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(71) Applicant: **TZERO GROUP, INC.** [US/US]; One World Trade Center, 58th Floor, New York, New York 10007 (US).

(72) Inventors: **WILSON, Justin**; c/o tZERO Group, Inc., One World Trade Center, 58th Floor, New York, New York 10007 (US). **SANDERS, Nicole**; c/o tZERO Group, Inc., One World Trade Center, 58th Floor, New York, New York 10007 (US). **CHRISTENSEN, Robert**; c/o tZERO Group, Inc., One World Trade Center, 58th Floor, New York, New York 10007 (US).

York 10007 (US). **LESTER, Chase**; c/o tZERO Group, Inc., One World Trade Center, 58th Floor, New York, New York 10007 (US). **WARNER, Andrew**; c/o tZERO Group, Inc., One World Trade Center, 58th Floor, New York, New York 10007 (US).

(74) Agent: **BRIGGS, Eric**; Fogg & Powers LLC, 4600 W 77th Street, Suite 305, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55435 (US).

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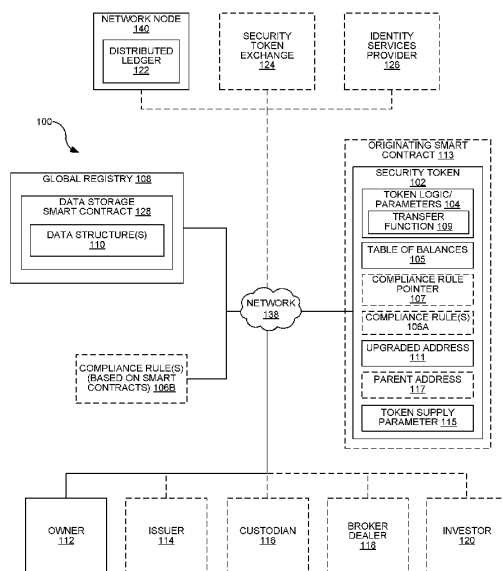


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A network node that includes at least one processor, at least one memory, and at least one network interface. The network node is configured to be within a plurality of network nodes communicatively coupled in a peer-to-peer network of network nodes implementing a distributed ledger. The network node is communicatively coupled to at least one remotely located computing device through the at least one network interface. The at least one processor is configured to deploy a child smart contract, which is a subsequent version of a parent smart contract, on the distributed ledger. The at least one processor is also configured to set an upgraded address field in the parent smart contract to point to an address of the child smart contract. The parent smart contract remains deployed after the child smart contract is deployed.

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