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**Chaganti et al.**

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(54) **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ONLINE DOCUMENT COLLABORATION**

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(\* ) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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*Primary Examiner* — Benjamin Lanier

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

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A method and system for online document collaboration includes the steps of establishing on a server computer coupled to the Internet an account for each of a plurality of users; storing on the server computer a document created by a first user; associating a set of access restrictions with the document, said access restrictions including an ability to access the document for modification by one of a first group of users, said first group of users being users whose identities are known to the server computer; receiving, from a second user, a request to modify the document, wherein said request to modify accompanies the second user's identification information; verifying the identity of the second user; permitting the second user to modify the document based on a set of access rights granted to the second user; receiving approval or disapproval for the modifications from one or more users; and storing identifying information of the one or more users who approved or disapproved the modifications to the document. In alternative embodiments, the method further includes the step(s) of storing the modified document, storing the identity of the user who modified the document, notifying one or more members of a group if the document is modified or transmitting the modified document to one or more members of a group.

**Related U.S. Application Data**

(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 09/478,796, filed on Jan. 7, 2000, now Pat. No. 6,845,448.

(51) **Int. Cl.**  
**H04L 29/06** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **726/2; 726/3; 726/4; 713/182**

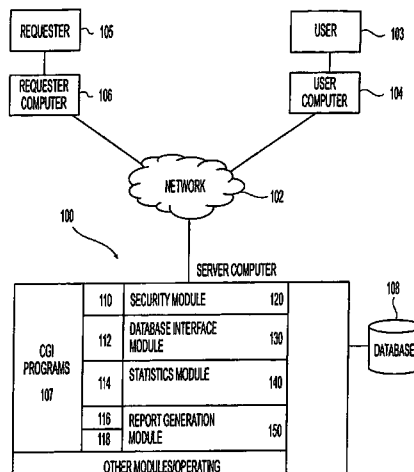
(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... None  
See application file for complete search history.

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**11 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets**



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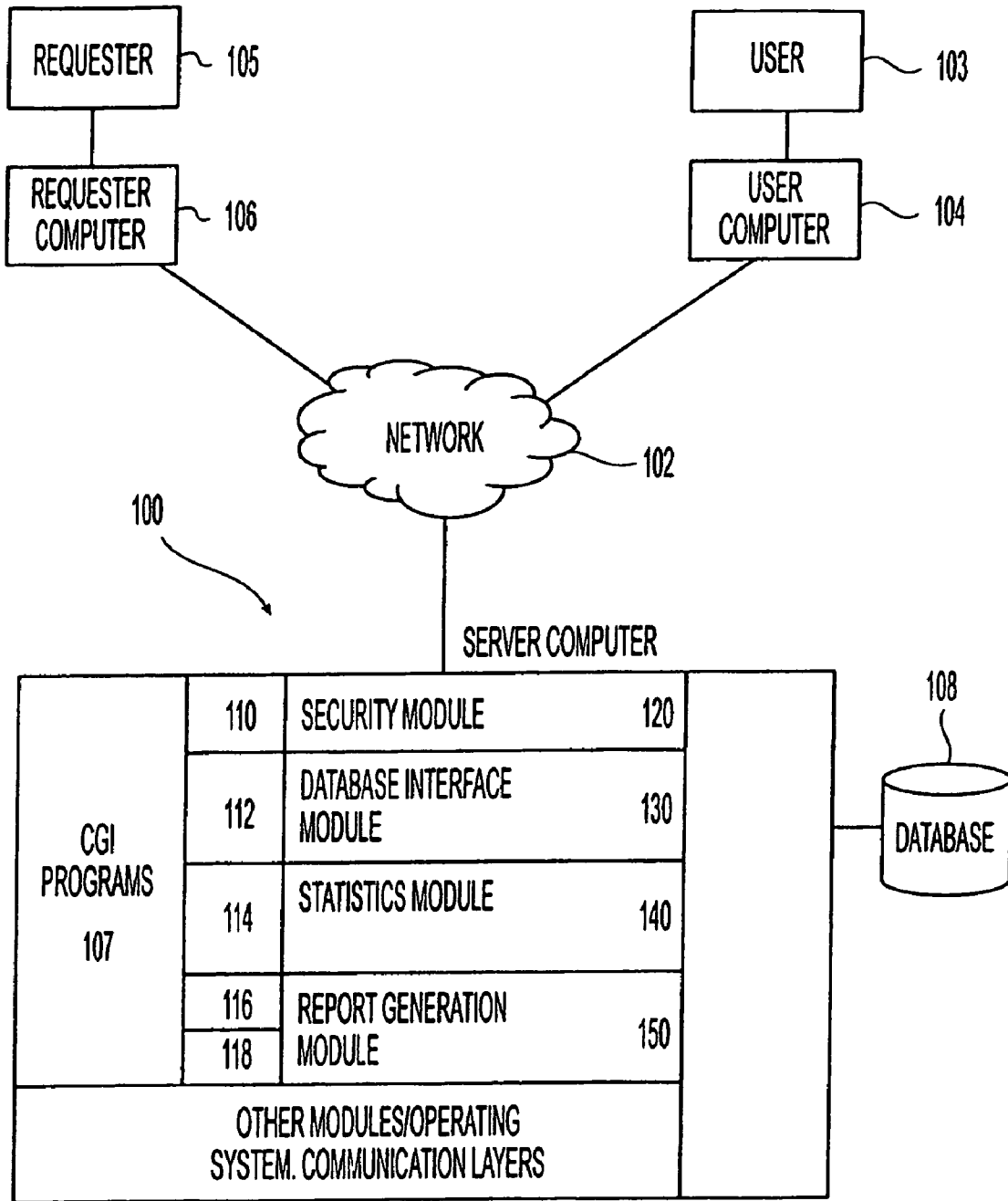


Fig. 1

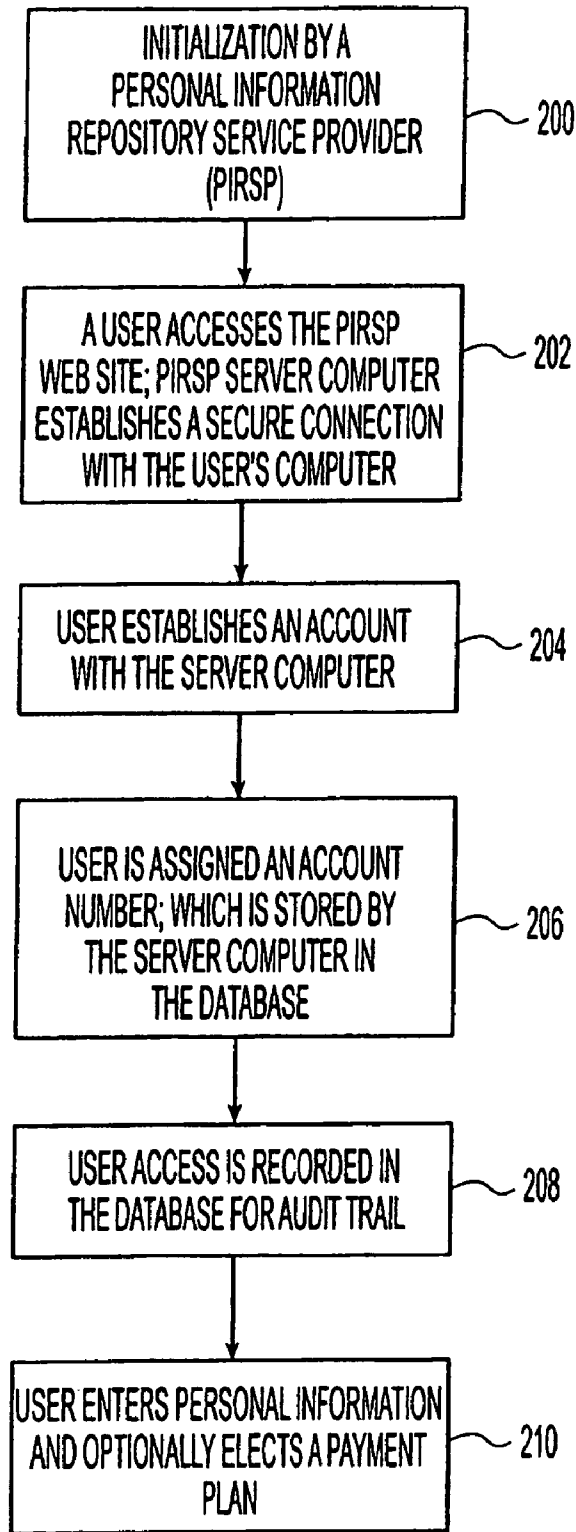


Fig. 2a

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