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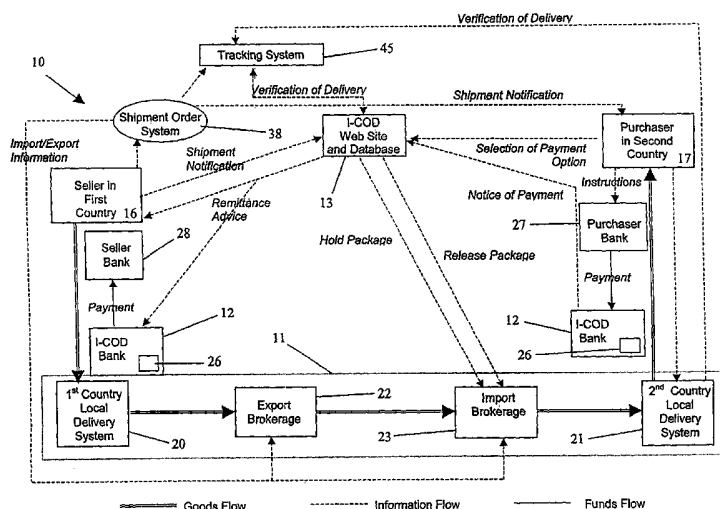
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(54) Title: INTERNATIONAL CASH-ON-DELIVERY SYSTEM AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: An international cash-on-delivery (I-COD) system (10) for completing a transaction between a seller (16) in a first country and a purchaser (17) in a second country, wherein the seller has agreed to exchange packaged goods for a payment from the purchaser. The international delivery system includes a delivery service system (20, 21), a payment system (12, 27, 28) and an information system (13). The delivery service system physically handles delivery of the packaged goods, including import and export clearing, and holding of the packaged goods in escrow at an intermediate location until payment by the purchaser. The payment system handles the flow of funds including receiving payment from the purchaser, holding the payment in escrow and distribution of the payment to the seller upon delivery of the packaged goods. The information system (13) electronically coordinates escrow aspects of both the delivery service system, and the payment system, so as to minimize the risk of the transaction to both the seller and the purchaser.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US02/27293

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC(7) : G06F 17/60
 US CL : 705/26
 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. : 705/26

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 Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5,717,989 A (TOZZOLI et al.) 10 February 1998; abstract; Figs. 1-4; col. 1, lines 5 through col. 4, line 32; col. 10, lines 43-65; col. 11, line 29; col 17, lines 1-7; col. 17, lines 3-36.	1-36

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:		
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	"&"	document member of the same patent family

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US02/27293

Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

EAST

search terms: trade finance system, import, export, international, currency