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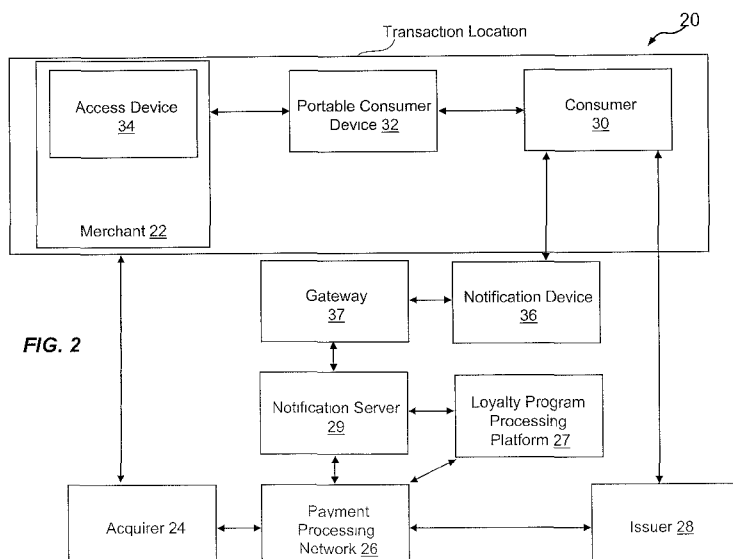
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR BENEFIT NOTIFICATION



(57) Abstract: A system and method for generating and sending benefit notifications is disclosed. A consumer can conduct a transaction at a merchant. The consumer may receive a notification containing a reward status indicator. The reward status indicator may be text or a figure that indicates a status of a consumer's purchases toward a reward threshold. With this notification, the consumer can be aware both of how many rewards she has already earned, and how many more rewards she may need to obtain to redeem any rewards. The benefit notification message may be sent while the consumer is still near the merchant, such that the consumer can receive the message with enough time to act on the reward information.

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- *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2Qi)*

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No  
**PCT/US2009/058226****A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER****G06Q 30/00(2006.01)i, G06Q 50/00(2006.01)I**

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

G06Q 30/00, G06Q 50/00, G06F 15/21, G06F 17/60, G07G 1/12

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Korean utility models and applications for utility models

Japanese utility models and applications for utility models

(Chinese Patents and application for patent)

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) &amp; Keywords reward, threshold, notification

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No
Y	KR 10-2003-0004405 A (SONY CORP.) 14 January 2003 See abstract and pages 2-12 .	1-19
Y	US 2003-0212595 A1 (ANTONUCCI, D. A.) 13 November 2003 See abstract , figure 3 and paragraphs [0006H0007] .	1-19
Y	JP 06-295390 A (FUJITSU LTD.) 21 October 1994 See abstract , paragraphs [0012] -[0020] and claims 1-2 , 13 , 17-18 .	1-19
A	JP 2002-133249 A (TOSHIBA TEC CORP.) 10 May 2002 See abstract and paragraphs [0016] -[0043] .	1-19
A	US 2003-0046157 A1 (PROROCK, T. J.) 06 March 2003 See abstract and paragraphs [0014] -[0027] .	1-19



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C



See patent family annex

\* Special categories of cited documents

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"X" document of particular relevance, the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance, the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&amp;" document member of the same patent family

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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

International application No

**PCT/US2009/058226**

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