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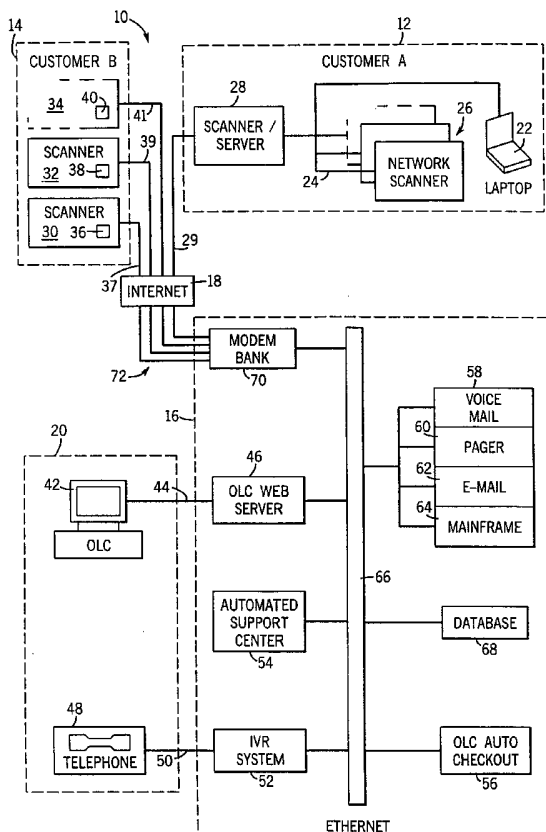
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM TO REMOTELY ENABLE SOFTWARE-BASED OPTIONS FOR A TRIAL PERIOD



(57) Abstract: A system and method to remotely enable software based options for a trial period in remote equipment (30-34) is disclosed. The invention includes receiving (102) and authenticating (104) a user, and receiving an option-enabling request (110) from the user specifying the particular option requested to be enabled in a particular piece of equipment (30-34) at a remote location. A system I.D. is validated (112), and the system ensures that the option has not already been enabled (118) at least once before, and if it has not (122), a software enabling key is generated (124) and sent (126) to activate the option in the remote equipment (30-34).

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G06F1/00 G06F9/445		
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED		
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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 956 505 A (MANDULEY FLAVIO M) 21 September 1999 (1999-09-21)	1, 2, 4-6, 8-10, 15, 18-25
Y		3, 7, 11-13, 16, 17, 26
A	the whole document	14
Y	WO 98 53384 A (ERICSSON TELEFON AB L M ; CARLSUND PETER (SE)) 26 November 1998 (1998-11-26) abstract page 1, line 27-29 page 3, line 18-31	3, 7, 11-13, 16, 17, 26
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Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer San-Bento Furtado, P	

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
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Information on patent family members

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