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Fast et al.

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(54) **SYSTEM FOR, AND METHOD OF,
MONITORING THE MOVEMENTS OF
MOBILE ITEMS**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 384 days.

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4, 2004.

(51) **Int. Cl.**
G08B 13/14 (2006.01)
(52) **U.S. Cl.** **340/572.1**; 701/213
(58) **Field of Classification Search** 340/572.1,
340/825.36, 825.49, 825.72, 539.11; 701/213,
701/214; 342/357.01, 357.02
See application file for complete search history.

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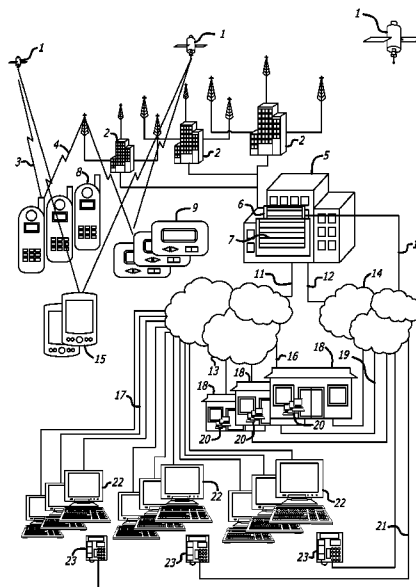
* cited by examiner

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A system monitors parameters (e.g., speed, position, thresh-
old boundaries) of mobile items attached to beacons and
produces signals indicating these parameters. The system
also monitors non-mobile parameters (e.g., battery life, door
locks, windows) in the items. Different technologies (e.g.,
wireless) are provided for communicating between the bea-
cons and a beacon controller interface. Different technolo-
gies are provided for locating and indicating item positions.
The beacons and the interface provide for new beacons to be
added to the system with different characteristics than the
existing beacons for monitoring the operation of new bea-
cons without affecting the operation of existing beacons. The
system includes resellers, retailers, users and subscribers in
a flexible relationship to enhance the ease in the system
operation. Beacons can perform more than one function (e.g.
tracking, threshold monitoring) simultaneously. Scenarios
for the beacons can be created and monitored. Recovery
personnel can intervene to resolve crises.

122 Claims, 30 Drawing Sheets



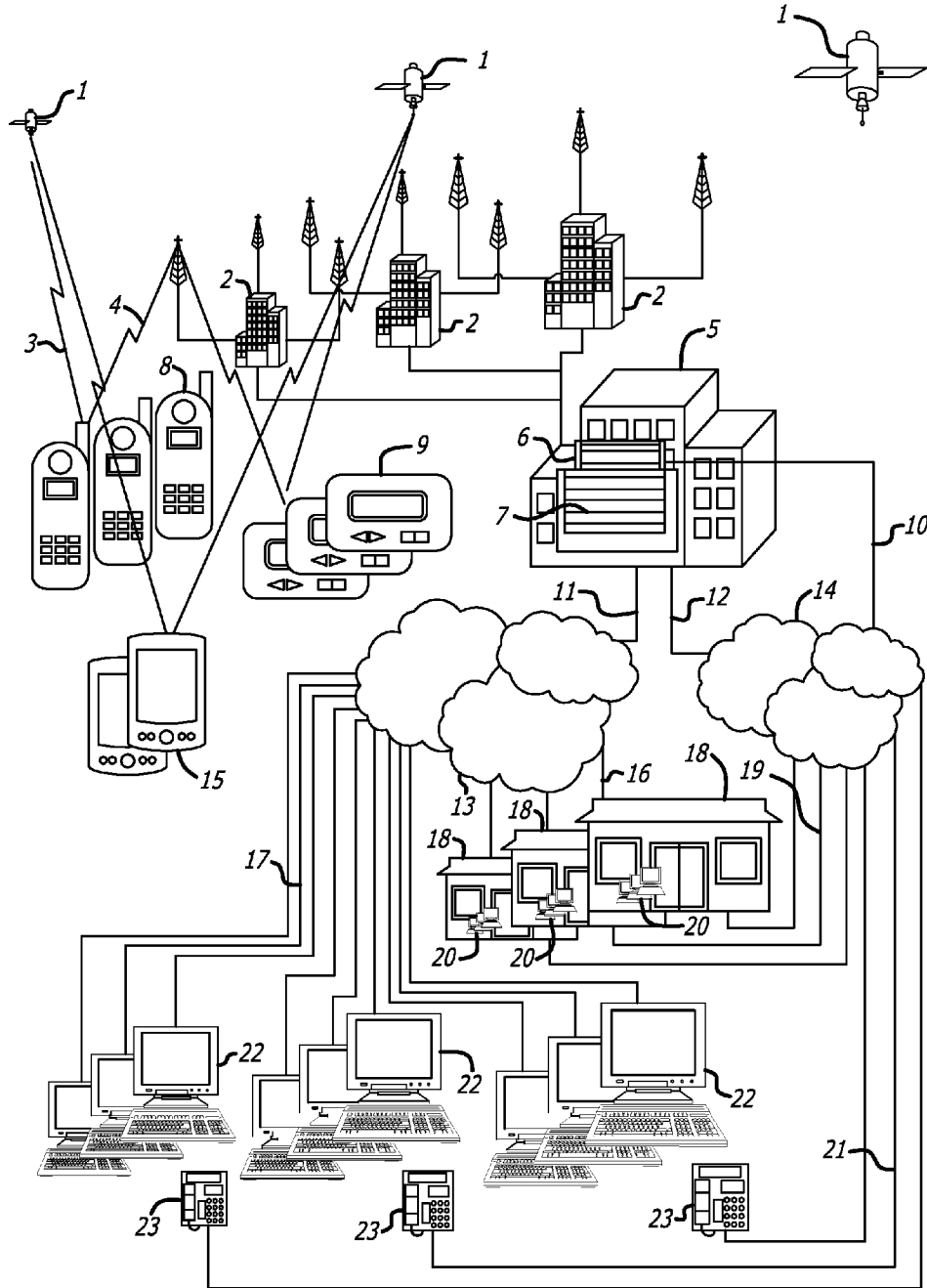


FIG. 1

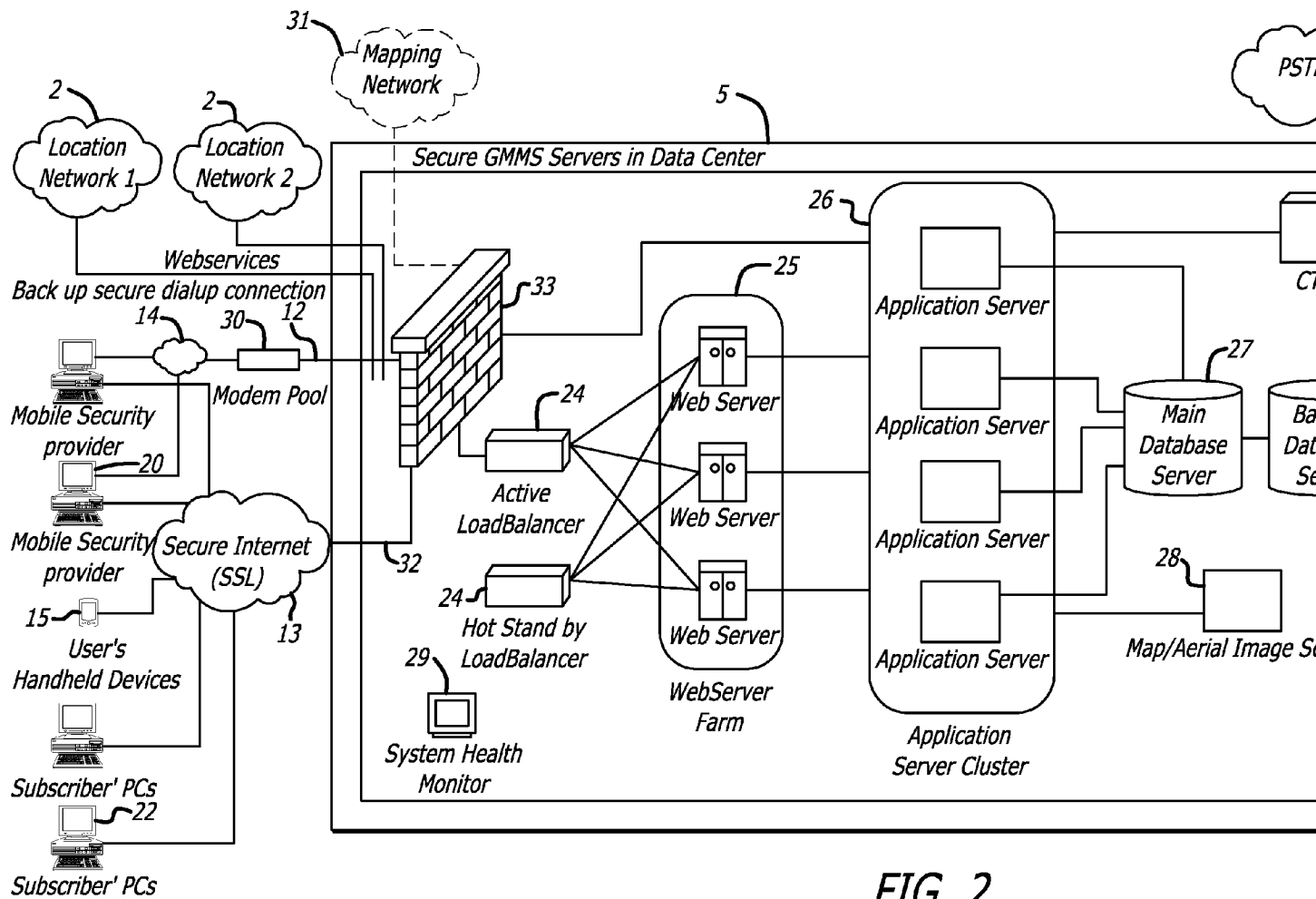


FIG. 2

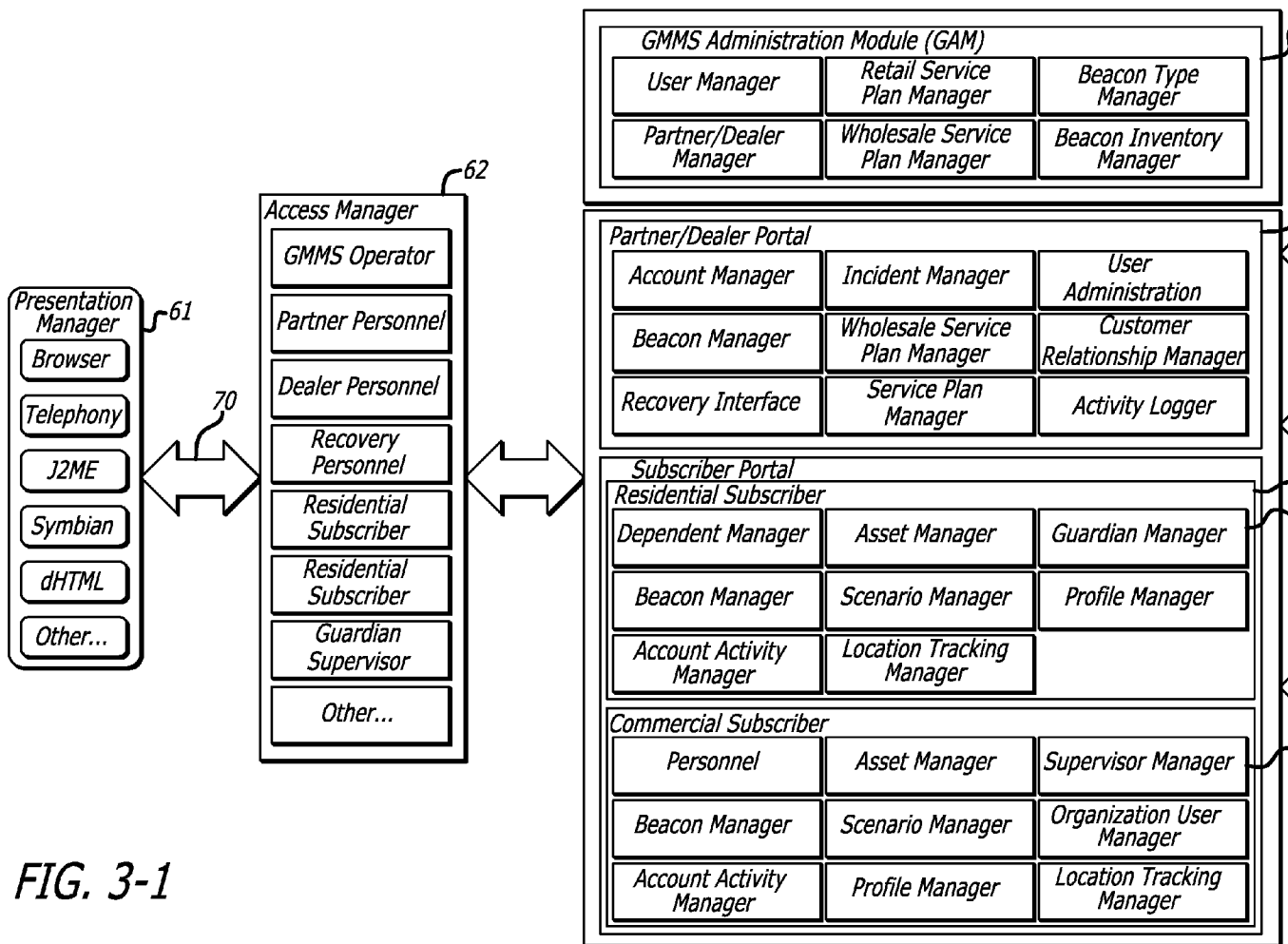


FIG. 3-1

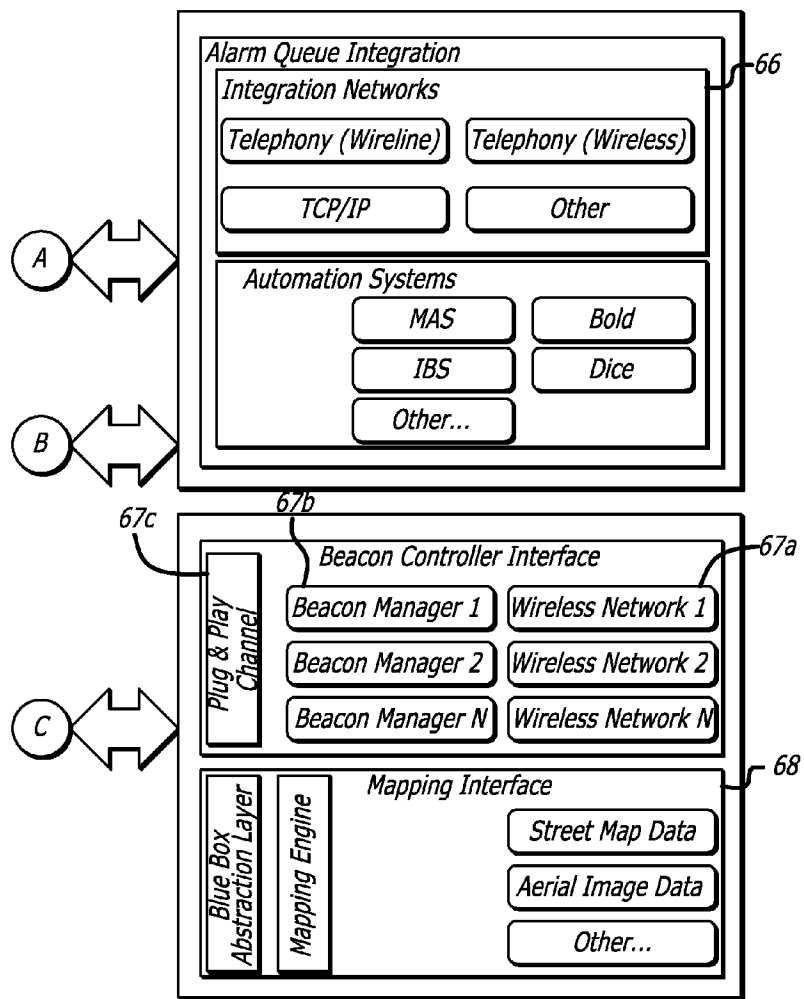


FIG. 3-2

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