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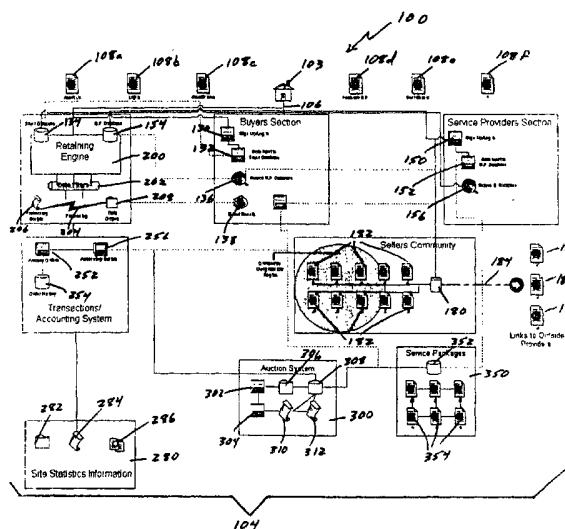
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(54) Title: AUCTION, IMAGERY AND RETAINING ENGINE SYSTEMS FOR SERVICES AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

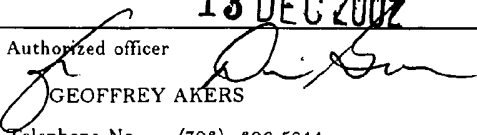


(57) Abstract: The present disclosure provides a computer-implemented method/system (see fig. 1) for facilitating communications between service providers and potential customers for services. The system provides a marketplace for interactions, both online and off-line, between service providers (150,152,156) and potential customers, including purchasing groups, particularly buyer-driven service related interactions. The marketplace advantageously allows categorizations, key word searching, group purchasing, service packaging, data mining, auctions and other commercial features and functionality. Service providers are able to efficiently extend the reach of their marketing and promotional activities to many customers, and customers are able to initiate access service providers suited to meet their needs producing buyer-driven commerce.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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Y	US 6,236,978 A (SHKEDY et. al) 22 MAY, 2001, Abstract, entire document	1-104
Y	US 6,178,510 A (O' CONNOR et. al) 23 JANUARY 2001, Abstract, entire document	1-104
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