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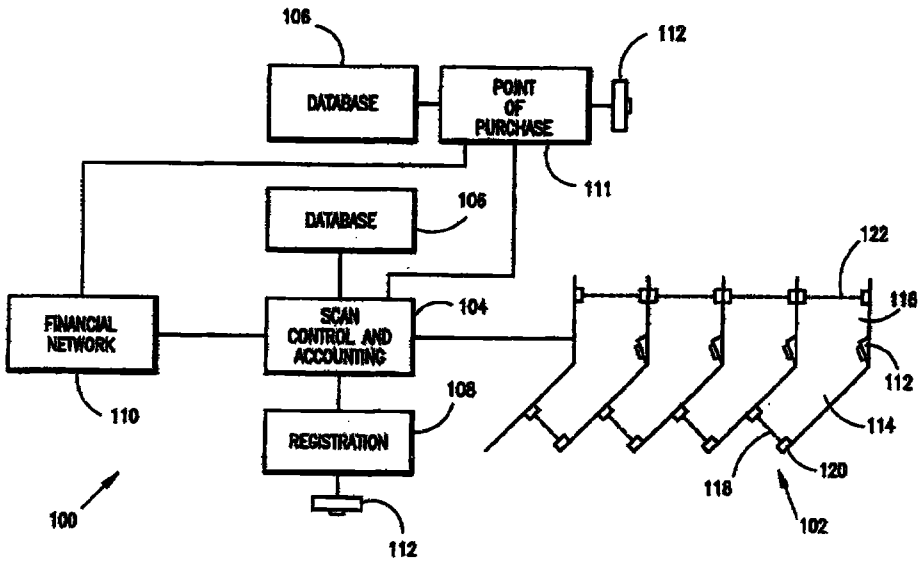
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(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD UTILIZING BIOMETRIC IDENTIFICATION FOR CONTROLLING ACCESS TO EVENTS AND TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS



(57) Abstract

An integrated access control and scanning system (100) identifies registered users by scanning a stable biometric characteristic as the user passes through a checkpoint (102) which may include a physical turnstile barrier (122). An account associated with a user is then debited by a ticket charge, usage fee, fare or other charge appropriate to the site or conveyance accessed through the system (100). In various preferred embodiments, the system (100) is connected to a financial network (110) for processing of charges and point of purchase stations (111) are provided within the controlled area so that users may charge goods and services to their accounts without carrying cash or other artifacts.