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(12) United States Patent Woodhill

(54) SYSTEM AND METHOD OF USING THE PUBLIC SWITCHED TELEPHONE NETWORK IN PROVIDING AUTHENTICATION OR AUTHORIZATION FOR ONLINE TRANSACTIONS

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Related U.S. Application Data

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- (51) Int. Cl.⁷ H04L 9/32

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Aug. 23, 2005

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(45) Date of Patent:

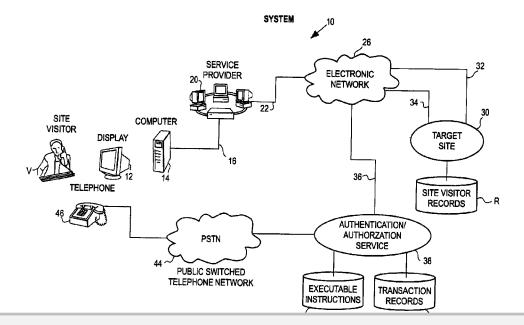
Primary Examiner—Matthew Smithers

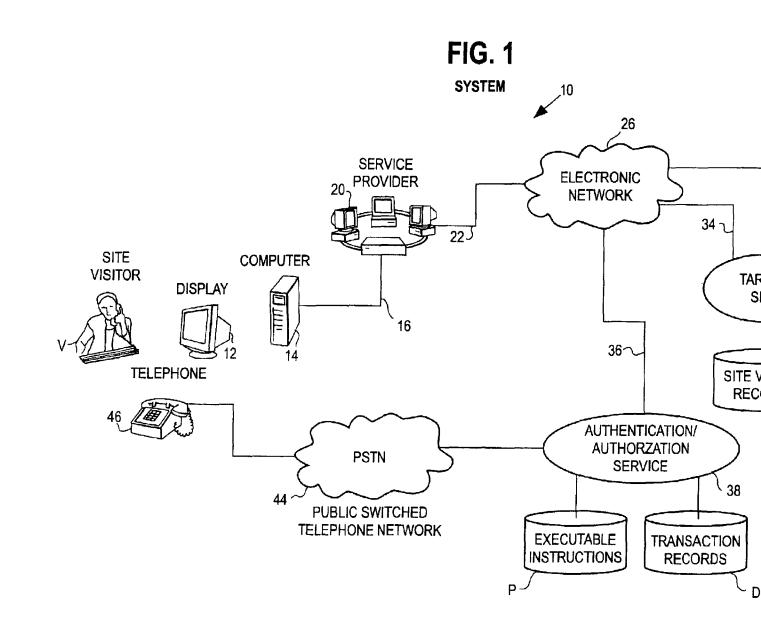
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(57) ABSTRACT

An authentication or authorization system to facilitate electronic transactions uses simultaneous or substantially simultaneous communications on two different networks to verify a user's identity. When a user logs onto a site, via the internet, a telephone number, either pre-stored or obtained in real time from the visitor, where the visitor can be called essentially immediately is used to set up, via the switched telephone network another communication link. Where the user has multiple communication links available, the telephone call is automatically placed via the authentication or authorization software simultaneously while the user is on-line. In the event that the user has only a single communication link, that individual will have to log off temporarily for purposes of receiving the telephone call. Confirmatory information is provided via the internet to the user. The automatically placed telephone call requests that the user feed back this confirmatory information for verification purposes. The telephone number which is being called is adjacent to the user's internet terminal. The user's response, via the telephone network, can be compared to the originally transmitted confirmatory information to determine whether the authentication or authorization process should go forward.

59 Claims, 18 Drawing Sheets





AN OVERVIEW OF THE PROCESS

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THE SITE VISITOR BEGINS THE REGISTRATION PROCESS AT THE TARGET SITE.



102 THE SITE VISITOR ENTERS THE TARGET SITE.

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THE VISITOR REGISTERS ON THE TARGET SITE'S EXISTING REGISTRATION PAGE.

FIG. 2A



THE TARGET SITE CONFIRMS A PHONE NUMBER FOR THE VISITOR:

• THE TARGET SITE MIGHT ASK THE VISITOR IF A PHONE NUMBER STORED IN ITS SITE VISITOR RECORDS IS CORRECT; OR

• ASK THE VISITOR TO TYPE IN A PHONE NUMBER.

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THE AUTHENTICATION/ AUTHORIZ SERVER (HEREAFTER, "THE SERV ASSUMES CONTROL OF THE VISIT AND ASKS THE VISITOR IF A CAL TO THE PHONE NUMBER WHILE T IS ONLINE.

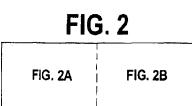
• IF THE VISITOR ANSWERS "YES ONLINE SESSION CONTINUES." SERVER DISPLAYS A CONFIRMA NUMBER ONSCREEN.

= IF THE VISITOR ANSWERS "NO,"

 DISPLAYS A CONFIRMATION ONSCREEN, AS WELL AS THE URL "FINISH REGISTRATION" WEB PAGE

• TELLS THE VISITOR TO TAKE THE CONFIRMATION NUMBER AN

• INSTRUCTS THE VISITOR TO THE INTERNET





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THE SERVER CALLS THE VISITOR ON THE PHONE:

• AN AUTOMATED CALL FIRST CONFIRMS THAT THE CALL RECIPIENT IS THE VISITOR AND IS EXPECTING THE CALL.

• AN AUTOMATED CALL THEN ASKS THE VISITOR TO TYPE THE CONFIRMATION NUMBER DISPLAYED IN THE ONLINE SESSION.

FIG. 2B



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OPTIONALLY, AN AUTOMATED CALL CAN TELL THE VISITOR TO SPEAK INTO THE PHONE, SO THAT THE SERVER CAN MAKE ONE OR MORE DIGITAL VOICE RECORDINGS. IN A STANDARD IMPLEMENTATION, THE AUTOMATED CALL MIGHT REQUEST UP TO TWO DISTINCT VOICE RECORDINGS, SUCH AS THE VISITOR RECITING HIS OR HER NAME, AND THEN RECITING AN AGREEMENT TO TERMS.

• VISITORS WHO REMAINED ONLINE DURING THE CALL CAN THEN HANG UP THE PHONE.

• VISITORS WHO HAD TO DISCONNECT FROM THE INTERNET ARE REMINDED TO RETURN TO THE "FINISH REGISTRATION" WEB PAGE AFTER HANGING UP.

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THE TARGET SITE **REGAINS** O VISITOR'S BROWSER AND REE FROM THE SERVER DESCRIBIN TELEPHONE SESSION.

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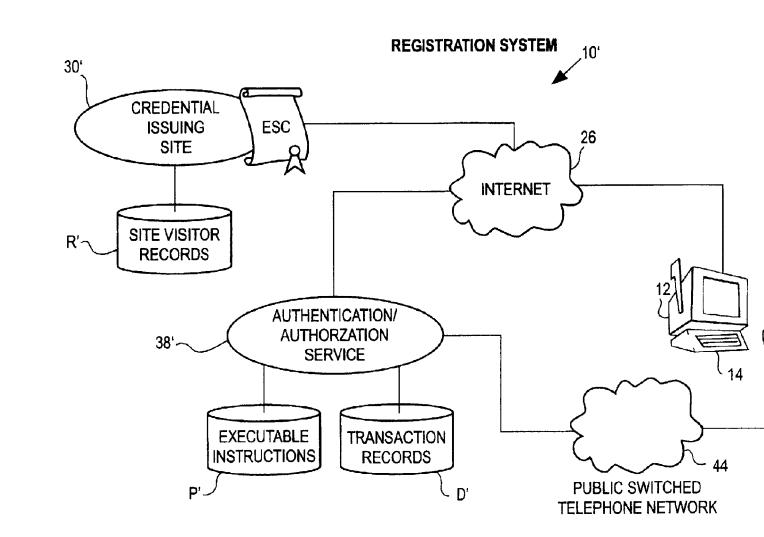


FIG. 3

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