CLAIMS

1. A method of evaluating messaging, the method comprising:

receiving, via at least one server device, one or more messages; and

said at least one server device processing at least one of the one or more messages by performing the steps of:

grading content included in said at least one message;

applying a weighting factor to said at least one message according to said grading, thereby determining a weighted message count for said at least one message;

aggregating the weighted message count for said at least one message; and

initiating an action if the aggregated weighted message count meets or exceeds a predetermined count threshold.

2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the action comprises one or more of:

assessing a financial penalty,

increasing a messaging cost,

suspending messaging privileges,

generating a report that includes a summary of said weighted message count, and

generating and transmitting a notice.

3. The method of Claim 1, wherein said processing steps are performed only if a total number of messages received meets or exceeds a predetermined message threshold.

4. The method of Claim 1, further comprising categorizing the one or more messages, and performing the processing steps on only those messages pertaining to categories having received over a predetermined number of messages.

5. The method of Claim 1, wherein a grading of at least one message results in a weighting factor of zero, thereby resulting in a weighted message count of zero for said at least one message.

6. The method of Claim 1, wherein the grading step comprises:

extracting a portion of the message content from the at least one message;

comparing said portion to a predetermined metric; and

assigning a grading value based on said comparison, wherein said grading value is used to determine said weighting factor.

7. The method of Claim 6, wherein the comparing step comprises determining a proximity between said content portion and said predetermined metric, and wherein said grading value is based on said proximity.

8. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

calculating a divisor representative of a quality of the one or more messages; and

dividing the aggregated weighted message count by said divisor to determine a ratio,

wherein the action is initiated if the ratio meets or exceeds a predetermined ratio threshold.

9. The method of Claim 1, wherein the at least one server device is a part of an exchange trading system, wherein said messages include content relating to exchange trading activities, and wherein said messages are received from one or more trading computer terminals in communication with said at least one server device.

10. The method of Claim 9, wherein said message content comprises at least one of market order data, bid data, offer data, order revision data, hold order data, cancel and replace order data, trade consummation data, and cancel order data.

11. The method of Claim 9, wherein said grading step comprises comparing a portion of the message content from at least one message to a predetermined metric, said portion comprising price data and said predetermined metric comprising at least one of a live market price and a predetermined numeric scale.

12. The method of Claim 9, further comprising:

categorizing the one or more messages by commodities market; and

performing the processing steps on only those messages pertaining to categories having received over a predetermined number of messages.

13. The method of Claim 9, further comprising:

calculating a total number of executed lots resulting from said one or more messages; and

dividing the aggregated weighted message count by said total number of executed lots to determine a ratio,

wherein the action is initiated if the ratio meets or exceeds a predetermined ratio threshold.

14. The method of Claim 9, further comprising:

calculating a total number of executed trades resulting from said one or more messages; and

dividing the aggregated weighted message count by said total number of executed trades to determine a ratio,

wherein the action is initiated if the ratio meets or exceeds a predetermined ratio threshold.

15. The method of Claim 9, wherein the one or more trading terminals comprise at least one of a personal computer (PC), mobile communication device, smart phone, server, personal device assistant (PDA), kiosk, automatic teller machine (ATM), wireless fidelity (Wi-Fi) access point, router, database device, multi-media device, and a gaming device.

16. A computerized system of evaluating messaging, comprising:

a computer server configured to:

receive one or more messages;

process at least one of the one or more messages;

grade content included in said at least one message;

apply a weighting factor to said at least one message according to said grading, thereby determining a weighted message count for said at least one message;

aggregate the weighted message count for said at least one message; and

initiate an action if the aggregated weighted message count meets or exceeds a predetermined count threshold.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein the action comprises one or more of:

assessing a financial penalty,

increasing a messaging cost,

suspending messaging privileges,

generating a report that includes a summary of said weighted message count, and

generating and transmitting a notice.

18. The system of Claim 16, wherein the computer server is configured to process the at least one message only if a total number of messages received meets or exceeds a predetermined message threshold.

19. The system of Claim 16, wherein the computer server is further configured to categorize the one or more messages, and process only those messages pertaining to categories having received over a predetermined number of messages.

20. The system of Claim 16, wherein grading of at least one message results in a weighting factor of zero, thereby resulting in a weighted message count of zero for said at least one message.

21. The system of Claim 16, wherein the computer server is further configured to:

extract a portion of the message content from the at least one message;

compare said portion to a predetermined metric; and

assign a grading value based on said comparison, wherein said grading value is used to determine said weighting factor.

22. The system of Claim 21, wherein the computer server is further configured to determine a proximity between said content portion and said predetermined metric, and wherein said grading value is based on said proximity.

23. The system of Claim 16, wherein the computer server is further configured to:

calculate a divisor representative of a quality of the one or more messages; and

divide the aggregated weighted message count by said divisor to determine a ratio,

wherein the action is initiated if the ratio meets or exceeds a predetermined ratio threshold.

24. The system of Claim 16, wherein the computer server is a part of an exchange trading system, wherein the one or more received messages include content relating to exchange trading activities, and wherein said one or more messages are received from one or more trading computer terminals in communication with the computer server.

25. The system of Claim 24, wherein said the content of the at least one message comprises at least one of market order data, bid data, offer data, order revision data, hold order data, cancel and replace order data, trade consummation data, and cancel order data.

26. The system of Claim 24, wherein the computer server is further configured to compare a portion of the message content from the at least one message to a predetermined metric, said portion comprising price data and said predetermined metric comprising at least one of a live market price and a predetermined numeric scale.

27. The system of Claim 24, wherein the computer server is further configured to:

categorize the one or more messages by commodities market; and

perform the processing steps on only those messages pertaining to categories having received over a predetermined number of messages.

28. The system of Claim 24, wherein the computer server is further configured to:

calculate a total number of executed lots resulting from said one or more messages; and

divide the aggregated weighted message count by said total number of executed lots to determine a ratio,

wherein the action is initiated if the ratio meets or exceeds a predetermined ratio threshold.

29. The system of Claim 24, wherein the computer server is further configured to:

calculate a total number of executed trades resulting from said one or more messages; and

divide the aggregated weighted message count by said total number of executed trades to determine a ratio,

wherein the action is initiated if the ratio meets or exceeds a predetermined ratio threshold.

30. The system of Claim 24, wherein the one or more trading terminals comprise at least one of a personal computer (PC), mobile communication device, smart phone, server, personal device assistant (PDA), kiosk, automatic teller machine (ATM), wireless fidelity (Wi-Fi) access point, router, database device, multi-media device, and a gaming device.

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grading content included in said at least one message;

applying a weighting factor to said at least one message according to said grading, thereby determining a weighted message count for said at least one message;

aggregating the weighted message count for said at least one message; and

initiating an action if the aggregated weighted message count meets or exceeds a predetermined count threshold, the action comprising at least one of determining a financial penalty, modifying a messaging cost and modifying messaging privileges.

2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the action comprises one or more of:

assessing the financial penalty,

increasing the messaging cost,

suspending the messaging privileges,

generating a report that includes a summary of said weighted message count, and

generating and transmitting a notice.

3. The method of Claim 1, wherein said processing steps are performed only if a total number of messages received meets or exceeds a predetermined message threshold.

4. The method of Claim 1, further comprising categorizing the one or more messages, and performing the processing steps on only those messages pertaining to categories having received over a predetermined number of messages.

5. The method of Claim 1, wherein a grading of at least one message results in a weighting factor of zero, thereby resulting in a weighted message count of zero for said at least one message.

6. The method of Claim 1, wherein the grading step comprises:

extracting a portion of the message content from the at least one message;

comparing said portion to a predetermined metric; and

assigning a grading value based on said comparison, wherein said grading value is used to determine said weighting factor.

7. The method of Claim 6, wherein the comparing step comprises determining a proximity between said content portion and said predetermined metric, and wherein said grading value is based on said proximity.

8. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

calculating a divisor representative of a quality of the one or more messages; and

dividing the aggregated weighted message count by said divisor to determine a ratio,

wherein the action is initiated if the ratio meets or exceeds a predetermined ratio threshold.

9. The method of Claim 1, wherein the at least one server device is a part of an exchange trading system, wherein said messages include content relating to exchange trading activities, and wherein said messages are received from one or more trading computer terminals in communication with said at least one server device.

10. The method of Claim 9, wherein said message content comprises at least one of market order data, bid data, offer data, order revision data, hold order data, cancel and replace order data, trade consummation data, and cancel order data.

11. The method of Claim 9, wherein said grading step comprises comparing a portion of the message content from at least one message to a predetermined metric, said portion comprising price data and said predetermined metric comprising at least one of a live market price and a predetermined numeric scale.

12. The method of Claim 9, further comprising:

categorizing the one or more messages by commodities market; and

performing the processing steps on only those messages pertaining to categories having received over a predetermined number of messages.

13. The method of Claim 9, further comprising:

calculating a total number of executed lots resulting from said one or more messages; and

dividing the aggregated weighted message count by said total number of executed lots to determine a ratio,

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15. The method of Claim 9, wherein the one or more trading terminals comprise at least one of a personal computer (PC), mobile communication device, smart phone, server, personal device assistant (PDA), kiosk, automatic teller machine (ATM), wireless fidelity (Wi-Fi) access point, router, database device, multi-media device, and a gaming device.

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apply a weighting factor to said at least one message according to said grading, thereby determining a weighted message count for said at least one message;

aggregate the weighted message count for said at least one message; and

initiate an action if the aggregated weighted message count meets or exceeds a predetermined count threshold, the action comprising at least one of determining a financial penalty, modifying a messaging cost and modifying messaging privileges.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein the action comprises one or more of:

assessing the financial penalty,

increasing the messaging cost,

suspending the messaging privileges,

generating a report that includes a summary of said weighted message count, and

generating and transmitting a notice.

18. The system of Claim 16, wherein the computer server is configured to process the at least one message only if a total number of messages received meets or exceeds a predetermined message threshold.

19. The system of Claim 16, wherein the computer server is further configured to categorize the one or more messages, and process only those messages pertaining to categories having received over a predetermined number of messages.

20. The system of Claim 16, wherein grading of at least one message results in a weighting factor of zero, thereby resulting in a weighted message count of zero for said at least one message.

21. The system of Claim 16, wherein the computer server is further configured to:

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compare said portion to a predetermined metric; and

assign a grading value based on said comparison, wherein said grading value is used to determine said weighting factor.

22. The system of Claim 21, wherein the computer server is further configured to determine a proximity between said content portion and said predetermined metric, and wherein said grading value is based on said proximity.

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24. The system of Claim 16, wherein the computer server is a part of an exchange trading system, wherein the one or more received messages include content relating to exchange trading activities, and wherein said one or more messages are received from one or more trading computer terminals in communication with the computer server.

25. The system of Claim 24, wherein the content of the at least one message comprises at least one of market order data, bid data, offer data, order revision data, hold order data, cancel and replace order data, trade consummation data, and cancel order data.

26. The system of Claim 24, wherein the computer server is further configured to compare a portion of the message content from the at least one message to a predetermined metric, said portion comprising price data and said predetermined metric comprising at least one of a live market price and a predetermined numeric scale.

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28. The system of Claim 24, wherein the computer server is further configured to:

calculate a total number of executed lots resulting from said one or more messages; and

divide the aggregated weighted message count by said total number of executed lots to determine a ratio,

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