ABSTRACT

RESOURCE-SAVING NETWORK-BASED COMMUNICATION WITH PARTICIPANT ENTITIES

A control entity for controlling a trade of an object between a plurality of participant entities over a communication network up to a predefined maximum trade time, the control entity comprising a time sale unit adapted for selling time reduction credits to the plurality of participant entities, an offer reception unit adapted for receiving offers from the plurality of participant entities to purchase the object, wherein each offer reduces a remaining trade time after the expiry of which the object is sold to the participant entity having provided a final offer, and wherein each offer deducts a corresponding amount, particularly a corresponding number, of time reduction credits from the corresponding participant entity, and a trade control unit adapted for controlling the trade in such a manner that an amount of a reduction of the remaining trade time caused by an offer corresponding to an amount, particularly a number, of time reduction credits may be variable over the maximum trade time, particularly regardless of the number of the plurality of participant entities.

Fig. 1