COURIER MANAGEMENT

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application claims priority to, and the benefit of, U.S. Patent Application entitled, "COURIER MANAGEMENT" having Application No. 13/052,589, filed March 21, 2011 which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

BACKGROUND

[0002] In some regions, a shipping address is not a reliable indicator of the actual location of a residence or office of a customer. For example, zip codes or other portions of shipping addresses may be incorrect, or postal delivery systems may be underdeveloped. As a consequence, shipments to addresses can be delayed due to the time needed for the courier to find the correct location of the residence or office. Also, shipments may become lost which results in concessions to customers and a poor customer experience.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

[0002a] According to a first aspect of the present invention, there is provided a system, comprising: at least one computing system; an application executable in the at least one computing system, the application comprising: logic that identifies one of a plurality of destination locations for delivery of a shipment to a recipient; logic that identifies at least a portion of a carrier infrastructure that is to be used to deliver the shipment to the one of the destination locations by: identifying a materials handling facility that falls

within a geographical service area in which the one of the destination locations resides; identifying at least one delivery courier associated with the materials handling facility that services the geographical service area; and identifying at least one delivery route from a plurality of delivery routes precalculated for the at least one delivery courier, the at least one delivery route to be used in the delivery of the shipment by the at least one delivery courier; and logic that generates a shipping label for the shipment, wherein the shipping label comprises: the one of the destination locations; a machine-readable identifier configured to provide information associated with the portion of the carrier infrastructure employed in the delivery; and a recitation of the portion of the carrier infrastructure employed in the delivery to aid a carrier in employing the carrier infrastructure to deliver the shipment.

[0002b] According to a second aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method, comprising: identifying, by at least one computing device, at least a portion of a carrier infrastructure that is to be used to deliver individual ones of a plurality of shipments, the individual ones of the shipments corresponding to one of a plurality of destination locations by: identifying a materials handling facility that falls within a geographical service area in which a corresponding one of the destination locations resides; identifying at least one delivery courier associated with the materials handling facility that services the geographical service area; and identifying at least one delivery route from a plurality of delivery routes precalculated for the at least one delivery courier, the at least one delivery route to be used in a delivery of one of the shipments by the at least one delivery courier; and generating, by the at least one computing

device, a shipping label for the individual ones of the shipments, wherein the shipping label comprises: the corresponding one of the destination locations; a machine-readable identifier configured to provide information associated with the portion of the carrier infrastructure used in the delivery; and a recitation of the portion of the carrier infrastructure employed to deliver the one of the shipments to the corresponding one of the destination locations.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0003] Many aspects of the present disclosure can be better understood with reference to the following drawings. The components in the drawings are not necessarily to scale, emphasis instead being placed upon clearly illustrating the principles of the disclosure. Moreover, in the drawings, like reference numerals designate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

[0004] FIG. 1 is a drawing of networked environment according to various embodiments of the present disclosure.