ABSTRACT

An IC card operation system is disclosed which enhances the added values of data stored on IC cards to promote acceptance of the cards. The storage area of each IC card is divided into a private and a public area. The private area accommodates a transport fare value while the public area stores reward points issued by shops. The shop-issued reward points are convertible to a transport fare value. The public area is further divided into a shop-specific point area and a common point area, the shop-specific point area accumulating points shop by shop, the common point area retaining points common to all shops. Each shop accumulates points to both of the shop-specific and common point area. Points are deducted from the common point area for use as a transport fare value. That is, only the points accumulated in the common point area of the IC card are used as transport fares while the points accumulated by individual shops are kept unchanged.



