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United States Patent [19]

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Cole et al.

[45] Date of Patent: May 12, 1998

[54] SERVER COMPUTER FOR SELECTING PROGRAM UPDATES FOR A CLIENT COMPUTER BASED ON RESULTS OF RECOGNIZER PROGRAM(S) FURNISHED TO THE CLIENT COMPUTER

129407 5/1995 Japan .
175641 7/1995 Japan .
225724 8/1995 Japan .
7295830 11/1995 Japan .

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

[75] Inventors: Gary Lee Cole, Endicott; Scott Phillip Engleman, Vestal; Steven Michael Pritko, Endicott, all of N.Y.

IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin vol. 38, No. 12, 12-95, p. 479. "Disk Drive With Embedded Hyper-Text Markup Language Server".

[73] Assignee: International Business Machines Corporation, Armonk, N.Y.

Copies of "Surfin' Service" transparency foils.

[21] Appl. No.: 659,841

Primary Examiner—Kenneth S. Kim
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Arthur J. Samodovitz

[22] Filed: Jun. 7, 1996

[57] ABSTRACT

[51] Int. Cl. 6 G06F 15/177

[52] U.S. Cl. 395/712; 395/703; 395/200.49; 395/200.51; 707/203

[58] Field of Search 395/712, 610, 395/619, 200.01, 200.09, 703, 200.49, 200.51; 707/203

A server computer selects code updates to download to a client computer. The server computer identifies code updates which are consistent with basic system characteristics of the client computer. Then, the server computer sends to the client computer one or more "recognizer" programs or one or more addresses outside of the client computer of the one or more recognizer programs which execute in the client computer to determine whether the client computer has a version other than a current version of the identified code updates. The client sends the results to the server computer which generates a list of code updates which are consistent with the basic system characteristics, representing programs that exist on the client computer for which an update would be appropriate. Next, the server computer sends the list or information about the list to the client computer. A user at the client computer selects from the list and sends the selections to the server computer. In response, the server computer sends addresses of the selected code updates to the client computer and the client computer downloads the selected code updates from a content server. At some later time, the recognizer programs corresponding to the selected code updates are executed again before the selected code updates are installed in the client computer.

[56] References Cited

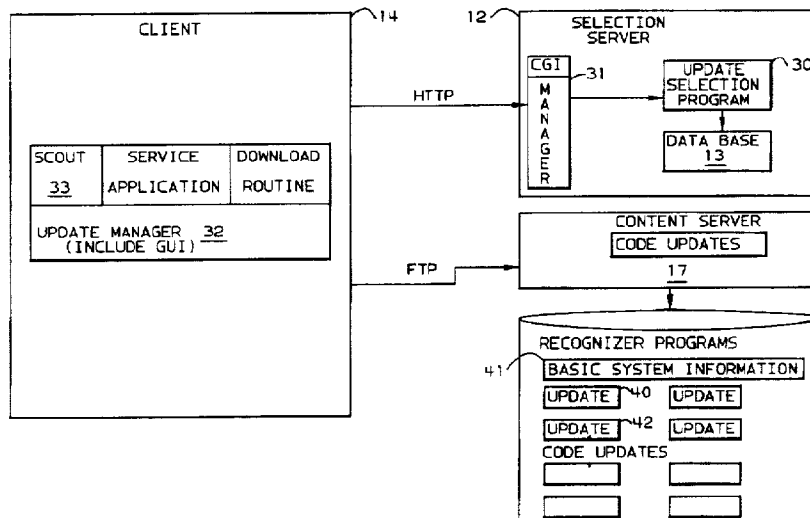
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Table of U.S. Patent Documents with columns for patent number, date, inventor, and reference number.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

20280 1/1993 Japan .

30 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets



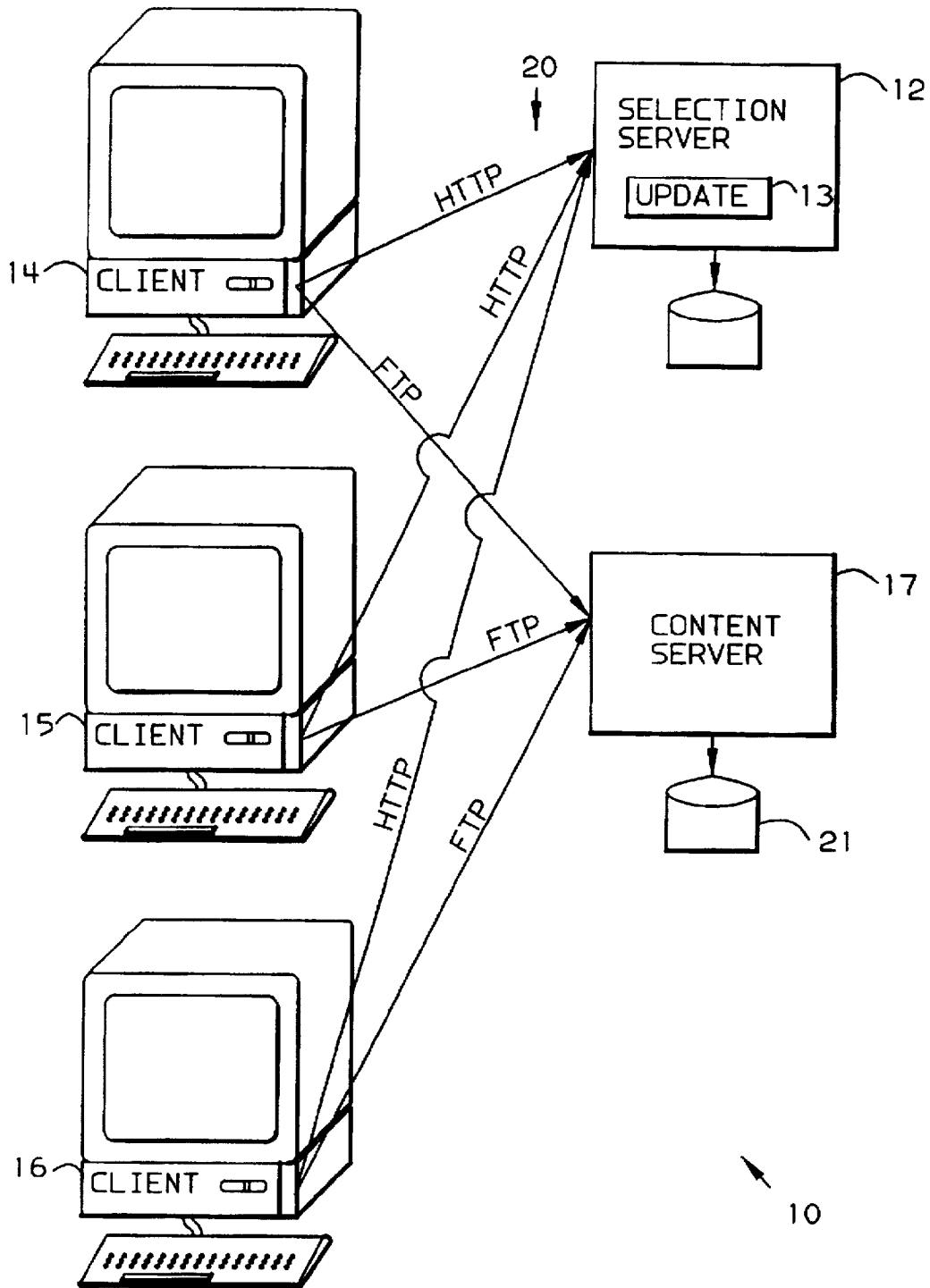


FIG. 1

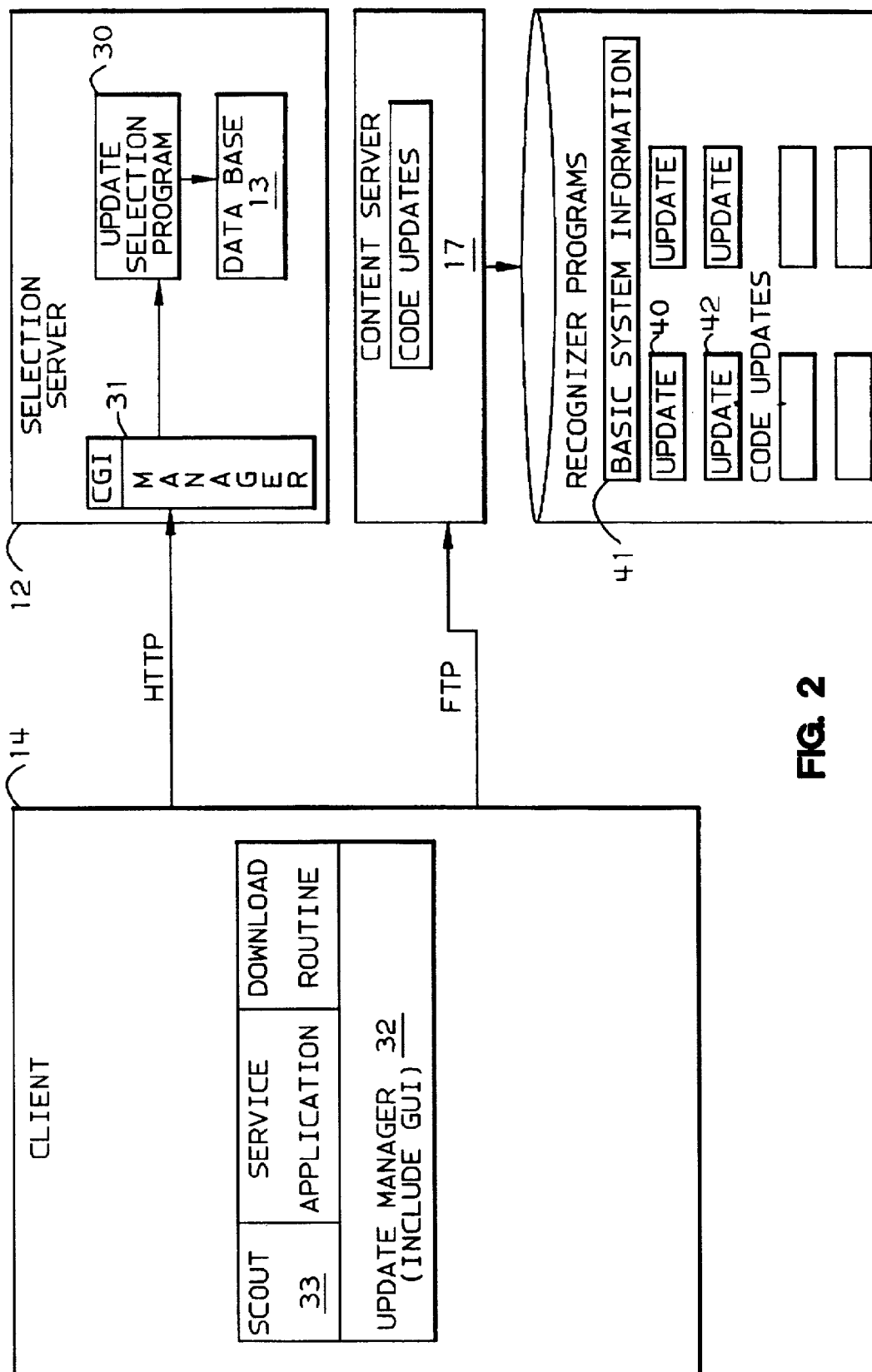
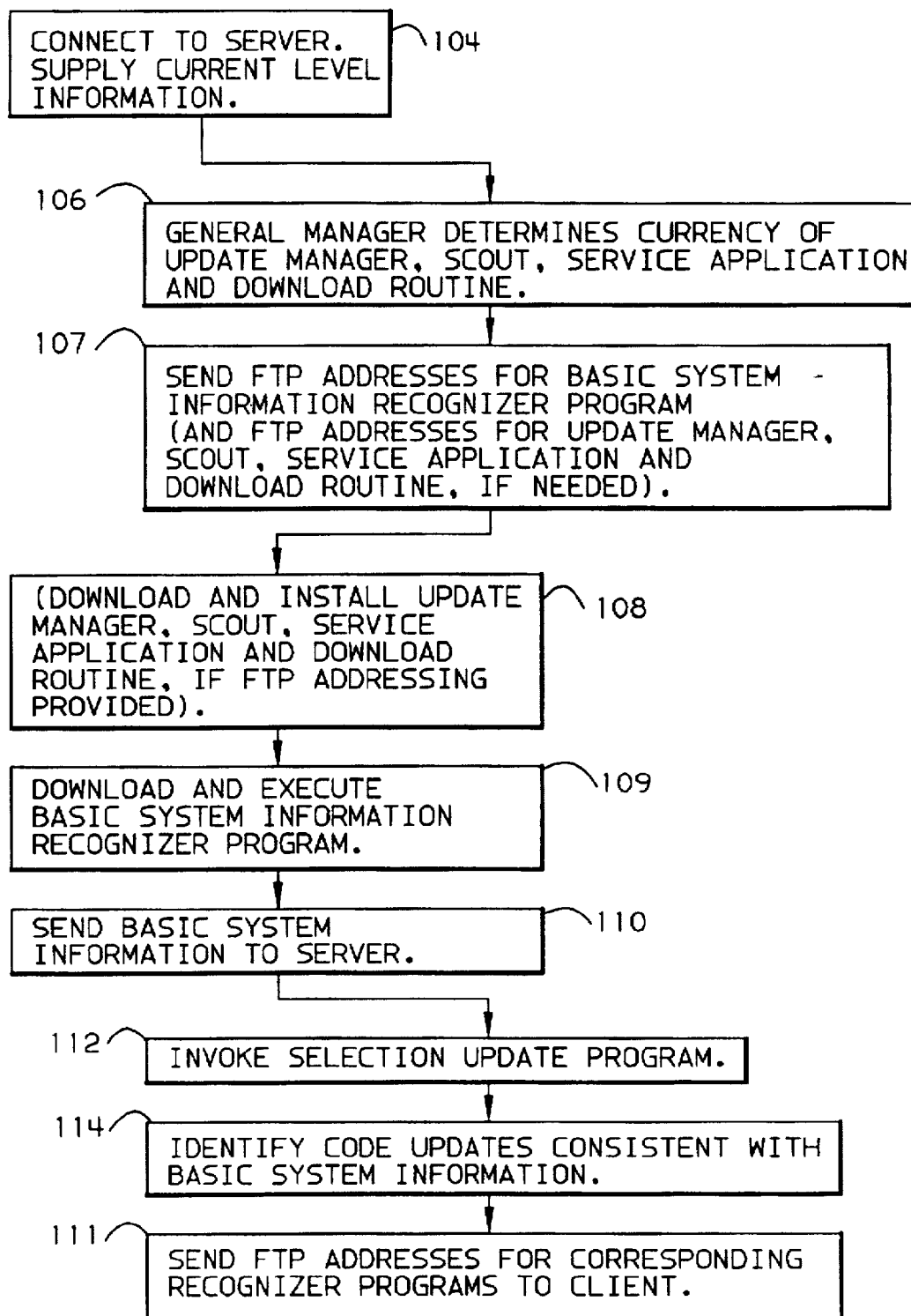


FIG. 2

CLIENT

SELECTION SERVER



STEP
118

FIG. 3(a)

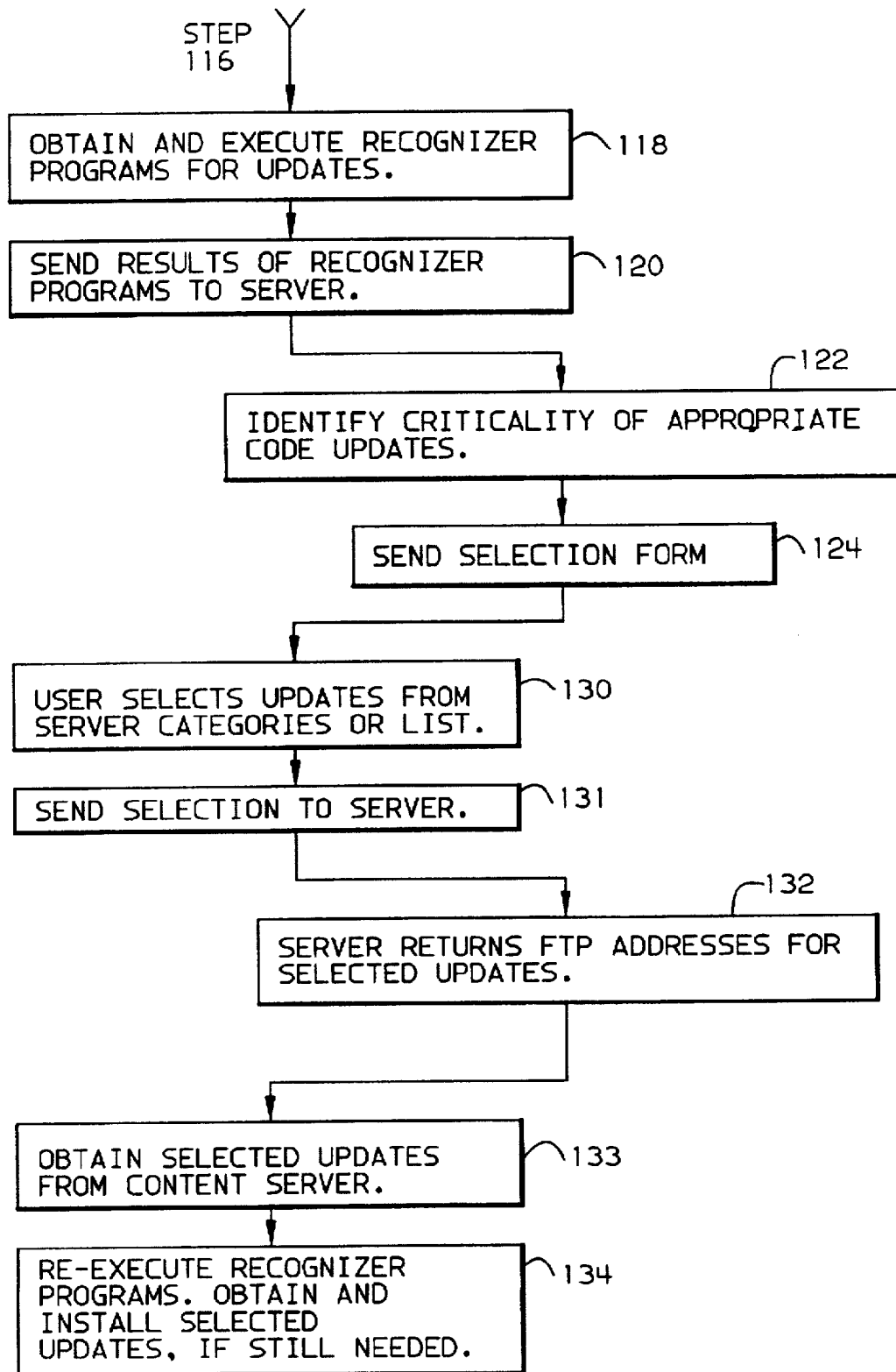


FIG. 3 (b)

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