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(54) **A configurable vending machine audit module**

(57) A method of auditing data from a vending machine includes providing commands to an audit module installed in the vending machine. The commands indicate a type of vending machine data to be processed by the audit module, how the data is to be processed by the audit module, and a location in memory in the audit

module for storage of that type of vending machine data. The audit module is configured to process vending machine data in response to the received commands. Monitored vending machine data can be reported to a remote host in a manner specified by one or commands sent to the audit module.

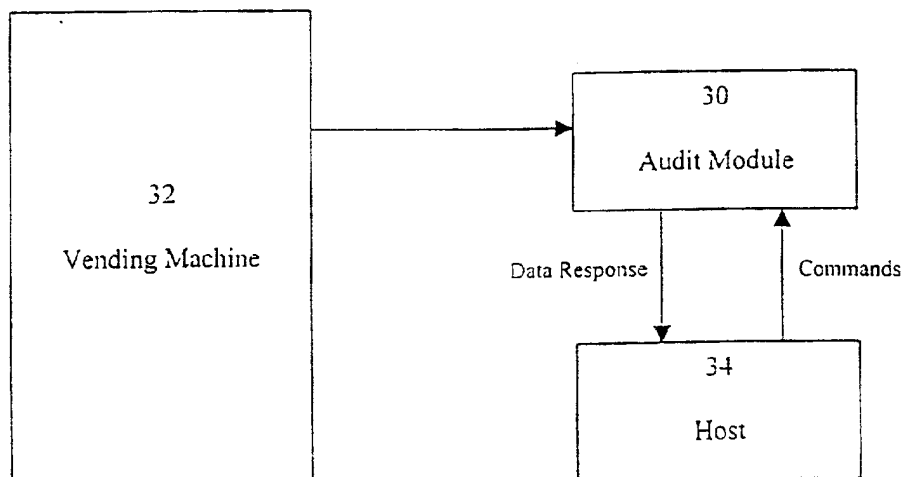


Figure 1 : Audit Module Installation



European Patent
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EP 99 30 7191

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		26 April 2000	Wauters, J
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ----- & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 26 April 2000	Examiner Wauters, J
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82