



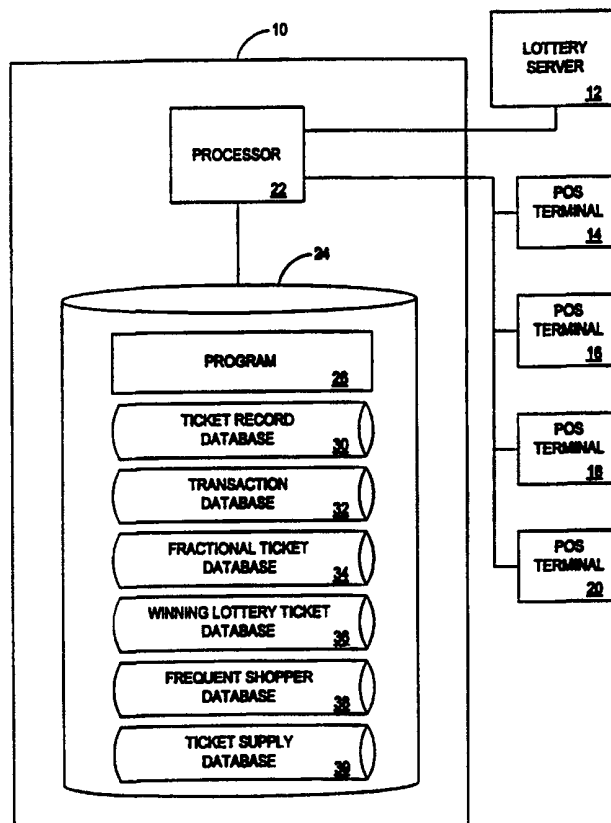
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FACILITATING THE PLAY OF FRACTIONAL LOTTERY TICKETS UTILIZING POINT-OF-SALE TERMINALS

(57) Abstract

In accordance with the present invention, a store controller (10) determines a monetary value, such as an amount of spare change due to a customer. The store controller also selects a ticket record (30) that includes a set of ticket numbers. Subsequently, the store controller purchases at least one lottery ticket based on the monetary value and the set of ticket numbers. The store controller then outputs the information to a POS terminal (14), which prints a fractional lottery ticket redeemable for a portion of the lottery ticket's prize. The fractional lottery ticket (34) includes the ticket numbers and a fractional lottery ticket value that is based on the monetary value. The fractional lottery ticket value may be, for example, equal to the monetary value, or may be the monetary rounded to the nearest nickel. After a drawing date for the lottery ticket, the customer redeems the fractional lottery ticket, typically at a POS terminal, if a prize is due.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US98/17382

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(6) : A36F 3/06

US CL : 463/16,17,18; 364/479.01

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 463/16,17,18; 364/479.01

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 practicable, search terms used)

Please See Extra Sheet.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5,417,424 A (SNOWDEN et al) 23 May 1995, col.6, lines 62-68, col.7, lines 1-18, col.8, lines 7-13, col.9, lines 10-19.	1-27
A,P	US 5,791,990 A (SCHROEDER et al) 11 August 1998, col.6, lines 30-50, col.7, lines 66-67, col.8, lines 1-14.	1-27
A	US 5,186,463 A (MARIN et al) 16 February 1993, col.2, lines 45-53, col.3, lines 20-26, 41-43, 48-59.	1-27
A	US 5,276,312 A (McCARATHY) 04 JANUARY 1994, col.5, lines 27-49, col.6, lines 8-33, col.10, lines 10-23, col.11, lines 31-39.	1-27

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International application No.
PCT/US98/17382

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5,518,239 A (JOHNSTON) 21 May 1996, col.3, lines 46-62, col.4, lines 6-15, col.5, lines 44-49.	1-27
A	US 5,613,679 A (CASA et al) 25 March 1997, col.2, lines 18-21, col.6, lines 26-40, 50-64.	1-27

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Electronic data bases consulted (Name of data base and where practicable terms used):

APS

search terms:kiosk,lotto,lottery,vending machine,ticket,gamble,gambling,system,game,terminal,numbers,sweepstake