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(12) **United States Patent**  
**Lynch et al.**

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(54) **METHOD AND APPARATUS TO  
AUTHENTICATE AND AUTHORIZE USER  
ACCESS TO A SYSTEM**

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(73) Assignee: **eBay Inc.**, San Jose, CA (US)

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(\* ) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this  
patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
U.S.C. 154(b) by 1218 days.

\* cited by examiner

(21) Appl. No.: **10/876,866**

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*Assistant Examiner*—Baotran N To

(22) Filed: **Jun. 25, 2004**

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Schwegman, Lundberg &  
Woessner, P.A.

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

**Related U.S. Application Data**

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26, 2003, provisional application No. 60/482,971,  
filed on Jun. 26, 2003.

A method, apparatus, and system are provided for authenti-  
cating and authorizing user access to a system. According to  
one embodiment, a request for authentication and authoriza-  
tion of a user is received from a secondary site on behalf of the  
user who is seeking to access a primary site via the secondary  
site via a computer network. The request includes informa-  
tion relating to the user. The user information is then verified  
for authenticity, including determining whether the user sat-  
isfies the criteria for obtaining authentication and authoriza-  
tion as defined by the primary site. If the criteria are satisfied,  
a token, associated with the user, is generated at the primary  
site. A portion of the token is transmitted from the primary site  
to the secondary site on behalf of the user to permit the user to  
access the primary site via the secondary site, via the com-  
puter network.

(51) **Int. Cl.**  
**H04L 9/00** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **713/155; 713/159; 713/170;**  
**726/2; 726/20**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... **726/2-3,**  
**726/6, 21, 9, 20; 709/224-229; 713/155,**  
**713/159, 161, 168-170, 172**

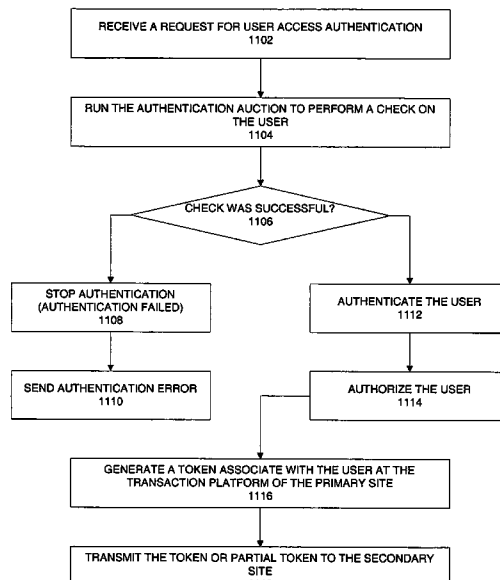
See application file for complete search history.

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**29 Claims, 15 Drawing Sheets**



Early Warning Services 1011

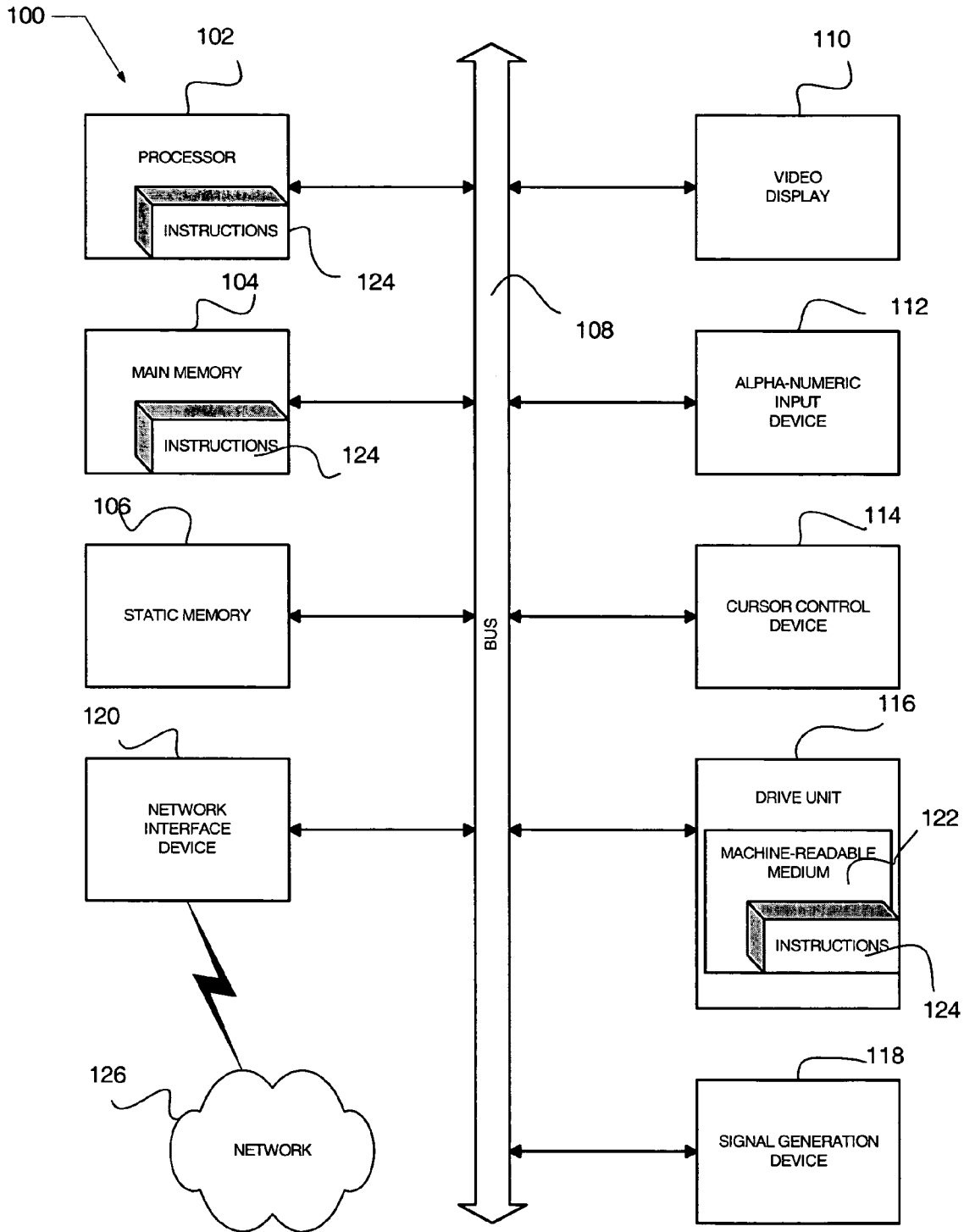


FIG. 1

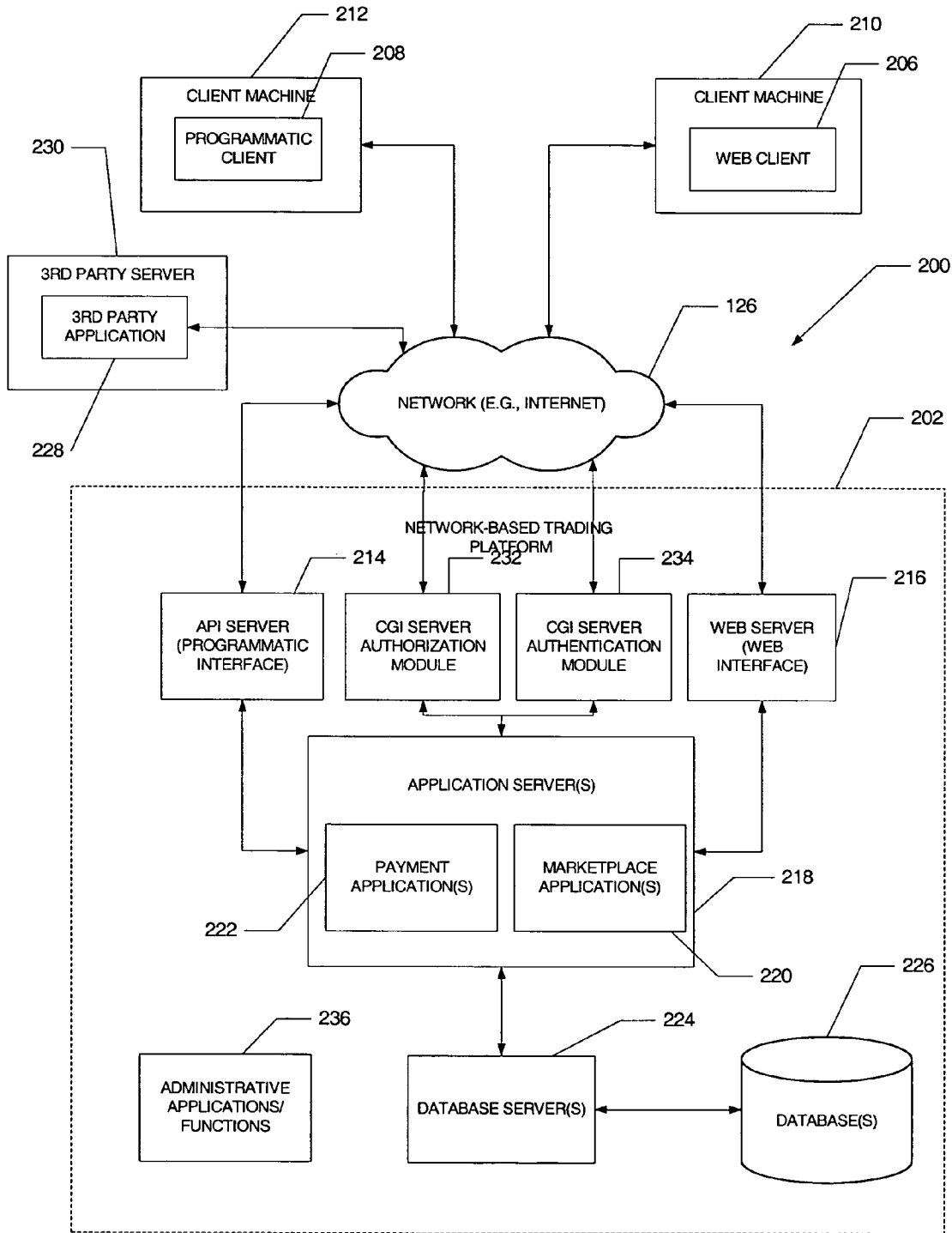


FIG. 2

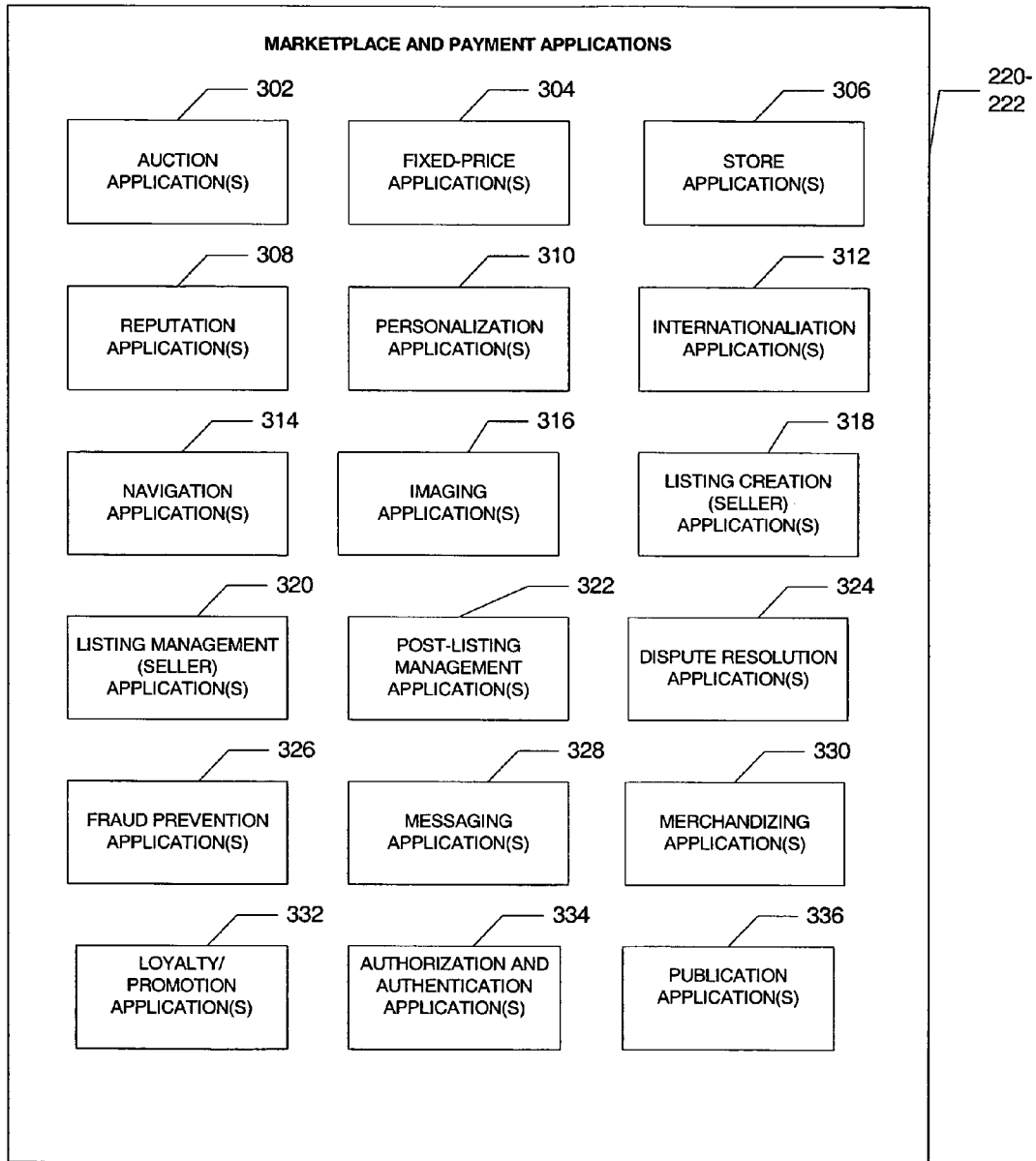


FIG. 3

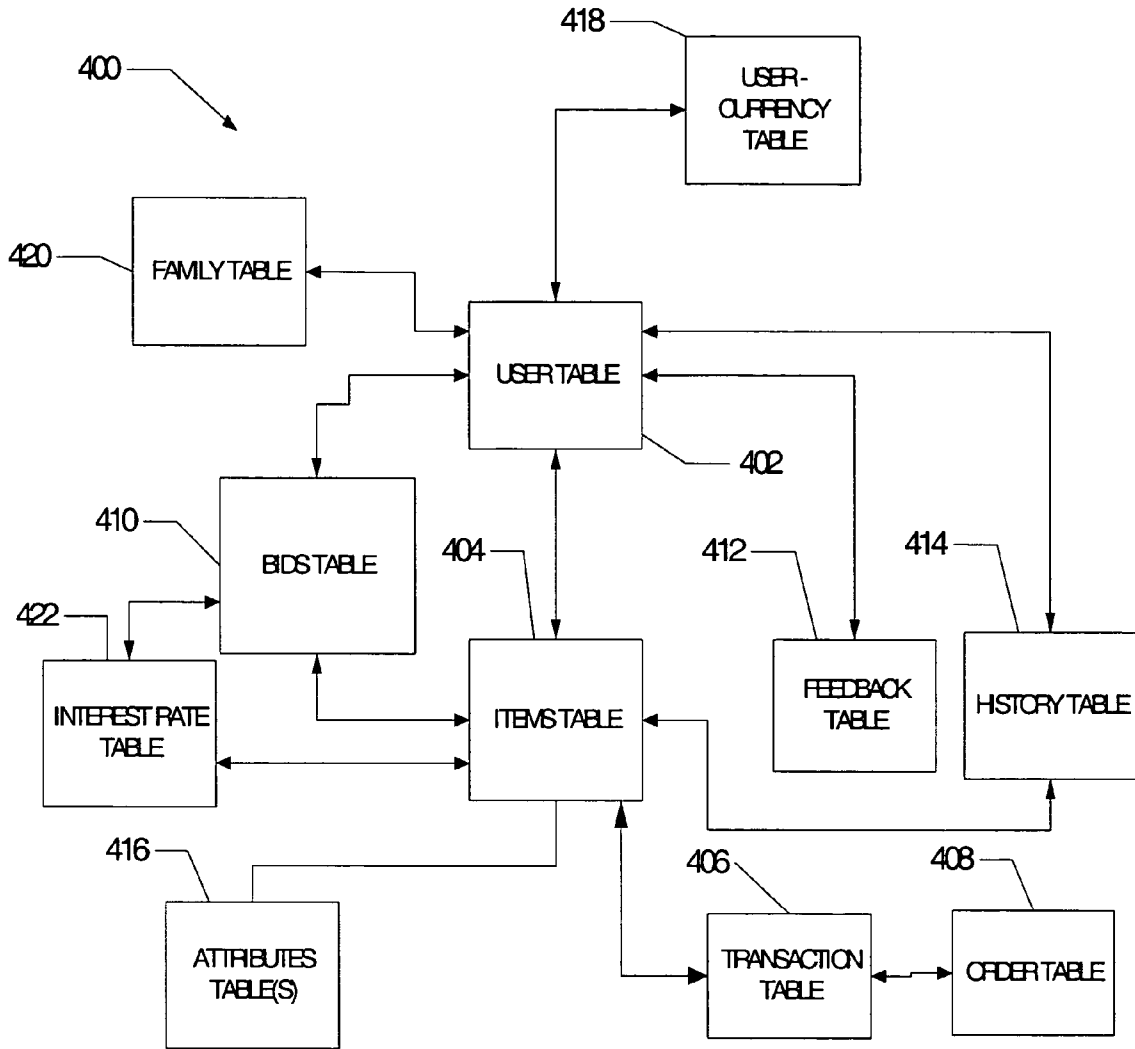


FIG 4

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