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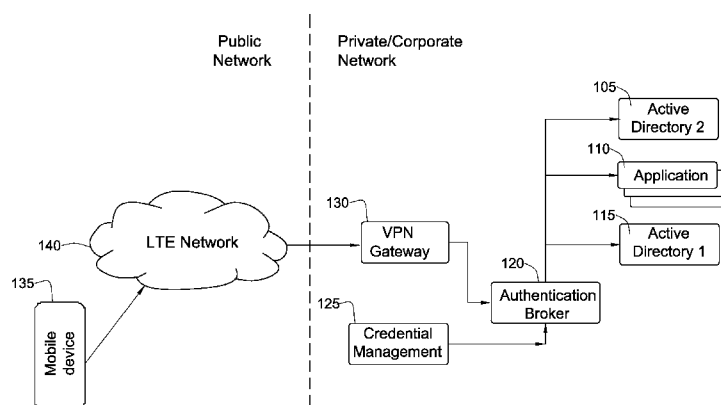


Fig. 1

(57) **Abstract:** In existing mobile implementations, there is a disconnect between the mobile device accessing the network and the applicative services inasmuch as the entity responsible for network access, such as the VPN Gateway, differs from the entity governing access to applications, such as email servers and SharePoint repositories. Therefore existing solutions typically employ two authentication methods. Of these, the first may be used to authenticate the mobile device to the VPN Gateway, while the second may be used to authenticate the mobile device towards the applications server. In order to facilitate strong authentication it is often desired to utilize a mechanism that uses or combines two different factors, e.g. "something you have" (such as but not limited to a smart card) and "something you know" (such as but not limited to a password). Most currently available mobile devices offer limited options to connect external devices to them, rendering most "Something you have" solutions irrelevant. For instance, there is no ability to connect a smart-card to a mobile phone.