

[0066] When the issuing institution is a private corporation (may be a privately-owned or publicly-traded company), newly-issued securities, such as stocks, bonds, or the unique fixed rate financing instruments, may be issued without using any underwriter or underwriting syndicate, as long as the issuing process satisfies the legal requirements in one respective country enforced by a governing body that oversees exchange of fixed rate financing instruments for review or registration as required by law, such as SEC in the US. Such offers to sell cannot be made before a registration statement has been filed with the SEC, and the offers can not be accepted until a registration statement becomes effective. After a registration statement is declared effective, sales literature can not be delivered unless accompanied or preceded by a final statutory prospectus, etc. According to the invention, a potential purchaser (an institutional investor or a member of the general public) can go to a standing-alone issuing machine to view prospectus and to offer to purchase and/or to purchase the newly-issued securities and financing instruments. Alternatively, the potential purchaser may offer to purchase or purchase the newly-issued securities and financing instruments via a physical site of a financial institution as described below. As such, the invention provides new market mechanisms which allow people to trade securities and fixed rate financing instruments more conveniently.

[0067] The client device 103 can be realized by a computer such as but not limited to a general-purpose computer, a dedicated terminal, an office computer, or a personal computer.

[0068] Dedicated securities purchase offer software 104 as well as various other kinds of application software are installed on the client device 103.

[0069] When the securities purchase offer software 104 is activated, the client device 103 is enabled to communicate with the server 101 and send securities purchase offers or bids to the server 101. The securities purchase offer software 104 may for instance, be lent or licensed by the security issuing institution to each user institution free of charge and is set up in such a way as to make securities purchase offers easier and smoother.

[0070] The client device 103 with its securities purchase offer software 104 running transmits information concerning the securities to be purchased and ID information concerning user individuals and the user institution to the server 101 in order to make securities purchase offers easier and smoother. This function of the client device 103 may be termed the bid or purchase request function.

[0071] The ID information concerning user individuals and the user institution transmitted from the client device 103 to the server 101 at the time of bidding for or requesting securities purchase is stored in an ID recording medium 106 as the individual user identification (ID) reference information. Although the ID recording medium 106 used in this embodiment is an ID card, the mode of the invention is not limited to it. The individual user identification (ID) reference information may be printed in any suitable form such as, but limited to, text, 2D or 3D bar codes, graphic codes, water marks, visual bio-identification photographs, signatures and/or finger or thumb prints, digitized voices, hand prints, finger/thumb prints, or retinal (eye) images, etc. on a card or a storage medium. The individual user identification (ID)

reference information may be carried by any suitable form such as, but limited to, a paper or plastic card, a magnetic strip (e.g., on a debt or credit card), a magnetic disk or tape, an electronic chip (e.g., on a credit or smart card), a personal digital assistant or a cell phone memory, or memory in other portable, hand-held, or palmtop devices, etc. The electronic personal data or bio-identification data can be verified by sampling on-site or retrieved from the storage medium to compare with an on-site or on-line database.

[0072] In the meantime, the server 101 of the securities issuing institution's purchase request accepting function establishes a securities purchase offer based on the securities purchase offer received from the client device 103. The securities purchase offer is an authorization to issue securities. For example, the server 101 searches a database to see if there are any unsold securities of the particular securities based on the securities information received from the client device 103. If the server ascertains that there are unsold securities matching the bid specifications, the server establishes the securities purchase offer or authorization to issue shares immediately. If there are no securities of the type specified in the client bid information, the server notifies the client device 103 that there are no securities to be sold.

[0073] It is so set up that the securities purchase offer, or authorization to issue securities, will not be established even if there are unsold securities are available if the ID information from the client device 103 was not properly transmitted.

[0074] When a securities purchase offer or authorization to issue securities is established, the server 101's wait instruction function transmits the or authorization to issue securities purchase information concerning the deal as well as the ID information concerning the securities purchase offer to the securities issuing machine 105 at the securities issuing site.

[0075] In one embodiment, the securities issuing machine 105 at the securities issuing site has a slot 105a for inserting, inputting or otherwise connecting, the ID recording medium 106. The issuing machine 105 is, by means of an ID reading function, also capable of reading the user's ID reference information recorded on the ID recording medium when the ID recording medium 106 is inserted, input or otherwise connected into the slot. The issuing machine 105 may be as automated as an automatic teller machine (ATM) so as to print and dispense a fixed rate financing instrument directly to a purchaser. Customers can buy printed certificates of securities at the ASD. Customers can also insert printed certificates of securities into the ASD 105 and have them sold or converted to on-line certificates. The printed certificates dispensed by the ASD 105 is unmodifiable and/or unforgeable.

[0076] A printed certificate is said to be unmodifiable if any change to the information on the certificate can be easily detected. Here, the term information on the certificate refers to its face value, serial number, issuer identification, issue date, expiry date, owner name, and so on. It does not refer to the type of paper on which the certificate is printed, nor does it refer to graphics (e.g., artwork) printed on the certificate (although a digitized version of the graphics can be included).

[0077] A printed certificate is said to be unforgeable if it cannot be duplicated without recourse to resources that are