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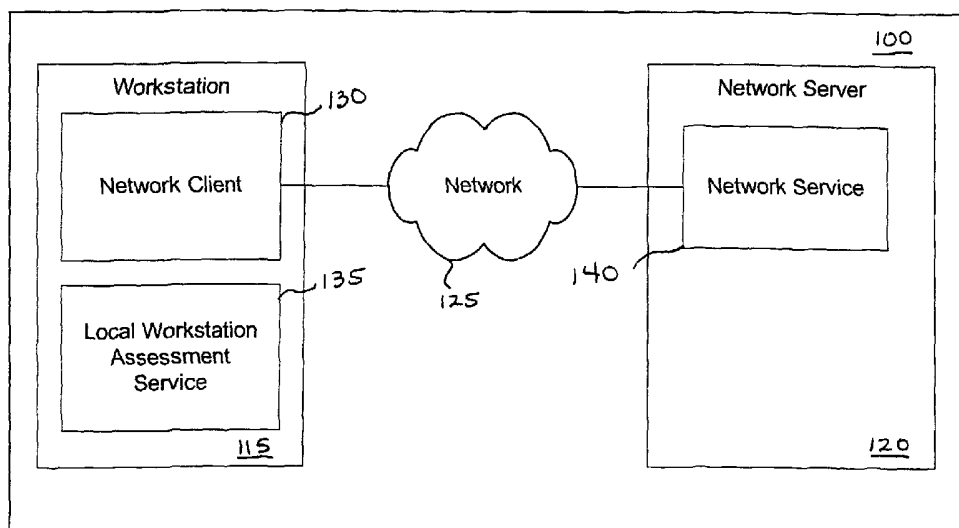
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR NETWORK ASSESSMENT AND AUTHENTICATION



(57) Abstract: Providing a user with assurance that a networked computer is secure, typically before completion of the log-in operation. This can be accomplished by extending the local log-in process to perform a host assessment of the workstation prior to requesting the user's credentials. If the assessment finds a vulnerability, the log-in process can inform the user that the machine is or may be compromised, or repair the vulnerability, prior to completion of the log in operation. By performing vulnerability assessment at the level of the workstation, a network server is able to determine whether the workstation is a "trusted" platform from which to accept authentication requests. If the vulnerability assessment shows that the workstation is compromised, or if the possibility of remote compromise is high, the network server can elect to fail the authentication on the grounds that the workstation cannot be trusted. Optionally, a vulnerability assessment tool may be able to repair the vulnerability of the workstation, and then allow the authentication to proceed.



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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)

EP0-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 99 00720 A (ERICSSON TELEFON AB L M ;LARSSON MARTIN (SE)) 7 January 1999 (1999-01-07)	1,5,7, 10,16-18
A	abstract page 5, line 18 - line 31 page 7, line 1 - line 7 figures 1,3	21
X	WO 99 50734 A (AT & T CORP) 7 October 1999 (1999-10-07) page 2, line 31 -page 3, line 21 page 5, line 5 - line 28 page 8, line 16 - line 25 figure 1	1,5,10, 16-18

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 98 41919 A (TREND MICRO INC ;CHEN EVA (US)) 24 September 1998 (1998-09-24) page 4, line 11 -page 5, line 5 page 15, line 3 -page 16, line 2 page 27, line 20 -page 28, line 17 page 46, line 6 - line 20 figure 1 ----	1,12,13, 16,19, 21,25
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