

## ISSUING MACHINE AND ISSUING SYSTEM

[0001] This application is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 11/149,556 filed on Jun. 10, 2005. The contents of the application, including specification, claims, drawings and summary are hereby incorporated by reference. Priority is claimed to U.S. application Ser. No. 11/149,556 filed on Jun. 10, 2005, which claimed the priority of Ser. No. 10/233,995 filed on Aug. 30, 2002, Ser. No. 10/358,432 filed on Feb. 4, 2003, Ser. No. 10/376,358 filed on Feb. 27, 2003 and Ser. No. 10/444,870 filed on May 23, 2003 which claimed the priority dates of Sep. 3, 2001, Feb. 5, 2002, Feb. 27, 2002, Mar. 11, 2002, May 31, 2002, Sep. 3, 2002 and Feb. 4, 2003, the filing dates of Japanese Patent Application Nos. 2001-265178, 2002-27550, 2002-51085, 2002-65123, 2002-158595, 2002-257497 and 2003-27127, respectively.

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

### [0002] 1. Field of the Invention

[0003] The present invention relates to an issuing system including a plurality of issuing machines for selling, generating, and printing newly-issued securities or fixed rate financing instruments that include selected features of common stock and bonds, and a method for establishing a market with the system. In particular, each of the issuing machines can print unmodifiable and/or unforgeable hardcopy documents or securities, and scan/identify whether a served hardcopy document is a printed unmodifiable and/or unforgeable hardcopy documents or securities previously generated by an issuing machine of the system.

### [0004] 2. Description of the Prior Art

[0005] Stock certificates are a well-known type of certificate of securities that represent the positions or rights of stockowners. A business operator issues stock certificates that represent the positions or rights of investors in return for acquiring funds from the investors. Those who purchased stock certificates (i.e., stockholders) are allowed to participate in the operation of the company that issued the stock certificates based on the positions and rights given to them in return. In other words, stockholders can attend stockholders meetings, participate in voting, and demand dividends from the company that issued stock certificates.

[0006] Moreover, stockholders are allowed to sell the stock certificates to third parties. By selling the stocks at prices exceeding the original purchase prices, they can earn profits that are equal to the differences between them.

[0007] Bonds are another type of well-known securities that are issued by national or local governments, entities established based on special laws, or private enterprises for obligations they have to the public as a whole. Bonds are characterized in that they have predetermined redemption dates, after which the bond issuers are to pay to the bond owners corresponding principals and interests. Bond owners are also allowed to sell bonds at prices exceeding the original purchase prices and earn profits that are equal to the differences between them.

[0008] However, a business operator sometimes may not be able to acquire sufficient funds only by stock issues. Moreover, by issuing bonds, a business operator becomes

obligated to pay the principals and interests after the redemption dates, so that bond issuing results in a high burden for a business owner.

[0009] US. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0107766 provides a financial instrument certificate purchasing system for issuing, transferring and redeeming financial certificates which are representative of underlying publicly-traded property. The system permits an individual to gift a third party with a certificate which represents a company's security or other financial instrument, while not itself consisting of the financial instrument. However, the system does not sell, generate or print the financial instrument itself. In addition, the certificates are ordered via a personal computer, rather than any publicly-available standing-alone issuing machine like an ATM.

[0010] The existing "online trading terminals" available to the general public is merely a computer terminal at which a person can do on-line securities trading. The online trading terminal only deals with virtual (online) resources and prints paper copies of online transaction receipts, but does not print any unmodifiable and/or unforgeable securities. In addition, the online trading terminal does not re-circulate/recycle any printed unmodifiable and/or unforgeable securities.

[0011] The conventional ATM machine only dispenses money and collects money/checks, rather than dispensing and collecting certificates of securities. Some ATM machines, such as the one described in U.S. Pat. No. 6,981,637, automatically check and ensure that the money dispensed or collected is valid (i.e., not a forgery) by scanning and trying to identify the kind and amount of the paper money. However, these ATM machine only re-circulate the paper money by storing and then dispensing re-printed paper money (by a government), but not printing new unmodifiable and/or unforgeable paper money. In addition, these ATM machine only take limited kinds of paper money, usually of the same currency issued by an identical government such that it can use data stored in its own memory for authentication without accessing a central server.

[0012] There are money changers (e.g., devices that accept money bills in vending machines), which have sensors that look for certain features on the inserted bills (e.g., ultraviolet threads, particular microprinting, etc.) and check the validity of bills and distinguish bills of different sizes.

[0013] Up to this point, the circulation of actual securities is restricted only to be sold or exchanged at specified locations, such as branch offices of financial institutions, such as a bank or a securities brokerage. If one party desires to sell a hardcopy security to another, the transaction of the hardcopy securities would have to be completed at one of these branch offices. The branch office can check the authenticity of the hardcopy and record the serial number of the security and its new owner. A transaction of a counterfeit hardcopy can be detected and stopped by a person via checking a global (across all locations) database of these documents and transactions.

[0014] There is a need for a securities issuing system with a plurality of issuing machines placed at various convenient locations to for potential customers to offer to buy securities, to buy securities, to transfer bought securities to a depository, to print out the bought unforgeable hardcopy securities, and to recycle the printed unforgeable hardcopy securities back into the system.