

transaction processing means for processing the requested transaction by retrieving information via a network from the server; and

printing means for printing out said hardcopy certificate as purchased by the potential purchaser and a cryptographic checksum thereon.

20. An issuing machine for transacting a hardcopy certificate comprising:

receiving means for receiving an ID recording medium provided by a potential purchaser;

information retrieving means for retrieving identification recoded in the received ID recording medium;

input means for the potential purchaser to input request for a transaction of the hardcopy certificate;

transaction processing means for processing the requested transaction by retrieving information via a network from a server; and

printing means for printing out said hardcopy certificate as purchased by the potential purchaser and a cryptographic checksum thereon,

wherein the hardcopy certificate is a check, a commercial paper, a passport, a driver's license, an identity card, a smart card, or a credit card.

21. The issuing machine according to claim 20, further comprising scanning means for scanning a hardcopy document, and determining means for determining whether the hardcopy document was issued by an issuing machine linked with the issuing machine according to a result obtained by the scanning means.

22. The issuing machine according to claim 21, wherein if the hardcopy document was determined as issued by an issuing machine linked with the issuing machine, said printing means prints a renewed hardcopy certificate with a new expiration date and a new cryptographic checksum thereon.

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