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(54) Title: USER PROFILE, POLICY, AND PMIP KEY DISTRIBUTION IN A WIRELESS COMMUNICATION NETWORK

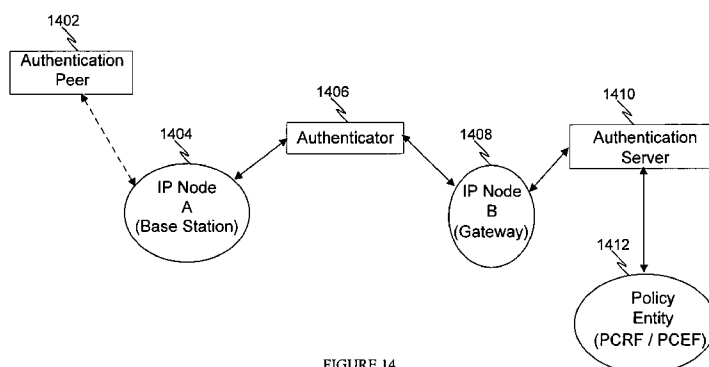


FIGURE 14

(57) Abstract: An authentication server may be adapted to (a) authenticate an authentication peer seeking to establish communications via a first network access node; (b) retrieve user profile information associated with the authentication peer; and/or (c) send the user profile information to a network gateway node that facilitates communication services for the authentication peer. A PMIP network node may be adapted to (a) provide wireless network connectivity to an authentication peer via a first network access node; (b) provide a PMIP key to both ends of a PMIP tunnel between the first network access node and a PMIP network node used to provide communications to the authentication peer; (c) provide the PMIP key to a first authenticator associated the first network access node; (d) receive a request at the PMIP network node from a requesting entity to reroute communications for the authentication peer; and/or (e) verify whether the requesting entity knows the PMIP key.

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