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(54) Title: A VENDING MACHINE, A VENDING SYSTEM AND METHODS OF OPERATING SAME

(57) Abstract

A retail unit (8) facilitating a customer purchase, utilizing an electronic wallet (9). The purchase made via its electronic checkbook (320) sums ≥ a predetermined minimal checkbook payment sum,dispensing from its electronic purse (310) sums ≤ the value stored therein, and paying for replenishing the electronic purse (310) via the electronic checkbook (320) sums ≥ a predetermined minimal purse replenishment sum. The retail unit (8) includes a POS which determines purchase price, an electronic wallet (9) payment unit interface, retrieving the purchase price and automatically selecting, the electronic purse's (310) stored value, the minimal checkbook payment and purse replenishment sums, whether to receive the purchase price via the: electronic checkbook (320), or electronic purse (310), a calculated purse replenishment sum which is at least the larger of the minimal purse replenishment sum and the difference between the purchase price and the electronic purse's stored value, to replenish the electronic purse (310) with the calculated purse replenishment sum via electronic purse (310).

