

Title

Cardless Financial Transactions

Priority Claim

This patent application claims priority to U.S. provisional patent application serial number 61/990,946 filed on May 9, 2014, and its subject matter is hereby incorporated by reference.

Background of the Invention

There remains a need in the art for cardless ATM transactions and related methods.

Brief Description of the Several Views of the Drawings

FIG. 1 is a flow diagram showing an embodiment for creating a mobile-wallet data set.

FIG. 2 illustrates an embodiment for pre-staging a cardless ATM transaction using a personal computing device.

FIG. 3 illustrates an embodiment for performing a cardless ATM transaction using a personal computing device in coordination with an ATM.

FIG. 4 is a flow diagram showing a universal overview of an embodiment for performing a cardless ATM transaction.

Detailed Description of the Invention

Generally provided is a cardless ATM transaction driven by inputs from both 1) a personal computing device, and 2) an ATM. In embodiments, inputs from a personal computing device are used to create data set(s) that are subsequently used to drive an ATM transaction in a similar fashion to the dataset(s) created from a traditional debit card when inserted into an ATM to initiate an ATM transaction. As a result, embodiments allow for a cardless ATM transaction to be performed.

Method and system embodiments are directed to: 1) creating a mobile-wallet data set, and 2) executing an ATM transaction using the mobile-wallet data set. Embodiments are generally described in the context of computer-readable logic executed by one or more general-purpose computers. For example, in a portion of an embodiment, computer readable logic is stored on a

server computer system and accessed by a client computer via a communications link or a network, such as an intranet, Internet, virtual private network, or another computer network. And because the basic structures and functions related to computer-readable routines and corresponding implementations are known, they have not been shown or described in detail below to avoid unnecessarily obscuring the described embodiments.

Details are set forth in the following description and in Figs. 1-4 to provide a thorough understanding of various embodiments of the invention. Those of ordinary skill in the art will understand that the invention may have additional embodiments that may be practiced without several of the details described below. In some instances, persons of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that the methods and systems described herein can include additional details without departing from the spirit or scope of the disclosed embodiments. Additionally, some known structures and systems associated with automated teller machines (ATMs), mobile devices, and associated computer networks have not been shown or described in detail below to avoid unnecessarily obscuring the described embodiments.

In the following figures, identical reference numbers identify identical or at least generally similar elements. In the flow diagrams, a rectangle represents a process, task, action, or operation; a diamond presents a question; and a parallelogram shows input or output.

Figure 1 is a flow diagram showing an embodiment of how a user can create mobile-wallet data set 16 by using personal computing device 4, e.g., a computing tablet or mobile phone, to input a plurality of required data sets that together make up mobile-wallet data set 16. Mobile-wallet data set 16 is a collection of one or more electronic data sets that may include at least one personal debit-card data set 18, e.g., a data set that provides debit-card number, CVV number, and expiration-date information, and at least one personal-information data set 20, e.g., cardholder name. In an embodiment, mobile-wallet data set 16 may include a data set associated with a credit or debit card distinct from personal debit-card data set 18 mentioned above. Block 100 shows a user being prompted to create mobile-wallet data set 16 by using personal computing device 4 to input a plurality of data sets that include 1) personal debit-card data set 18, and 2) personal-information data set 20, shown respectively in blocks 100A and 100B. In

decision block 102, the user is shown as having to decide whether to input the prompted data sets, i.e., personal debit-card data set 18 and personal-information data set 20. Block 104 shows the user inputting the requested data sets by populating the data fields prompted to the user; these combined requested data sets make up mobile-wallet data set 16. In response to populating the prompted data fields, block 106 shows computing device 4 sending mobile-wallet data set 16 to server 6 that then forwards mobile-wallet data set 16 to mobile-wallet server 8 for hosting.

In an embodiment, personal computing device 4 sends mobile-wallet data set 16 to server 6 that then forwards mobile-wallet data set 16 to server 8 for hosting. In another embodiment, computing device 4 sends mobile-wallet data set 16 to server 6 that executes an algorithm on at least a portion of mobile-wallet data set 16 and thereby determines the appropriate host-server destination for mobile-wallet data set 16. In response to reaching this algorithm-driven-host-server-destination determination, mobile-wallet data set 16 is then forwarded from server 8 to the identified host-server destination from amongst a plurality of host servers. In an embodiment, server 6 may have a plurality of host-server destinations to select from, wherein the plurality of host-server destinations are specific as to the type of mobile-wallet data set 16 that they each respectively host. In other words, each host-server destination (i.e., host server) may respectively host different types of mobile-wallet data set(s) 16. Mobile-wallet data set 16 may include data that the algorithm (performed on server 6) determines is associated with a specific banking institution, and in response to reaching this determination, causes mobile-wallet data set 16 to be forwarded from server 6 to the dedicated host server for that specific bank or bank data. As an illustrative example, mobile-wallet data set 16 relating to ABC bank is sent from server 6 to a host server dedicated to hosting ABC-bank mobile-wallet data sets; mobile-wallet data set 16 relating to DEF bank is sent from server 6 to a host server dedicated to hosting DEF-bank mobile-wallet data sets; mobile-wallet data set 16 relating to GHI bank is sent from server 6 to a host server dedicated to hosting GHI-bank mobile-wallet data sets; and so on.

Figure 2 illustrates an embodiment for pre-staging a cardless ATM transaction using personal computing device 4. More specifically, Fig. 2 illustrates a graphical-user-interface (GUI) flow diagram, depicted as it would be displayed on personal computing device 4, for pre-staging an ATM transaction.

In an embodiment, a mobile-cash-access app is launched on personal computing device 4, and “password/passcode” data-entry page 22 is displayed on personal computing device 4’s touchscreen GUI. In response to entering an acceptable password/passcode, “home” page 24 is subsequently displayed on personal computing device 4’s touchscreen GUI. In response to selecting “set up withdrawal” displayed on “home” page 24 on the touchscreen GUI, “accounts” page 26 is subsequently displayed on personal computing device 4’s touchscreen GUI. In response to selecting the card image on the touchscreen GUI that represents the account and desired mobile data set 16 to be used in the transaction, “PIN” page 28 is subsequently displayed on personal computing device 4’s touchscreen GUI. In response to entering the correct PIN associated with the account and desired mobile data set 16 to be used in the transaction, “cash amount” page 30 is subsequently displayed on personal computing device 4’s touchscreen GUI. In response to selecting a cash amount on personal computing device 4’s touchscreen GUI, pre-staging of the cardless ATM transaction using personal computing device 4 is complete.

Figure 3 illustrates an embodiment for performing a cardless ATM transaction using personal computing device 4 in coordination with ATM 2. More specifically, Fig. 3 illustrates a graphical-user-interface (GUI) flow diagram depicted as it would be displayed on personal computing device 4 at the time of performing a cardless ATM transaction using personal computing device 4 in coordination with ATM 2.

In an embodiment, “home screen” 24 is displayed on personal computing device 4’s touchscreen GUI. In response to selecting the “pay” button on “home screen” page 24, “select queued transaction” page 34 is subsequently displayed on personal computing device 4’s touchscreen GUI. In response to selecting the desired queued transaction, “scan code” page 36 is subsequently displayed on personal computing device 4’s touchscreen GUI. In response to personal computing device 4 scanning the QR code displayed on ATM 2’s GUI interface, “transaction processing” page 38 is subsequently displayed on personal computing device 4’s touchscreen GUI. In response to the ATM transaction being complete, “transaction complete” page 40 is subsequently displayed on personal computing device 4’s touchscreen GUI.

Figure 4 is a flow diagram showing a universal overview of an embodiment for performing a cardless ATM transaction. In Figure 4, consumer uses the GUI interface of ATM 2 to initiate a cardless ATM transaction. ATM 2, that is configured to receive and execute the “initiate-a-cardless-ATM-transaction” command, responds to the command by sending client request 101 to mobile-wallet server 8 (that hosts mobile-wallet data set 16) via cloud server 6. In response to receiving client request 101, mobile-wallet server 8 generates and sends a token, e.g. a QR code, response 102 back to ATM 2 via cloud server 6 using a virtual-private-network (VPN) connection. In response to receiving the token/QR code back from server 8, ATM 2 displays the token/QR code on its GUI interface to be scanned by personal computing device 4. Consumer opens mobile-cash-access app on personal computing device 4 and captures the token by scanning the token displayed on ATM 2’s GUI interface. Capturing of the token by personal computing device 4 is shown as data transfer 103. In response to personal computing device 4 capturing the token, personal computing device 4 subsequently sends token data, that includes at least a portion of mobile-wallet data set 16, to both mobile-wallet server 8 and PIN authentication engine server 10 (via server 6); these data transfers are shown as 104a and 104b respectively.

Regarding data-transfer 104a, in response to receiving token-data transfer 104a, mobile-wallet server 8 executes an algorithm that i) validates the authenticity of personal computing device 4, ii) validates the authenticity of the mobile-cash-access app running on personal computing device 4, iii) validates the app passcode entered by the consumer, and iv) validates the token. In response to validating these items, mobile-wallet server 8 sends available consumer financial accounts to personal computing device 4 shown as data transfer 110. In response to receiving available consumer financial accounts, personal computing device 4 displays the available consumer financial accounts on the GUI of personal computing device 4; an illustrative embodiment of this is shown on webpage 26 of Fig. 2. Consumer then selects a consumer financial account from those displayed on personal computing device 4. In an embodiment, the amount of the transaction is not pre-staged and the amount of the transaction must be entered into either ATM 2 or personal computing device 4.

Regarding data transfer 104b from personal computing device 4 to PIN authentication engine server 10, in response to receiving data transfer 104b, PIN authentication engine server 10 then forwards at least a portion of data transfer 104b to EFT network and issuer for PIN authentication purposes. In an alternate embodiment, in addition to receiving token-data transfer 104b, an embodiment has PIN authentication engine server 10 also receiving the consumer's PIN data entry that has been entered by the consumer into ATM 2 or personal computing device 4.

Data transfer 105 represents the i) card number, ii) PIN, and iii) transaction data set being sent from ATM 2 to EFT network 14 via ATM driver 12. Data transfer 105 is sent to EFT network in order to receive authorization to execute the transaction. Upon authorizing the transaction (based at least in part on the data provided by data transfer 104b), EFT network 14 sends authorization data set 106 to ATM 2 via ATM driver 12. The transaction is then authorized and settlement occurs as is commonly known in the ATM industry and is represented as data transfer 107. A digital receipt is then delivered to personal computing device 2 from cloud server 6 as shown by data transfer 108.

Persons of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that changes could be made to the embodiments described above without departing from the broad inventive concepts thereof. It is to be understood, therefore, that this invention is not limited to the particular embodiments disclosed, but it is intended to cover modifications within the spirit and scope of the present invention as defined by the appended claims.

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A system comprising an automatic-teller-machine (ATM) associated with a banking institution and a banking computer system of the banking institution;

wherein the banking computer system is configured to receive a queue of pre-staged ATM transactions created by the banking customer using a personal computing device communicating with the banking computer system, each pre-staged ATM transaction in the queue of pre-staged ATM transactions comprising a data set that identifies the type of transaction to be executed, a data set that identifies the mobile-wallet data set to be used for performing the transaction, a data set that identifies the PIN associated with the identified mobile-wallet data set;

and wherein the ATM will not process any pre-staged ATM transaction in the queue of pre-staged ATM transactions until the banking customer is verified to be present at the ATM and wherein the ATM is configured to display a quick response (QR) code on a graphical user interface upon receiving a command sent from the personal computing device when the personal computing device is within range of a transmitter of the ATM, the QR code operable to be captured by the personal computing device; and

wherein upon the banking computer system receiving data from the personal computing device, the data being received as a result of the banking customer using the personal computing device to select one pre-staged ATM transaction in the queue of pre-staged ATM transactions and the personal computing device capturing the QR code, the ATM is configured to execute the selected pre-staged ATM transaction.

2. The system of claim 1 wherein account information associated with the banking customer has earlier been preloaded into the personal computing device, and wherein the banking computer system of the banking institution is configured to authenticate the account information before allowing the banking customer to create the queue of pre-staged ATM transactions.

3. The system of claim 1 or 2 wherein the selected pre-staged ATM transaction is a banking request for the ATM to dispense an amount of currency to the banking customer physically at the ATM.

4. The system of claim 1 or 2 wherein the selected pre-staged ATM transaction is a banking request to deposit an amount of currency into the ATM.
5. The system of any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein software on the personal computing device communicates with the banking computer system of the banking institution to authenticate and authorize the selected pre-staged ATM transaction before the banking customer and the personal computing device arrive at the ATM.
6. The system of any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the personal computing device is a mobile phone.
7. The system of any one of claims 1 to 6 wherein the ATM is configured to display the QR code on the graphical user interface after the personal computing device is tapped against the ATM.
8. The system of any one of claims 1 to 7 wherein the personal computing device has no communications with the ATM until after the queue of pre-staged ATM transactions is created.
9. A method of performing a pre-staged ATM transaction at an ATM comprising:
 - sensing a personal computing device near the ATM;
 - displaying a quick response (QR) code on a graphical user interface of the ATM in response to sensing the personal computing device being near the ATM, the QR code operable to be captured by the personal computing device;
 - creating token data at the personal computing device in response to the personal computing device capturing the QR code, the token data comprising data relating to the pre-staged ATM transaction, the pre-staged ATM transaction having been previously created and selected from the queue of pre-staged ATM transactions using the personal computing device; and

responsive to the token data being authenticated by a banking computer system of a specific banking institution, performing the pre-staged ATM transaction at the ATM.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein the pre-staged ATM transaction is at least one of the group of: a cash withdrawal request and a cash deposit request.