United States Patent [19]

He

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[54] **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SINGLE SIGN-ON TO A PLURALITY OF NETWORK ELEMENTS**

[75] Inventor: **Jingsha He**, San Jose, Calif.

[73] Assignee: **MCI Communications Corporation**, Washington, D.C.

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[51] **Int. Cl.**^{6} **G06F 13/00**
[52] **U.S. Cl.** **713/201**
[58] **Field of Search** 395/188.01, 187.01, 395/186, 200.59, 726; 364/222.5, 286.4, 286.5; 380/4, 23, 30; 711/163, 164; 713/200, 201, 202

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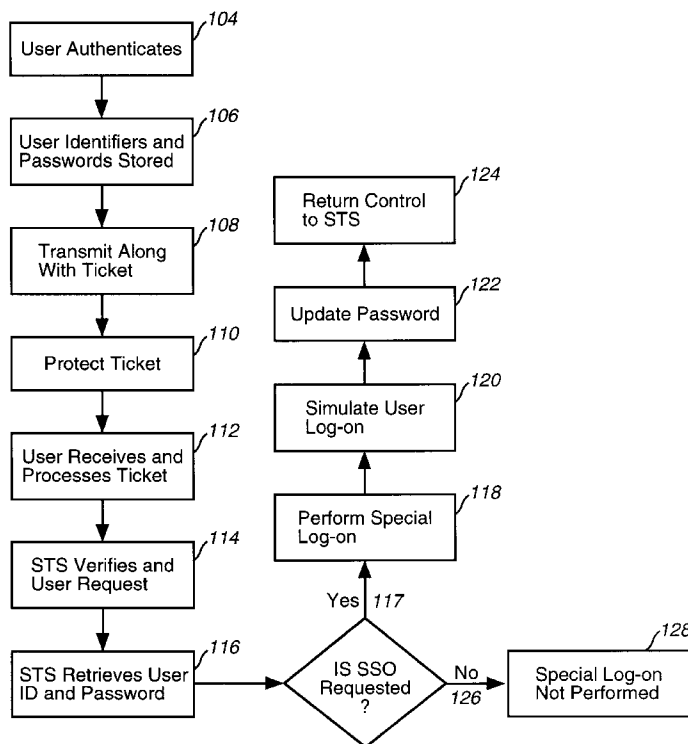
Primary Examiner—Robert W. Beausoliel, Jr.
Assistant Examiner—Stephen C. Elmore

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A secured network permits a single sign-on ("SSO") of users to a plurality of network elements. Data structures, procedures and system components that support the SSO functionality in a distributed networked environment are included in the secured network. The SSO functionality can be implemented and integrated into an existing network platform or used as the backbone protocol to new network installations. DCE-based features as well as ERA and EAC can be utilized as the foundation for the implementation. The SSO functionality may be implemented and integrated without requiring significant low level development or major modifications in a network.
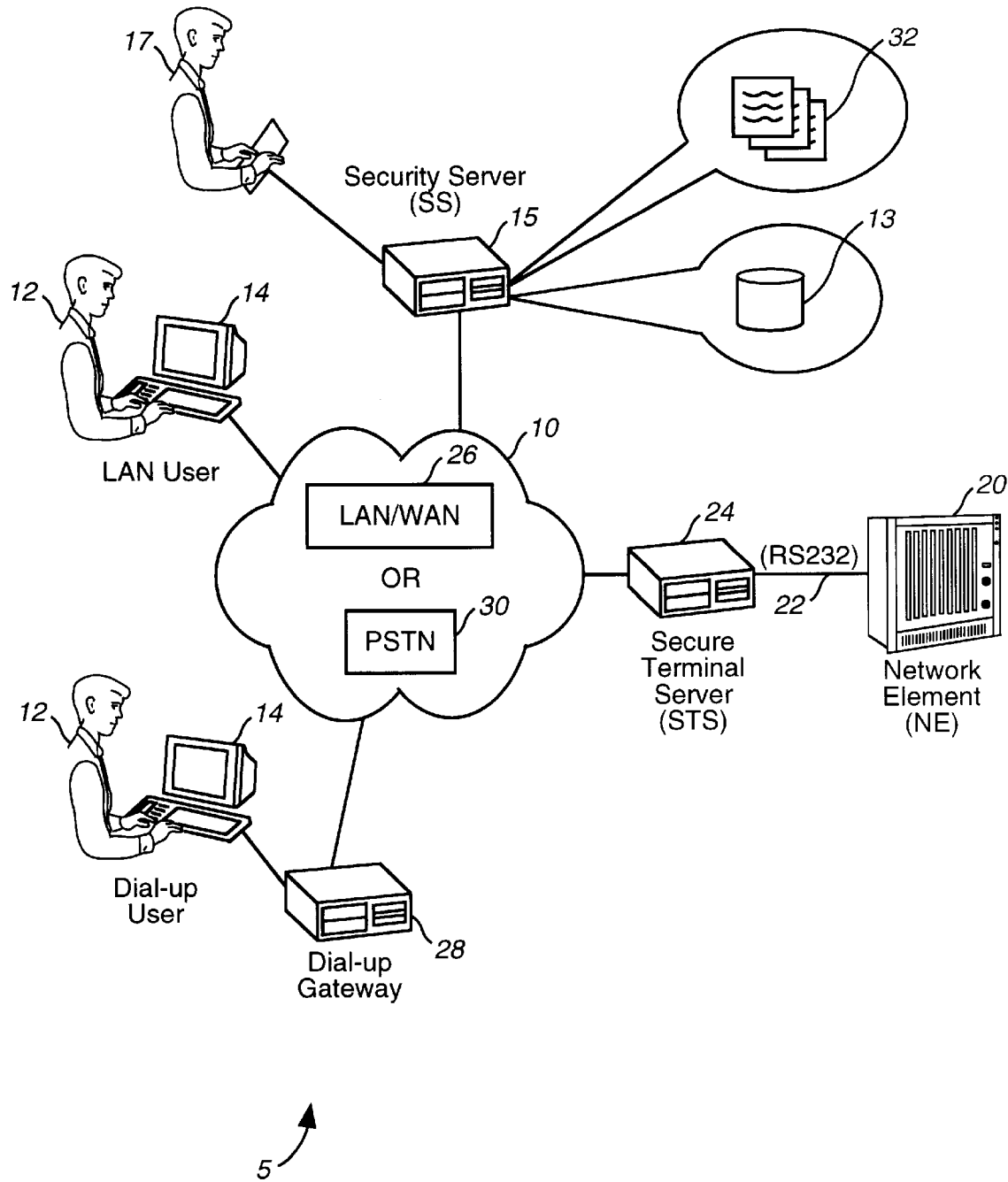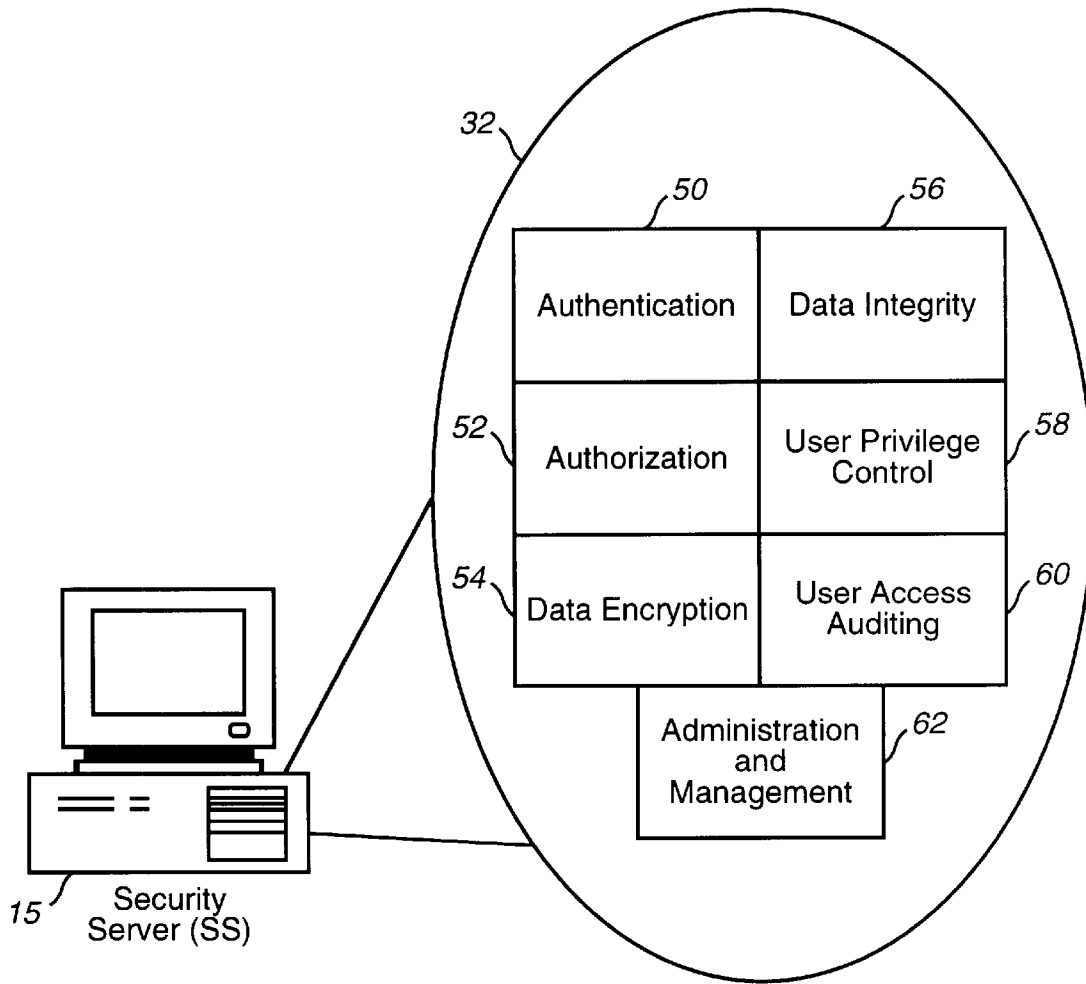
9 Claims, 12 Drawing Sheets

17

32

Security Server
(SS)

15

13

12

14

LAN User

10

26

LAN/WAN

OR

PSTN

30

24

(RS232)

20

22

Secure
Terminal
Server
(STS)

Network
Element
(NE)

12

14

Dial-up
User

28

Dial-up
Gateway
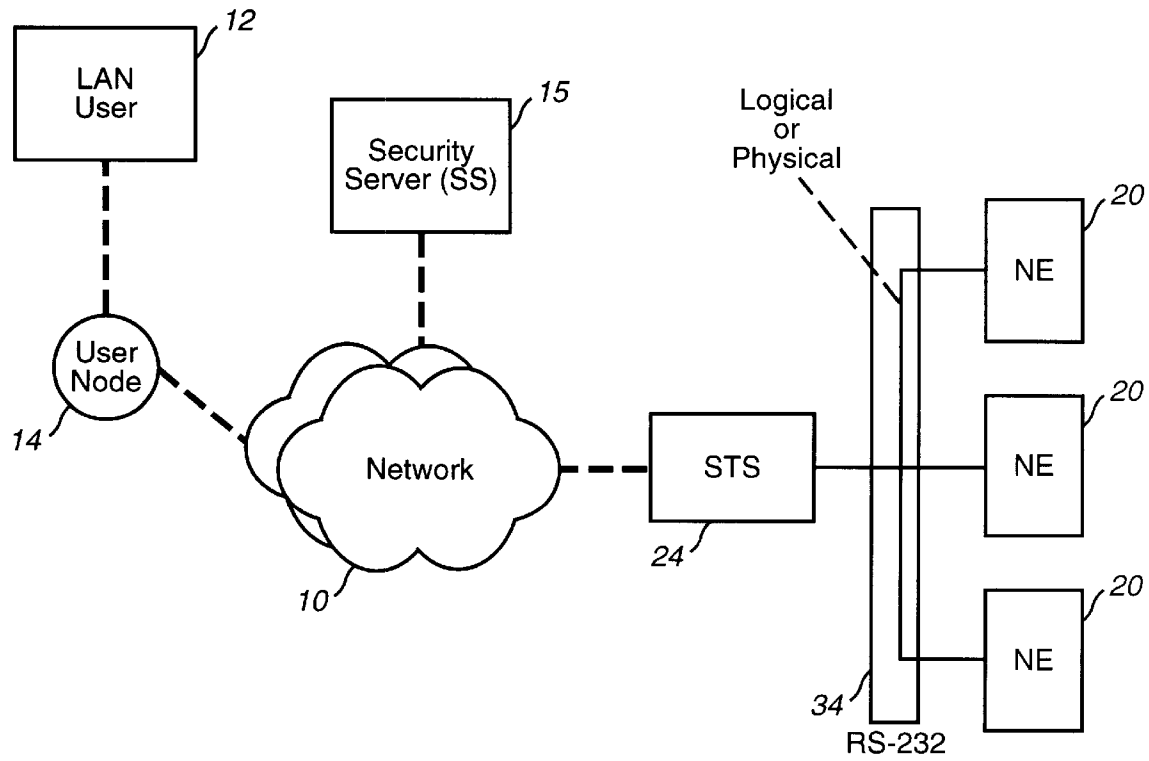
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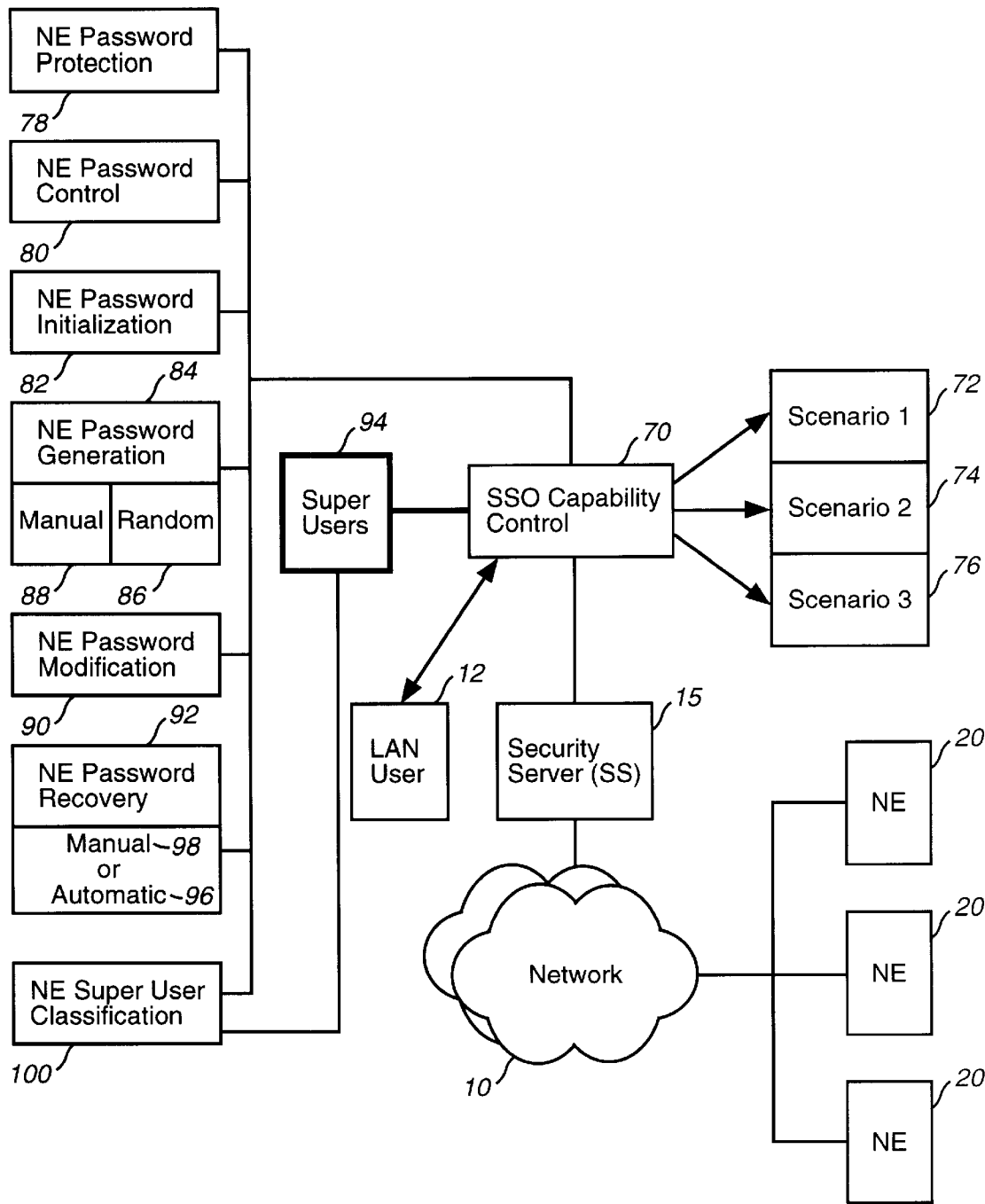**FIG. 1**

FIG. 2

FIG. 3

FIG. 4

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