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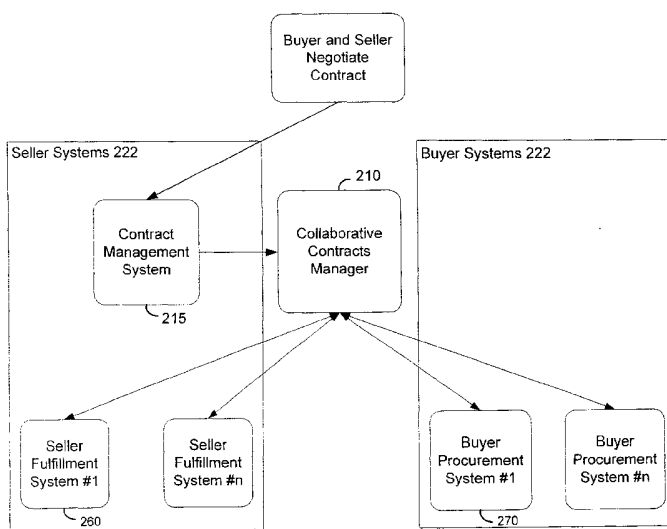
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(54) Title: AUTOMATED TRANSACTION PROCESSING SYSTEM AND APPROACH



(57) **Abstract:** Transaction management for contract and contract-related approaches is facilitated. According to an example embodiment of the present invention, a transaction management computer is programmed to automatically set contract terms for a transaction based on business rules previously established between parties to a transaction. In one implementation, the transaction management node automatically derives a contract term including a pricing-related term for a transaction between a buyer and seller using contract information therefor. In one instance, previously-agreed-upon price approaches, such as fixed pricing, seller-controlled pricing, quantity-related tiered pricing and pricing management schemes are stored and used by the transaction management node to automatically derive the prices. With these approaches, pricing disputes that can occur after a transaction has been processed are reduced and/or eliminated.

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED		
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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,131,087 A (LUKE et al) 10 October 2000, abstract, col 1, lines 13-67, col 2, lines 5-61, col 4, lines 4-61, col 5, lines 14-67, col 6, lines 1-67.	1-64
X	US 5,960,407 A (VIVONA) 28 September 1999, abstract, col 1, lines 10-67, col 2, lines 1-65, col 3, lines 20-43, col 6, lines 5-67, col 8, lines 3-64.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
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