

United States Patent [19]

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[54] PASSWORD HELPER USING A CLIENT-SIDE MASTER PASSWORD WHICH AUTOMATICALLY PRESENTS THE APPROPRIATE SERVER-SIDE PASSWORD TO A PARTICULAR REMOTE SERVER

- [75] Inventor: Jakob Nielsen, Atherton, Calif.
- [73] Assignee: Sun Microsystems, Inc., Palo Alto, Calif.
- [21] Appl. No.: 08/615,660
- [22] Filed: Mar. 13, 1996
- [51] Int. Cl.⁶ G06F 12/14

709/220, 203

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US006006333A

[11] Patent Number: 6,006,333

[45] **Date of Patent:** Dec. 21, 1999

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Primary Examiner-John W. Cabeca

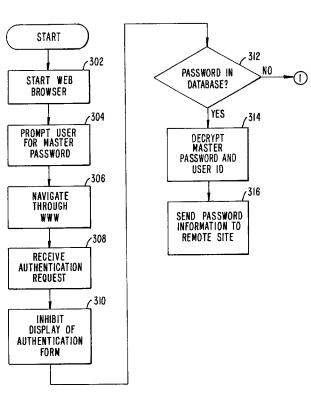
Assistant Examiner—Christopher S. Chow

Attorney, Agent, or Firm-Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP

[57] ABSTRACT

A user operating a client system may access a plurality of remote servers requiring passwords for access by employing a master password. The master password is used to decrypt a stored password for a particular remote server to which the client desires access. The client system maintains a database of encrypted passwords and user IDs for remote servers to which the user is registered. Although each remote server is accessed using a different password, the user need only remember one master password. Since only the master password need be remembered, the passwords particular to specific remote sites may be made more random and thus more secure. Implementation of the password management system need not require modification of any remote servers.

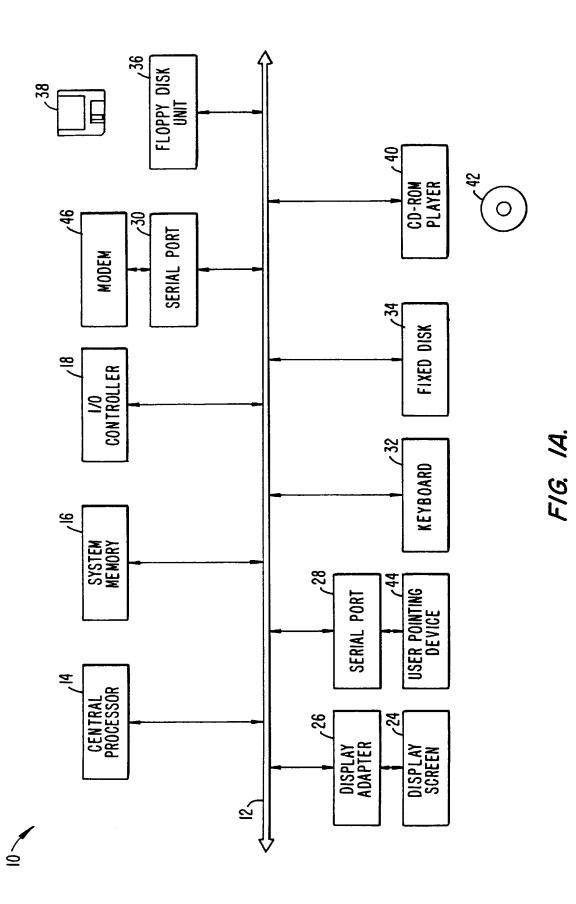
12 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets



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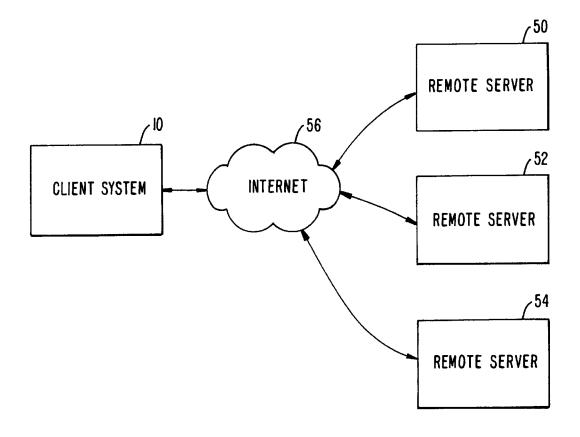


FIG. 1B.

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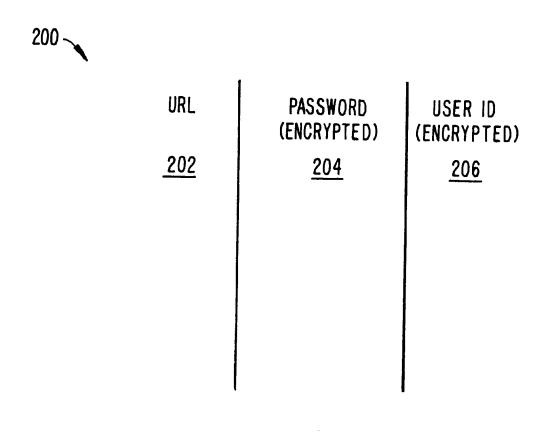


FIG. 2.



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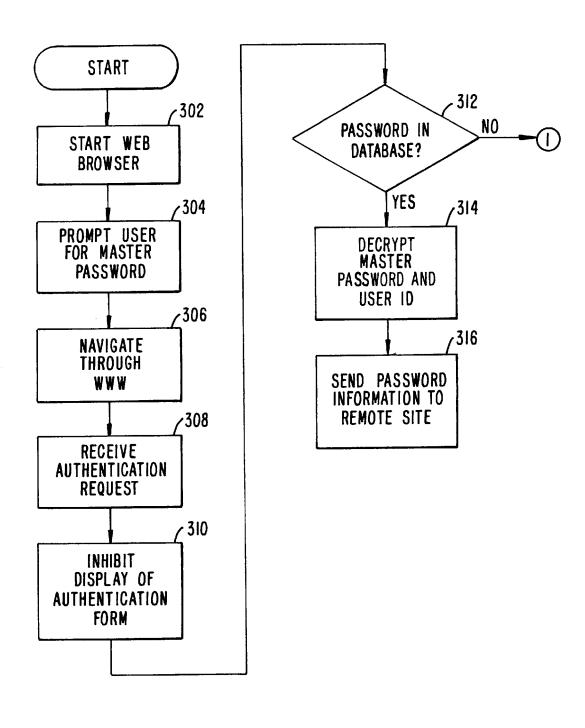


FIG. 3.

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