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United States Patent [19]

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Theimer et al.

[45] Date of Patent: **Feb. 20, 1996**

[54] **SELECTIVE DELIVERY OF ELECTRONIC MESSAGES IN A MULTIPLE COMPUTER SYSTEM BASED ON CONTEXT AND ENVIRONMENT OF A USER**

5,363,425 11/1994 Mufti et al. 340/825.49 X

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[21] Appl. No.: **162,419**

[22] Filed: **Dec. 3, 1993**

[51] Int. Cl.⁶ **H04L 9/32**; G06F 7/04; G08B 5/22

[52] U.S. Cl. **455/26.1**; 380/3; 380/23; 379/38; 379/57; 340/825.31; 340/825.49

[58] Field of Search 455/26.1; 380/3, 380/23; 340/825.31, 825.49, 825.5; 379/38, 56, 57

[57] ABSTRACT

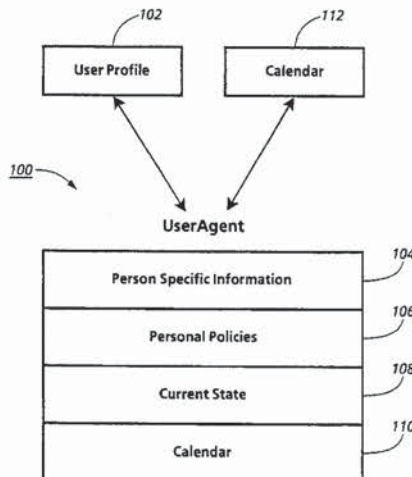
The present invention describes a method for selectively delivering electronic messages to an identified user or users in a system of mobile and fixed devices, including multiple display devices and multiple users, based on the context of the system and the environment of the identified user. Electronic messages intended for an identified user or users may be given a level of privacy and a level priority, and contextual attributes for its delivery may be specified. The system perceives contextual attributes for the recipient user or users, including display devices in close proximity to the identified users, and determines a display property for said electronic message based on the contextual attributes, the user profile properties of each user, and the level of privacy and level of priority of the electronic message. The display property may designate immediate delivery on a particular display device, a notification on a particular display device, or storage of the message until the contextual attributes of the recipient user is consistent with the specified contextual attributes of the electronic message.

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8 Claims, 17 Drawing Sheets



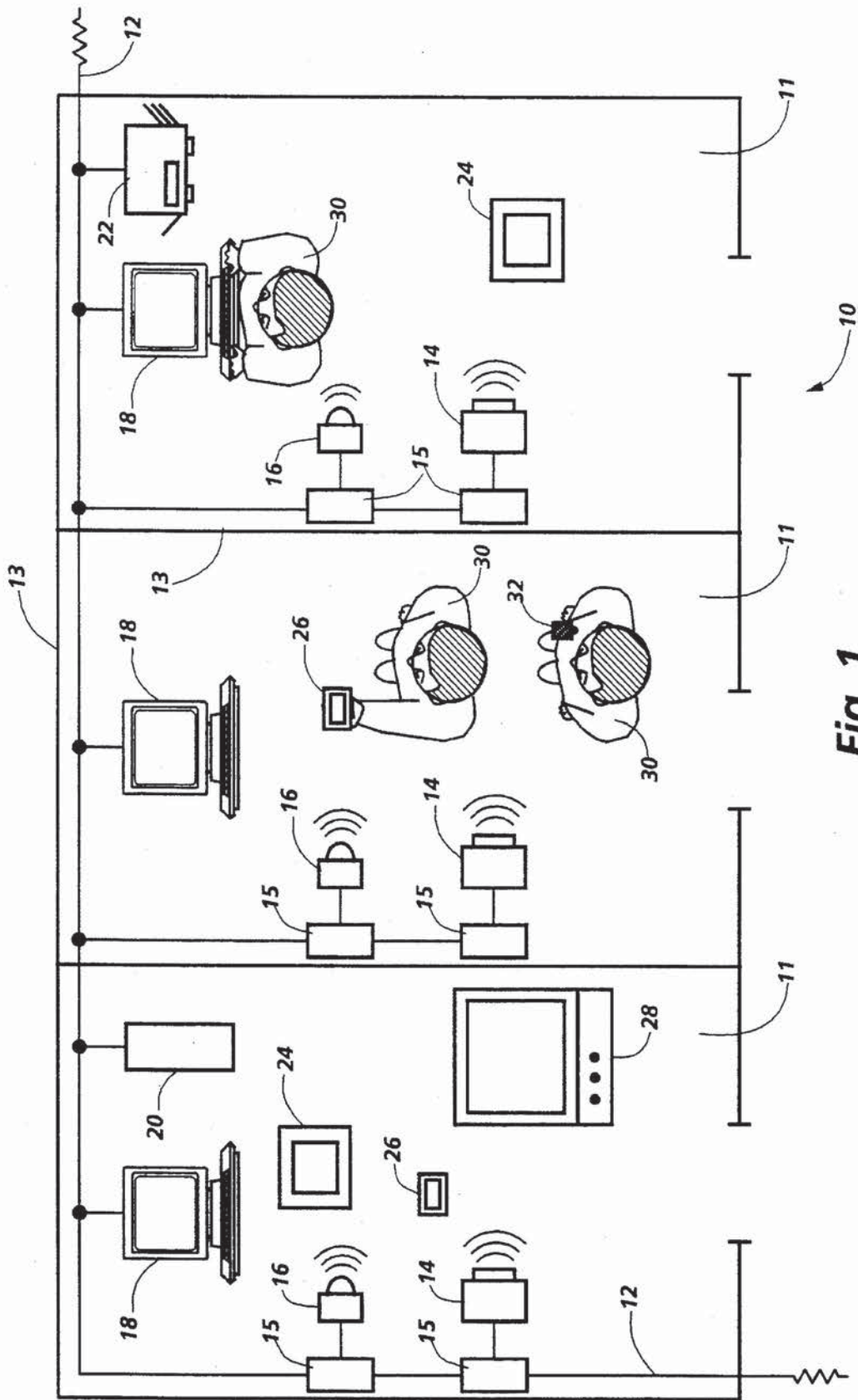


Fig. 1

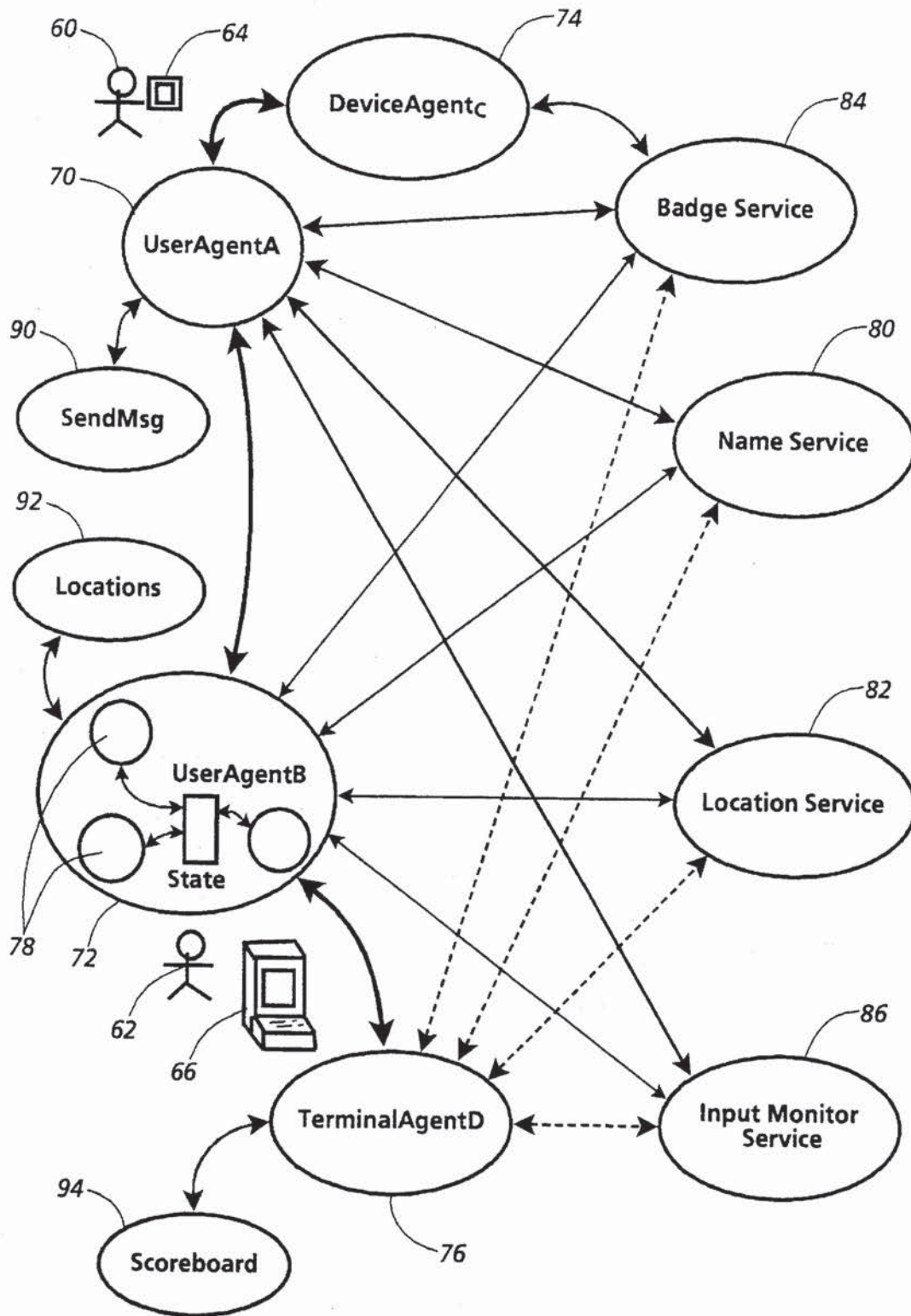


FIG. 2

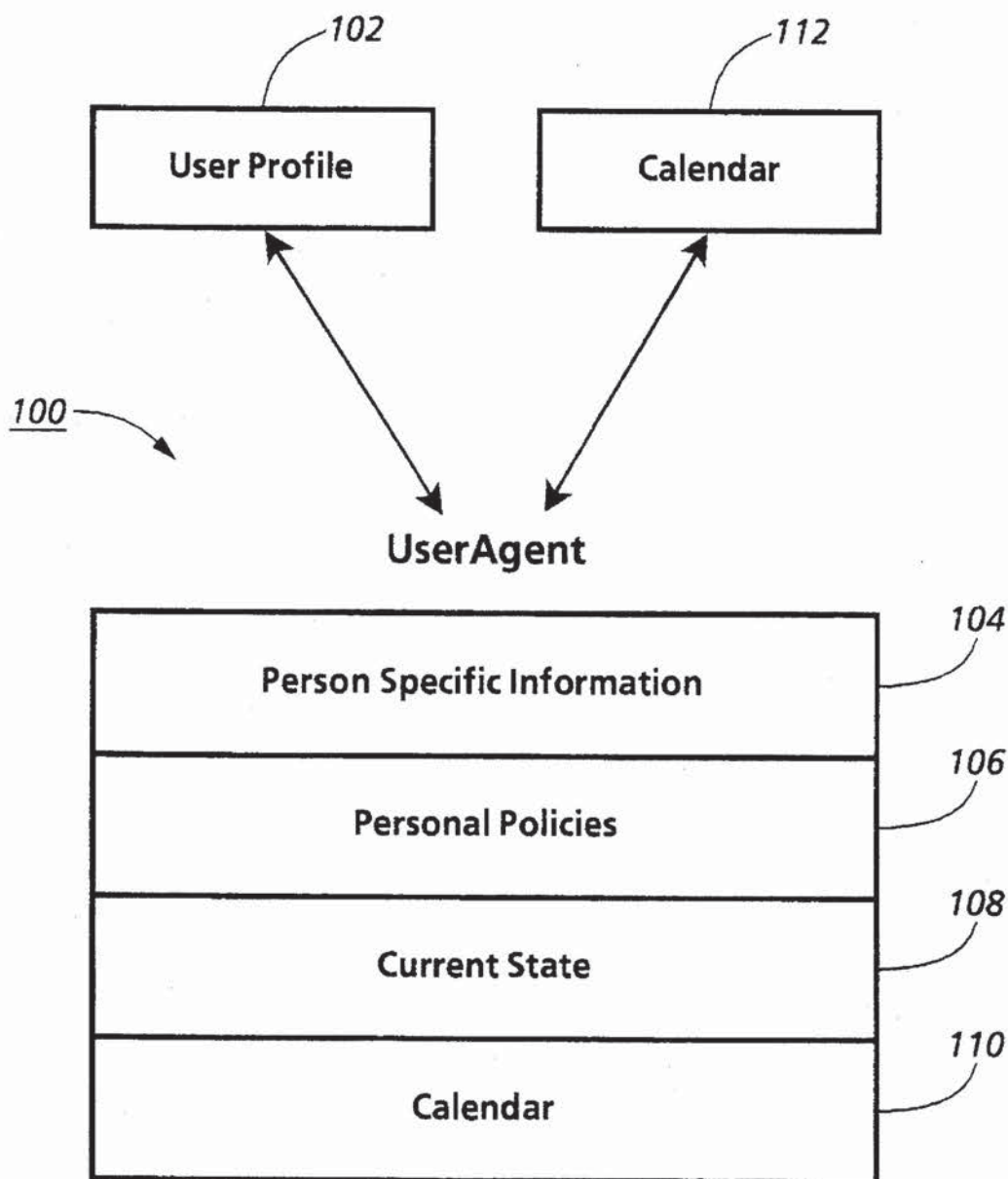


FIG. 3

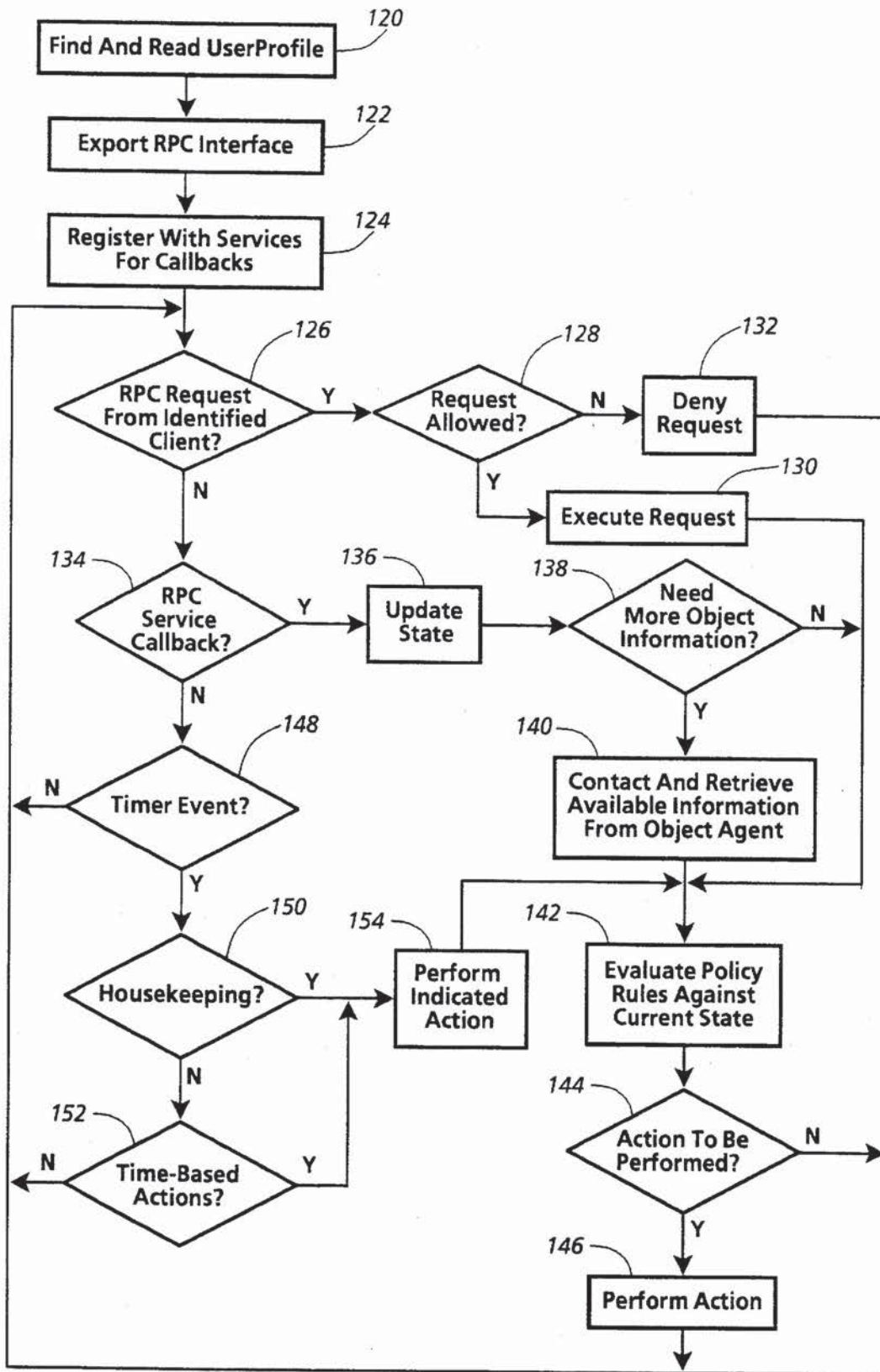


FIG. 4

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