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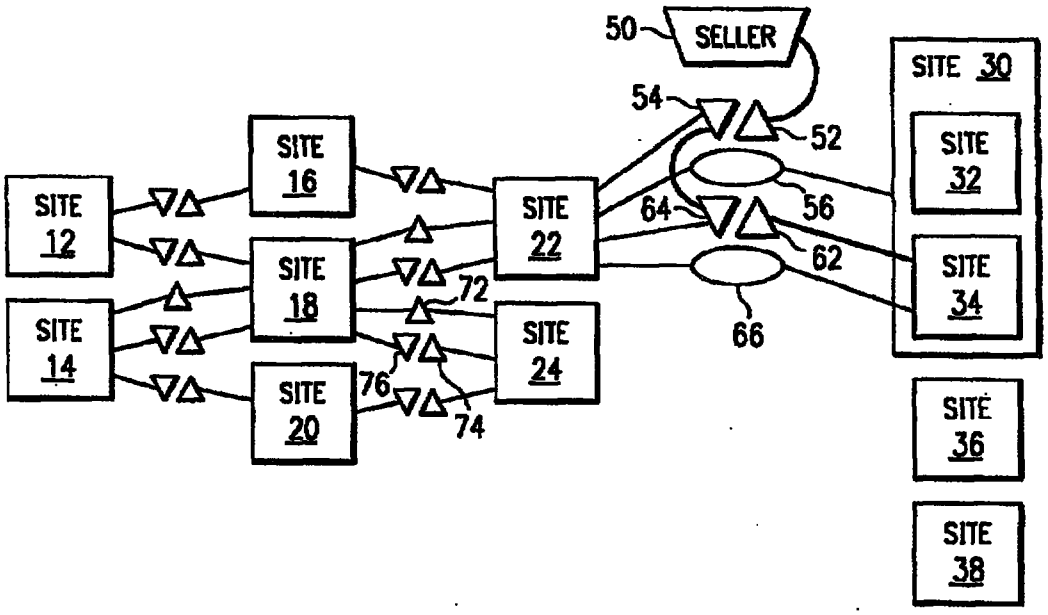
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(57) Abstract

A software system for managing available to promise and making promises to fulfill customer requests is provided. The software system includes a supply chain model representing a chain of supply. The supply chain model includes site models that represent sites having capacity and that manage material flow. The supply chain model also includes seller models that represent sellers and that manage forecasting and purchasing. Commitments between sites are modeled by requests and promises, and the sellers can post requests on behalf of sites in anticipation of future requests from the sites.