



(11) **EP 1 557 804 B1**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION**

(45) Date of publication and mention of the grant of the patent:  
**03.08.2011 Bulletin 2011/31**

(51) Int Cl.:  
**G07G 1/14** <sup>(2006.01)</sup> **G07F 13/02** <sup>(2006.01)</sup>  
**G06Q 20/00** <sup>(2006.01)</sup>

(21) Application number: **05075146.0**

(22) Date of filing: **24.01.2005**

(54) **Vending control apparatus**

Verkaufssteuerungsvorrichtung

Appareil de contrôle de ventes

(84) Designated Contracting States:  
**AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU MC NL PL PT RO SE SI SK TR**  
Designated Extension States:  
**HR**

(30) Priority: **23.01.2004 IE 20040044**

(43) Date of publication of application:  
**27.07.2005 Bulletin 2005/30**

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## Description

**[0001]** This invention relates to an electronic point of sale (EPOS) apparatus and in particular to an electronic point of sale apparatus for use in a petrol station forecourt.

**[0002]** At present, EPOS apparatuses for use in forecourts of petrol stations are computer-based devices having a central processing unit, a working memory and a non volatile memory. An operating system (O.S.) running on the computer has associated software control modules for interfacing with a user input device and a display unit in the shop. The O.S. also has software control modules for interfacing with a control unit remotely mounted on the forecourt pumps, a control unit remotely mounted on a car wash and an electronic fund transfer apparatus. The O. S. also has a software module for monitoring fuel quantities in all fuel tanks. The central processing unit can also read from and write to customer accounts which are in a customer database stored on a hard disk. This prior art is typically disclosed in US-A-5 889 676 (Kudo et al).

**[0003]** With the potential increase of revenues generated by subsidiary services such as hospitality services, many retail outlets such as petrol stations also offer additional products and services which require to be stocked and invoiced in a similar way to fuel products.

**[0004]** Effecting the financial transactions associated with different products such as wet products (fuel) and dry products (groceries or other hospitality goods) requires a separate electronic point of sale apparatus for each different type of product due to the lack of a fully integrated forecourt EPOS apparatus.

**[0005]** Clearly, there is a need to minimise the number of EPOS apparatuses and cash registers located in multi-product type environments such as petrol station forecourts.

**[0006]** Accordingly, the present invention provides an electronic point of sale (EPOS) multi-task apparatus which is linkable to a main server over a network, the apparatus comprising a central processing unit and associated memory, a user input device such as a keyboard and a bar code scanning means, a printer and a releasable and lockable till drawer, the apparatus having a plurality of software control modules for controlling separate ones of the multi task functions, characterised in that the EPOS apparatus has means for controlling at least one apparatus for vending packed products, the vending apparatus control means comprising a software module operable to receive commands from a user, and in response to acceptable commands, the software module is operable to activate a dispensing mechanism of the vending apparatus whereby the required packed product is dispensed.

**[0007]** Preferably, the vending apparatus control means comprises a vending button on the user input device operable to display a list of vending options.

**[0008]** Ideally, the vending apparatus control means

further comprises a means for checking for a valid selection.

**[0009]** Preferably, the vending apparatus control means further comprises a means for sending a vending message to a vending machine server for vending the desired packed product.

**[0010]** Ideally, the vending apparatus control means comprises means for checking if the packed product vend was successful.

**[0011]** Preferably, the vending apparatus control means comprises means for adding the value of the vended packed product to a total invoice.

**[0012]** Ideally, the vending apparatus control means comprises timeout means if the operator fails to supply a vending option.

**[0013]** Preferably, the vending apparatus control means comprises means for identifying an invalid vending option.

**[0014]** Ideally, the EPOS apparatus also comprises a software control module capable of controlling a car wash.

**[0015]** Preferably, the EPOS apparatus has a software control module capable of monitoring fuel stock.

**[0016]** Ideally, the EPOS apparatus has a software control module interfacing with an electronic fund transfer apparatus

**[0017]** Preferably, the EPOS apparatus has another software control module for accessing customer accounts.

**[0018]** Ideally, a software control module is provided which is capable of topping up customers mobile phones through the same electronic point of sale apparatus.

**[0019]** Preferably, the display unit has a display screen with a plurality of icons each of which is linked to a software control module.

**[0020]** Preferably, the mobile phone top-up software control module has means for presenting a menu of mobile phone network choices in response to activation of a top-up icon by a user.

**[0021]** Ideally, the mobile phone top-up software control module has means for adding the top-up value to a customer account.

**[0022]** Alternatively, the top-up software control module has means for printing the top-up code onto a customers receipt and adding the value of the top-up to the total receipt.

**[0023]** Preferably, the EPOS apparatus has means for interfacing with closed circuit television (CCTV) which is monitoring the fuel dispensing pumps. This provides an operator with images of the customer and car on the display unit for all fuel transactions.

**[0024]** Advantageously, this ensures that the right person pays for the fuel transaction and it also deters people from driving off without paying.

**[0025]** Ideally, the means for interfacing with CCTV comprises a software module for receiving and processing signals from the CCTV and displaying the processed signals on the display unit of the EPOS apparatus.

**[0026]** Preferably, CCTV is connected to the EPOS apparatus using existing network cabling infrastructure. Other systems require separate duplicate cabling. The apparatus gives efficient installation regarding time material and on going maintenance.

**[0027]** Ideally, the EPOS apparatus comprises means for interfacing with weighing scales.

**[0028]** Preferably, the means for interfacing with the weighing scales comprises a software control module for receiving signals from the scales and storing said signals.

**[0029]** Preferably, weighing scales are connected to the EPOS apparatus.

Ideally, the EPOS apparatus has a software control module for displaying a drop-down menu which always provides nine options.

**[0030]** Ideally, the drop-down menu is initiated when the processor receives a signal from the weighing scales.

**[0031]** Advantageously, the drop-down menu contains nine options because there are nine keys numbered 1 to 9 on a user input keypad.

**[0032]** Preferably, the weighing scales are connected to the EPOS apparatus.

**[0033]** Preferably, the EPOS apparatus has means for controlling at least one vending machine.

**[0034]** Ideally, the vending machine control means comprises a software module capable of receiving inputs from a user and in response to acceptable inputs, the software module is capable of activating a dispensing mechanism of the vending machine. Advantageously, automatic control of vending machines removes the need to have an open display of cigarettes. This is beneficial because cigarettes are small and expensive products which make them attractive products for shoplifters or dishonest staff to steal. The vending machine eliminates the discrepancies between items purchased and items sold.

**[0035]** Preferably, the EPOS apparatus has means for controlling forecourt pole signs. The forecourt pole signs, which display the fuel prices per litre are currently manually adjusted.

**[0036]** Ideally, the pole sign control means is a software control module having means for receiving new pricing information and means for initiating remote driving means capable of adjusting display elements which show the prices on the pole signs.

**[0037]** Preferably, the pole sign display elements are updated in real time as new pricing information arrives at the EPOS apparatus from on-line fuel suppliers.

**[0038]** Ideally, the EPOS apparatus and the display element adjustment means are connected.

Ideally, the EPOS apparatus has means for communicating with an outdoor payment terminal.

**[0039]** Preferably, the communicating means comprises a software module activated in response to input at the keypad or magnetic card reader of the outdoor payment terminal.

**[0040]** Ideally, the outdoor payment terminal software control module is capable of identifying a valid payment

means and switching a pump on for dispensing the pre-paid amount of fuel. Advantageously, automated and unattended fuel purchases allow retailers to continue selling fuel when the retail outlet is unstaffed.

5 **[0041]** Ideally, the EPOS apparatus and outdoor payment terminal are connected.

**[0042]** Preferably, the EPOS apparatus has means for effecting payment of utility bills.

10 **[0043]** Ideally, the payment effecting means comprises a software control module having means for receiving customer identification and payment and means for assigning the payment to an outstanding utility bill on-line.

**[0044]** Preferably, the EPOS apparatus has an integrated chip and pin payment card reader.

15 **[0045]** Ideally, the integrated chip and pin card reader has a software control module for associating authenticated information from the card in the reader with an invoiced amount of a current transaction.

**[0046]** Advantageously, the integrated card reader provides on-line authorisation for plastic transactions and eliminates additional terminals.

20 **[0047]** Ideally, the EPOS apparatus is in communication with a back office support unit.

**[0048]** Preferably, the back office support unit has a microcontroller and an associated memory and has a stock and margin database stored on the memory.

25 **[0049]** Preferably, the EPOS apparatus has a software control module for interfacing with the stock database on the back office support unit so that sale of a product by scanning on the EPOS apparatus automatically deducts the product from the stock database.

30 **[0050]** Ideally, the back office support unit has a price index database for all bar coded items of stock supplied by particular suppliers wherein price changes by suppliers are sent to the back office support unit on-line in real time.

35 **[0051]** Preferably, the EPOS apparatus receives prices from the price index database for all bar coded stock. Advantageously, this results in accurate customer charging in the event of frequent stock price changes.

40 **[0052]** Ideally, promotional offers are also transmitted electronically from suppliers to the price index database of the back office support unit.

45 **[0053]** Preferably, an operating system of the back office support unit has web server software running thereon for displaying a web-site having the retailers range of products disclosed thereon.

**[0054]** Ideally, the back office support unit has means for ordering stock on-line from wholesalers.

50 **[0055]** Preferably, the stock ordering means comprises a software control module capable of periodically reading the stock database and ordering stock from a wholesaler on-line in response to information from the stock database indicating a low volume of a particular stock.

55 **[0056]** The invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings, which show by way of example only, the flow charts describing the operation

of a number of the software control modules of the EPOS apparatus, screen shots and a printout in accordance with the invention.

Figure 1 is a flow diagram showing the structure of the software module controlling the mobile telephone credit purchase or "top-up" application;

Figure 2 is a flow diagram showing the structure of the software module controlling the bill payment application;

Figure 3 is a flow diagram showing the structure of the software module controlling a vending machine;

Figure 4 is a flow diagram showing the structure of the software module controlling fuel pumps;

Figure 5 is a flow diagram showing the structure of the software module controlling a set of weighing scales;

Figure 6 is a flow diagram showing the various options available with the system;

Figure 7 is a screen shot illustrating the use of the drop down menu for the selection of fruit and vegetable items for sale;

Figure 8 is a screen shot illustrating the use of the drop down menu for the selection of mobile telephone networks for the sale of "top up" credits;

Figure 9 is a screen shot illustrating the use of the drop down menu for the selection of different denominations or values of "top up" credits;

Figure 10 is a screen shot of a typical display used for selling cigarettes with the vending machine of the invention in which the user is invited to select a particular row ;

Figure 11 is a screen shot of a typical display following on from Figure 10 in which the user is invited to select a particular column, thereby selecting the particular cigarettes required by the customer; and

Figure 12 is an example of a sample print out from the printer including a receipt, a telephone top up voucher and a promotional voucher all of which can be readily separated from one another.

**[0057]** Referring to Figure 1 the inputs from an operator and the response of the mobile phone top-up software control module (MPTSCM) presented as prompts on a user display unit are now described. A user presses the top-up button on the input device of the EPOS apparatus and the MPTSCM returns a list of available networks at

1 and a request for the user to select a network at 2. If the user inputs a network selection at 2, the MPTSCM confirms this at 5 and searches for a network denomination at 6. If the user opts to proceed, the current internal enquiry sequence ends at 8 and a subroutine of the MPTSCM opens at 9. If the user does not select a network at 2, the MPTSCM prompts with a signal to clear at 11. A user's response of yes simply returns the main G. U.I. screen at 15 onto the display screen. A no response from the user at 11 causes the display unit to show an invalid network error at 17 and the MPTSCM returns the get user option prompt at 2 onto the display screen.

**[0058]** When the get denomination subroutine opens at 9, the MPTSCM presents the user with a list of available denominations at 20 and verifies if the user has selected one at 21. If the user does not enter an option, the subroutine ends at 23. If the user selects a denomination this is verified by the MPTSCM at 24, the transaction is added to a receipt at 25 and the subroutine returns the get user option prompt at 21 to the display screen. If the user fails to select a denomination at 24, the subroutine displays a clear prompt at 26 and if the user selects yes, the subroutine ends at 23. If the user selects no to the clear prompt at 26 an invalid denomination error is reported at 30 and the subroutine returns the get user option prompt at 21 to the display screen.

**[0059]** Referring to Figure 2, the inputs from a user and the outputs/prompts presented on the display screen by the bill payment software control module (BPSCM) are indicated generally by the reference numeral 31. A user initiates the BPSCM by pressing the bill payment button on the user input device of the EPOS apparatus and a list of bill payment options such as electricity or gas bill are presented on the display screen at 32. The user is prompted to select an option and the BPSCM verifies that the user selected an option at 33 and if the user selects a valid bill for payment this is also verified by the BPSCM at 34. The user is prompted for their account details at 35 and if the user enters their account details validly at 35, they are prompted by the BPSCM to enter the amount required to pay the bill at 37. The amount is added to the overall invoice at 39 and the BPSCM ends at 40. If the user does not provide an option at the original prompt for a bill type at 32, the BPSCM ends at 40. If the user selects a bill type to pay at 33 but declines to select a valid type of payment at 41, the user is prompted to clear the screen at 42. If the user selects yes the main menu at 44 is returned to the display screen. If the user replies no to the clear prompt, the BPSCM reports an invalid bill pay option error at 47 and returns the get user option prompt at 33 to the screen. If the user does not supply account details when requested at 35, the BPSCM returns to the get user option at 33 onto the display screen. Similarly, if the user does not supply an amount to clear the bill, the BPSCM returns the get user option at 33 onto the display screen.

**[0060]** In Figure 3, the user inputs and the prompts returned by the vending machine software control mod-

ule (VMSCM) are indicated generally by the reference numeral 51. A customer requests a packet of cigarettes and the EPOS apparatus operator presses the vending button on the user input device at 52. A list of vending options is displayed at 52 and the VMSCM monitors for a user option at 53. The operator makes a selection and the VMSCM checks if the selection made by the user is valid at 54. If the selection is valid, the VMSCM sends the vending message to the vending machine server at 55 and the machine vends the desired product. The VMSCM checks if the vend was successful by prompting the operator at 56, and if it was, the VMSCM adds the value of the vended product to the total invoice at 57 and the VMSCM ends at 58. If the operator fails to supply a vending option at 53, the VMSCM ends at 58 after a predetermined time. If VMSCM discovers that an invalid vending option has been supplied at 54, the VMSCM prompts the operator to clear the transaction request at 59. If the operator agrees, the VMSCM returns the main menu onto the display screen at 60. If the operator replies no to the clear prompt at 59, the VMSCM returns an invalid option error at 61 and returns the get user option prompt at 53 onto the display screen.

**[0061]** In Figure 4 the user inputs and the prompts returned by the fuel pump software control module (FPSCM) are indicated generally by the reference numeral 71. A till operator presses the FPSCM button on the till at 72 and the current status of all the pumps (or if there are more than nine, the first nine depending on the GUI and the capability of the display screen). The FPSCM monitors for a user option at 73 and if a customer has lifted a pump the user may opt to select the authorise option at 74. The FPSCM prompts for the user to select the pump to authorise at 75 and the user selects a pump at 76. The FPSCM communicates a command signal to the controller of the selected pump and fuel is vended at 79. When fuel is vended the FPSCM ends.

**[0062]** Alternatively, if a user opts to switch a pump to prepay at 81 the FPSCM prompts for a pump selection at 82. If the user selects a pump and a customer supplies the prepaid amount at 83, the FPSCM communicates a command signal to the controller of the selected pump and fuel is vended at 79.

**[0063]** Alternatively, the user can select the customer pay option at 91 and the FPSCM prompts the user to select a pump which the customer wishes to pay for at 92. The user selects a pump and if there is more than one transaction at 96 the user selects which transaction to pay at 93. This selected transaction, or if there is only one transaction, the single transaction is added to the receipt at 94 and the paid transaction is locked at 94 to prevent two customers paying for the same transaction. The receipt is printed and the FPSCM ends at 79.

**[0064]** Alternatively, the user may opt to select a pump stop option at 101 and the FPSCM prompts for a pump selection at 102. The user selects a pump and the FPSCM sends a command signal to stop the selected pump at 103. If a user presses the stop button twice at 105, all

pumps are stopped at 106. This is a security feature in the event of accidents, fires and the likes. If there are a large number of pumps in the forecourt the FPSCM presents the option of cycling through all of the pumps on the display screen nine at a time for example at 107.

**[0065]** In Figure 5, the user inputs and internal enquiry sequences of the weighing scales software control module (WSSCM) are indicated generally by the reference numeral 121. A till operator presses the WSSCM button on the till at 122 and the WSSCM runs a reset program. The WSSCM monitors the scales and if the user sets fruit or vegetable on them, the WSSCM runs an enquiry sequence at 123 starting with monitoring for errors at 124 and if no errors are detected the WSSCM monitors that the weight of the object on the scales is steady at 125. If the weight is steady, the WSSCM checks that the weight is not zero at 126 and if the weight is not zero the WSSCM checks that the weight is valid at 127. If the WSSCM detects a negative response to any of these checks it will stop the internal enquiry sequence and return to check that the communication between the scales and the EPOS apparatus is in place at 128. The WSSCM sends a validation request to double check the information already obtained at 129 and the validated data is compared with the first set of data at 131. If the data compares the WSSCM runs a calculation program to generate a cost of the weighed product and the cost is added to the receipt at 132 and the WSSCM ends at 133.

**[0066]** Figure 6 illustrates how the system can operate together where the user is provided with options so as to select a telephone top up, a bill pay service, use of the vending machine, a fuel transaction or the use of weighing scales to sell products sold by weight.

**[0067]** Referring to Figure 7 the drop down menu is operated by an operator selecting the required button on the keyboard. This calls the relevant Drop Down Menu. From this menu the operator presses the number corresponding to the line number of the required product as shown in the sample screen of Figure 7.

**[0068]** The drop down menu allows operators to sell any product with just two key strokes. The options available 1-9 represent the numerics on the keyboard, 0 allows the operator to exit. This means the operator does not have to scroll up and down through a list which may contain 30 or 40 items - thus slowing down the selection process. Traditionally if an operator wanted to sell an item without a barcode e.g. nectarines, they would have to look up the relevant product code (normally three or four digits) for the nectarine and key in this code and press the Enter button or equivalent. This would involve 4 or 5 keystrokes.

**[0069]** The invention ensures an operator can sell any product by only pressing two buttons - the relevant drop down menu key and the required line number. There is also no need to keep a list of products and their codes at the checkout - thus also saving time.

**[0070]** Figures 8 and 9 explain the use of the drop down menu to sell mobile phone top-up credits. On the till, the

operator presses the top-up button and the screen of Figure 8 appears. The operator chooses one of the top-up providers by pressing the relevant line number and the screen of Figure 9 appears. The operator selects the denomination of the top-up required by pressing the relevant line number and this will return the required top-up to the sales screen. The operator then sub-totals the transaction as normal and cashes it off. At this stage the top-up slip will be issued from the till printer containing the top-up pin number.

[0071] Figures 10 and 11 explain the use of the drop down menu to operate a vending apparatus using the invention. The operator presses the required button on the keyboard to sell products via the vending apparatus e.g. cigarettes. The screen of Figure 10 appears. The operator selects the relevant row by pressing the corresponding number. The screen of Figure 11 then appears. The operator selects the relevant column by pressing the corresponding number. The required product is dispensed from the vending machine and the sale of the item is also registered on the EPOS apparatus.

[0072] Cigarettes are used only as an example and do not preclude the use of other products. This process is dependant on using a numeric keypad but can also utilize the use of graphic images and a touchscreen.

[0073] Variations and modifications can be made without departing from the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

## Claims

1. An electronic point of sale (EPOS) multi-task apparatus which is linkable to a main server over a network, the apparatus comprising a central processing unit and associated memory, a user input device such as a keyboard and a bar code scanning means, a printer and a releasable and lockable till drawer, the apparatus having a plurality of software control modules for controlling separate ones of the multi task functions, **characterised in that** the EPOS apparatus has means for controlling at least one apparatus for vending packed products, the vending apparatus control means comprising a software module operable to receive commands from a user, and in response to acceptable commands, the software module is operable to activate a dispensing mechanism of the vending apparatus whereby the required packed product is dispensed.
2. An electronic point of sale (EPOS) multi-task apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the vending apparatus control means comprises a vending button on the user input device operable to display a list of vending options.
3. An electronic point of sale (EPOS) multi-task apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the vending apparatus control means further comprises a means for checking for a valid selection.
4. An electronic point of sale (EPOS) multi-task apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the vending apparatus control means further comprises a means for sending a vending message to a vending machine server for vending the desired packed product.
5. An electronic point of sale (EPOS) multi-task apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the vending apparatus control means comprises means for checking if the packed product vend was successful.
6. An electronic point of sale (EPOS) multi-task apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the vending apparatus control means comprises means for adding the value of the vended packed product to a total invoice.
7. An electronic point of sale (EPOS) multi-task apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the vending apparatus control means comprises timeout means if the operator fails to supply a vending option.
8. An electronic point of sale (EPOS) multi-task apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the vending apparatus control means comprises means for identifying an invalid vending option
9. An electronic point of sale (EPOS) apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the EPOS apparatus also comprises a software control module operable to control a car wash, the EPOS apparatus has a software control module operable to monitor fuel stock, the EPOS apparatus has a software control module operable to interface with an electronic fund transfer apparatus and the EPOS apparatus has another software control module operable to access customer accounts.
10. An electronic point of sale (EPOS) apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein a software control module is provided which is operable to top up a customer's mobile phone through the same electronic point of sale apparatus; the display unit having a display screen with a plurality of icons each of which is linked to a software control module; the mobile phone top-up software control module has means for presenting a menu of mobile phone network choices in response to activation of a top-up icon by a user; the mobile phone top-up software control module has means for adding the top-up value to a customer account; or alternatively the top-up software control module has means for printing the top-up code onto a customer's receipt

and adding the value of the top-up to the total receipt.

11. An electronic point of sale (EPOS) apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the EPOS apparatus has means for interfacing with closed circuit television (CCTV) which is operable to monitor the fuel dispensing pumps, thereby providing an operator with images of the customer and vehicle on the display unit for all fuel transactions, the means for interfacing with CCTV comprising a software module for receiving and processing signals from the CCTV and displaying the processed signals on the display unit of the EPOS apparatus, with the CCTV being connected to the EPOS apparatus.
12. An electronic point of sale (EPOS) apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the EPOS apparatus has means for controlling forecourt pole signs, in which the pole sign control means is a software control module having means for receiving new pricing information and means for initiating remote driving means capable of adjusting display elements which show the prices on the pole signs, with the pole sign display elements being updatable in real time as new pricing information arrives at the EPOS apparatus from on-line fuel suppliers.
13. An electronic point of sale apparatus (EPOS) as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the EPOS apparatus has means for communicating with an outdoor payment terminal, wherein the communicating means comprises a software module activatable in response to input at the keypad or at a magnetic card reader of the outdoor payment terminal, and the outdoor payment terminal software control module is capable of identifying a valid payment means and switching a pump on for dispensing the prepaid amount of fuel.
14. An electronic point of sale apparatus (EPOS) as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which a scanner is connected to the EPOS apparatus for providing information about retail products to the associated product identification software control module.
15. An electronic point of sale apparatus (EPOS) as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the EPOS apparatus comprises means for interfacing with weighing scales said means including a software control module for receiving signals from the scales and storing said signals.
16. An electronic point of sale apparatus (EPOS) as claimed in Claim 15 in which the EPOS apparatus has a software control module for displaying a drop-down menu which always provides nine options, the drop-down menu being initiated when the processor

receives a signal from the weighing scales with the drop-down menu containing nine options based on nine keys numbered 1 to 9 on the user input keypad.

17. An electronic point of sale apparatus (EPOS) as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the EPOS apparatus has means for effecting payment of money for bills, fines, tickets and other products from different merchants, the payment effecting means comprising a software control module having means for receiving customer identification and payment and means for assigning the payment to a bill, fines, tickets or other product.
18. An electronic point of sale apparatus (EPOS) as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the EPOS apparatus is in communication with a back office support unit, the back office support unit having a microcontroller and an associated memory and has a stock and margin database stored on the memory, the EPOS apparatus having a software control module for interfacing with the stock database on the back office support unit so that sale of a product by scanning on the EPOS apparatus automatically deducts the product from the stock database.
19. An electronic point of sale apparatus (EPOS) as claimed in Claim 18, in which the back office support unit has a price index database for all bar coded items of stock supplied by particular suppliers wherein price changes by suppliers are sent to the back office support unit on-line in real time, the EPOS apparatus being operable to receive prices from the price index database for all bar coded stock with promotional offers also being transmittable electronically from suppliers to the price index database of the back office support unit.
20. An electronic point of sale apparatus (EPOS) as claimed in Claim 18 or Claim 19, in which an operating system of the back office support unit has web server software running thereon for displaying a web-site having the retailers range of products disclosed thereon with the back office support unit being means for ordering stock on-line from wholesalers.
21. An electronic point of sale apparatus (EPOS) as claimed Claim 20, in which the stock ordering means comprises a software control module capable of periodically reading the stock database and ordering stock from a wholesaler on-line in response to information from the stock database indicating a low volume of a particular stock.

## Patentansprüche

1. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-

- Vorrichtung, die über ein Netzwerk mit einem Hauptserver verbindbar ist, wobei die Vorrichtung eine zentrale Verarbeitungseinheit und einen zugehörigen Speicher, eine Benutzereingabeeinheit wie eine Tastatur und ein Strichcodelesegerät, einen Drucker und eine lösbare und verriegelbare Kassenschublade umfasst, wobei die Vorrichtung eine Mehrzahl von Softwaresteuermodulen zum Steuern von separaten der Multitasking-Funktionen umfasst, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die EPOS-Vorrichtung Mittel zum Steuern zumindest einer Vorrichtung zum Verkauf von abgepackten Produkten umfasst, wobei das Steuermittel der Verkaufsvorrichtung ein Softwaremodul umfasst, das betreibbar ist, um Befehle von einem Benutzer zu erhalten und in Reaktion auf akzeptable Befehle betreibbar ist, um einen Ausgabemechanismus der Verkaufsvorrichtung zu aktivieren, wodurch das erforderliche abgepackte Produkt ausgegeben wird.
2. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 1, wobei das Steuermittel der Verkaufsvorrichtung einen Verkaufsknopf auf der Benutzereingabeeinheit umfasst, der betreibbar ist, um eine Liste von Verkaufsoptionen anzuzeigen.
  3. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 1 oder 2, wobei das Steuermittel der Verkaufsvorrichtung ferner ein Mittel zum Prüfen, ob die Auswahl gültig ist, umfasst.
  4. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach einem der vorherigen Ansprüche, wobei das Steuermittel der Verkaufsvorrichtung ferner ein Mittel zum Senden einer Verkaufsnachricht an einen Verkaufsmaschinenserver zum Verkaufen des gewünschten abgepackten Produkts umfasst.
  5. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach einem der vorherigen Ansprüche, wobei das Steuermittel der Verkaufsvorrichtung Mittel zum Prüfen, ob das abgepackte Produkt erfolgreich verkauft wurde, umfasst.
  6. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach einem der vorherigen Ansprüche, wobei das Steuermittel der Verkaufsvorrichtung Mittel zum Hinzufügen des verkauften abgepackten Produkts zu einer Gesamtrechnung umfasst.
  7. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 2, wobei das Steuermittel der Verkaufsvorrichtung ein Timeout-Mittel umfasst, wenn der Betreiber keine Verkaufsoption bereitstellen kann.
  8. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 2, wobei das Steuermittel der Verkaufsvorrichtung Mittel zum Identifizieren einer ungünstigen Verkaufsoption umfasst.
  9. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach einem der vorherigen Ansprüche, wobei die EPOS-Vorrichtung ferner ein Softwaresteuermodul umfasst, das betreibbar ist, um eine Autowaschung zu steuern, wobei die EPOS-Vorrichtung ein Softwaresteuermodul aufweist, das betreibbar ist, um den Kraftstoffvorrat zu überwachen, wobei die EPOS-Vorrichtung ein Softwaresteuermodul hat, das betreibbar ist, um sich mit einer elektronischen Zahlungsverkehrsvorrichtung zu koppeln, und wobei die EPOS-Vorrichtung ein weiteres Softwaresteuermodul umfasst, das betreibbar ist, um auf Kundenkontos zurückzugreifen.
  10. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach einem der vorherigen Ansprüche, wobei ein Softwaresteuermodul bereitgestellt wird, das betreibbar ist, um ein Mobiltelefon eines Kunden über die gleiche Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-Vorrichtung aufzuladen; wobei die Anzeigeeinheit einen Anzeigeschirm mit einer Mehrzahl von Icons aufweist, wobei jeder davon mit einem Softwaresteuermodul verbunden ist; wobei das Steuermodul zum Aufladen von Mobiltelefonen Mittel zum Darstellen eines Menüs von Mobiltelefonnetzwerkauwahl in Reaktion auf die Aktivierung eines Aufladeicons durch einen Benutzer aufweist; wobei das Softwaresteuermodul zum Aufladen von Mobiltelefonen Mittel aufweist, um den Aufladewert zu einem Kundenkonto hinzuzufügen; oder wobei das Steuermodul zum Aufladen alternativ Mittel zum Drucken des Aufladecodes auf eine Kundenrechnung und zum Hinzufügen des Aufladewerts zur Gesamtrechnung umfasst.
  11. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach einem der vorherigen Ansprüche, wobei die EPOS-Vorrichtung Mittel aufweist, um sich mit einer Fernsehüberwachungsanlage (Closed Circuit-Television, CCTV) zu koppeln, die betreibbar ist, um die Kraftstoffabgabepumpen zu überwachen, wodurch ein Betreiber mit Bildern des Kunden und des Fahrzeugs auf der Anzeigeeinheit für alle Kraftstofftransaktionen versorgt wird, wobei das Mittel zum Koppeln mit der CCTV ein Softwaremodul zum Empfangen und Verarbeiten von Signalen von der CCTV und zum Anzeigen der verarbeiteten Signale auf der Anzeigeeinheit der EPOS-Vorrichtung umfasst, wobei die CCTV mit der EPOS-Vorrichtung verbunden ist.
  12. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach einem der vorherigen Ansprüche, wobei die EPOS-Vorrichtung Mittel zum Steuern von Außenbereichspostenschildern umfasst, wobei das



- Steuermittel der Pfostenschilder ein Softwaresteuermodul ist, das Mittel zum Empfangen von neuen Preisinformationen und Mittel zum Initiieren von Fern-Antriebsmitteln, die in der Lage sind, Anzeigeelemente, die die Preise auf den Pfostenschildern anzeigen, einzustellen, umfasst, wobei die Anzeigeelemente für die Pfostenschilder in Echtzeit aktualisierbar sind, wenn neue Preisinformationen an der EPOS-Vorrichtung für Online-Kraftstofflieferanten einlangt.
13. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach einem der vorherigen Ansprüche, wobei die EPOS-Vorrichtung Mittel zum Kommunizieren mit einem Außenzahlungsterminal aufweist, wobei das Kommunikationsmittel ein Softwaremodul umfasst, das in Reaktion auf die Eingabe an der Tastatur oder einem magnetischen Kartenlesegerät des Außenzahlungsterminals aktivierbar ist, und wobei das Softwaresteuermodul des Außenzahlungsterminals in der Lage ist, gültige Zahlungsmittel zu identifizieren und eine Pumpe zur Ausgabe der vorab gezahlten Menge an Kraftstoff einzuschalten.
14. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach einem der vorherigen Ansprüche, wobei ein Scangerät mit der EPOS-Vorrichtung verbunden ist, um dem zugehörigen Produktidentifizierungs-Softwaresteuermodul Informationen über Einzelhandelsprodukte bereitzustellen.
15. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach einem der vorherigen Ansprüche, wobei die EPOS-Vorrichtung Mittel zum Koppeln mit Waagen umfasst, wobei die Mittel ein Softwaresteuermodul zum Empfangen von Signalen von den Waagen und zum Speichern der Signale enthält.
16. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 15, wobei die EPOS-Vorrichtung ein Softwaresteuermodul zum Anzeigen eines Drop-Down-Menüs aufweist, das immer neun Optionen bereitstellt, wobei das Drop-Down-Menü initiiert wird, wenn der Prozessor ein Signal von den Waagen empfängt, wobei das Drop-Down-Menü neun Optionen basierend auf neun Schlüsseln, die auf der Benutzereingabetastatur mit 1 bis 9 nummeriert sind, enthält.
17. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach einem der vorherigen Ansprüche, wobei die EPOS-Vorrichtung Mittel zum Durchführen von Geldzahlungen für Rechnungen, Geldstrafen, Tickets oder andere Produkte von unterschiedlichen Händlern umfasst, wobei das Mittel zur Durchführung der Zahlung ein Softwaresteuermodul umfasst, das Mittel zum Empfangen einer Kundenidentifizierung und -zahlung sowie Mittel zum Zuordnen der Zahlung zu einer Rechnung, zu Geldstrafen, Tickets oder zu einem anderen Produkt umfasst.
18. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach einem der vorherigen Ansprüche, wobei die EPOS-Vorrichtung mit einer Backoffice-Supporteinheit in Kommunikation steht, wobei die Backoffice-Supporteinheit einen Mikrocontroller und einen zugehörigen Speicher aufweist und eine Lager- und Marschdatenbank umfasst, die im Speicher gespeichert ist, wobei die EPOS-Vorrichtung ein Softwaresteuermodul aufweist, um sich mit der Lagerdatenbank auf der Backoffice-Supporteinheit zu koppeln, so dass durch den Verkauf eines Produkts durch Scannen auf der EPOS-Vorrichtung das Produkt automatisch von den Lagerdatenbank abgezogen wird.
19. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 18, wobei die Backoffice-Supporteinheit eine Preisindexdatenbank für alle mit Strichcode versehenen Lagerartikeln, die von bestimmten Lieferanten geliefert werden, aufweist, wobei Preisänderungen durch die Lieferanten an die Backoffice-Supporteinheit online in Echtzeit gesandt werden, wobei die EPOS-Vorrichtung betreibbar ist, um Preise aus der Preisindexdatenbank für den gesamten mit Strichcode versehenen Lagerbestand zu empfangen, wobei auch Werbeaktionen von den Lieferanten elektronisch an die Preisindexdatenbank der Backoffice-Supporteinheit übertragbar sind.
20. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 18 oder 19, wobei ein Betriebssystem der Backoffice-Supporteinheit über eine Webserversoftware verfügt, die auf diesem ausgeführt wird, zum Anzeigen einer Website, die das Produktsortiment der Händler umfasst, wobei die Backoffice-Supporteinheit ein Mittel zum Bestellen von Lagerartikeln online vom Großhändler ist.
21. Elektronischer-Point-of-Sale-(EPOS)-Multitasking-Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 20, wobei das Mittel zum Bestellen von Lagerartikeln ein Softwaresteuermodul umfasst, das in der Lage ist, die Lagerdatenbank periodisch zu lesen und Lagerartikel von einem Großhändler online in Reaktion auf Informationen aus der Lagerdatenbank, die ein niedriges Volumen eines bestimmten Lagerartikels anzeigen, zu bestellen.

## Revendications

1. Dispositif multitâche de point de vente électronique (EPOS) qui peut être relié un serveur principal sur un réseau, le dispositif comprenant une unité cen-

- trale et une mémoire associée, un dispositif d'entrée d'utilisateur tel qu'un clavier et des moyens de balayage de code à barres, une imprimante et un tiroir-caisse libérable et verrouillable, le dispositif comportant une pluralité de modules de commande logiciels pour commander des fonctions séparées parmi les fonctions multitâches, **caractérisé en ce que** le dispositif EPOS comporte des moyens pour commander au moins un dispositif pour vendre des produits conditionnés, les moyens de commande de dispositif de vente comprenant un module logiciel pouvant être utilisé pour recevoir des commandes d'un utilisateur, et en réponse à des commandes acceptables, le module logiciel peut être utilisé pour activer un mécanisme de distribution du dispositif de vente par lequel le produit conditionné requis est distribué.
2. Dispositif multitâche de point de vente électronique (EPOS) selon la revendication 1, dans lequel les moyens de commande de dispositif de vente comprennent un bouton de vente sur le dispositif d'entrée d'utilisateur pouvant être utilisé pour afficher une liste d'options de vente.
  3. Dispositif multitâche de point de vente électronique (EPOS) selon la revendication 1 ou la revendication 2, dans lequel les moyens de commande de dispositif de vente comprennent en outre des moyens pour rechercher une sélection valide.
  4. Dispositif multitâche de point de vente électronique (EPOS) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel les moyens de commande de dispositif de vente comprennent en outre des moyens pour envoyer un message de vente à un serveur de distributeur automatique pour vendre le produit conditionné souhaité.
  5. Dispositif multitâche de point de vente électronique (EPOS) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel les moyens de commande de dispositif de vente comprennent des moyens pour contrôler si la vente de produit conditionné a abouti.
  6. Dispositif multitâche de point de vente électronique (EPOS) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel les moyens de commande de dispositif de vente comprennent des moyens pour ajouter la valeur du produit conditionné vendu à une facture totale.
  7. Dispositif multitâche de point de vente électronique (EPOS) selon la revendication 2, dans lequel les moyens de commande de dispositif de vente comprennent des moyens de dépassement de délai si l'opérateur ne peut pas fournir une option de vente.
  8. Dispositif multitâche de point de vente électronique (EPOS) selon la revendication 2, dans lequel les moyens de commande de dispositif de vente comprennent des moyens pour identifier une option de vente non valide.
  9. Dispositif de point de vente électronique (EPOS) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel le dispositif EPOS comprend également un module de commande logiciel pouvant être utilisé pour commander une station de lavage d'automobiles, le dispositif EPOS comporte un module de commande logiciel pouvant être utilisé pour surveiller un stock de carburant, le dispositif EPOS comprend un module de commande logiciel pouvant être utilisé pour s'interfacer avec un dispositif électronique de transfert de fonds et le dispositif EPOS comporte un autre module de commande logiciel pouvant être utilisé pour accéder à des comptes de clients.
  10. Dispositif de point de vente électronique (EPOS) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel un module de commande logiciel est prévu qui peut être utilisé pour recharger le téléphone mobile d'un client par l'intermédiaire du susdit dispositif de point de vente électronique ; l'unité d'affichage comportant un écran d'affichage avec une pluralité d'icônes qui sont liées chacune à un module de commande logiciel ; le module de commande logiciel de recharge de téléphone mobile comporte des moyens pour présenter un menu de choix de réseau téléphonique mobile en réponse à l'activation d'une icône de recharge par un utilisateur ; le module de commande logiciel de recharge de téléphone mobile comporte des moyens pour ajouter la valeur de recharge à un compte de client ; ou, en variante, le module de commande logiciel de recharge comporte des moyens pour imprimer le code de recharge sur le reçu d'un client et pour ajouter la valeur de la recharge au reçu total.
  11. Dispositif de point de vente électronique (EPOS) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel le dispositif EPOS comporte des moyens pour s'interfacer avec une télévision en circuit fermé (CCTV) qui peut être utilisée pour surveiller les pompes de distribution de carburant, fournissant de ce fait à un opérateur des images du client et du véhicule sur l'unité d'affichage pour toutes les transactions de carburant, les moyens pour s'interfacer avec la CCTV comprenant un module logiciel pour recevoir et traiter les signaux provenant de la CCTV et afficher les signaux traités sur l'unité d'affichage du dispositif EPOS, la CCTV étant connectée au dispositif EPOS.
  12. Dispositif de point de vente électronique (EPOS) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes,

- tes, dans lequel le dispositif EPOS comporte des moyens pour commander des affichages de mâât en avant, dans lequel les moyens de commande d'affichage de mâât consistent en un module de commande logiciel comportant des moyens pour recevoir de nouvelles informations de prix et des moyens pour lancer des moyens d'entraînement à distance capables d'ajuster des éléments d'affichage qui présentent les prix sur les affichages de mâât, les éléments d'affichage des affichages de mâât pouvant être mis à jour en temps réel alors que de nouvelles informations de prix arrivent dans le dispositif EPOS en provenance de fournisseurs de carburant en ligne.
- 5
- 10
- 15
- 20
- 25
- 30
- 35
- 40
- 45
- 50
- 55
- des notes, des amendes, des tickets et d'autres produits provenant de différents marchands, les moyens d'exécution de paiement comprenant un module de commande logiciel comportant des moyens pour recevoir une identification de client et un paiement et des moyens pour attribuer le paiement à une note, des amendes, des tickets ou un autre produit.
18. Dispositif de point de vente électronique (EPOS) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel le dispositif EPOS est en communication avec une unité de prise en charge d'application administrative, l'unité de prise en charge d'application administrative comportant un microcontrôleur et une mémoire associée et comportant une base de données de stocks et de marges mémorisée dans la mémoire, le dispositif EPOS comportant un module de commande logiciel pour s'interfacer avec la base de données de stocks sur l'unité de prise en charge d'application administrative de sorte que la vente d'un produit par un balayage sur le dispositif EPOS déduise automatiquement le produit de la base de données de stocks.
19. Dispositif de point de vente électronique (EPOS) selon la revendication 18, dans lequel l'unité de prise en charge d'application administrative comporte une base de données d'index de prix pour tous les articles portant un code à barres du stock délivrés par des fournisseurs particuliers, dans lequel les changements de prix par les fournisseurs sont envoyés à l'unité de prise en charge d'application administrative en ligne en temps réel, le dispositif EPOS pouvant être utilisé pour recevoir les prix de la base de données d'index de prix pour tout le stock portant un code à barres, les offres promotionnelles pouvant également être transmises électroniquement des fournisseurs à la base de données d'index de prix de l'unité de prise en charge d'application administrative.
20. Dispositif de point de vente électronique (EPOS) selon la revendication 18 ou la revendication 19, dans lequel un système d'exploitation de l'unité de prise en charge d'application administrative comporte un logiciel de serveur Web s'exécutant sur celui-ci pour afficher un site Web ayant la gamme de produits de détaillants présentée sur celui-ci, l'unité de prise en charge d'application administrative étant des moyens pour commander le stock en ligne auprès de grossistes.
21. Dispositif de point de vente électronique (EPOS) selon la revendication 20, dans lequel les moyens de commande de stock comprennent un module de commande logiciel capable de lire périodiquement la base de données de stocks et de commander un

stock auprès d'un grossiste en ligne en réponse à des informations provenant de la base de données de stocks indiquant un faible volume d'un stock particulier.

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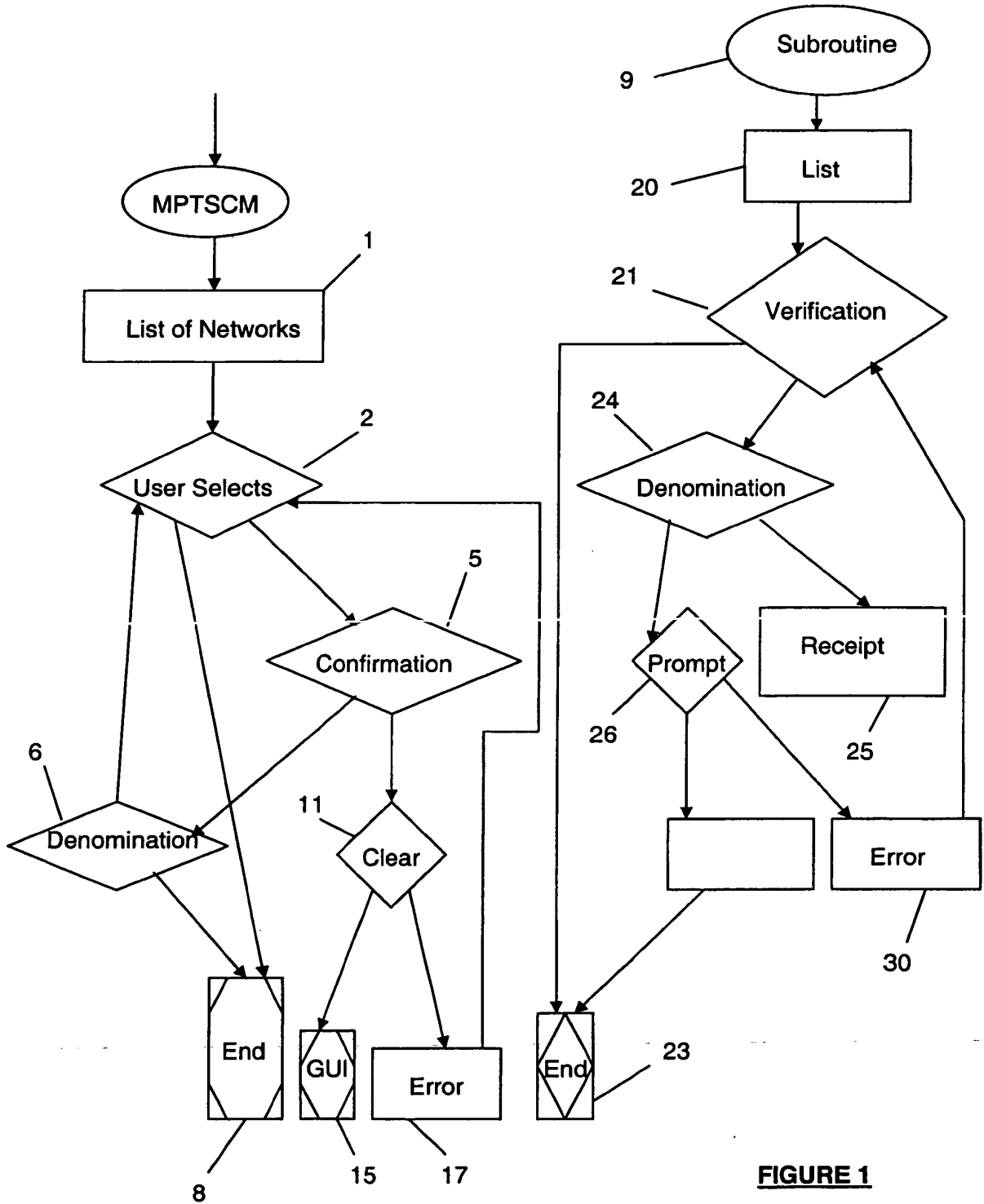
35

40

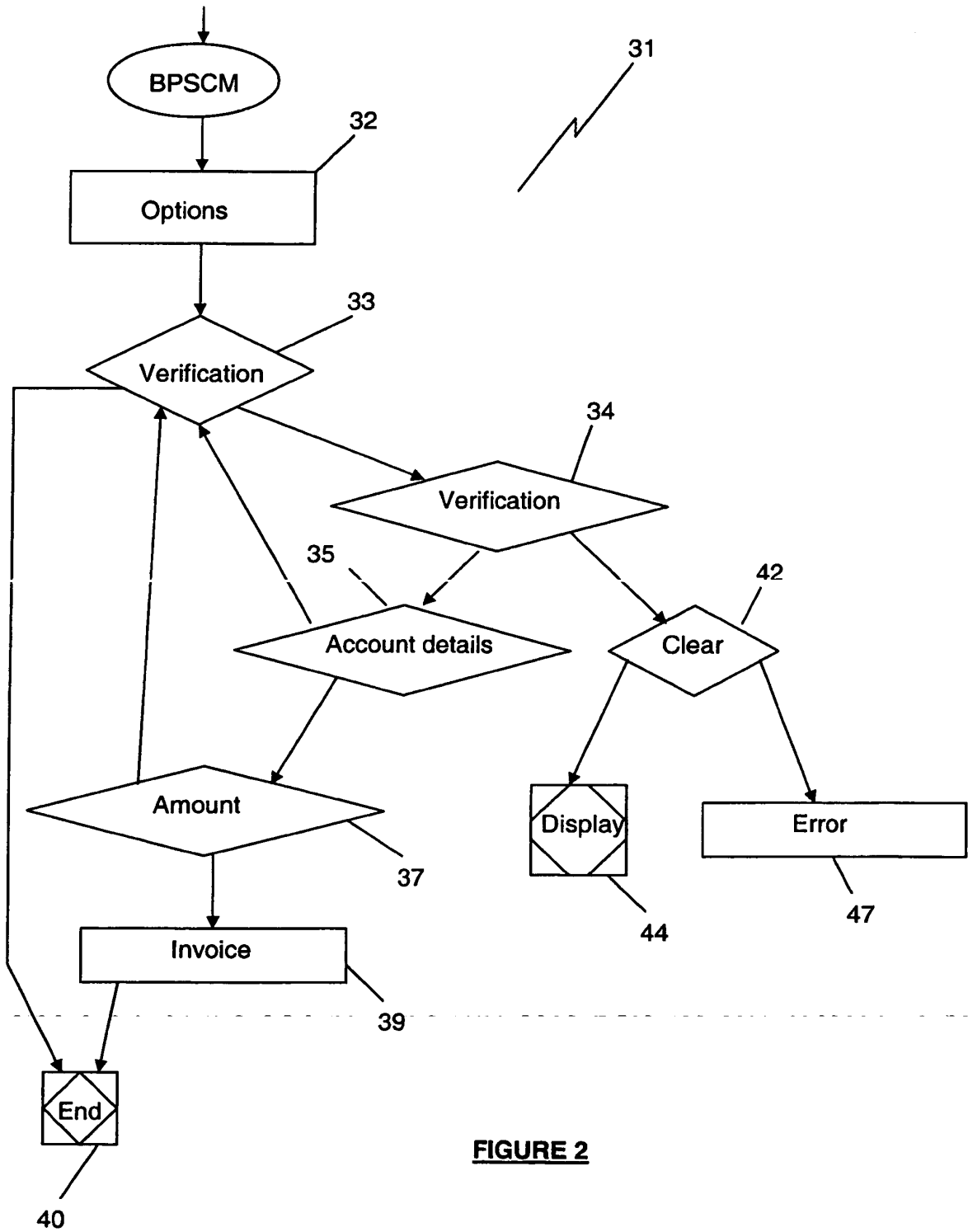
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50

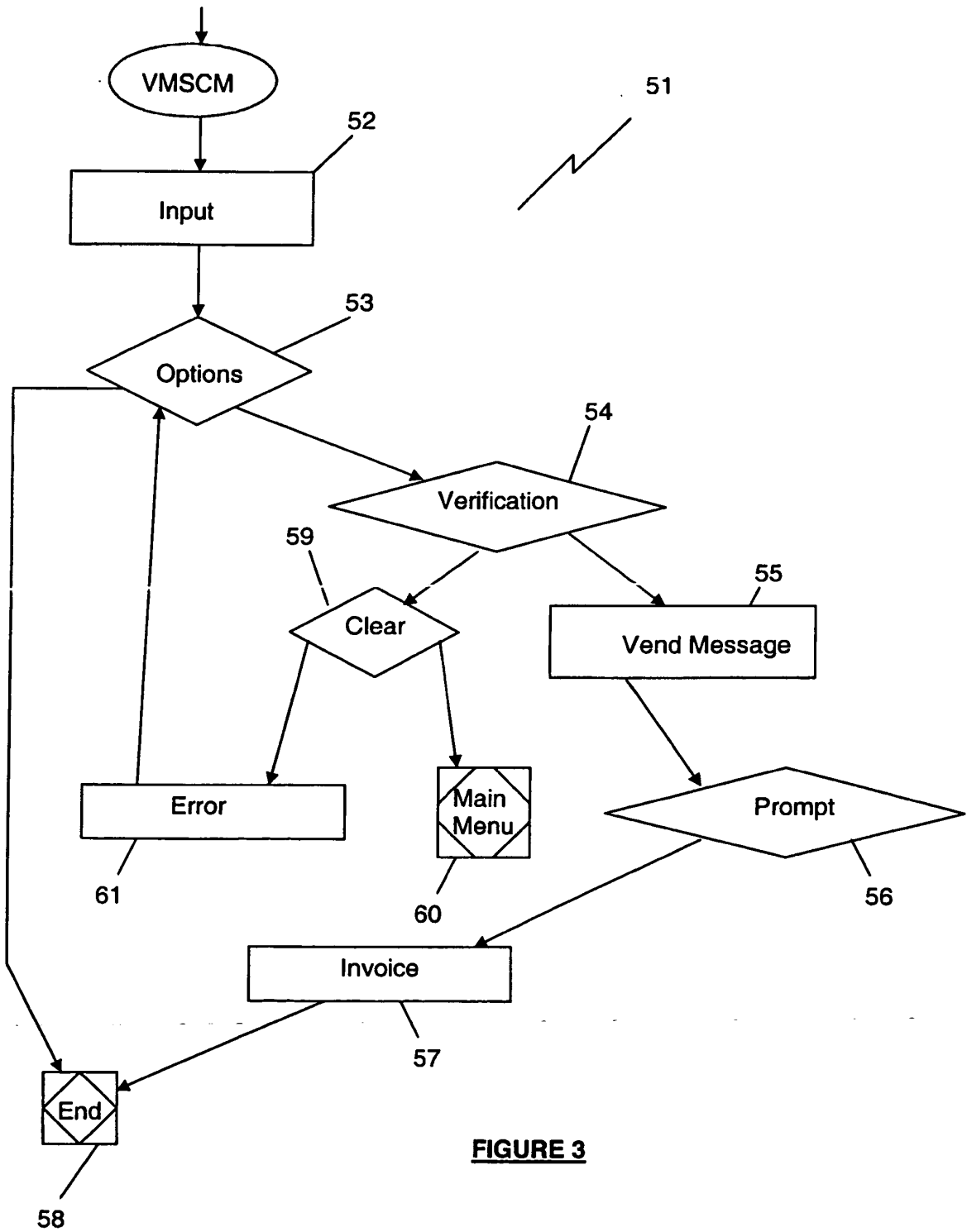
55



**FIGURE 1**



**FIGURE 2**



**FIGURE 3**

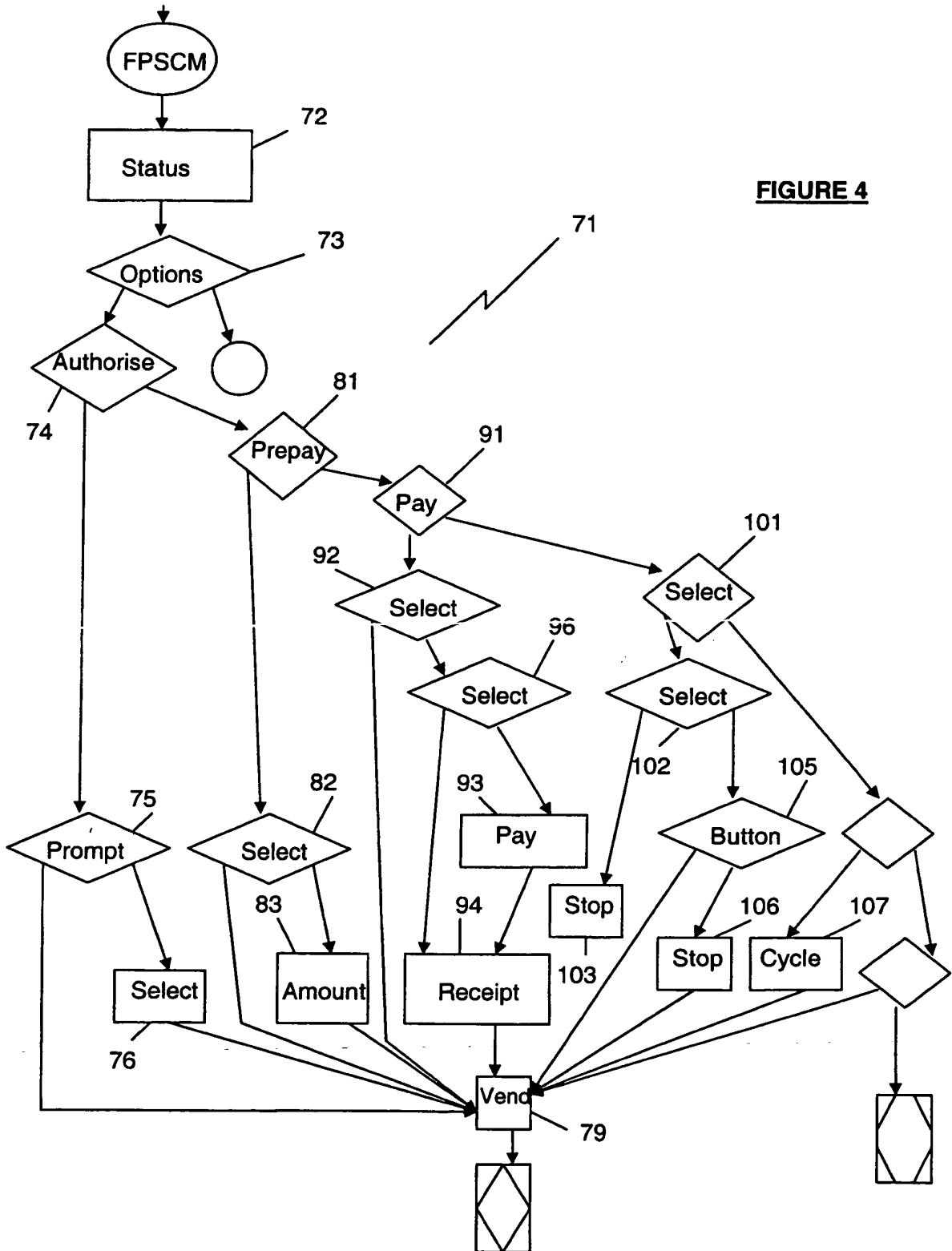
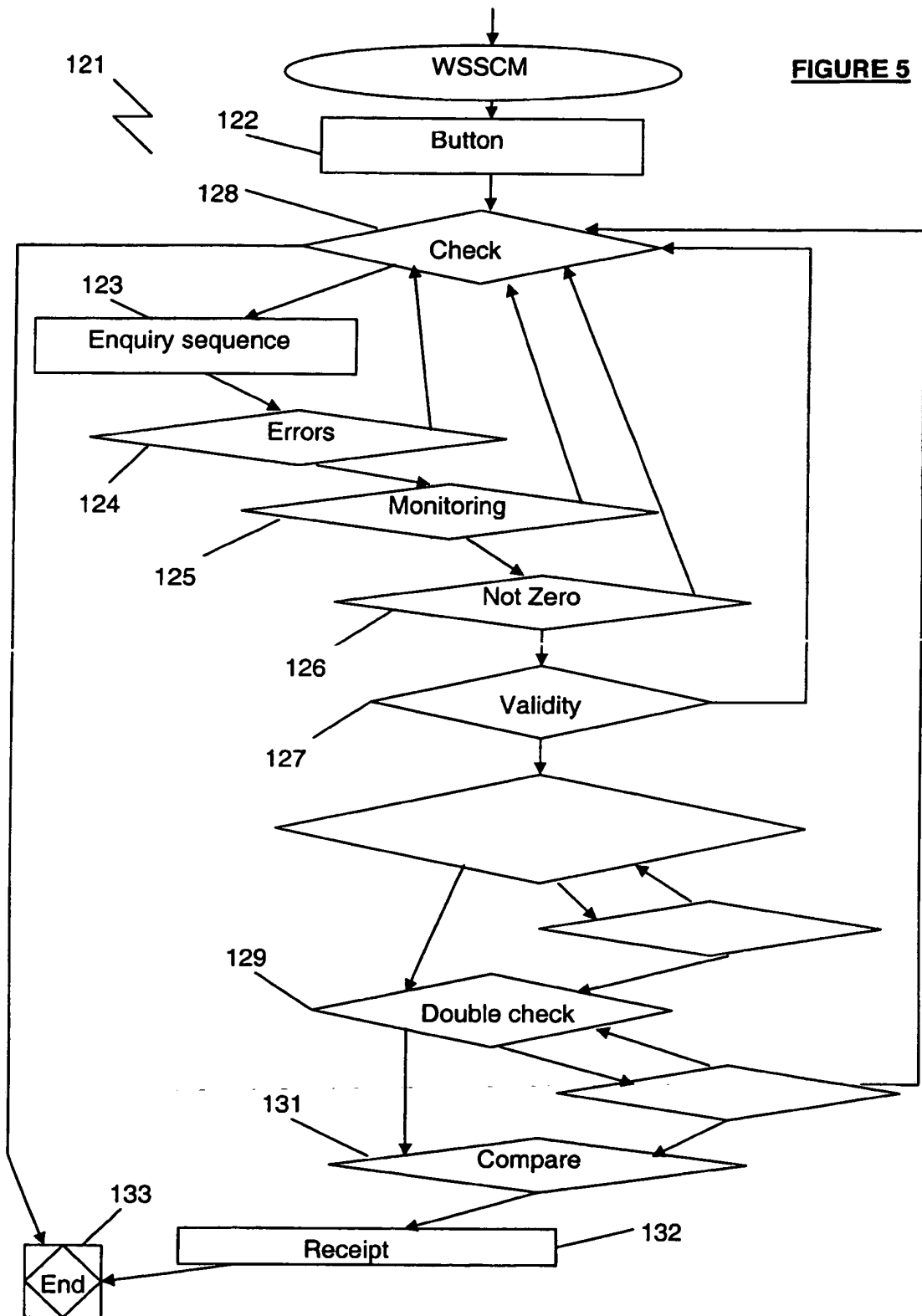


FIGURE 4



**FIGURE 5**



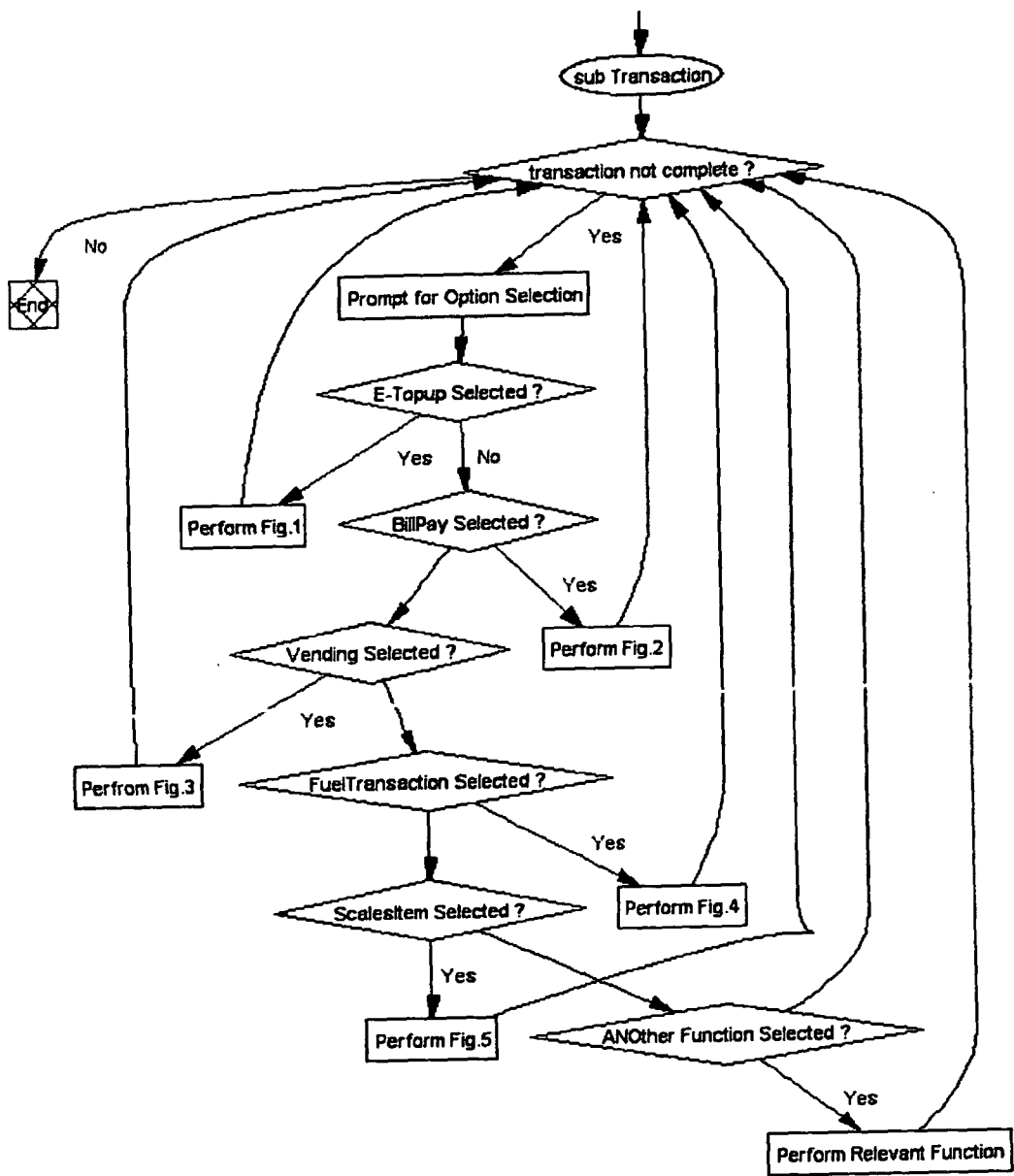


FIGURE 6

<b>Till: 05</b>	<b>C.B.E. Software</b> <b>Operator: CARMEL</b>	<b>22-03-2004</b> <b>11:11</b>
<b>ENTER:</b> <input type="text"/>	<b>FRUIT &amp; VEG</b>	
<b>PLU 000000003026</b> <b>Description: NECTARINES LSE</b> <b>Department: 03</b> <b>Item Count: 1</b>	1> COX APPLE LSE	
	2> PEARS LOOSE	
	3> G/FRUIT WHITE	
	4> GRAPEFRUIT RED	
	5> NECTARINES LSE	
	6> PINFAPPI F	
	7>LETTUCE	
	8> EXOTIC LETTUCE	
	9> LOOSE CUCUMBER	
	0> Abort Plu Menu	
<b>€0.69</b>	<b>Select Item (0 – 9)</b> <b>UP / DOWN / CLEAR / PLU</b>	

**FIGURE 7**

<b>Till: 05 C.B.E. Software</b> <b>Op: CASH 4</b>	<b>19-01-2005</b> <b>VR 16:57</b>
<b>ENTER:</b> <input type="text"/>	<b>Selection of Networks</b>
<input type="text"/>	1> EIRCELL
<input type="text"/>	2> METEOR
<input type="text"/>	3> SPEAKEASY
<input type="text"/>	4> CENTURY
<input type="text"/>	5> FNTSPIRIT
<input type="text"/>	6> MR. SWIFTY
<input type="text"/>	7>SOLO
<input type="text"/>	8> GLOBALCALLER
<input type="text"/>	9> PLANET
<input type="text"/>	0> Abort Plu Menu
<b>€0.00</b>	<b>Select Item (0 – 9)</b>
	<b>UP / DOWN / CLEAR / PLU</b>

**FIGURE 8**

<b>Till: 05 C.B.E. Software</b> <b>Op: CASH 4</b>		<b>19-01-2005</b> <b>VR 16:59</b>	
<b>ENTER:</b> <input type="text"/>		<b>Selection of Denominations</b>	
<input type="text"/>		1> 10:00	
		2> 15:00	
		3> 20:00	
		4> 25:00	
		5>	
		6>	
		7>	
		8>	
		9>	
		0> Abort Plu Menu	
<b>€0.00</b>		<b>Select Item (0 – 9)</b>	
		UP / DOWN / CLEAR / PLU	

**FIGURE 9**

Till: 05 C.B.E. Software Op: CASH 1											19-01-2005 R 17:10	
10 WINFIELD™	20 WINFIELD™	20 WINDFIELD™	20 CARROLLS KINGS™	20 CARROLLS RED™	10 NUMBER 1™	20 NUMBER 1™	20 NUMBER 1™	20 LUCKY STRIKE™	20 LUCKY STRIKE™	20 LUCKY STRIKE™	20 LUCKY STRIKE™	
MAJOR Double Filter™	10 MAJOR Extra size ™	20 MAJOR Extra Size ™	20 DUNHILL Filters™	20 DUNHILL International™	20 CONSULATE ™	10 ROTHMANS King Size™	20 ROTHMANS King Size™	20 LUCKY STRIKE Red™	20 LUCKY STRIKE Red™	20 LUCKY STRIKE Red™	20 LUCKY STRIKE Red™	
CBE™	20 MARLBORO 100's™	20 SWEET AFTON™	20 PLAYERS™	10 MARLBORO ™	20 MARLBORO ™	10 MARLBORO Lights™	20 MARLBORO Lights™	20 WINFIELD™	20 WINFIELD™	20 WINFIELD™	20 WINFIELD™	
CBE™	20 BERKELEY™	20 L & B Kingsize™	20 L&B Gold™	10 SILK CUT™	20 SILK CUT™	10 SILK CUT™	20 SILK CUT™	10 SILK CUT™	20 SILK CUT™	20 SILK CUT™	20 SILK CUT™	
CBE™	20 SILK CUT 100's™	20 SILK CUT 100's™	20 SILK CUT 100's™	XL™	20 BIENSON & HEDGES 100's™	10 BENSON & HEDGES Gold™	20 BENSON & HEDGES Gold™	20 BENSON & HEDGES Gold Bond™	20 BENSON & HEDGES Gold Bond™	20 SILK CUT™	20 SILK CUT™	
CBE™	20 JOHN PLAYERS 100's™	10 SUPER KINGS™	20 SUPER KINGS™	20 SUPER KINGS Blue™	20 GO.DFLAKE Virginia™	20 SUPER KINGS Menthol™	15 JOHN PLAYERS King Size™	10 JOHN PLAYERS King Size™	20 JOHN PLAYERS King Size™	20 JOHN PLAYERS King Size™	20 JOHN PLAYERS King Size™	

Select row (1 - 6), Clear to Exit

FIGURE 10

Till: 05 C.B.E. Software Op: CASH 1 19-01-2005 R 17:13									
10 WINFIELD™	20 WINFIELD™	20 WINDFIELD™	20 CARROLLS KINGS™	20 CARROLLS RED™	10 NUMBER 1™	20 NUMBER 1™	20 NUMBER 1™	20 LUCKY STRIKE™	20 LUCKY STRIKE™
MAJOR Double Filter™	10 MAJOR Extra size ™	20 MAJOR Extra Size ™	20 DUNHILL Filters™	20 DUNHILL International™	20 CONSULATE ™	10 ROTHMANS King Size ™	20 ROTHMANS King Size ™	20 LUCKY STRIKE Red™	20 LUCKY STRIKE Red™
CBE™	20 MARLBORO 100's™	20 SWEET AFTON™	20 PLAYERS™	10 MARLBORO ™	20 MARLBORO ™	10 MARLBORO Lights™	20 MARLBORO Lights™	20 WINFIELD™	20 WINFIELD™
CBE™	20 BERKELEY ™	20 L & B Kingsize™	20 L&B Gold™	10 SILK CUT™	20 SILK CUT™	10 SILK CUT™	20 SILK CUT™	10 SILK CUT™	20 SILK CUT™
CBE™	20 SILK CUT 100's™	20 SILK CUT 100's™	20 SILK CUT 100's™	XL™	20 BENSON & HEDGES 100's™	10 BENSON & HEDGES Gold™	20 BENSON & HEDGES Gold™	20 BENSON & HEDGES Gold Bond™	20 SILK CUT™
CBE™	20 JOHN PLAYERS 100's™	10 SUPER KINGS™	20 SUPER KINGS™	20 SUPER KINGS Blue™	20 GO.DFLAKE Virginia™	20 SUPER KINGS Menthol™	15 JOHN PLAYERS King Size™	10 JOHN PLAYERS King Size™	20 JOHN PLAYERS King Size™

Select row (1 - 0), Clear to Reselect

FIGURE 11

Londis  
Claremorris  
Co.Mayo  
\*\* Close To You \*\*

>> TRAINING MODE <<  
SILK CUT 100'S €6.25  
GRAIN PETIT PA \* €0.42  
VODAFONE 20 EURS €20.00  
DEMI BAGUETTE \* €0.50

Total: €27.17

Paid by: CASH €30.00

CHANGE: €2.83

>> TRAINING MODE <<

Irish Made Purchases: 0.92

19-01-2005 14:04 001-01-00430  
00004:TRAINING MODE Items: 4

THANK YOU  
PLEASE CALL AGAIN  
RETAIN RECEIPT FOR REFUNDS

Voucher

DEMO,

€2.00 Off

Meat when more than

€10.00

is spent in Meat



9902028002008

Reference: 202 Date: 19-01-2005  
Expires:18-07-2005 Receipt:001-01-00430  
Terms and Conditions Apply.  
Only one voucher per transaction.

Londis  
Claremorris  
Co.Mayo  
\*\* Close To You \*\*

>> TRAINING MODE <<



Agent Number:9900001  
TerminalID:22220001  
Date/Time: 19-01-2005 14:05:01

DIAL 1741 AND KEY  
BELOW VOUCHER NUMBER.  
HELPLINE 1850 20 87 87

WHY NOT TAKE YOUR MOBILE WITH YOU ON  
HOLS, CALLS HOME COST LESS THAN AN  
ICE CREAM!

Cost: €20.00  
Txn No:1111  
Serial No:000000012345

VOUCHER NUMBER  
111111222222

THANK YOU FOR USING POSTPOINT.

THANK YOU  
PLEASE CALL AGAIN  
RETAIN RECEIPT FOR REFUNDS

FIGURE 12



**REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION**

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**Patent documents cited in the description**

- US 5889676 A [0002]