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- (54) **PROVIDING AND RECEIVING NETWORK ACCESS**
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- (21) Appl. No.: **11/441,827**
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Related U.S. Application Data

- (60) Provisional application No. 60/687,463, filed on Jun. 3, 2005, provisional application No. 60/728,918, filed on Oct. 21, 2005, provisional application No. 60/772,084, filed on Feb. 9, 2006, provisional application No. 60/776,444, filed on Feb. 23, 2006.

- (51) **Int. Cl.**
G06F 15/173 (2006.01)
G06F 15/177 (2006.01)
G06F 15/16 (2006.01)

- (52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC **709/225**; 709/220; 709/229

- (58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC 709/225
See application file for complete search history.

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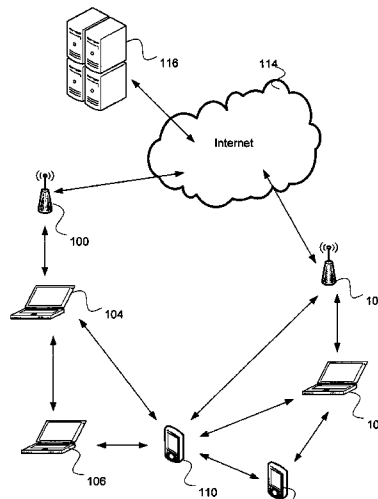
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- (57) **ABSTRACT**

The disclosure concerns the expansion of wireless network access beyond networks for which a user is registered. A method of facilitating connection to a wireless network access point includes receiving a request from a user device for access information-required to connect to a network through an access point. The network being a network for which the user is not registered, determining user contribution account acceptability for the access point, and providing the access information to the user if the user contribution account is acceptable for said access point. In this manner, users who are willing to share network access to networks for which they are registered will be able to access networks for which they are not registered.

55 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets



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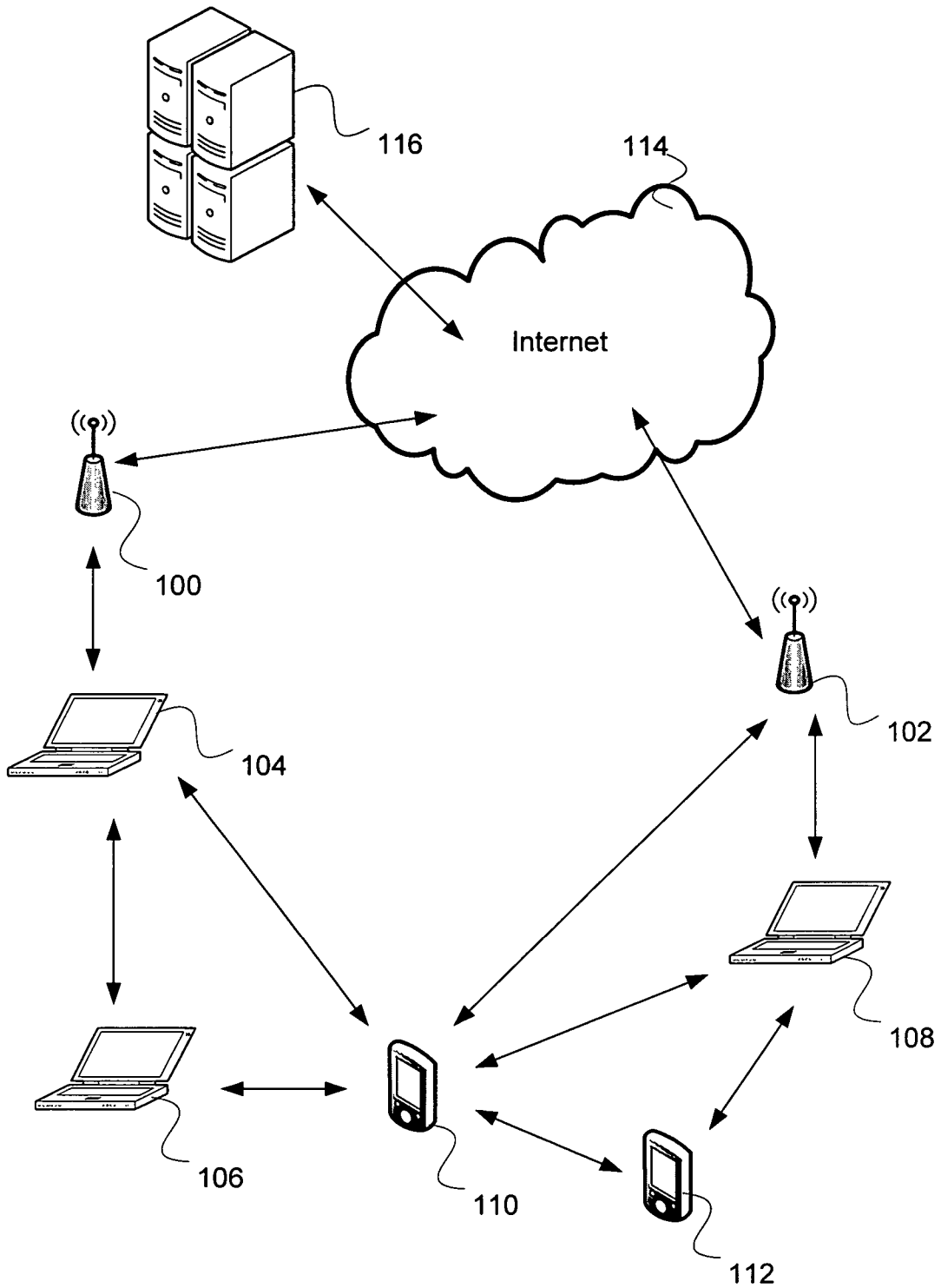


FIG. 1

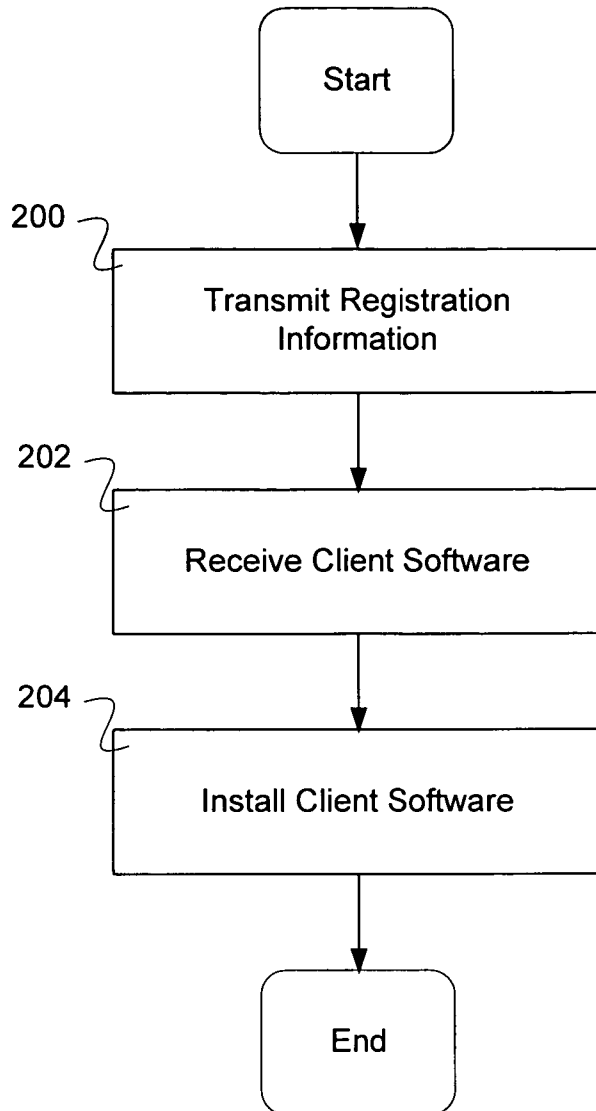


FIG. 2

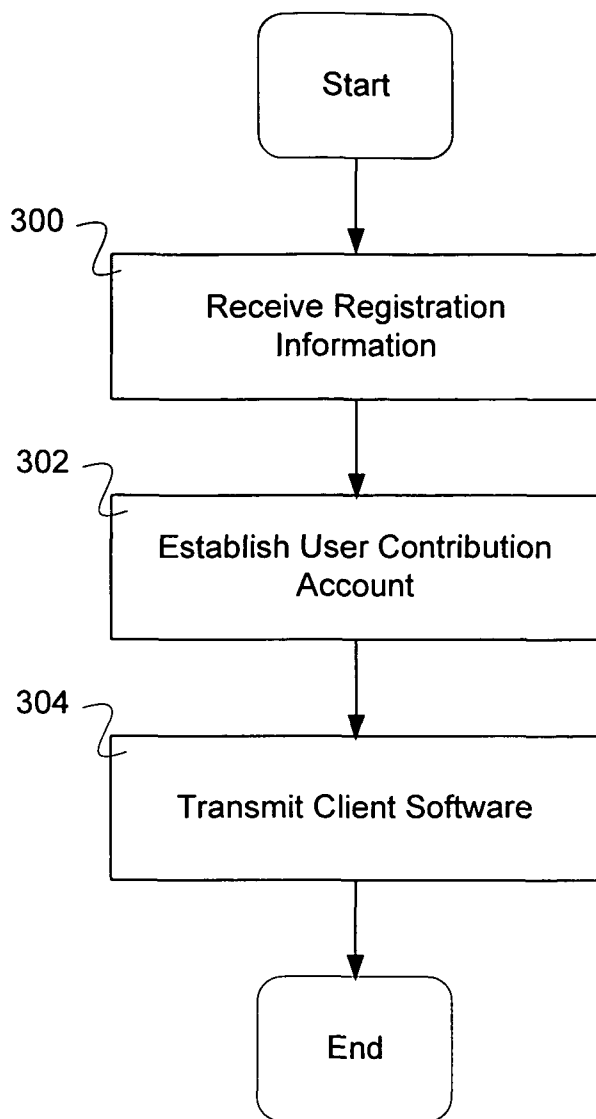


FIG. 3

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