing the substitute fulfillment or notification system. When a worker absence is indicated, the system searches the database to obtain a list of potential replacements for the absent worker and tracks the worker's absences and entitlements. The system contacts potential replacements until one is found or until the list is exhausted. The system generates suitable reports and notifies organization personnel of any activity. The system also records announcements regarding unexpected or current events and contacts the interested parties of an organization with these announcements. The system stores and aggregates historical operation data, prepares reports and provides relevant services.

#### 13 Claims, 26 Drawing Sheets



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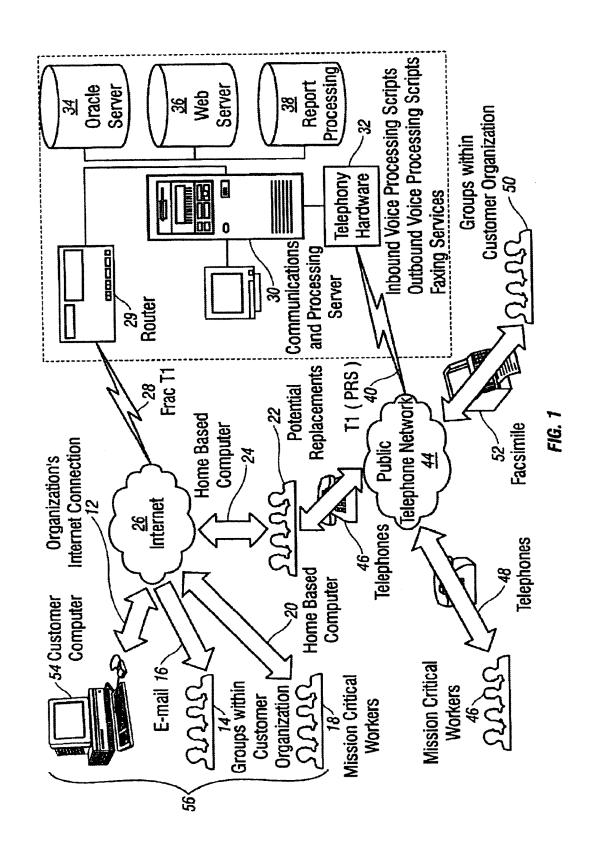
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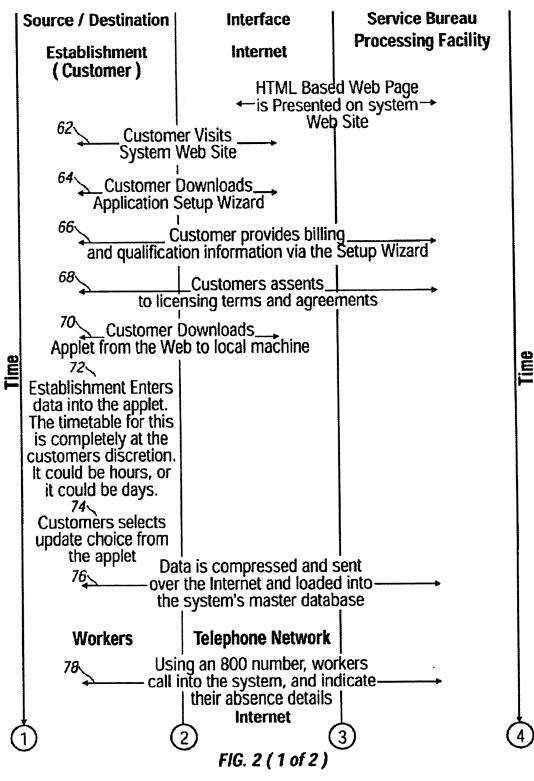
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**Data Flow Process and Interface** 



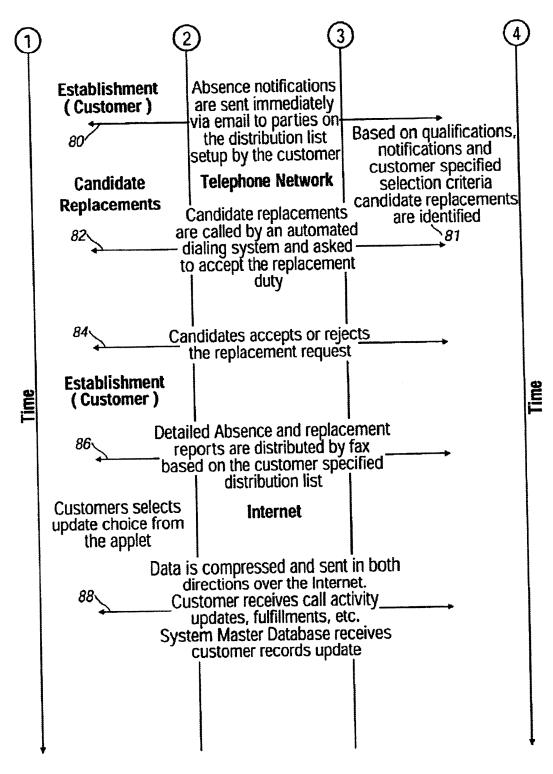


FIG. 2 (2 of 2)

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