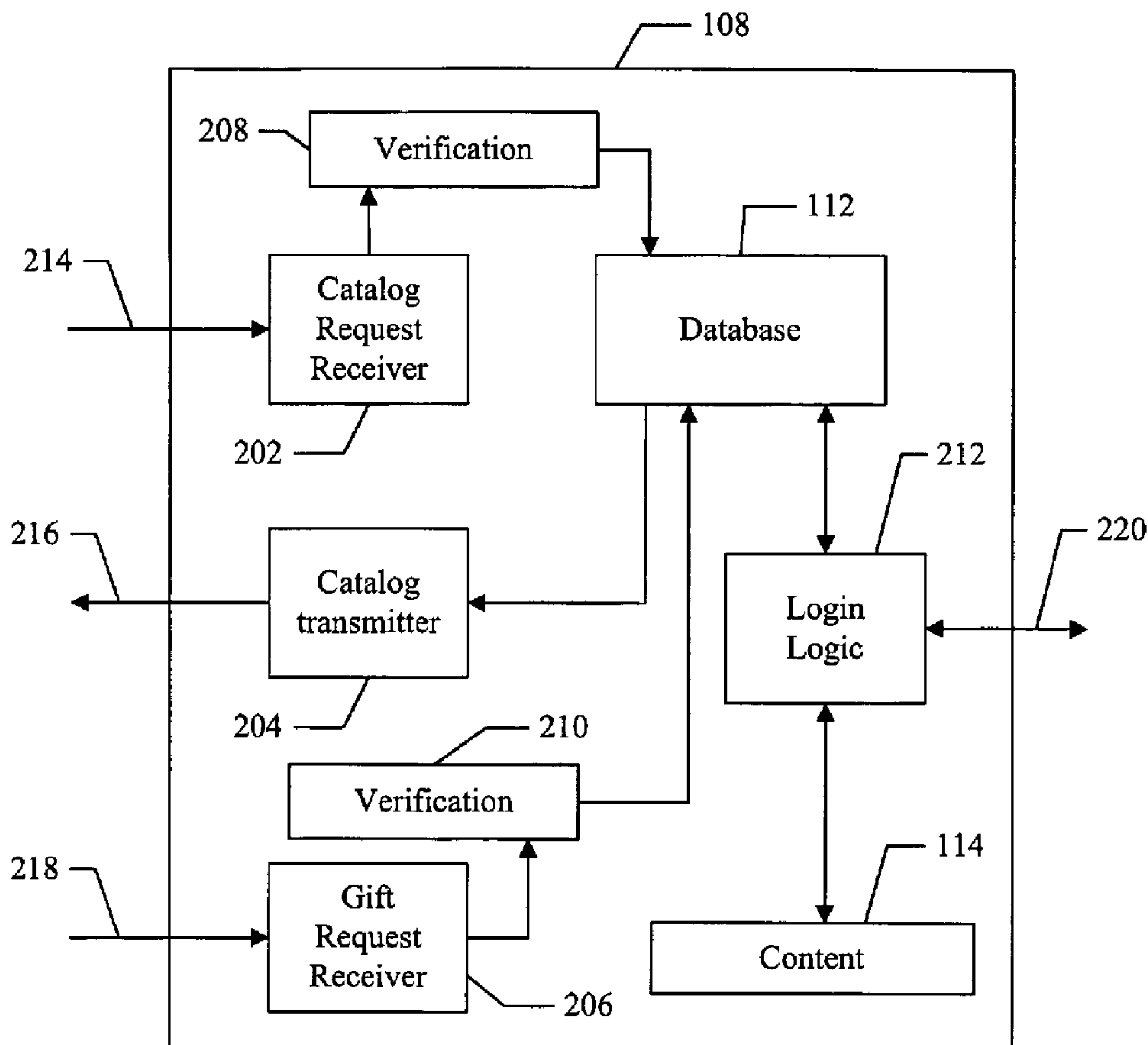




(86) **Date de dépôt PCT/PCT Filing Date:** 2005/03/18
(87) **Date publication PCT/PCT Publication Date:** 2005/11/17
(45) **Date de délivrance/Issue Date:** 2014/05/06
(85) **Entrée phase nationale/National Entry:** 2006/10/18
(86) **N° demande PCT/PCT Application No.:** US 2005/009000
(87) **N° publication PCT/PCT Publication No.:** 2005/109182
(30) **Priorité/Priority:** 2004/04/26 (US10/832,717)

(51) **Cl.Int./Int.Cl. G06F 7/08** (2006.01)
(72) **Inventeurs/Inventors:**
HOREL, GERALD CHARLES, CA;
MINEAR, BRIAN, US;
NGUYEN, PHIL TIEN, US
(73) **Propriétaire/Owner:**
QUALCOMM INCORPORATED, US
(74) **Agent:** SMART & BIGGAR

(54) **Titre : PROCÉDES ET APPAREIL POUR OFFRIR UN CADEAU SUR UN RESEAU DE DONNEES**
(54) **Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR GIFTING OVER A DATA NETWORK**



(57) **Abrégé/Abstract:**

A method is provided for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, where the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server. The method includes receiving a catalog request from the first terminal



(57) Abrégé(suite)/Abstract(continued):

for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal. The method also includes generating the catalog and transmitting the catalog to the first terminal. The method also includes receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the identified content in the catalog be provided to the second terminal, and providing the content gift to the second terminal.

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
17 November 2005 (17.11.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/109182 A2

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G06F 7/08**

(74) Agents: **WADSWORTH, Philip, R.** et al.; 5775 Morehouse Drive, San Diego, California 92121 (US).

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2005/009000

(22) International Filing Date: 18 March 2005 (18.03.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
10/832,717 26 April 2004 (26.04.2004) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **QUALCOMM INCORPORATED** [US/US]; 5775 Morehouse Drive, San Diego, California 92121 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

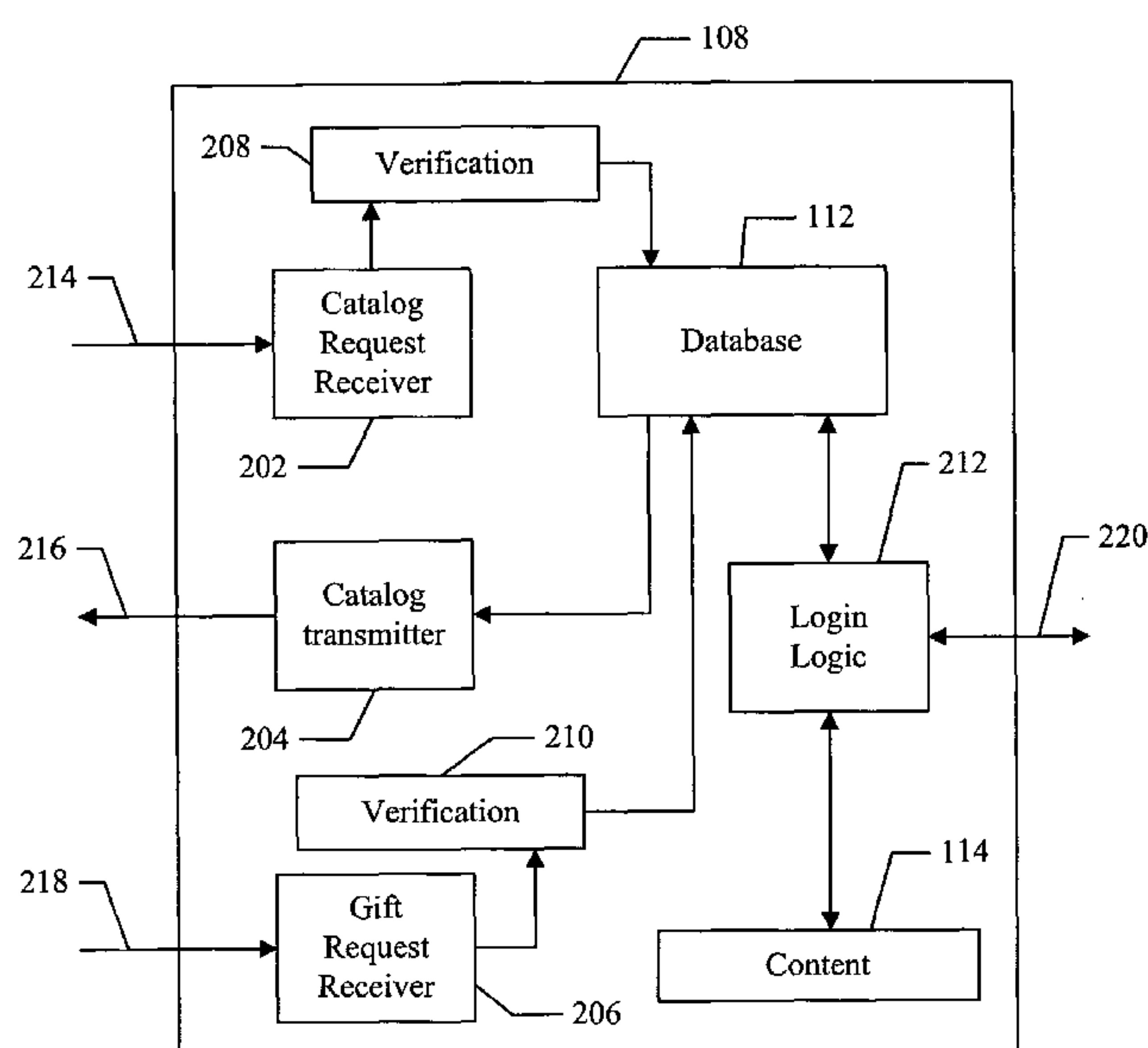
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **HOREL, Gerald, Charles** [CA/CA]; 6500 Torin Road, Brentwood Bay, British Columbia V8M 2H5 (CA). **MINEAR, Brian** [US/US]; 7516 Collins Ranch Terrace, San Diego, California 92130 (US). **NGUYEN, Phil, Tien** [US/US]; 12676 Via Colmenar, San Diego, California 92129 (US).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR GIFTING OVER A DATA NETWORK



(57) Abstract: A method is provided for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, where the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server. The method includes receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal. The method also includes generating the catalog and transmitting the catalog to the first terminal. The method also includes receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the identified content in the catalog be provided to the second terminal, and providing the content gift to the second terminal.

WO 2005/109182 A2

WO 2005/109182 A2**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR,*

HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations*

Published:

- *without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR GIFTING OVER A DATA NETWORK

FIELD

[0001] The present invention relates generally to the operation of data networks, and more particularly, to methods and apparatus for providing a content gift in a data network.

DESCRIPTION OF THE RELATED ART

[0002] Advances in technology have resulted in the development and deployment of extensive data networks. These networks include both public data networks, such as the Internet, and specialized networks, such as wireless telecommunication networks. Users of these networks have the ability to access a wide variety of information and services that are available as network resources.

[0003] One area where data networks have become especially useful is in the area of downloadable content. Typically this content includes executables, program files, applications, image or multimedia files, data, meta-data, or any other type of file or content that provides information or additional functionality to a device. For example, a downloadable application may provide the device user with a real-time display of information such as news or traffic conditions, provide productivity functions, such as a personal organizer, or provide entertainment through various online or offline games.

[0004] There currently exists an increasing demand for downloadable content in wireless network environments. In a wireless environment, a variety of wireless devices, such as wireless telephones and personal digital assistants (PDAs), communicate over a wireless network. The wireless network includes network servers that operate to provide various network services and resources to the devices. Furthermore, the wireless network may also be coupled to a public network (i.e., the Internet), so that servers on the public network can also provided services to the wireless devices.

[0005] Typically, a wireless device downloads content over the air from a network server. For example, the content may be an application that is downloaded for free or purchased by the user of the wireless device, who effectively obtains the rights to use the application for an unlimited, fixed, or usage count based expiration period.

[0006] It has become increasingly desirable to allow a content gift to be given to a specific network terminal. For example, a user of a first network terminal may wish to

74769-1489

2

give a content gift to the user of a second network terminal. The content gift comprises any type of file, data, or information that can be downloaded and used on the second network terminal. Typically, the user of the first terminal assumes any costs associated with the content gift. For example, the content gift may be a downloadable application that the first user finds to be especially useful or productive, or the content gift may simply be content that the second user would like to have.

[0007] Unfortunately, current systems operate so that when a gift-giver gives a content gift, it is done without knowing whether or not the content gift is compatible with the gift-receiving terminal. For example, an application may operate properly on the gift-giver's terminal, however, that same application may not operate properly on the gift-receiving terminal because of hardware or software incompatibilities. Furthermore, the user of the gift-receiving terminal may have previously purchased the same application, so that a duplication of the application on the gift-receiving terminal results. Thus, the gift-giver has no way of knowing what content is compatible with the gift-receiving terminal, or what content has already been purchased for use on that terminal.

[0008] Therefore, what is needed is a system that allows a content gift to be given to a gift-receiving terminal in a data network, where the content gift is known to be compatible with the gift-receiving terminal. The system should also allow a gift-giver to determine in advance whether or not the intended content gift currently exists on the gift-receiving terminal. As a result, such a system would avoid the compatibility problems and potential duplicate purchases associated with current systems.

74769-1489

2a

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0008a] According to one aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method for operating a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with a gift server, the method comprising: transmitting a catalog request, including a terminal identifier of the second terminal, to the gift server to obtain a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal; receiving the catalog at the first terminal; selecting a content gift from the catalog; automatically determining the selected content gift is not already owned by the second terminal; and transmitting a gift request for the gift server requesting that the content gift be provided to the second terminal.

[0008b] According to another aspect of the present invention, there is provided apparatus for use with a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with a gift server, the apparatus comprising: a catalog request transmitter that operates to transmit a catalog request, including a terminal identifier of the second terminal, to the gift server to obtain a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal; a catalog receiver that operates to receive the catalog at the first terminal; a gift selector that operates to select a content gift from the catalog, wherein the gift selector automatically determines the selected content gift is not already owned by the second terminal; and a gift request transmitter that operates to transmit a gift request for the gift server requesting that the content gift be provided to the second terminal.

[0008c] According to still another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a processor for use in a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with a gift server, the processor comprising: means for transmitting a catalog request, including a terminal identifier of the second terminal, to the gift server to obtain a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal; means for receiving the

74769-1489

2b

catalog at the first terminal; means for selecting a content gift from the catalog; means for automatically determining the selected content gift is not already owned by the second terminal; and means for transmitting a gift request for the gift server requesting that the content gift be provided to the second terminal.

- 5 [0008d] According to yet another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a computer-readable medium comprising instructions stored thereon, which when executed by a processor in a first terminal, operate to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with a gift server, the computer-readable medium comprising: instructions for transmitting
10 a catalog request, including a terminal identifier of the second terminal, to the gift server to obtain a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal; instructions for receiving the catalog at the first terminal; instructions for selecting a content gift from the catalog; instructions for automatically determining the selected content gift is not already owned by the second terminal; and instructions for
15 transmitting a gift request for the gift server requesting that the content gift be provided to the second terminal.

- [0008e] According to a further aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with
20 the server, the method comprising: receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal; generating the catalog; transmitting the catalog to the first terminal; receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal; determining the content gift is content that is not already
25 owned by the second terminal; and providing the content to the second terminal; wherein the step of generating the catalog comprises using a terminal identifier included in the catalog request to identify the content that is compatible with the second terminal.

74769-1489

2c

[0008f] According to yet a further aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server, the method comprising: receiving a catalog request
5 from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal; generating the catalog; transmitting the catalog to the first terminal; receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal; determining the content gift is content that is not already owned by the second terminal; and providing the content
10 to the second terminal; and wherein the step of generating the catalog comprises: using a terminal identifier included in the catalog request to identify targeted content that is compatible with the second terminal; and generating the catalog so that it identifies the targeted content.

[0008g] According to still a further another aspect of the present invention, there
15 is provided a method for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server, the method comprising: receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal; generating the catalog; transmitting the catalog to the first terminal;
20 receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal; determining the content gift is already owned by the second terminal; and transmitting a notification message to the first terminal to indicate that content gift was not provided to the second terminal.

[0008h] According to another aspect of the present invention, there is provided
25 a processor for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server, the processor comprising: means for receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal; means for generating the catalog; means for transmitting the catalog to the first
30 terminal; means for receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a

74769-1489

2d

content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal; means for determining the content gift is content that is not already owned by the second terminal; and means for providing the content to the second terminal; wherein the means for generating the catalog comprises means for using a terminal identifier
5 included in the catalog request to identify the content that is compatible with the second terminal.

[0008i] According to yet another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a processor for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively
10 communicate with the server, the processor comprising: means for receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal; means for generating the catalog; means for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal; means for receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the
15 second terminal; means for determining the content gift is content that is not already owned by the second terminal; and means for providing the content to the second terminal; wherein the step of generating the catalog comprises: means for using a terminal identifier included in the catalog request to identify targeted content that is compatible with the second terminal; and means for generating the catalog so that it
20 identifies the targeted content.

[0008j] According to still another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a processor for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server, the processor comprising: means for receiving a
25 catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal; means for generating the catalog; means for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal; means for receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal; means for determining the content gift is already owned by the

74769-1489

2e

second terminal; and means for transmitting a notification message to the first terminal to indicate that content gift was not provided to the second terminal.

[0008k] According to yet another aspect of the present invention, there is provided apparatus for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a content
5 gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with a gift server, the processor comprising: a catalog request receiver for receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal; a database for generating the catalog; a catalog transmitter for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal; a gift receiver for
10 receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal, wherein the gift receiver determines the content gift is content that is not currently owned by the second terminal; and a gift transmitter for providing the content to the second terminal; wherein the database comprises logic for using a terminal identifier included in the
15 catalog request to identify the content that is compatible with the second terminal.

[0008l] According to a further aspect of the present invention, there is provided apparatus for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server, the processor comprising: a catalog request receiver for receiving a
20 catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal; a database for generating the catalog; a catalog transmitter for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal; a gift receiver for receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal, wherein the gift receiver determines the content
25 gift is content that is not currently owned by the second terminal; and a gift transmitter for providing the content to the second terminal; wherein the database comprises: logic for using a terminal identifier included in the catalog request to identify targeted content that is compatible with the second terminal; and logic for generating the catalog so that it identifies the targeted content.

74769-1489

2f

[0008m] According to yet a further aspect of the present invention, there is provided a processor for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server, the processor comprising: a catalog request receiver
5 for receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal; a database for generating the catalog; a catalog transmitter for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal; a gift receiver for receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal; wherein the database
10 comprises: logic for determining the content gift is already owned by the second terminal; and logic for transmitting a notification message to the first terminal to indicate that content gift was not provided to the second terminal.

[0008n] According to still a further aspect of the present invention, there is provided a computer-readable medium comprising instructions stored thereon, which
15 when executed by a processor in a server, operate to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server, the computer-readable medium comprising:
instructions for receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal; instructions for generating the
20 catalog; instructions for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal; instructions for receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal; instructions for determining the content gift is content that is not already owned by the second terminal; and
instructions for providing the content to the second terminal; wherein the instructions
25 for generating comprise instructions for using a terminal identifier included in the catalog request to identify the content that is compatible with the second terminal.

[0008o] According to another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a computer-readable medium comprising instructions stored thereon, which when
executed by a processor in a server, operate to allow a first terminal to provide a
30 content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively

74769-1489

2g

communicate with the server, the computer-readable medium comprising:
instructions for receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that
identifies content compatible with the second terminal; instructions for generating the
catalog; instructions for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal; instructions for
5 receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected
from the catalog be provided to the second terminal; instructions for determining the
content gift is content that is not already owned by the second terminal; and
instructions for providing the content to the second terminal; wherein the instructions
for generating the catalog comprise: instructions for using a terminal identifier
10 included in the catalog request to identify targeted content that is compatible with the
second terminal; and instructions for generating the catalog so that it identifies the
targeted content.

[0008p] According to yet another aspect of the present invention, there is
provided a computer-readable medium comprising instructions stored thereon, which
15 when executed by a processor in a server, operate to allow a first terminal to provide
a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively
communicate with the server, the computer-readable medium comprising:
instructions for receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that
identifies content compatible with the second terminal; instructions for generating the
20 catalog; instructions for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal; instructions for
receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected
from the catalog be provided to the second terminal; instructions for determining the
content gift is already owned by the second terminal; and instructions for transmitting
a notification message to the first terminal to indicate that content gift was not
25 provided to the second terminal.

[008q] According to still another aspect of the present invention, there is
provided a method for operating a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second
terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with each
other over a data network, the method comprising: transmitting a catalog request to
30 the second terminal to obtain a catalog that identifies content compatible with the

74769-1489

2h

second terminal; receiving the catalog; selecting a content gift from the catalog; determining the selected content gift is not already owned by the second terminal; and transmitting a gift request to a gift server, wherein the gift server provides the content gift to the second terminal.

- 5 [008r] According to yet another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method for providing a content gift to a gift-receiving terminal, the method comprising: a gift server communicating with the gift-receiving terminal over a wireless communication link to determine what content is owned by the gift-receiving terminal; the gift server generating catalog data including at least one content gift
10 targeted for the gift receiving terminal; the gift server wirelessly transmitting the catalog data to a gift-giving terminal; the gift server receiving a selection of a content gift from the gift-giving terminal over a wireless communication link; and the gift server facilitating delivery of the selected content gift to the gift-receiving terminal.

- [008s] According to further aspect of the present invention, there is provided a
15 method for a gift-giving terminal to provide a content gift to a gift-receiving terminal, the method comprising: transmitting, by the gift-giving terminal, an identifier associated with the gift-receiving terminal to a gift server over a wireless communication link to request catalog data corresponding to the gift-receiving terminal; receiving catalog data from the gift server over a wireless communication link, the catalog data including at least one
20 content gift previously communicated to the gift server as targeted for the gift-receiving terminal; and transmitting an identifier for a content gift from the catalog data to the gift server over a wireless communication link to facilitate delivery of the selected content gift to the gift-receiving terminal.

- [008t] According to a further aspect of the present invention, there is provided a
25 method for providing a service feature to a gift-receiving terminal, the method comprising: a gift server receiving data from the gift-receiving terminal over a wireless communication link, the data identifying at least one service feature; the gift server generating catalog data including at least one service feature targeted for the gift-receiving terminal; the gift

74769-1489

2i

server wirelessly transmitting the catalog data to a gift-giving terminal; the gift server receiving a selection of a catalog data service feature from the gift-giving terminal over a wireless communication link; and the gift server facilitating activation of the selected service feature with respect to the gift-receiving terminal.

5 [008u] According to still a further aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method for a gift-giving terminal to provide a service feature gift to a gift-receiving terminal: transmitting, by a gift-giving terminal, an identifier associated with a gift-receiving terminal to a gift server over a wireless communication link to request catalog data corresponding to the gift-receiving terminal; receiving catalog
10 data from the gift server over a wireless communication link, the catalog data including at least one service feature previously communicated to the gift server as targeted for the gift-receiving terminal; and transmitting an identifier for a service feature from the catalog data to the gift server over a wireless communication link to facilitate activation of the selected service feature for the gift-receiving terminal.

15 [008v] According to another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a gift server for use with a gift-giving terminal to provide a content gift to a gift-receiving terminal, comprising: a catalog request receiver that operates to receive a catalog request from the gift-giving terminal over a wireless communication link, the request identifying the gift-receiving terminal; a catalog transmitter that operates to generate
20 catalog data including at least one content gift targeted for to the gift-receiving terminal by reference to data received from the gift-receiving terminal and wirelessly transmitting the catalog data to the gift-giving terminal; a gift request receiver that operates to receive a selection of a catalog data content gift from the gift-giving terminal over a wireless communication link; and a gift transmitter that operates to facilitate delivery of
25 the selected content gift to the gift-receiving terminal.

[008w] According to yet another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a gift-giving terminal operable to provide content gift to a gift-receiving terminal, comprising: a catalog requestor that operates to transmit an identifier associated with a gift-receiving terminal to a gift server over a wireless communication link to request

74769-1489

2j

catalog data corresponding to the gift-receiving terminal; a catalog receiver that operates to receive catalog data from the gift server over a wireless communication link, the catalog data including at least one content gift previously communicated to the gift server as targeted for the gift-receiving terminal; and a gift selector that operates to
5 transmit an identifier for a content gift from the catalog data to the gift server over a wireless communication link to facilitate delivery of the selected content gift to the gift-receiving terminal.

[008x] According to another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a processor for use in a server terminal used with a gift-giving terminal to provide a
10 content gift to a gift-receiving terminal, comprising: means for receiving a catalog request from a gift-giving terminal over a wireless communication link, the request identifying the gift-receiving terminal; means for generating catalog data including at least one content gift targeted for the gift-receiving terminal by reference to data received from the gift-receiving terminal and wirelessly transmitting the catalog data
15 to the gift-giving terminal; means for receiving a selection of a catalog data content gift from the gift-giving terminal over a wireless communication link; and means for facilitating delivery of the selected content gift to the gift-receiving terminal.

[008y] According to still another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a processor for use in a gift-giving terminal to provide content data to a gift-
20 receiving terminal, comprising: means for transmitting an identifier associated with a gift-receiving terminal to a gift server over a wireless communication link to request catalog data corresponding to the gift-receiving terminal; means for receiving catalog data from the gift server over a wireless communication link, the catalog data including at least one content gift previously communicated to the gift server as
25 targeted for the gift-receiving terminal; and means for transmitting an identifier for a content gift from the catalog data to the gift server over a wireless communication link to facilitate delivery of the selected content gift to the gift-receiving terminal.

74769-1489

2k

[0009] In one or more embodiments, a gifting system comprising methods and apparatus is provided to allow a content gift to be given to a gift-receiving terminal in a data network. In one embodiment, a gift-giver selects the content gift from a catalog that comprises a list of content that is known to be compatible with the gift-receiving terminal. The catalog may also describe content that currently exists on the gift-receiving terminal, so that duplication can be avoided.

[0010] In one embodiment, the gift-giver requests the catalog from a server (or gift-server) operating on a data network. The request includes an identifier that identifies the gift-receiving terminal. For example, if the gift-receiving terminal is a wireless telephone, the gift-giver specifies the telephone number of the gift-receiving terminal in

a request for a catalog of compatible content that is sent to the gift-server. Due to security and privacy concerns, additional security codes may be required in the catalog request. The gift-server responds to the request by compiling and transmitting to the gift-giver a description of content that is compatible with the gift-receiving terminal. The gift-giver then selects one or more content items from the catalog as content gifts to be provided to the gift-receiving terminal. Because the content gift is selected from a list of content known to be compatible with the gift-receiving terminal, the system operates to extend the view of the gift-giver to see what would work on another user's terminal. Thus, terminal compatibility and content duplication problems are resolved up front before the gift is given.

[0011] In one or more embodiments, the gift-giver may give a content gift using any one of several methods. For example, the gift-giver may operate a terminal similar to the gift-receiving terminal on the same data network. In another embodiment, the gift-giver may provide the content gift using other means to access the gift-server associated with the gift-receiver. For example, the gift-giver may use a Web page associated with the gift-server to view the catalog and select a content gift. Thus, the content gift may originate from a wired or wireless device, a fixed computer device, such as a personal computer, or any other device having access to the gift-server associated with the gift-receiving terminal.

[0012] In one embodiment, the gifting system allows for targeted content to appear in the catalog. For example, the gift-receiver may be a member of a financial organization and the gift-server compiles the catalog to include compatible content targeted for that organization. Thus, the gift-giver can select a content gift from the targeted information that is compatible with the gift-receiving terminal.

[0013] In one embodiment, a method is provided for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, where the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server. The method comprises receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal. The method also comprises generating the catalog and transmitting the catalog to the first terminal. The method also comprises receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the identified content in the catalog be provided to the second terminal, and providing the content gift to the second terminal.

[0014] In one embodiment, apparatus is provided for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, where the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server. The apparatus comprises a catalog request receiver for receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal, and a database for generating the catalog. The apparatus also comprises a catalog transmitter for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal. The apparatus also comprises a gift receiver for receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the identified content in the catalog be provided to the second terminal, and logic for providing the content gift to the second terminal.

[0015] In one embodiment, a computer-readable media is provided that comprises instructions, which when executed by a processor in a server, operate to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, where the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server. The computer-readable media comprises instructions for receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal, and instructions for generating the catalog. The computer-readable media also comprises instructions for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal. The computer-readable media also comprises instructions for receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the identified content in the catalog be provided to the second terminal, and instructions for providing the content gift to the second terminal.

[0016] In one embodiment, a method is provided for operating a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, where the first and second terminals selectively communicate with a gift server. The method comprises transmitting a catalog request to the gift server to obtain a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal. The method also comprises receiving the catalog, and selecting a content gift from the catalog. The method also comprises transmitting a gift request to the gift server requesting that the content gift be provided to the second terminal.

[0017] In one embodiment, apparatus is provided for use in a first terminal to provide an content gift to a second terminal, where the first and second terminals selectively communicate with a server. The apparatus comprises a catalog request transmitter that operates to transmit a catalog request to the server to obtain a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal. The apparatus also comprises a catalog

receiver that operates to receive the catalog, and selection logic that operates to select a content gift from the catalog. The apparatus also comprises a gift request transmitter that operates to transmit a gift request to the server requesting that the content gift be provided to the second terminal.

[0018] In one embodiment, apparatus is provided for use in a first terminal to provide an content gift to a second terminal, where the first and second terminals selectively communicate with a server. The apparatus comprises means for transmitting a catalog request to the server to obtain a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal, and means for receiving the catalog. The apparatus also comprises means for selecting a content gift from the catalog, and means for transmitting a gift request to the server requesting that the content gift be provided to the second terminal.

[0019] In one embodiment, a computer-readable media is provided that comprises instructions, which when executed by a processor in a first terminal, operate to provide an content gift to a second terminal, where the first and second terminals selectively communicate with a server. The computer-readable media comprises instructions for transmitting a catalog request to the gift server to obtain a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal. The computer-readable media also comprises instructions for receiving the catalog, and instructions for selecting a content gift from the catalog. The computer-readable media also comprises instructions for transmitting a gift request to the gift server requesting that the content gift be provided to the second terminal.

[0020] In one embodiment, a method is provided for operating a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with each other over a data network. The method comprises transmitting a catalog request to the second terminal to obtain a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal. The method also comprises receiving the catalog, selecting a content gift from the catalog, and transmitting a gift request to a gift server, wherein the gift server provides the content gift to the second terminal.

[0021] Other aspects, advantages, and features of the present invention will become apparent after review of the hereinafter set forth Brief Description of the Drawings, Detailed Description of the Invention, and the Claims.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0022] The foregoing aspects and the attendant advantages of the embodiments described herein will become more readily apparent by reference to the following detailed description when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings wherein:

[0023] **FIG. 1** shows one embodiment of a gifting system that allows a content gift to be provided to a terminal in a data network;

[0024] **FIG. 2** shows a functional diagram of one embodiment of a server for use in one embodiment of a gifting system;

[0025] **FIG. 3** shows one embodiment of a method for use in server to provide one embodiment of a gifting system;

[0026] **FIG. 4** shows a functional diagram of one embodiment of a terminal device for use in one embodiment of a gifting system;

[0027] **FIG. 5** shows one embodiment of a method for use in a terminal device to provide one embodiment of a gifting system;

[0028] **FIG. 6** shows one embodiment of a catalog for use in one or more embodiments of a gifting system; and

[0029] **FIG. 7** shows one embodiment of a method for use in a terminal device to provide one embodiment of a gifting system using peer-to-peer communication.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0030] The following detailed description describes one or more embodiments of a gifting system that includes methods and apparatus to allow a user of a first terminal in a data network to give a content gift to a user of a second terminal in the network. In one embodiment, the gifting system assembles a catalog of content that is compatible with the second terminal and transmits the catalog to the first terminal. The user of the first terminal selects a specific content gift to be given to the second terminal. The selection is transmitted to a gift server that operates to provide the selected content gift to the second terminal. The user of the first terminal assumes the cost of the content gift. The first and second terminals may be any type of wired or wireless terminals, including but not limited to, desktop computers, notebook computers, wireless telephones, pagers, PDAs, email devices, tablet computers, or other type of wired or wireless devices.

[0031] In one or more embodiments, the gifting systems interacts with a runtime environment executing on the device that is used to simplify operation of the device, such as by providing generalized calls for device specific resources. One such runtime environment is the Binary Runtime Environment for Wireless® (BREW™) software platform developed by QUALCOMM, Inc., of San Diego, California. In the following description, it will be assumed that one embodiment of a gifting system is implemented using a wireless device that is executing a runtime environment, such as the BREW software platform. However, one or more embodiments of the gifting system are suitable for use with other types of runtime environments to provide content gifts to wired and wireless devices. Furthermore, the term “content” is use herein to describe any type of application, multimedia file, image file, executable, program, web page, script, document, presentation, message, data, meta-data, or any other type of content or information that may be rendered, processed, or executed on a device.

[0032] **FIG. 1** shows one embodiment of a gifting system 100 that allows a gift to be provided to a terminal in a data network. The system 100 comprises a first wireless terminal 102 that communicates with a data network 104 via a wireless communication channel 106. The data network 104 comprises any type of data network that may include, but is not limited to, a wired, wireless, private, or public data network, or any combination thereof.

[0033] The system 100 also comprises a server 108 (also known as a “gift-server”) that is coupled to the network 104 via a communication channel 120 to provide services to devices in communication with the network 104. For example, the wireless terminal 102 may be a wireless telephone, and the server 108 may be part of a nationwide telecommunications network that provides telecommunication services to the telephone. The communication channel 120 may be any type of wired or wireless communication channel.

[0034] Also in communication with the network 104 is a second terminal 110. The terminal 110 is in communication with the data network 104 via the wireless communication channel 122. The terminal 110 may be any type of wireless device.

[0035] In one embodiment, the server 108 comprises a database 112 and downloadable content 114. The database 112 comprises information about the operation of the data network 104 and information about the terminal devices supported by the server 108. For example, the database 112 includes information about the hardware and software configurations of the terminals 102 and 110. Thus, the database

112 comprises identifying information and configuration information about network terminals.

[0036] The content **114** comprises any type of application, executable, image file, multimedia file, data file, or any other type of content file. The content **114** may include applications designed for a specific type of device or content that is operable on a wide variety of devices. The files included in the content **114** have associated identifiers that can be used to identify each file.

[0037] In one embodiment, the gifting system operates to allow the user of the first terminal **102** to give a content gift to the user of the second terminal **110**. For example, the content gift may comprise one or more applications, programs, executables, data files, content files, or any other available files selected from the content **114**. Because the gift is selected from a catalog of compatible content, the selected content gift is compatible with the terminal **110**. In one or more embodiments, the gifting system **100** operates to provide the content gift by performing one or more of the following steps.

[0038] Terminal **102** transmits a request to the server **108** (as show by path **124**) to receive a catalog of content files that are compatible with the terminal **110**. The requests includes an identifier that identifies the terminal **110** and any authorization information that may be necessary for the server **108** to verify the request.

[0039] The server **108** receives and verifies the request and uses the identifier to compile a list of content files that are compatible with terminal **110**. For example, the server **108** uses the identifier to search the database **112** to determine the configuration of the terminal **110** and compatible content files from the available content **114**.

[0040] The server **108** transmits a catalog **116** of compatible content files to the terminal **102** (as shown by path **126**). For example, the catalog **116** contains a list of identifiers that identify content files that are compatible with the hardware/software of the terminal **110**. For example, the catalog **116** identifies three applications that are compatible with the terminal **110**. The catalog may also indicate whether or not the terminal **110** already owns any of the content files.

[0041] The user of terminal **102** selects one or more content files from the received catalog **116** to be content gifts, and transmits a gift request that includes the selection of the content gifts to the server **108** (as shown by path **128**).

[0042] The server **108** receives and authenticates the gift request and updates the database **112** to show that terminal **110** has been given a content gift. The server **108**

may also update its records to show that the user of terminal 102 will pay the costs associated with the selected content gift.

[0043] When communication is established between the server 108 and the terminal 110, the content gift 118 is transmitted to the terminal 110 (as shown by path 130). The user of terminal 110 may then use the information gift 118 because the content gift 118 is known to be compatible with the terminal 110.

[0044] For the purpose of this description, it will be assumed that entities transmitting the above-described information are properly credentialed using any type of known credentialing or authentication technique, so that any receiving device can verify that it is receiving information from a trusted source.

[0045] In one or more embodiments, the server 108, the terminal 102, and the terminal 110 may be any type of devices and their associated connections to the data network 104 may be wireless, wired, or any combination thereof. Thus, embodiments of the gifting system may be implemented using virtually any network configuration having a variety of servers and terminals that operate to provide the functions of the gifting system as described herein.

[0046] In one or more embodiments, the gifting system utilizes one or more security techniques to provide security and/or privacy during the gifting process. For example, in one embodiment, the gift-server requires secret security codes from the gift-giver before processing the catalog request. The security codes may comprise the identity of the gift-receiver, a PIN number or other security code, or any other type of security information, so that the security and privacy of the gift-receiver can be maintained. Therefore, the gift-giver must provide proper authorization to the gift-server before receiving private information about the gift-receiving terminal or its user.

[0047] In another embodiment, the gifting system 100 operates to allow a gift to be provided to a terminal in a data network using a peer-to-peer transaction. For example, the terminals 102 and 110 may communicate with each other to allow the terminal 102 to provide a content gift to the terminal 110. In one embodiment, the gifting system 100 operates to allow the terminal 102 to communicate peer-to-peer with terminal 110 to provide the content gift by performing one or more of the following steps.

[0048] Terminal 102 transmits a request to the terminal 110 (as show by path 130) to receive a catalog of content files that are compatible with the terminal 110. The request includes any required authentication information to allow a catalog of information to be obtained by the terminal 102.

[0049] The terminal 110 receives and verifies the request and compiles a list of content files that are compatible with terminal 110. For example, the terminal may already know what content is compatible, or may content the server 108 to determine what content is compatible.

[0050] The terminal 110 transmits a catalog 116 of compatible content files to the terminal 102 (as shown by path 132). For example, the catalog 116 contains a list of identifiers that identify content files that are compatible with the hardware/software of the terminal 110. For example, the catalog 116 identifies three applications that are compatible with the terminal 110.

[0051] The user of terminal 102 selects one or more content files from the received catalog 116 to be content gifts, and transmits a gift request to the server 108 that includes the selection of the content gifts (as shown by path 128). In another embodiment, the terminal 102 already has the content gift as part of content 136, and so no gift request is sent to the server 108.

[0052] If the server 108 receives a gift request it authenticates the gift request and updates the database 112 to show that terminal 110 has been given a content gift. The server 108 may also update its records to show that the user of terminal 102 will pay the costs associated with the selected content gift. If the terminal 102 already has the content gift as part of the content 136, the terminal 102 transmits the content gift to the terminal 102, as shown by path 134.

[0053] Thus, the terminals 102 and 110 may communicate in a peer-to-peer fashion to allow the terminal 102 to provide a content gift to the terminal 110.

[0054] FIG. 2 shows a functional diagram of one embodiment of the server 108 for use in one or more embodiments of a gifting system. The server 108 comprises the database 112 and the content 114. The server 108 also comprises a catalog request receiver 202, a catalog transmitter 204, and a gift request receiver 206. The server 108 also comprises verification logic 208, 210 and login logic 212.

[0055] The database 112 comprises information about network terminals, such as terminal identifiers and associated software and hardware configuration information. The content 114 comprises any type of application, executable, program file, or any other type of content file that may be processed by a terminal device.

[0056] In one embodiment, the catalog request receiver 202, the catalog transmitter 204, and the gift request receiver 206 comprise a processor, CPU, gate array, logic, software or any combination thereof. For example, in one embodiment, a processor

executing program instructions provides the functions of the receiver **202**, the transmitter **204**, and the receiver **206**.

[0057] In one or more embodiments, the server **108** generally comprises logic to execute machine-readable instructions to perform the functions described herein. For example, instructions may be loaded into the server **108** from a computer-readable media, such as a floppy disk, CDROM, Flash memory, or other computer-readable media that interfaces to the server **108**. In another embodiment, the instructions may be downloaded into the server **108** from a network resource, such as a network server or any other type of network resource that interfaces to the server **108**. The instructions, when executed by the server **108**, provide one or more embodiments of a gifting system as described herein.

[0058] The catalog request receiver **202** operates to receive a request for a catalog that contains a list of identifiers that identify one or more content files of the content **114**. A communication channel **214** couples the receiver **202** to external devices or systems. For example, the channel **214** may be a network connection that couples the receiver **202** to a data network to receive catalog requests. In one or more embodiments, the channel **214** may be any type of communication channel that operates to couple the receiver **202** to other devices.

[0059] The catalog transmitter **204** operates to transmit a catalog to an external device or system. A communication channel **216** couples the transmitter **204** to external devices or systems. For example, the channel **216** may be a network connection that couples the transmitter **202** to a data network to transmit catalogs to other devices. In one or more embodiments, the channel **216** may be any type of communication channel that operates to couple the transmitter **204** to other devices.

[0060] The gift request receiver **206** operates to receive gift requests from external devices or systems. A gift requests identifies a content gift to be provided to an identified terminal. For example, the database **112** comprises information about terminals serviced by the server **108**. A communication channel **218** couples the receiver **206** to external devices or systems. For example, the channel **218** may be a network connection that couples the receiver **206** to a data network to receive gift requests. In one or more embodiments, the channel **218** may be any type of communication channel that operates to couple the receiver **206** to other devices.

[0061] The login logic **212** operates to process login input received from one or more terminals that are serviced by the server **108**. For example, the server may be part of a

data network and operates to provide network services to multiple terminal devices. The login logic **212** communicates with various terminals using a communication channel **220**. For example, the channel **220** may be a network connection that couples the login logic **212** to a data network to communicate with various terminals. In one or more embodiments, the channel **220** may be any type of communication channel that operates to couple the login logic **212** to other devices.

[0062] In one embodiment, the login logic **212** operates to communicate with the gift-receiving terminal to determine what content is owned by that terminal. For example, the gift-receiving terminal may have independently acquired the intended content gift and this information can be discovered by the login logic **212**. For example, the login logic **212** queries the gift-receiving terminal about the content it owns via the channel **220**. In one embodiment, if the logic **212** discovers that the gift-receiving terminal has independently acquired the intended content gift, then the logic **212** operates to terminate the gift. In this case, the gift-giving terminal will be refunded any costs associated with the intended gift (i.e., the database **112** will be updated) and a notification message will be transmitted to the gift-giving terminal that indicates that the content gift was not provided to the second terminal. Thus, it is possible for the gifting system to avoid giving a content gift that duplicates the content owned by the gift-receiving terminal.

[0063] In one embodiment, the communication channels **214**, **216**, **218**, and **220** are independent channels. In another embodiment, the channels **214**, **216**, **218**, and **220** are the same channel. The channels **214**, **216**, **218**, and **220** may comprise any type of wired or wireless channel, or any combination thereof. Thus, any configuration may be used to allow the functional elements of the server **108** to communication with external devices or systems.

[0064] It should be noted that the server **108** illustrates just one embodiment, and that other server configurations are possible to provide the functions described herein. For example, it is possible that the functional elements of the server **108** be combined, rearranged, changed, added to, or deleted within the scope of the described embodiments.

[0065] **FIG. 3** shows one embodiment of a method **300** for use in server to provide one embodiment of a gifting system. For the purpose of clarity, the operation of the method **300** will be described with reference to the server **108** shown in **FIG. 2**.

[0066] At block 302, a request for a catalog is received at the server. For example, a terminal communicates with the server 108 via the channel 214 to request a catalog of content compatible with a gift-receiving terminal. The request includes information to identify a requesting terminal and the gift-receiving terminal.

[0067] At block 304, the request for a catalog is verified. For example, the verification logic 208 operates to verify that the requesting terminal is authorized to request the catalog and receive private information about the gift-receiving terminal. Any type of authorization and/or verification technique may be used to verify the request.

[0068] At block 306, the request is used to compile a catalog that identifies content that is compatible with the gift-receiving terminal. For example, the request is sent from the verification logic 208 to the database 112 where the identifier of the gift-receiving terminal is used to assemble a catalog identifying compatible content. For example, the database includes hardware and software configuration information about the gift-receiving terminal. The configuration information is used to determine which of the files included in the content 114 is compatible with the gift-receiving terminal. In one embodiment, the catalog also includes information about content currently owned by the gift-receiving terminal.

[0069] At block 308, a listing identifying all compatible content is assembled into a catalog file, which may be in any suitable type of file format. The catalog file may also include any other information relevant to the operation or configuration of the gift-receiving terminal. For example, the catalog file may include information about current content and licenses associated with the gift-receiving terminal.

[0070] At block 310, the assembled catalog is transmitted to the gift-giving terminal that requested the catalog. For example, the compiled catalog of compatible content is sent from the database 112 to the catalog transmitter 216, which then transmits the catalog to the gift-giving terminal via the communication channel 216.

[0071] At block 312, a gift request is received at the server 108. For example, the gift request receiver 206 receives the gift request via the channel 218. In one embodiment, a terminal that has received the catalog and selected one or more compatible content files to give as a gift to another terminal generates the gift request. The gift request includes information to identify the gift-giving terminal, a content gift, and the gift-receiving terminal.

[0072] At block 314, the server verifies the gift request. For example, the verification logic 210 operates to verify that the requesting terminal is authorized to request a gift. Any type of authorization and/or verification technique may be used to verify the request.

[0073] At block 314, the server verifies the gift request. For example, the verification logic 210 operates to verify that the requesting terminal is authorized to request a gift. Any type of authorization and/or verification technique may be used to verify the request.

[0074] At block 318 the server establishes communication with the gift-receiving terminal. For example, in one embodiment, communication is established when the gift-receiving terminal logs in to the login logic 212 via the channel 220. Communication with the gift-receiving terminal may also be established in any other way. For example, the server 108 may initiate communication with the gift-receiving terminal.

[0075] At block 320, a test is performed to see if the gift-receiving terminal has already acquired the content gift. In one embodiment, the gift server 108 contacts the gift-receiving terminal 110 to determine if the content gift already resides on the gift-receiving terminal 110. For example, during the time that the gift-giving terminal 102 was processing the catalog to select a content gift to give, the gift-receiving terminal acquired the selected content gift by some other means. For example, the gift-receiving terminal purchased the content independently. If the gift-receiving terminal already has the content, then a gift of the identical content would result in duplicate content on the gift-receiving terminal. It is desirable to avoid such a duplicate situation. Thus, if the gift-receiving terminal already has the selected content, the method proceeds to block 322, and if the selected content does not already reside on the gift-receiving terminal, the method proceeds to block 324.

[0076] At block 322, it has been determined that the content gift already resides on the gift-receiving terminal so a refund is provided to the gift-giving terminal. For example, the database on the gift-server is updated to reflect that the gift was not given and no costs are to be charged to the gift-giving terminal. In one embodiment, a notification is sent to the gift-giving terminal to notify that terminal that the content gift was not provided to avoid duplicate content on the gift-receiving terminal. It is also possible to send a notification to the gift-receiving terminal that a content gift was returned because of duplicate content.

[0077] At block 324, the gift-receiving terminal does not already own the content gift, so the content gift is transmitted to the gift-receiving terminal. For example, in one embodiment, the selected content gift is retrieved from the content 114 by the login logic 212 and transmitted to the gift-receiving terminal via the channel 220. Any other technique may be used to transmit the content gift to the gift-receiving terminal.

[0078] Thus, the method 300 operates to provide a content gift in a data network. It should be noted that the method 300 illustrates just one method and that it is possible to rearrange, change, combine, or delete method steps within the scope of the described embodiments.

[0079] **FIG. 4** shows a functional diagram of one embodiment of the terminal 102 for use in one embodiment of a gifting system. The terminal 102 comprises a catalog request transmitter 402, catalog receiver 404, gift request transmitter 406, and selection logic 408.

[0080] In one embodiment, the catalog request transmitter 402, catalog receiver 404, gift request transmitter 406, and selection logic 408 comprise a processor, CPU, gate array, logic, software or any combination thereof. For example, in one embodiment, a processor executing program instructions may provide the functions of any or all of the receiver transmitter 402, the receiver 404, the transmitter 406, and the selection logic 408.

[0081] In one or more embodiments, the terminal 102 generally comprises logic to execute machine-readable instructions to perform the functions described herein. For example, instructions may be loaded into the terminal 102 from a computer-readable media, such as a floppy disk, CDROM, Flash memory, or other computer-readable media that interfaces to the terminal 102. In another embodiment, the instructions may be downloaded into the terminal 102 from a network resource, such as a network server or any other type of network resource that interfaces to the terminal 102. The instructions, when executed by the terminal 102, provide one or more embodiments of a gifting system as described herein.

[0082] The catalog request transmitter 402 operates to transmit a request for a catalog to a gift server, such as the server 108. In one embodiment, the transmitter 402 receives information from a user input 410. The user input 410 allows the user of the terminal 102 to input information that is used as part of a catalog request. The information includes an identifier that identifies a gift-receiving terminal. The catalog request is

transmitted via a communication channel **412** that allows communication with the gift server.

[0083] The catalog receiver **404** operates to receive a catalog from a gift server. The catalog includes a list identifying content that are compatible with the selected gift-receiving terminal. The catalog receiver **404** communicates with the gift server via the communication channel **414**.

[0084] The selection logic **408** receives the catalog from the catalog receiver and displays it to the terminal user. The user then selects (using the user input **410**) one or more content gifts to be given to the gift-receiving terminal.

[0085] The selections are sent to the gift request transmitter **406**, which transmits a gift request to the gift server via the communication channel **416**. In one embodiment, the gift request transmitter includes logic to receive a notification that the gift was not given to the gift-receiving terminal because the selected content gift is already owned by the gift-receiving terminal. For example, while the gift-giving terminal selects the content gift from the catalog, the gift-receiving terminal acquires the selected content gift by some other means. For example, the gift-receiving terminal acquires the selected content gift through an independent purchase. Thus, the gift server will not provide the content gift to the gift-receiving terminal to avoid duplicate content on the gift-receiving terminal. In one embodiment, the gift server sends a notification message that the content gift was not delivered to avoid a duplicate content situation. The notification message is received by logic at the gift request transmitter **406** for further processing at the gift-giving terminal.

[0086] In one embodiment, the communication channels **412**, **414**, and **416** are independent channels. In another embodiment, the channels **412**, **414**, and **416** are the same channel. The channels **412**, **414**, and **416** may comprise any type of wired or wireless channel, or any combination thereof. Thus, any configuration may be used to allow the functional elements of the terminal **102** to communication with external devices or systems.

[0087] It should be noted that the terminal **102** illustrates just one embodiment, and that other server configurations are possible to provide the functions described herein. For example, it is possible that the functional elements of the terminal **102** be combined, rearranged, changed, added to, or deleted within the scope of the described embodiments.

[0088] **FIG. 5** shows one embodiment of a method **500** for use in a terminal device to provide one embodiment of a gifting system. For example, the method **500** is suitable for use with the terminal **102** shown in **FIG. 4**. Therefore, for added clarity, the following detailed description of the method **500** includes additional references to the terminal **102** in **FIG. 4**.

[0089] At block **502**, a catalog identifying content compatible with a gift-receiving terminal is requested. For example, the user of terminal **102** provides user input to the transmitter **402** via input **410**. The user input comprises information that includes an identifier that identifies the gift-receiving terminal. The information is used to create a catalog request that is transmitted by the transmitter **402** to a gift server via the communication channel **412**.

[0090] At block **504**, the terminal receives a catalog that identifies content compatible with the gift-receiving terminal. For example, the gift server receives the catalog request, and after a verification process, compiles a list of content compatible with the gift-receiving terminal. The list is used to create the catalog that is transmitted to the terminal **102** and received by the catalog receiver **404** via the channel **414**.

[0091] At block **506**, the user of the terminal selects one or more content gifts from the catalog to be given to the gift-receiving terminal. For example, the received catalog is provided to the selection logic **408** and thereafter displayed to the terminal user. The terminal user selects the desired content gifts from the catalog via the user input **410**.

[0092] At block **508**, a gift request is transmitted from the terminal **102** to the gift server. The gift request includes one or more identifiers that identify content gifts that have been selected to be given to a gift-receiving terminal that is also identified in the request. For example, the user selects content gifts from the catalog to give as gifts to the gift-receiving terminal. The selections are incorporated into a gift request that is transmitted from the transmitter **406** to the gift server. When the gift server receives the gift request, the content gifts are provided to the gift-receiving terminal and the gift-giving terminal **102** assumes any costs associated with the content gifts.

[0093] The method **500** is intended to be illustrative and not limiting of the operation of the various embodiments described herein. For example, it would be obvious to one with skill in the art to make minor changes, additions or deletions to any of the described method steps. Furthermore, the described method steps may be combined, rearranged or reordered without deviating from the scope of the described embodiments.

[0094] **FIG. 6** shows one embodiment of a catalog **600** for use in one or more embodiments of a gifting system. In one embodiment, the catalog is prepared by a gift server in response to a catalog request received from a gift-giving terminal. The catalog **600** comprises a header section **602** that identifies the gift-receiving terminal. The catalog **600** also comprises an active content section **604**, a compatible content section **608**, and a targeted content section **610**.

[0095] The active content section **604** shows content that is currently owned by the gift-receiving terminal. The active content is owned or licensed by the gift-receiving terminal and the existing license information is provided at **606**.

[0096] The compatible content section **608** shows content that is compatible with the gift-receiving terminal. For example, a gift-giver may select content gifts from several categories, such as entertainment, news, finance, or games.

[0097] The targeted content section **610** shows content that has been targeted for the gift-receiving terminal. For example, if the gift-receiving terminal is a member of a financial organization, the targeted content may be the content shown in section **610**.

[0098] Therefore, the catalog **600** can be used in one embodiment of a gifting system to allow a content gift to be given to a gift-receiving terminal. It should be noted that the catalog **600** shows just one embodiment, and that other embodiments of a catalog are possible for use with one or more embodiments of a gifting system.

[0099] **FIG. 7** shows one embodiment of a method **700** for use in a terminal device to provide one embodiment of a gifting system using peer-to-peer communication. For example, the method **700** is suitable for use with the terminal **102** shown in **FIG. 4**. Therefore, for added clarity, the following detailed description of the method **700** includes additional references to the terminal **102** in **FIG. 4**.

[00100] At block **702**, a catalog identifying content compatible with a gift-receiving terminal is requested. For example, the user of terminal **102** provides user input to the transmitter **402** via input **410**. The user input comprises information that includes an identifier that identifies the gift-receiving terminal **110**. The information is used to create a catalog request that is transmitted by the transmitter **402** to the gift-receiving terminal **110** using peer-to-peer communication, for example, by using the communication channel **412**.

[00101] At block **704**, the terminal receives a catalog that identifies content compatible with the gift-receiving terminal. For example, the terminal **110** receives the catalog request, and after a verification process, compiles a list of compatible content. In one

embodiment, information about compatible content is available at the terminal **110**. In another embodiment, the terminal **110** requests information about compatible content from a gift server, for example, the server **108**. The information about compatible content is used to create the catalog that is transmitted from the terminal **110** to the terminal **102** and received by the catalog receiver **404** via the channel **414**.

[00102] At block **706**, the user of the gift-giving terminal selects one or more content gifts from the catalog to be given to the gift-receiving terminal. For example, the received catalog is provided to the selection logic **408** and thereafter displayed to the terminal user. The terminal user selects the desired content gifts from the catalog via the user input **410**.

[00103] In one embodiment, the method **700** proceeds to block **708** where a gift request is transmitted from the terminal **102** to the gift server. The gift request includes one or more identifiers that identify content gifts that have been selected to be given to a gift-receiving terminal that is also identified in the request. For example, the user selects content gifts from the catalog to give as gifts to the gift-receiving terminal. The selections are incorporated into a gift request that is transmitted from the transmitter **406** to the gift server **108**. When the gift server receives the gift request, the content gifts are provided to the gift-receiving terminal **110** and the gift-giving terminal **102** assumes any costs associated with the content gifts.

[00104] In another embodiment, the method proceeds to block **710** where the gift-giving terminal **102** transmits the content gift directly to the gift-receiving terminal **110**. For example, using peer-to-peer communication, a content gift located at the terminal **102** is transmitted to the gift-receiving terminal **110**.

[00105] Thus, it is possible for the gifting system to provide content gifts to a terminal in a data network using a variety of methods to generate a catalog of compatible content and transmitting the selected content gift from one of several sources.

[00106] Accordingly, while one or more embodiments of methods and apparatus for providing gifts in a data network have been illustrated and described herein, it will be appreciated that various changes can be made to the embodiments without departing from their spirit or essential characteristics. Therefore, the disclosures and descriptions herein are intended to be illustrative, but not limiting, of the scope of the invention, which is set forth in the following claims.

74769-1489

20

CLAIMS:

1. A method for operating a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with a gift server, the method comprising:
 - 5 transmitting a catalog request, including a terminal identifier of the second terminal, to the gift server to obtain a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal;

receiving the catalog at the first terminal;

selecting a content gift from the catalog;
 - 10 automatically determining the selected content gift is not already owned by the second terminal; and

transmitting a gift request for the gift server requesting that the content gift be provided to the second terminal.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising including security information
15 in the catalog request so that the catalog request can be authenticated.
3. The method of claim 1 or claim 2, further comprising requesting that the first terminal assume costs associated with the content gift.
4. The method of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the step of transmitting the catalog request comprises transmitting the catalog request to the gift server using
20 a wireless network connection.
5. The method of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the step of transmitting the catalog request comprises transmitting the catalog request to the gift server using a wired network connection.

74769-1489

21

6. The method of any one of claims 1 to 5, further comprising receiving a notification message that the content gift was not delivered to the second terminal because the content is already owned by the second terminal.

7. The method of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein at least one of the first
5 and second terminals is a wireless device.

8. Apparatus for use with a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with a gift server, the apparatus comprising:

a catalog request transmitter that operates to transmit a catalog
10 request, including a terminal identifier of the second terminal, to the gift server to obtain a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal;

a catalog receiver that operates to receive the catalog at the first
terminal;

a gift selector that operates to select a content gift from the catalog,
15 wherein the gift selector automatically determines the selected content gift is not already owned by the second terminal; and

a gift request transmitter that operates to transmit a gift request for the gift server requesting that the content gift be provided to the second terminal.

9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the catalog request transmitter
20 further comprises logic to include security information in the catalog request so that the catalog request can be authenticated.

10. The apparatus of claim 8 or claim 9, wherein the gift request transmitter further comprises logic to request that the first terminal assume costs associated with the content gift.

74769-1489

22

11. The apparatus of any one of claims 8 to 10, wherein the catalog request transmitter comprises logic to transmit the catalog request to the gift server using a wireless network connection.

12. The apparatus of any one of claims 8 to 10, wherein the catalog request transmitter comprises logic to transmit the catalog request to the gift server using a wired network connection.

13. The apparatus of any one of claims 8 to 12, wherein the gift request transmitter further comprises logic to receive a notification message that the content gift was not delivered to the second terminal because the content is already owned by the second terminal.

14. The apparatus of any one of claims 8 to 11, wherein at least one of the first and second terminals is a wireless device.

15. A processor for use in a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with a gift server, the processor comprising:

means for transmitting a catalog request, including a terminal identifier of the second terminal, to the gift server to obtain a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal;

means for receiving the catalog at the first terminal;

20 means for selecting a content gift from the catalog;

means for automatically determining the selected content gift is not already owned by the second terminal; and

means for transmitting a gift request for the gift server requesting that the content gift be provided to the second terminal.

74769-1489

23

16. The processor of claim 15, further comprising means for including security information in the catalog request so that the catalog request can be authenticated.

17. The processor of claim 15 or claim 16, further comprising means for
5 requesting that the first terminal assume costs associated with the content gift.

18. The processor of any one of claims 15 to 17, wherein the means for transmitting the catalog request comprises means for transmitting the catalog request to the server using a wireless network connection.

19. The processor of any one of claims 15 to 17, wherein the means for
10 transmitting the catalog request comprises means for transmitting the catalog request to the server using a wired network connection.

20. The processor of any one of claims 15 to 19, further comprises means for receiving a notification message that the content gift was not delivered to the second terminal because the content is already owned by the second terminal.

15 21. The processor of any one of claims 15 to 18, wherein at least one of the first and second terminals is a wireless device.

22. A computer-readable medium comprising instructions stored thereon, which when executed by a processor in a first terminal, operate to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively
20 communicate with a gift server, the computer-readable medium comprising:

instructions for transmitting a catalog request, including a terminal identifier of the second terminal, to the gift server to obtain a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal;

instructions for receiving the catalog at the first terminal;

25 instructions for selecting a content gift from the catalog;

74769-1489

24

instructions for automatically determining the selected content gift is not already owned by the second terminal; and

instructions for transmitting a gift request for the gift server requesting that the content gift be provided to the second terminal.

5 23. The computer-readable medium of claim 22, further comprising instructions for including security information in the catalog request so that the catalog request can be authenticated.

24. The computer-readable medium of claim 22 or claim 23, further comprising instructions for requesting that the first terminal assume costs associated
10 with the content gift.

25. The computer-readable medium of any one of claims 22 to 24, wherein the instructions for transmitting the catalog request comprise instructions for transmitting the catalog request to the gift server using a wireless network connection.

15 26. The computer-readable medium of any one of claims 22 to 24, wherein the instructions for transmitting the catalog request comprise instructions for transmitting the catalog request to the gift server using a wired network connection.

27. The computer-readable medium of any one of claims 22 to 26, further comprising instructions for receiving a notification message that the content gift was
20 not delivered to the second terminal because the content is already owned by the second terminal.

28. The computer-readable medium of any one of claims 22 to 25, wherein at least one of the first and second terminals is a wireless device.

29. A method for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a
25 content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server, the method comprising:

74769-1489

25

receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal;

generating the catalog;

transmitting the catalog to the first terminal;

5 receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal;

determining the content gift is content that is not already owned by the second terminal; and

providing the content to the second terminal;

10 wherein the step of generating the catalog comprises using a terminal identifier included in the catalog request to identify the content that is compatible with the second terminal.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein the step of receiving the catalog request further comprises authenticating the catalog request.

15 31. The method of claim 29 or claim 30, wherein the step of transmitting comprises transmitting the catalog to the first terminal using a communication channel that is selected from channels comprising wired and wireless communication channels.

32. The method of any one of claims 29 to 31, further comprising
20 associating the costs of the content gift with the first terminal.

33. The method of claim 29 or claim 30, wherein the step of providing the content gift comprises transmitting the content gift to the second terminal using a communication channel that is selected from channels comprising wired and wireless communication channels.

74769-1489

26

34. The method of claim 29 or claim 30, wherein at least one of the first and second terminals is a wireless device.

35. A method for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively
5 communicate with the server, the method comprising:

receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal;

generating the catalog;

transmitting the catalog to the first terminal;

10 receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal;

determining the content gift is content that is not already owned by the second terminal; and

providing the content to the second terminal; and

15 wherein the step of generating the catalog comprises:

using a terminal identifier included in the catalog request to identify targeted content that is compatible with the second terminal; and

generating the catalog so that it identifies the targeted content.

36. A method for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a
20 content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server, the method comprising:

receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal;

74769-1489

27

generating the catalog;

transmitting the catalog to the first terminal;

receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal;

5 determining the content gift is already owned by the second terminal;
and

transmitting a notification message to the first terminal to indicate that content gift was not provided to the second terminal.

37. A processor for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a
10 content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server, the processor comprising:

means for receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal;

means for generating the catalog;

15 means for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal;

means for receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal;

means for determining the content gift is content that is not already owned by the second terminal; and

20 means for providing the content to the second terminal;

wherein the means for generating the catalog comprises means for using a terminal identifier included in the catalog request to identify the content that is compatible with the second terminal.

74769-1489

28

38. The processor of claim 37, wherein the means for receiving the catalog request further comprises means for authenticating the catalog request.

39. The processor of claim 37 or claim 38, wherein the means for transmitting comprises means for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal using a communication channel that is selected from channels comprising wired and wireless communication channels.

40. The processor of any one of claims 37 to 39, further comprising means for associating the costs of the content gift with the first terminal.

41. The processor of claim 37 or claim 38, wherein the means for providing the content gift comprises means for transmitting the content gift to the second terminal using a communication channel that is selected from channels comprising wired and wireless communication channels.

42. The processor of claim 37 or claim 38, wherein at least one of the first and second terminals is a wireless device.

43. A processor for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server, the processor comprising:

means for receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal;

means for generating the catalog;

means for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal;

means for receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal;

means for determining the content gift is content that is not already owned by the second terminal; and

74769-1489

29

means for providing the content to the second terminal;

wherein the step of generating the catalog comprises:

means for using a terminal identifier included in the catalog request to identify targeted content that is compatible with the second terminal; and

5 means for generating the catalog so that it identifies the targeted content.

44. A processor for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server, the processor comprising:

10 means for receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal;

means for generating the catalog;

means for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal;

15 means for receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal;

means for determining the content gift is already owned by the second terminal; and

means for transmitting a notification message to the first terminal to indicate that content gift was not provided to the second terminal.

20 45. Apparatus for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with a gift server, the processor comprising:

a catalog request receiver for receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal;

74769-1489

30

a database for generating the catalog;

a catalog transmitter for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal;

a gift receiver for receiving a gift request from the first terminal

requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second
5 terminal, wherein the gift receiver determines the content gift is content that is not
currently owned by the second terminal; and

a gift transmitter for providing the content to the second terminal;

wherein the database comprises logic for using a terminal identifier
included in the catalog request to identify the content that is compatible with the
10 second terminal.

46. The apparatus of claim 45, wherein the catalog request receiver further
comprises logic for authenticating the catalog request.

47. The apparatus of claim 45 or claim 46, wherein the catalog transmitter
15 comprises logic for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal using a
communication channel that is selected from channels comprising wired and wireless
communication channels.

48. The apparatus of any one of claims 45 to 47, wherein the database
further comprises logic for associating the costs of the content gift with the first
20 terminal.

49. The apparatus of claim 45 or claim 46, wherein the logic for providing
the content gift comprises logic for transmitting the content gift to the second terminal
using a communication channel that is selected from channels comprising wired and
wireless communication channels.

25 50. The apparatus of claim 45 or claim 46, wherein at least one of the first
and second terminals is a wireless device.

74769-1489

31

51. Apparatus for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server, the processor comprising:

5 a catalog request receiver for receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal;

a database for generating the catalog;

a catalog transmitter for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal;

10 a gift receiver for receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal, wherein the gift receiver determines the content gift is content that is not currently owned by the second terminal; and

a gift transmitter for providing the content to the second terminal;

wherein the database comprises:

15 logic for using a terminal identifier included in the catalog request to identify targeted content that is compatible with the second terminal; and

logic for generating the catalog so that it identifies the targeted content.

52. A processor for operating a server to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server, the processor comprising:

20 a catalog request receiver for receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal;

a database for generating the catalog;

a catalog transmitter for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal;

74769-1489

32

a gift receiver for receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal;

wherein the database comprises:

5 logic for determining the content gift is already owned by the second terminal; and

logic for transmitting a notification message to the first terminal to indicate that content gift was not provided to the second terminal.

53. A computer-readable medium comprising instructions stored thereon,
10 which when executed by a processor in a server, operate to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server, the computer-readable medium comprising:

instructions for receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal;

15 instructions for generating the catalog;

instructions for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal;

instructions for receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal;

instructions for determining the content gift is content that is not already
20 owned by the second terminal; and

instructions for providing the content to the second terminal;

wherein the instructions for generating comprise instructions for using a terminal identifier included in the catalog request to identify the content that is compatible with the second terminal.

74769-1489

33

54. The computer-readable medium of claim 53, wherein the instructions for receiving the catalog request further comprise instructions for authenticating the catalog request.

55. The computer-readable medium of claim 53 or claim 54, wherein the instructions for transmitting comprise instructions for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal using a communication channel that is selected from channels comprising wired and wireless communication channels.

56. The computer-readable medium of any one of claims 53 to 55, further comprising instructions for associating the costs of the content gift with the first terminal.

57. The computer-readable medium of claim 53 or claim 54, wherein the instructions for providing the content gift comprise instructions for transmitting the content gift to the second terminal using a communication channel that is selected from channels comprising wired and wireless communication channels.

58. The computer-readable medium of claim 53 or claim 54, wherein at least one of the first and second terminals is a wireless device.

59. A computer-readable medium comprising instructions stored thereon, which when executed by a processor in a server, operate to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server, the computer-readable medium comprising:

instructions for receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal;

instructions for generating the catalog;

instructions for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal;

instructions for receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal;

74769-1489

34

instructions for determining the content gift is content that is not already owned by the second terminal; and

instructions for providing the content to the second terminal;

wherein the instructions for generating the catalog comprise:

5 instructions for using a terminal identifier included in the catalog request to identify targeted content that is compatible with the second terminal; and

instructions for generating the catalog so that it identifies the targeted content.

60. A computer-readable medium comprising instructions stored thereon,
10 which when executed by a processor in a server, operate to allow a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with the server, the computer-readable medium comprising:

instructions for receiving a catalog request from the first terminal for a catalog that identifies content compatible with the second terminal;

15 instructions for generating the catalog;

instructions for transmitting the catalog to the first terminal;

instructions for receiving a gift request from the first terminal requesting that a content gift selected from the catalog be provided to the second terminal;

20 instructions for determining the content gift is already owned by the second terminal; and

instructions for transmitting a notification message to the first terminal to indicate that content gift was not provided to the second terminal.

74769-1489

35

61. A method for operating a first terminal to provide a content gift to a second terminal, wherein the first and second terminals selectively communicate with each other over a data network, the method comprising:

transmitting a catalog request to the second terminal to obtain a catalog
5 that identifies content compatible with the second terminal;

receiving the catalog;

selecting a content gift from the catalog;

determining the selected content gift is not already owned by the
second terminal; and

10 transmitting a gift request to a gift server, wherein the gift server provides the content gift to the second terminal.

62 The method of claim 61, further comprising including security information in the catalog request so that the catalog request can be authenticated.

63. The method of claim 61 or claim 62, wherein the step of transmitting the
15 catalog request comprises transmitting the catalog request using a wireless network connection.

64. The method of claim 61 or claim 62, wherein the step of transmitting the catalog request comprises transmitting the catalog request using a wired network connection.

20 65. The method of any one of claims 61 to 63, wherein at least one of the first and second terminals is a wireless device.

66. The method of any one of claims 61 to 65, further comprising transmitting the content from the first terminal to the second terminal.

74769-1489

36

67. A method for providing a content gift to a gift-receiving terminal, the method comprising:

a gift server communicating with the gift-receiving terminal over a wireless communication link to determine what content is owned by the gift-receiving terminal;

5 the gift server generating catalog data including at least one content gift targeted for the gift receiving terminal;

the gift server wirelessly transmitting the catalog data to a gift-giving terminal;

the gift server receiving a selection of a content gift from the gift-giving terminal over a wireless communication link; and

10 the gift server facilitating delivery of the selected content gift to the gift-receiving terminal.

68. The method of claim 67, wherein transmitting the catalog data further comprises including an authentication code in the catalog data.

69. The method of claim 67, further comprising associating costs of the
15 content gift with the gift-receiving terminal.

70. The method of claim 67, wherein providing the content gift comprises transmitting the content gift to the gift-receiving terminal using a communication channel that is selected from channels comprising one of wired or wireless communication channels.

20 71. A method for a gift-giving terminal to provide a content gift to a gift-receiving terminal, the method comprising:

transmitting, by the gift-giving terminal, an identifier associated with the gift-receiving terminal to a gift server over a wireless communication link to request catalog data corresponding to the gift-receiving terminal;

74769-1489

37

receiving catalog data from the gift server over a wireless communication link, the catalog data including at least one content gift previously communicated to the gift server as targeted for the gift-receiving terminal; and

5 transmitting an identifier for a content gift from the catalog data to the gift server over a wireless communication link to facilitate delivery of the selected content gift to the gift-receiving terminal.

72. The method of claim 71, further comprising:

including security information in the catalog data so that the catalog data can be authenticated.

10 73. A method for providing a service feature to a gift-receiving terminal, the method comprising:

a gift server receiving data from the gift-receiving terminal over a wireless communication link, the data identifying at least one service feature;

15 the gift server generating catalog data including at least one service feature targeted for the gift-receiving terminal;

the gift server wirelessly transmitting the catalog data to a gift-giving terminal;

the gift server receiving a selection of a catalog data service feature from the gift-giving terminal over a wireless communication link; and

20 the gift server facilitating activation of the selected service feature with respect to the gift-receiving terminal.

74. The method of claim 73, wherein transmitting the catalog data further comprises including an authentication code in the catalog data.

74769-1489

38

75. The method of claim 73, further comprising associating costs of the selected service feature with the gift-receiving terminal.

76. The method of claim 73, wherein providing the selected service feature comprises transmitting the selected service feature to the gift-receiving terminal using
5 a communication channel that is selected from channels comprising one of wired or wireless communication channels.

77. A method for a gift-giving terminal to provide a service feature gift to a gift-receiving terminal:

transmitting, by a gift-giving terminal, an identifier associated with a
10 gift-receiving terminal to a gift server over a wireless communication link to request catalog data corresponding to the gift-receiving terminal;

receiving catalog data from the gift server over a wireless communication link, the catalog data including at least one service feature previously communicated to the gift server as targeted for the gift-receiving terminal; and

15 transmitting an identifier for a service feature from the catalog data to the gift server over a wireless communication link to facilitate activation of the selected service feature for the gift-receiving terminal.

78. The method of claim 77, further comprising:

including security information in the catalog data so that the catalog
20 data can be authenticated.

79. A gift server for use with a gift-giving terminal to provide a content gift to a gift-receiving terminal, comprising:

a catalog request receiver that operates to receive a catalog request from the gift-giving terminal over a wireless communication link, the request
25 identifying the gift-receiving terminal;

74769-1489

39

a catalog transmitter that operates to generate catalog data including at least one content gift targeted for to the gift-receiving terminal by reference to data received from the gift-receiving terminal and wirelessly transmitting the catalog data to the gift-giving terminal;

5 a gift request receiver that operates to receive a selection of a catalog data content gift from the gift-giving terminal over a wireless communication link; and

a gift transmitter that operates to facilitate delivery of the selected content gift to the gift-receiving terminal.

80. The gift server of claim 79, wherein the catalog transmitter further
10 includes an authentication code in the catalog data.

81. The gift server of claim 79, wherein the catalog transmitter further associates costs of the content gift with the gift-receiving terminal.

82. The gift server of claim 79, wherein the gift transmitter provides the content gift to the gift-receiving terminal using a communication channel that is
15 selected from channels comprising one of wired or wireless communication channels.

83. A gift-giving terminal operable to provide content gift to a gift-receiving terminal, comprising:

a catalog requestor that operates to transmit an identifier associated with a gift-receiving terminal to a gift server over a wireless communication link to
20 request catalog data corresponding to the gift-receiving terminal;

a catalog receiver that operates to receive catalog data from the gift server over a wireless communication link, the catalog data including at least one content gift previously communicated to the gift server as targeted for the gift-receiving terminal; and

74769-1489

40

a gift selector that operates to transmit an identifier for a content gift from the catalog data to the gift server over a wireless communication link to facilitate delivery of the selected content gift to the gift-receiving terminal.

84. The gift-giving terminal of claim 83, wherein the catalog requester
5 receives catalog data that includes security information in the catalog data so that the catalog data can be authenticated.

85. A processor for use in a server terminal used with a gift-giving terminal to provide a content gift to a gift-receiving terminal, comprising:

means for receiving a catalog request from a gift-giving terminal over a
10 wireless communication link, the request identifying the gift-receiving terminal;

means for generating catalog data including at least one content gift targeted for the gift-receiving terminal by reference to data received from the gift-receiving terminal and wirelessly transmitting the catalog data to the gift-giving terminal;

15 means for receiving a selection of a catalog data content gift from the gift-giving terminal over a wireless communication link; and

means for facilitating delivery of the selected content gift to the gift-receiving terminal.

86. The processor of claim 85, wherein the means for generating catalog
20 data further includes an authentication code in the catalog data.

87. The processor of claim 85, wherein the means for generating catalog data further associates costs of the content gift with the gift-receiving terminal.

88. The processor of claim 85, wherein the means for facilitating delivery provides the content gift to the gift-receiving terminal using a communication channel
25 that is selected from channels comprising one of wired or wireless communication channels.

74769-1489

41

89. A processor for use in a gift-giving terminal to provide content data to a gift-receiving terminal, comprising:

means for transmitting an identifier associated with a gift-receiving terminal to a gift server over a wireless communication link to request catalog data
5 corresponding to the gift-receiving terminal;

means for receiving catalog data from the gift server over a wireless communication link, the catalog data including at least one content gift previously communicated to the gift server as targeted for the gift-receiving terminal; and

means for transmitting an identifier for a content gift from the catalog
10 data to the gift server over a wireless communication link to facilitate delivery of the selected content gift to the gift-receiving terminal.

90. The processor of claim 89, wherein the means for receiving receives catalog data that includes security information in the catalog data so that the catalog data can be authenticated.

1/7

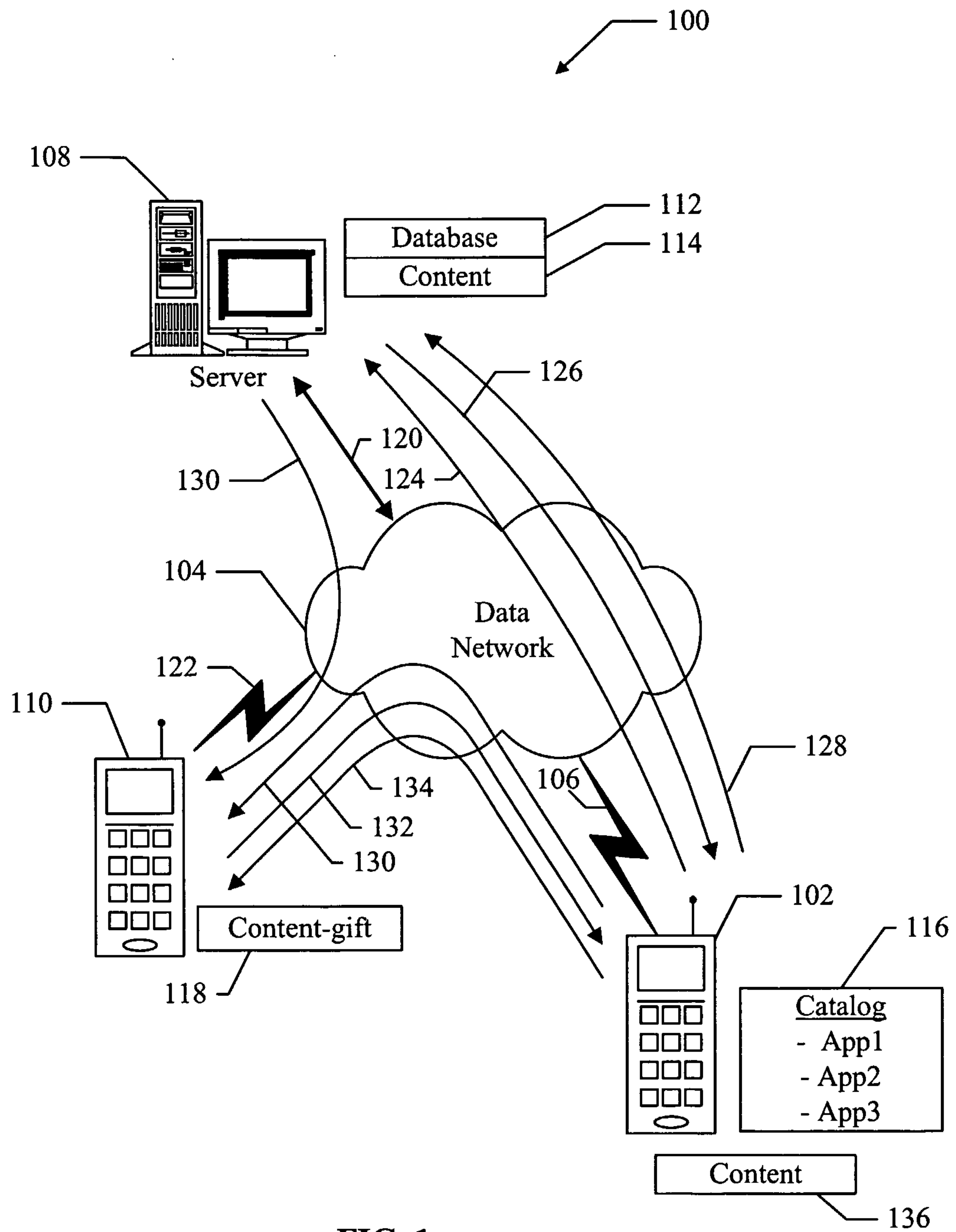


FIG. 1

2/7

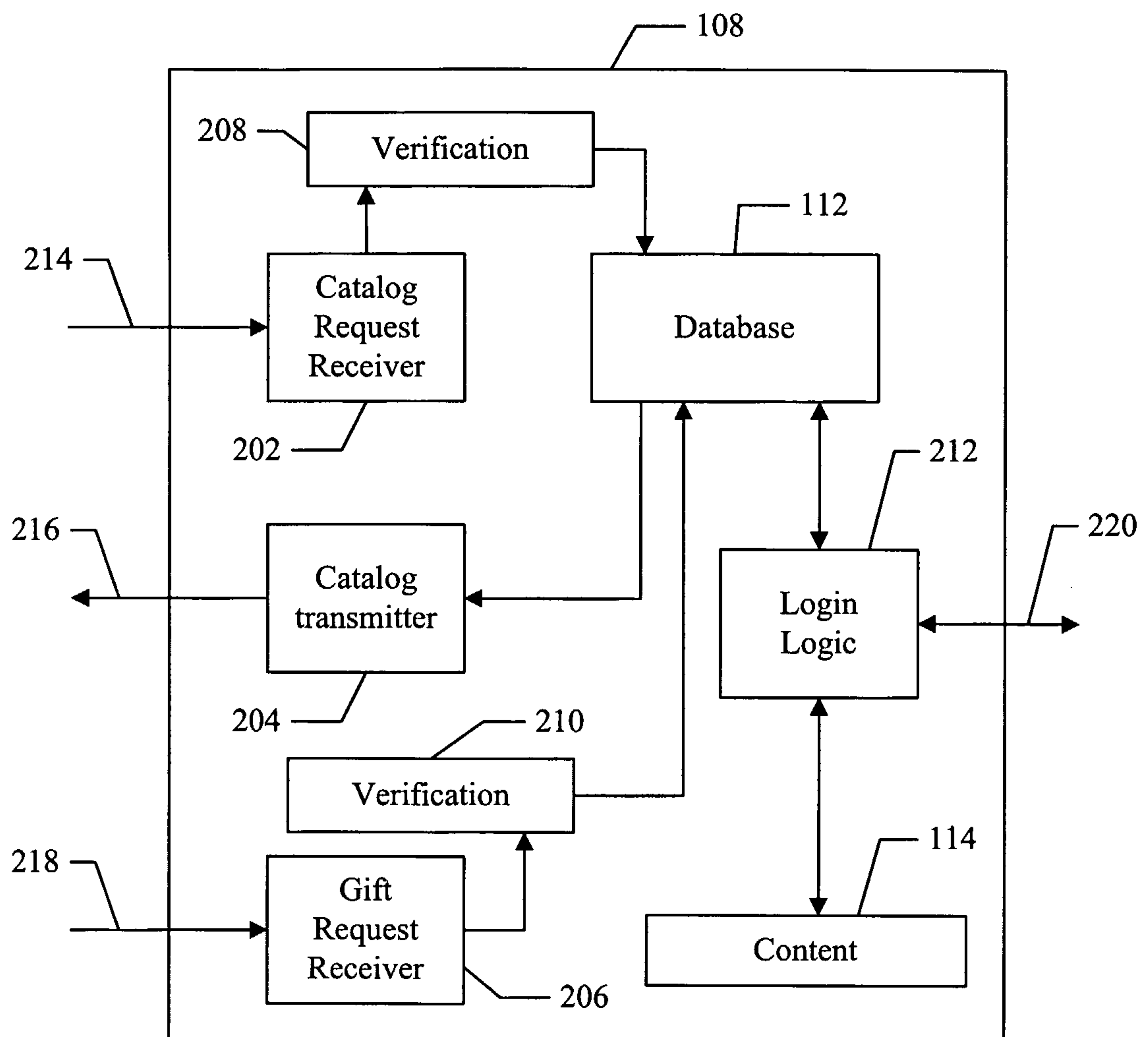


FIG. 2

3/7

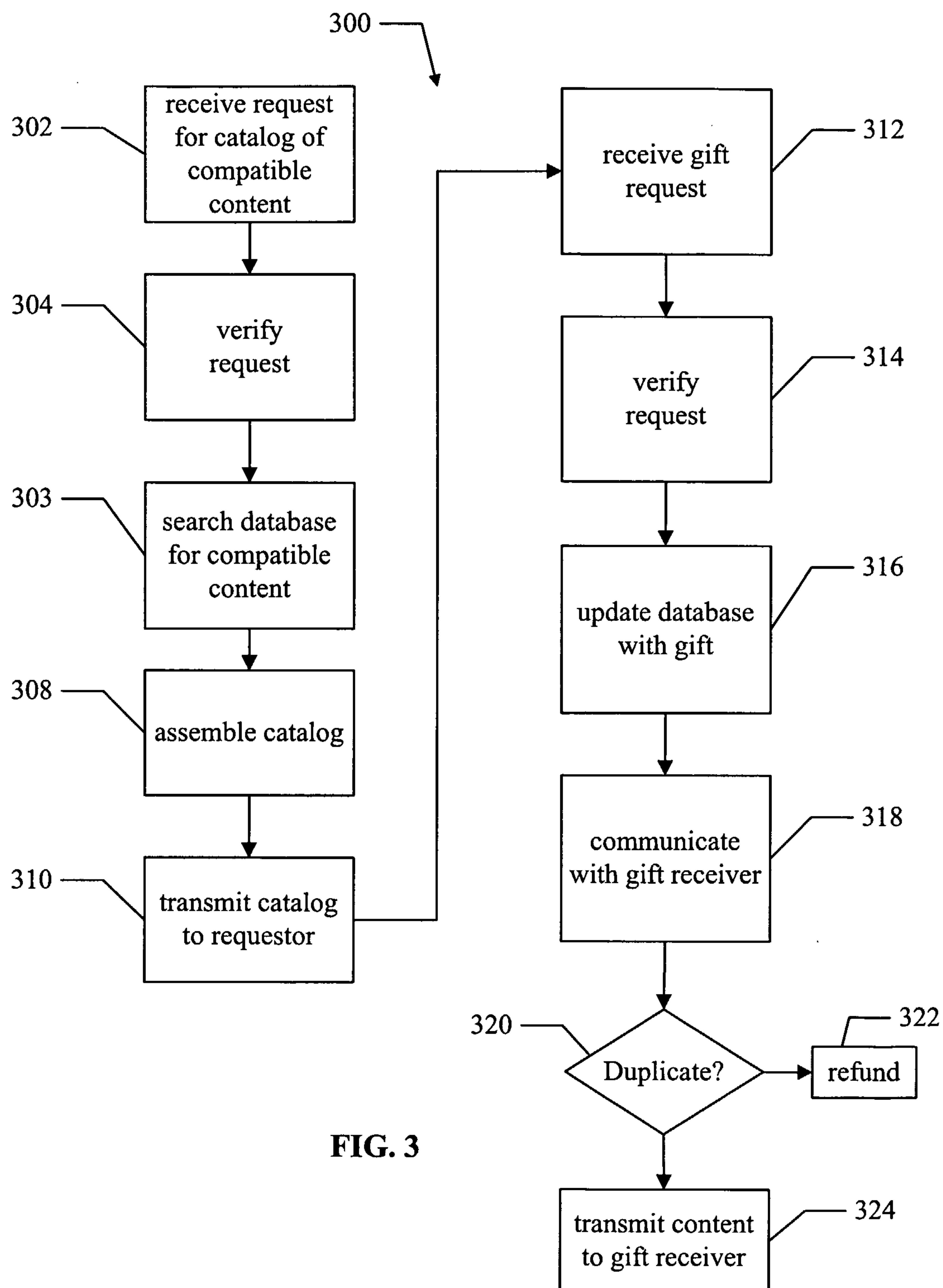


FIG. 3

4/7

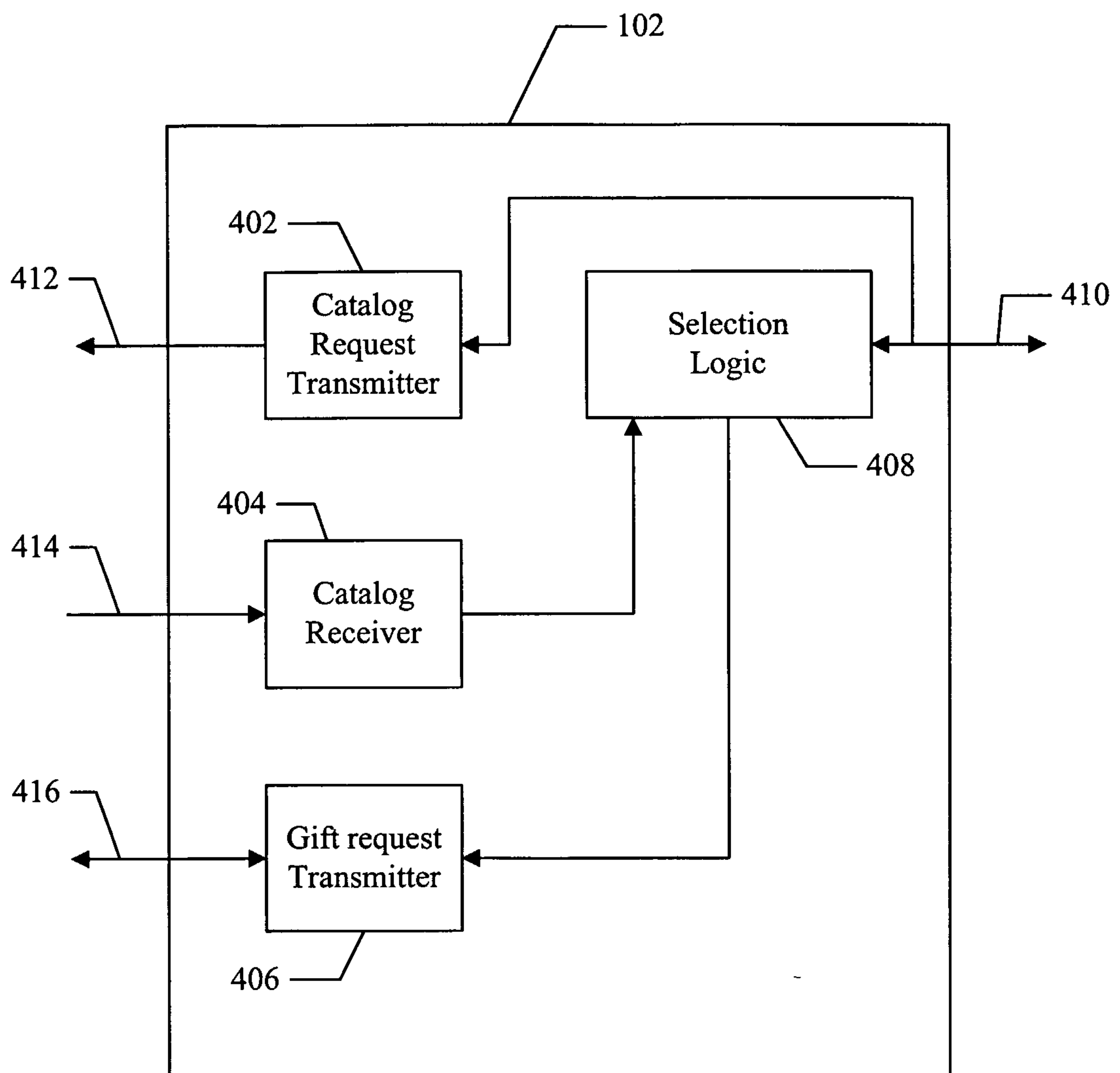


FIG. 4

5/7

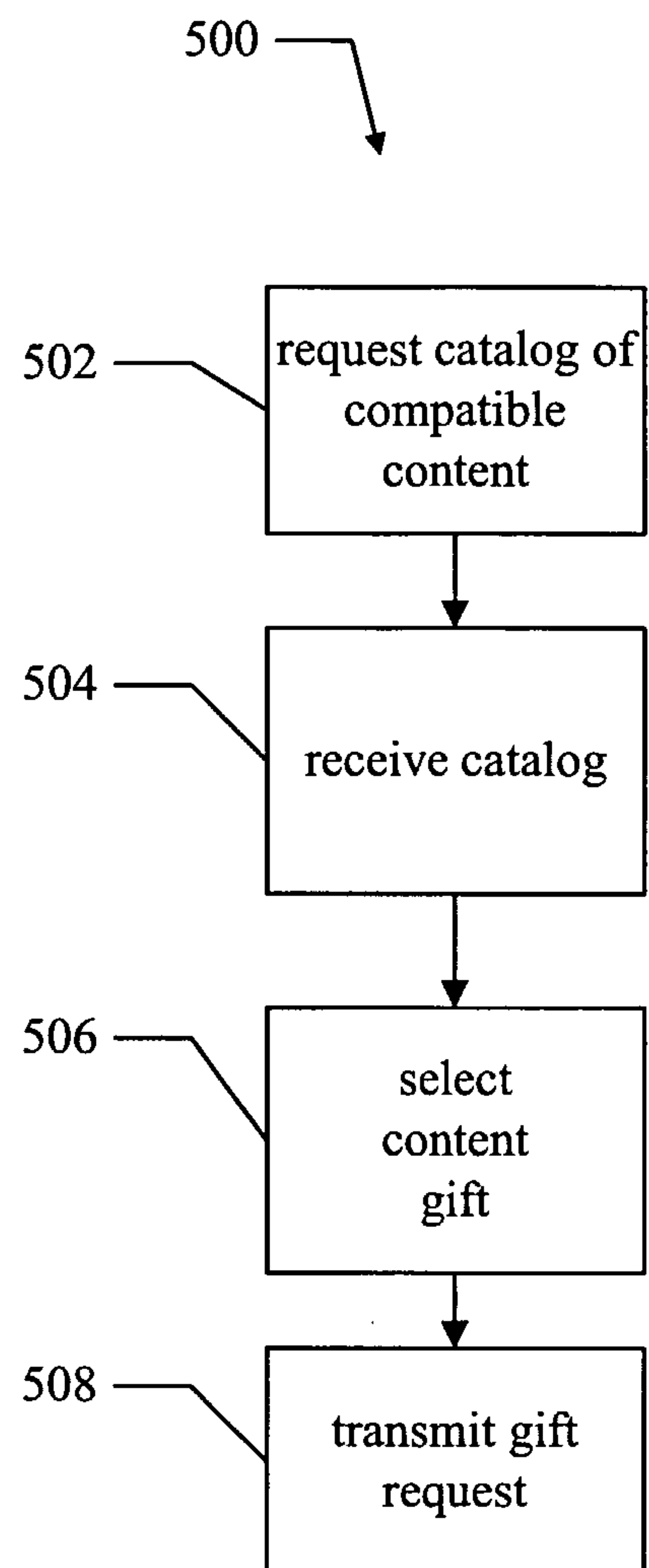


FIG. 5

6/7

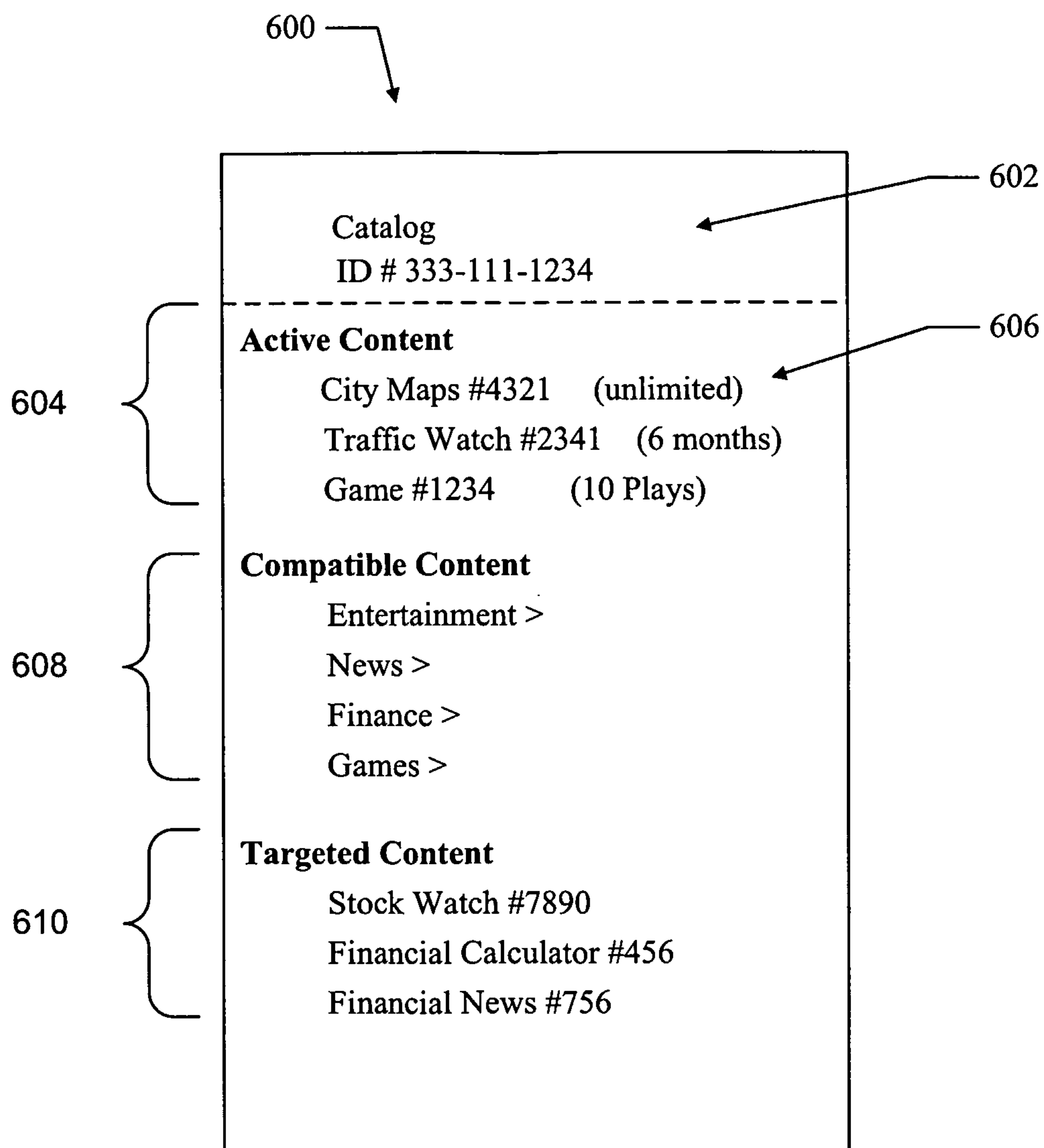


FIG. 6

7/7

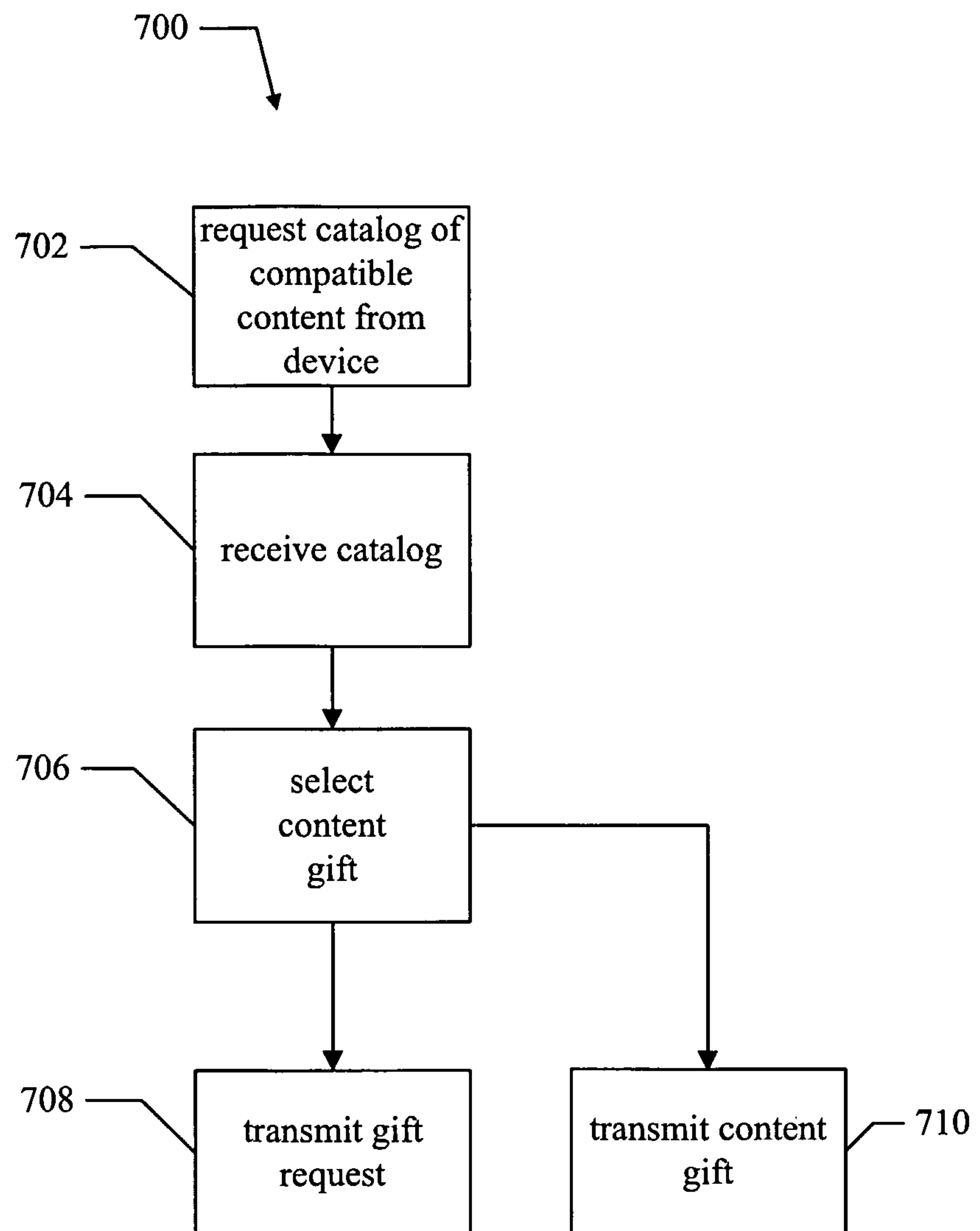


FIG. 7

