CLAIMS

~~What is claimed is:~~

1. A currency accounting system, comprising:

a currency scanner integrated into an electronic gaming device whereby the currency scanner visually scans one or more surfaces of a printed casino currency item inserted into an associated electronic gaming device, each of said electronic gaming devices further including a game display, memory and user interface, said user interface configured to receive user inputs relative to game play on said display;

a network communications interface; and

a processor configured to:

receive, from the currency scanner, an identifier of ~~a~~ the printed casino currency item, said identifier depicted on the printed casino currency item;

transmit the identifier of the printed casino currency item via the network communications interface to a remote currency tracker;

receive, via the network communications interface and in response to transmission of the identifier of the printed casino currency item, an identifier of a currency acceptance location and an identifier of a currency container associated with the electronic gaming device through which the printed casino currency item passed; and

(i) generate a currency report using the identifier of the printed casino currency item and the identifier of the currency acceptance location associated with the electronic gaming device; and

(ii) compare the identifier of the currency acceptance location to the identifier of the currency container and alert a user when the identifier of the currency acceptance location differs from the identifier of the currency container.

2. The currency accounting system of claim 1, further comprising:

a currency feeder configured to retrieve the printed casino currency item from a currency container and feed the printed casino currency item into the currency scanner.

~~3. The currency accounting system of claim 2, wherein:~~

~~the identifier of the currency acceptance location comprises a first identifier; and~~

~~the processor is further configured to:~~

~~receive a second identifier of a currency acceptance location associated with the currency container;~~

~~compare the first identifier to the second identifier; and~~

~~alert a user when the first identifier differs from the second identifier.~~

~~4~~3. The currency accounting system of claim 1, wherein the processor is configured to:

receive, and transmit via the network communications interface, identifiers of a plurality of printed casino currency items; and

receive, via the network communications interface, an identifier of one or more currency acceptance locations through which the plurality of printed casino currency items passed.

~~5~~4. The currency accounting system of claim ~~4~~3, wherein the processor is further configured to determine a total value of the plurality of printed casino currency items.

~~6~~5. The currency accounting system of claim ~~4~~3, wherein the processor is further configured to sort the plurality of printed casino currency items by at least one of: denomination value; printed casino currency type; or currency acceptance location.

~~7~~6. The currency accounting system of claim ~~4~~3, wherein the processor is configured to alert a user when different printed casino currency items in the plurality of printed casino currency items have passed through different currency acceptance locations.

~~8~~7. The currency accounting system of claim ~~4~~3, wherein the processor is configured to alert a user when a currency acceptance location is not received for an item in the plurality of printed casino currency items.

~~9~~8. The currency accounting system of claim 1, wherein:

the processor is configured to:

receive, via the network communications interface and in response to the transmission of the identifier of the printed casino currency item, identifiers of at least two currency acceptance locations and at least one currency dispensing location through which the printed casino currency item passed; and

generate the currency report using the identifiers of the at least two currency acceptance locations and the at least one currency dispensing location.

~~10~~9. The currency accounting system of claim 1, wherein the identifier of the printed casino currency item comprises a serial number.

~~11~~10. The currency accounting system of claim 1, wherein the identifier of the currency acceptance location comprises an identifier of a currency acceptance device or currency scanner.

~~12~~11. A currency accounting system, comprising:

a currency scanner integrated into an electronic gaming device, the currency scanner configured to scan one or more surfaces of printed casino currency items;

a network communications interface; and

a processor configured to:

receive, from the currency scanner, identifiers of a first set of printed casino currency items;

receive an identifier of a location associated with the electronic gaming device through which the first set of printed casino currency items passed;

transmit the identifier of the location associated with the electronic gaming device via the network communications interface to a remote currency tracker;

receive, via the network communications interface and in response to transmission of the identifier of the location associated with the electronic gaming device, identifiers of a second set of printed casino currency items;

compare the identifiers of the first set to the identifiers of the second set; and

generate a currency report based on the comparison of the identifiers of the first set to the identifiers of the second set.

~~13~~12. The currency accounting system of claim ~~12~~11, wherein the processor is configured to alert a user when the comparison of the identifiers of the first set to the identifiers of the second set indicates a mismatch.

~~14~~13. The currency accounting system of claim ~~12~~11, wherein the identifier of the location through which the first set of printed casino currency items passed comprises an identifier of a casino acceptance location.

~~15~~14. The currency accounting system of claim ~~12~~11, wherein the identifier of the location through which the first set of printed casino currency items passed comprises an identifier of a currency container from which the first set of printed casino currency items is retrieved.

~~16~~15. A currency tracking system, comprising:

a computer-readable memory storing a data structure that associates printed identifiers of printed casino currency items with identifiers of currency acceptance locations, wherein currency acceptance locations are associated with electronic gaming devices;

a network communications interface; and

a processor configured to:

receive, via the network communications interface, an association between one of the ~~a~~ first printed identifiers of a printed casino currency item and one of the ~~a~~ second identifiers of a currency acceptance location;

store the received association in the data structure;

receive, via the network communications interface, a transmission including the one of the first printed identifiers;

retrieve the one of the second identifiers from the data structure, using the one of the first printed identifiers as an index; and

transmit, via the network communications interface and in response to the received transmission, the one of the second identifiers.

~~17~~16. The currency tracking system of claim ~~16~~15, wherein the printed identifier of the printed casino currency item comprises a serial number.

~~18~~17. The currency tracking system of claim ~~16~~15, wherein the identifier of the currency acceptance location identifies a currency acceptance device or currency scanner.

~~19~~18. The currency tracking system of claim 16, wherein:

the association between the first printed identifier and the second identifier comprises a first association; and

the processor is further configured to:

receive, via the network communications interface, a second association between the first printed identifier and a third identifier of a currency acceptance location;

store the received second association in the data structure;

receive, via the network communications interface, a transmission including the first printed identifier;

retrieve at least one of the second identifier or the third identifier from the data structure, using the first printed identifier as an index; and

transmit, via the network communications interface and in response to the received transmission, the at least one of the second identifier or the third identifier.

20. The currency tracking system of claim 16, wherein:

the association between the first printed identifier and the second identifier comprises a first association;

the data structure further associates the printed identifiers of printed casino currency items with identifiers of currency dispensing locations; and

the processor is further configured to:

receive, via the network communications interface, a second association between the first printed identifier and a third identifier of a currency dispensing location;

store the received second association in the data structure;

receive, via the network communications interface, a transmission including the first printed identifier;

retrieve at least one of the second identifier or the third identifier from the data structure, using the first printed identifier as an index; and

transmit, via the network communications interface and in response to the received transmission, the at least one of the second identifier or the third identifier.