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(54) **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR UPDATING INFORMATION VIA A NETWORK**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.** **717/177; 709/201; 709/203; 717/175; 717/176; 717/178; 717/168**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **717/1, 717/11, 168-178, 125, 103; 709/220, 223, 709/201, 203; 713/1, 178; 711/133**
See application file for complete search history.

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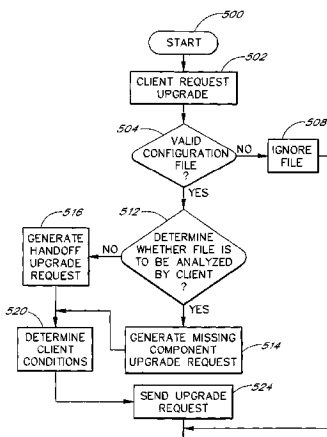
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

The present invention includes a system and a method for updating components in a client computer. The invention includes a method for upgrading software for various users, each of the users having diverse hardware and software configurations. The invention includes a method for automatically determining the hardware and software configuration of the client computer without user intervention. To begin the upgrade, the client computer reads a configuration file that identifies the components for downloading. Upon receipt of the configuration file, the client computer determines the hardware and software configuration of the client computer. The client computer automatically communicates with a component server via a network and requests one or more components for downloading to the client computer based upon the configuration file and the hardware and software conditions of the client computer.

51 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets



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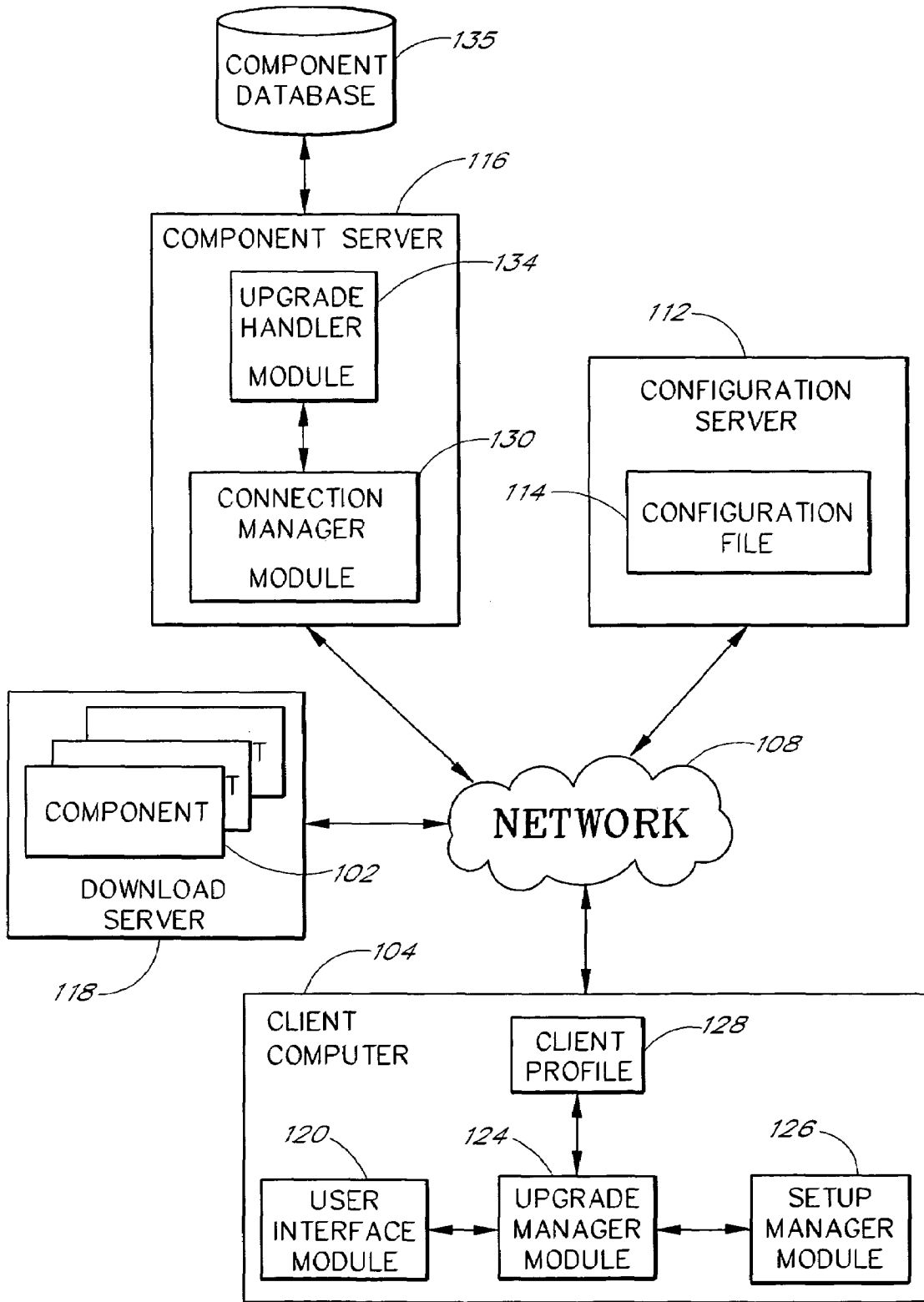


FIG. 1

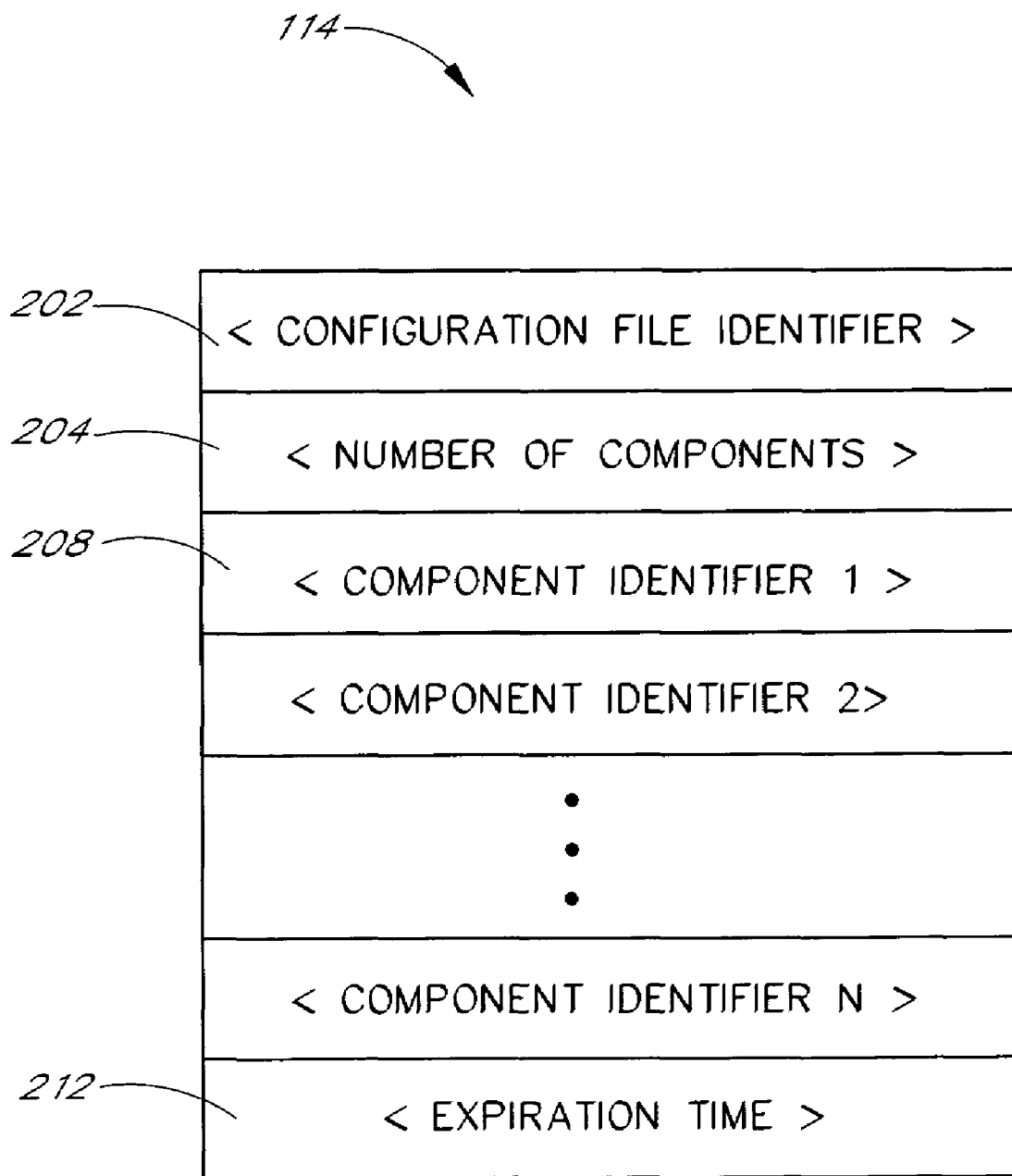


FIG. 2

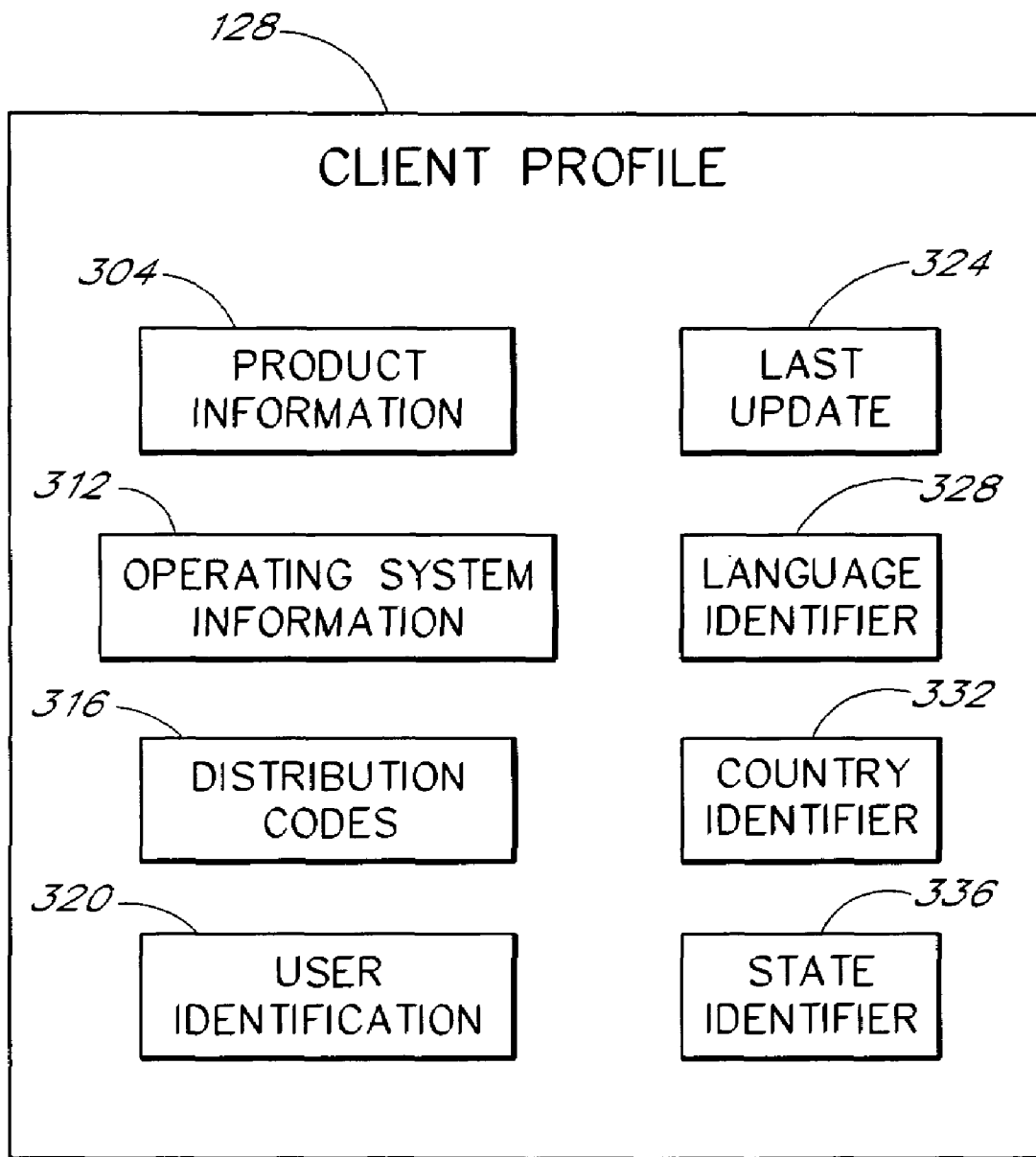


FIG. 3

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