CLAIMS

1. A business card management server forming a business card management system that includes: the business card management server that manages business card information; and one or more input terminals that input information on a business card;

wherein the business card management server comprises:

a business card information storage unit in which one or more business card information each having a business card image and a business card identifier for identifying the business card image are stored;

a piece storage unit in which two or more pieces, each of which is an image in which only part of a business card image is recognizable, are stored for each of one or more business card images;

a piece transmitting unit that transmits two or more piece information each of which has one of two or more pieces corresponding to one business card image and further has a business card identifier for identifying the one business card image, to the one or more input terminals;

a partial business card information receiving unit that receives partial business card information having a business card identifier and a business card partial character string, which is a character string corresponding to a piece, from the one or more input terminals; and

a business card partial character string accumulating unit that accumulates the business card partial character string received by the partial business card information receiving unit, in the business card information storage

unit, in association with the business card identifier received by the partial business card information receiving unit; and

each of the input terminals comprises:

an accepting unit that accepts input of an operator who inputs a business card partial character string;

a piece receiving unit that receives the piece information from the business card management server;

a piece output unit that outputs a piece contained in the piece information received by the piece receiving unit; and

a partial business card information transmitting unit that transmits partial business card information having the business card partial character string accepted by the accepting unit and the business card identifier received by the piece receiving unit, to the business card management server.

2. The business card management server according to claim 1,

wherein the business card management system includes two or more input terminals, and

the piece transmitting unit of the business card management server transmits two or more piece information corresponding to one business card image respectively to the different input terminals.

3. The business card management server according to claim 1, further comprising:

a piece generating unit that acquires two or more pieces from a business card image stored in the business card information storage unit, and accumulates the two or more pieces in the piece storage unit.

4. The business card management server according to claim 1,

wherein the business card information has a business card image, a business card identifier, and two or more pairs of a business card partial character string and item information, which is information indicating an item of the business card partial character string,

the partial business card information receiving unit receives partial business card information having a business card identifier, a business card partial character string, and item information, from the one or more input terminals,

the business card partial character string accumulating unit accumulates the business card partial character string received by the partial business card information receiving unit, in the business card information storage unit, in association with the business card identifier and the item information received by the partial business card information receiving unit,

the accepting unit of each of the input terminals accepts one or at least two pairs of a business card partial character string and item information, from the operator, and

the partial business card information transmitting unit transmits partial business card information having a pair of the business card partial character string and the item information accepted by the accepting unit and the business

card identifier received by the piece receiving unit, to the business card management server.

5. The business card management server according to claim 1, further comprising:

a determination condition storage unit in which a determination condition, which is a condition for determining the business card partial character strings and is a condition indicating that business card partial character strings transmitted from the input terminals of at least two or more operators match each other, is stored; and

a determination judging unit that, in a case where the business card partial character strings receiving unit receives two or more business card partial character strings of the same item corresponding to one business card identifier, from two or more input terminals, judges whether or not the two or more business card partial character strings match the determination condition;

wherein the business card partial character string accumulating unit determines the business card partial character strings, only in a case where the determination judging unit judges that the business card partial character strings match the determination condition.

6. The business card management server according to claim 5, further comprising:

a privilege identifier storage unit in which a privilege identifier, which is information for communicating with an input terminal of a privileged operator who can view a business card image without masking, is stored; and

a business card image transmitting unit that, in a case where a business card partial character string corresponding to at least part of items of one business card image is undetermined, transmits input prompting information and a business card identifier of the one business card image, the input prompting information being information for prompting a privileged input terminal, which is an input terminal identified with the privilege identifier, to input the undetermined business card partial character string;

wherein the partial business card information receiving unit receives partial business card information having the business card identifier and the undetermined business card partial character string, from the privileged input terminal, and

the privileged input terminal includes:

a privileged accepting unit that accepts input of a privileged operator who inputs the undetermined business card partial character string;

an input prompting information receiving unit that receives input prompting information and a business card identifier, from the business card management server;

an input prompting information output unit that outputs the input prompting information received by the input prompting information receiving unit; and

a privileged partial business card information transmitting unit that transmits partial business card information having the business card partial character string accepted by the accepting unit and the business card identifier received by the business card image receiving unit, to the business card management server.

7. The business card management server according to claim 6, wherein the input prompting information contains a business card image without masking.

8. The business card management server according to claim 3, further comprising:

a business card image receiving unit that receives a business card image; and

a registration judging unit that judges whether or not the same business card image as the business card image is stored in the business card information storage unit;

wherein the piece generating unit acquires two or more pieces from the business card image, and accumulates the two or more pieces in the piece storage unit, in a case where the registration judging unit judges that there is no same business card image.

9. The business card management server according to claim 1,

wherein the business card management system includes two or more business card management servers,

one of the business card management servers further includes:

a language judging unit that judges a language in a business card image; and

a foreign business card image transmitting unit that transmits a business card image, to a business card management server different from the one

business card management server, according to the language judged by the language judging unit; and

the piece receiving unit of part of the two or more input terminals receives piece information having a business card identifier and a piece, from the business card management server different from the one business card management server, and

the partial business card information transmitting unit of the part of the input terminals transmits partial business card information having the business card partial character string accepted by the accepting unit and the business card identifier received by the piece receiving unit, to the business card management server different from the one business card management server.

10. The business card management server according to claim 1, wherein the piece is a masked image masked so as to be unrecognizable except for part of a business card image.

11. The business card management server according to any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein the piece is an extracted image obtained by extracting part of a business card image.

12. The business card management server according to claim 11, wherein the piece includes both of a masked image masked so as to be unrecognizable except for part of a business card image, and the extracted image.

13. A business card image acquiring apparatus, comprising:

a first business card image storage unit in which a business card image is stored;

a masked image output unit that constructs and outputs a business card masked image, which is a masked image in which characters that appear in the business card image stored in the first business card image storage unit are masked;

an input accepting unit that accepts input of a cutout instruction, which is an instruction containing an instruction to cut out a business card image portion, on the business card masked image;

a business card image acquiring unit that acquires region information regarding a region that is to be extracted from the business card masked image according to the cutout instruction, and acquires a business card image of the region corresponding to the region information, from the business card image corresponding to the business card masked image;

a second business card image storage unit in which the business card image acquired by the business card image acquiring unit is stored; and

a business card image accumulating unit that accumulates the business card image acquired by the business card image acquiring unit, in the second business card image storage unit.

14. A business card management method performed using a business card management server forming a business card management system that includes: the business card management server that manages business card information; and one or more input terminals that output information on a business card; wherein the business card management server includes: a business card

information storage unit in which one or more business card information each having a business card image and a business card identifier for identifying the business card image are stored; a piece storage unit in which two or more pieces, each of which is an image in which only part of a business card image is recognizable, are stored for each of one or more business card images; a piece transmitting unit; a partial business card information receiving unit; and a business card partial character string accumulating unit; the method comprising:

a piece transmitting step of the piece transmitting unit transmitting two or morepiece information each of which has one of two or more pieces corresponding to one business card image and further has a business card identifier for identifying the one business card image, to the one or more input terminals;

a partial business card information receiving step of the partial business card information receiving unit receiving partial business card information having a business card identifier and a business card partial character string, which is a character string corresponding to a piece, from the one or more input terminals; and

a business card partial character string accumulating step of the business card partial character string accumulating unit accumulating the business card partial character string received in the partial business card information receiving step, in the business card information storage unit, in association with the business card identifier received in the partial business card information receiving step.

15. A business card information processing method performed using a business card information processing server forming a business card management system that includes: multiple business card management servers that manage business card information; and the business card information processing server; wherein the business card information processing server includes: a business card information storage unit in which one or more business card images are stored; a language judging unit; and a foreign business card image transmitting unit; the method comprising:

a language judging step of the language judging unit judging a language in a business card image stored in the business card image storage unit; and

a foreign business card image transmitting step of the foreign business card image transmitting unit transmitting a business card image, to one business card management server of the multiple business card management servers, according to the language judged in the language judging step.

16. A business card image acquiring method performed using: a first business card image storage unit in which a business card image is stored; a masked image output unit; an input accepting unit; a business card image acquiring unit; a second business card image storage unit in which a business card image acquired by the business card image acquiring unit is stored; and a business card image accumulating unit; the method comprising:

a masked image output step of the masked image output unit constructing and outputting a business card masked image, which is a masked image in which characters that appear in the business card image stored in the first business card image storage unit are masked;

an input accepting step of the input accepting unit accepting input of a cutout instruction, which is an instruction containing an instruction to cut out a business card image portion, on the business card masked image;

a business card image acquiring step of the business card image acquiring unit acquiring region information regarding a region that is to be extracted from the business card masked image according to the cutout instruction, and acquiring a business card image of the region corresponding to the region information, from the business card image corresponding to the business card masked image; and

a business card image accumulating step of the business card image accumulating unit accumulating the business card image acquired in the business card image acquiring step, in the second business card image storage unit.

17. A computer-readable storage medium in which a program is stored, the program being for causing a computer capable of accessing: a business card information storage unit in which one or more business card information each having a business card image and a business card identifier for identifying the business card image are stored; and a piece storage unit in which two or more pieces, each of which is an image in which only part of a business card image is recognizable, are stored for each of one or more business card images; to function as a business card management server forming a business card management system that includes: the business card management server that manages business card information; and one or more input terminals that output information on a business card;

wherein the computer is caused to function as:

a piece transmitting unit that transmits two or more piece information each of which has one of two or more pieces corresponding to one business card image and further has a business card identifier for identifying the one business card image, to the one or more input terminals;

a partial business card information receiving unit that receives partial business card information having a business card identifier and a business card partial character string, which is a character string corresponding to a piece, from the one or more input terminals; and

a business card partial character string accumulating unit that accumulates the business card partial character string received by the partial business card information receiving unit, in the business card information storage unit, in association with the business card identifier received by the partial business card information receiving unit.

18. A computer-readable storage medium in which a program is stored, the program being for causing a computer capable of accessing: a first business card image storage unit in which a business card image is stored; and a second business card image storage unit in which a business card image, acquired from the business card image stored in the first business card image storage unit, is stored; to function as:

a masked image output unit that constructs and outputs a business card masked image, which is a masked image in which characters that appear in the business card image stored in the first business card image storage unit are masked;

an input accepting unit that accepts input of a cutout instruction, which is an instruction containing an instruction to cut out a business card image portion, on the business card masked image;

a business card image acquiring unit that acquires region information regarding a region that is to be extracted from the business card masked image according to the cutout instruction, and acquires a business card image of the region corresponding to the region information, from the business card image corresponding to the business card masked image; and

a business card image accumulating unit that accumulates the business card image acquired by the business card image acquiring unit, in the second business card image storage unit.

Claims

1. A business card management server forming a business card management system that includes: the business card management server that manages business card information; and two or more input terminals that input information on a business card;

wherein the business card management server comprises:

a business card information storage unit in which one or more sets of business card information each having a business card image and a business card identifier for identifying the business card image are stored;

a piece storage unit in which two or more pieces, each of which is an image in which only part of a business card image is recognizable, are stored for each of one or more business card images;

a piece transmitting unit that transmits two or more sets of piece information each of which has one of two or more pieces corresponding to one business card image and further has a business card identifier for identifying the one business card image, to the two or more input terminals;

a partial business card information receiving unit that receives partial business card information having a business card identifier and a business card partial character string, which is a character string corresponding to a piece, from the input terminals; and

a business card partial character string accumulating unit that accumulates the business card partial character string received by the partial business card information receiving unit, in the business card information storage unit, in association with the business card identifier received by the partial business card information receiving unit;

each of the input terminals comprises:

an accepting unit that accepts input of an operator who inputs a business card partial character string;

a piece receiving unit that receives the piece information from the business card management server;

a piece output unit that outputs a piece contained in the piece information received by the piece receiving unit; and

a partial business card information transmitting unit that transmits partial business card information having the business card partial character string accepted by the accepting unit and the business card identifier received by the piece receiving unit, to the business card management server;

the business card management server further comprises:

a determination condition storage unit in which a determination condition, which is a condition for determining the business card partial character strings and is a condition indicating that business card partial character strings transmitted from the input terminals of at least two or more operators match each other, is stored; and

a determination judging unit that, in a case where the partial business card information receiving unit receives two or more business card partial character strings of the same item corresponding to one business card identifier, from two or more input terminals, judges whether or not the two or more business card partial character strings match the determination condition; and

the business card partial character string accumulating unit determines the business card partial character strings, only in a case where the determination judging unit judges that the business card partial character strings match the determination condition.

2. A business card management server forming a business card management system that includes: the business card management server that manages business card information; and one or more input terminals that input information on a business card;

wherein the business card management server comprises:

a business card information storage unit in which one or more sets of business card information each having a business card image and a business card identifier for identifying the business card image are stored;

a piece storage unit in which two or more pieces, each of which is an image in which only part of a business card image is recognizable, are stored for each of one or more business card images;

a piece transmitting unit that transmits two or more sets of piece information each of which has one of two or more pieces corresponding to one business card image and further has a business card identifier for identifying the one business card image, to the one or more input terminals;

a partial business card information receiving unit that receives partial business card information having a business card identifier and a business card partial character string, which is a character string corresponding to a piece, from input terminals; and

a business card partial character string accumulating unit that accumulates the business card partial character string received by the partial business card information receiving unit, in the business card information storage unit, in association with the business card identifier received by the partial business card information receiving unit;

each of the input terminals comprises:

an accepting unit that accepts input of an operator who inputs a business card partial character string;

a piece receiving unit that receives the piece information from the business card management server;

a piece output unit that outputs a piece contained in the piece information received by the piece receiving unit; and

a partial business card information transmitting unit that transmits partial business card information having the business card partial character string accepted by the accepting unit and the business card identifier received by the piece receiving unit, to the business card management server;

the business card information has a business card image, a business card identifier, and two or more pairs of a business card partial character string and item information, which is information indicating an item of the business card partial character string,

the partial business card information receiving unit receives partial business card information having a business card identifier, a business card partial character string, and item information, from the input terminals,

the business card partial character string accumulating unit accumulates the business card partial character string received by the partial business card information receiving unit, in the business card information storage unit, in association with the business card identifier and the item information received by the partial business card information receiving unit,

the accepting unit accepts one or at least two pairs of a business card partial character string and item information, from the operator, and

the partial business card information transmitting unit transmits partial business card information having a pair of the business card partial character string and the item information accepted by the accepting unit and the business card identifier received by the piece receiving unit, to the business card management server.

3. A business card management server forming a business card management system that includes: the business card management server that manages business card information; and one or more input terminals that input information on a business card;

wherein the business card management server comprises:

a business card information storage unit in which one or more sets of business card information each having a business card image and a business card identifier for identifying the business card image are stored;

a piece storage unit in which two or more pieces, each of which is an image in which only part of a business card image is recognizable, are stored for each of one or more business card images;

a piece transmitting unit that transmits two or more sets of piece information each of which has one of two or more pieces corresponding to one business card image and further has a business card identifier for identifying the one business card image, to the one or more input terminals;

a partial business card information receiving unit that receives partial business card information having a business card identifier and a business card partial character string, which is a character string corresponding to a piece, from the input terminals; and

a business card partial character string accumulating unit that accumulates the business card partial character string received by the partial business card information receiving unit, in the business card information storage unit, in association with the business card identifier received by the partial business card information receiving unit;

each of the input terminals comprises:

an accepting unit that accepts input of an operator who inputs a business card partial character string;

a piece receiving unit that receives the piece information from the business card management server;

a piece output unit that outputs a piece contained in the piece information received by the piece receiving unit; and

a partial business card information transmitting unit that transmits partial business card information having the business card partial character string accepted by the accepting unit and the business card identifier received by the piece receiving unit, to the business card management server; and

the business card management server further comprises a piece generating unit that acquires two or more pieces from a business card image stored in the business card information storage unit, by detecting two or more image regions that are to be used as the pieces, and accumulates the two or more pieces in the piece storage unit.

4. A business card management server forming a business card management system that includes: the business card management server that manages business card information; and one or more input terminals that input information on a business card;

wherein the business card management server comprises:

a business card information storage unit in which one or more sets of business card information each having a business card image and a business card identifier for identifying the business card image are stored;

a piece storage unit in which two or more pieces, each of which is an image in which only part of a business card image is recognizable, are stored for each of one or more business card images;

a piece transmitting unit that transmits two or more sets of piece information each of which has one of two or more pieces corresponding to one business card image and further has a business card identifier for identifying the one business card image, to the one or more input terminals;

a partial business card information receiving unit that receives partial business card information having a business card identifier and a business card partial character string, which is a character string corresponding to a piece, from the input terminals; and

a business card partial character string accumulating unit that accumulates the business card partial character string received by the partial business card information receiving unit, in the business card information storage unit, in association with the business card identifier received by the partial business card information receiving unit;

each of the input terminals comprises:

an accepting unit that accepts input of an operator who inputs a business card partial character string;

a piece receiving unit that receives the piece information from the business card management server;

a piece output unit that outputs a piece contained in the piece information received by the piece receiving unit; and

a partial business card information transmitting unit that transmits partial business card information having the business card partial character string accepted by the accepting unit and the business card identifier received by the piece receiving unit, to the business card management server;

the business card management server further comprises:

a privilege identifier storage unit in which a privilege identifier, which is information for communicating with an input terminal of a privileged operator who can view a business card image without masking, is stored; and

a business card image transmitting unit that, in a case where a business card partial character string corresponding to at least part of items of one business card image is undetermined, transmits input prompting information and a business card identifier of the one business card image, the input prompting information being information for prompting a privileged input terminal, which is an input terminal identified with the privilege identifier, to input the undetermined business card partial character string;

the partial business card information receiving unit receives partial business card information having the business card identifier and the undetermined business card partial character string, from the privileged input terminal, and

the privileged input terminal includes:

a privileged accepting unit that accepts input of a privileged operator who inputs the undetermined business card partial character string;

an input prompting information receiving unit that receives input prompting information and a business card identifier, from the business card management server;

an input prompting information output unit that outputs the input prompting information received by the input prompting information receiving unit; and

a privileged partial business card information transmitting unit that transmits partial business card information having the business card partial character string accepted by the accepting unit

and the business card identifier received by the business card image receiving unit, to the business card management server.

5. A business card management server forming a business card management system that includes: two or more said business card management servers that manage business card information; and two or more input terminals that input information on a business card;

wherein each of the business card management servers comprises:

a business card information storage unit in which one or more sets of business card information each having a business card image and a business card identifier for identifying the business card image are stored;

a piece storage unit in which two or more pieces, each of which is an image in which only part of a business card image is recognizable, are stored for each of one or more business card images;

a piece transmitting unit that transmits two or more sets of piece information each of which has one of two or more pieces corresponding to one business card image and further has a business card identifier for identifying the one business card image, to the one or more input terminals;

a partial business card information receiving unit that receives partial business card information having a business card identifier and a business card partial character string, which is a character string corresponding to a piece, from the input terminals; and

a business card partial character string accumulating unit that accumulates the business card partial character string received by the partial business card information receiving unit, in the business card information storage unit, in association with the

business card identifier received by the partial business card information receiving unit;

each of the input terminals comprises:

an accepting unit that accepts input of an operator who inputs a business card partial character string;

a piece receiving unit that receives the piece information from the business card management server;

a piece output unit that outputs a piece contained in the piece information received by the piece receiving unit; and

a partial business card information transmitting unit that transmits partial business card information having the business card partial character string accepted by the accepting unit and the business card identifier received by the piece receiving unit, to the business card management server;

one of the business card management servers further includes:

a language judging unit that judges a language in a business card image; and

a foreign business card image transmitting unit that transmits a business card image, to a business card management server different from the one business card management server, according to the language judged by the language judging unit;

the piece receiving unit of part of the two or more input terminals receives piece information having a business card identifier and a piece, from the business card management server different from the one business card management server, and

the partial business card information transmitting unit of the part of the input terminals transmits partial business card information having the business card partial character string accepted by the accepting unit and the business card identifier received by the piece receiving unit, to the business

card management server different from the one business card management server.

6. The business card management server according to any one of claims_1_to 5,

wherein the business card management system includes two or more said input terminals, and

the piece transmitting unit transmits two or more sets of piece information corresponding to one business card image respectively to the different input terminals.

7. The business card management server according to claim 3, further comprising:

a business card image receiving unit that receives a business card image; and

a registration judging unit that judges whether or not the same business card image as the business card image is stored in the business card information storage unit;

wherein the piece generating unit acquires two or more pieces from the business card image, and accumulates the two or more pieces in the piece storage unit, in a case where the registration judging unit judges that there is no same business card image.

8. A business card image acquiring apparatus, comprising:

a first business card image storage unit in which a business card image is stored;

a masked image output unit that constructs and outputs a business card masked image, which is a masked image in which characters that appear in the business card image stored in the first business card image storage unit are masked;

an input accepting unit that accepts input of a cutout instruction, which is an instruction containing an instruction to cut out a business card image portion, on the business card masked image;

a business card image acquiring unit that acquires region information regarding a region that is to be extracted from the business card masked image according to the cutout instruction, and acquires a business card image of the region corresponding to the region information, from the business card image corresponding to the business card masked image;

a second business card image storage unit in which the business card image acquired by the business card image acquiring unit is stored; and

a business card image accumulating unit that accumulates the business card image acquired by the business card image acquiring unit, in the second business card image storage unit.

9. A business card management method performed using a business card management server forming a business card management system that includes: the business card management server that manages business card information; and two or more input terminals that output information on a business card; wherein the business card management server includes: a business card information storage unit in which one or more sets of business card information each having a business card image and a business card identifier for identifying the business card image are stored; a piece storage unit in which two or more pieces, each of which is an image in which only part of a business card image is recognizable, are stored for each of one or more business card images; a piece transmitting unit; a partial business card information receiving unit; and a business card partial character string accumulating unit; the method comprising:

a piece transmitting step of the piece transmitting unit transmitting two or more sets of piece information each of which has one of two or more pieces corresponding to one business card image and further has a business

card identifier for identifying the one business card image, to the two or more input terminals;

a partial business card information receiving step of the partial business card information receiving unit receiving partial business card information having a business card identifier and a business card partial character string, which is a character string corresponding to a piece, from the input terminals; and

a business card partial character string accumulating step of the business card partial character string accumulating unit accumulating the business card partial character string received in the partial business card information receiving step, in the business card information storage unit, in association with the business card identifier received in the partial business card information receiving step;

wherein the business card management server further includes: a determination condition storage unit in which a determination condition, which is a condition for determining the business card partial character strings and is a condition indicating that business card partial character strings transmitted from the input terminals of at least two or more operators match each other, is stored; and a determination judging unit;

the business card management method further comprises a determination judging step of the determination judging unit, in a case where the partial business card information receiving unit receives two or more business card partial character strings of the same item corresponding to one business card identifier, from two or more input terminals, judging whether or not the two or more business card partial character strings match the determination condition, and

in the business card partial character string accumulating step, the business card partial character strings are determined only in a case where it is judged in the determination judging step that the business card partial character strings match the determination condition.

10. A business card management method performed using a business card management server forming a business card management system that includes: the business card management server that manages business card information; and one or more input terminals that output information on a business card; wherein the business card management server includes: a business card information storage unit in which one or more sets of business card information each having a business card image and a business card identifier for identifying the business card image are stored; a piece storage unit in which two or more pieces, each of which is an image in which only part of a business card image is recognizable, are stored for each of one or more business card images; a piece transmitting unit; a partial business card information receiving unit; and a business card partial character string accumulating unit; the method comprising:

a piece transmitting step of the piece transmitting unit transmitting two or more sets of piece information each of which has one of two or more pieces corresponding to one business card image and further has a business card identifier for identifying the one business card image, to the one or more input terminals;

a partial business card information receiving step of the partial business card information receiving unit receiving partial business card information having a business card identifier and a business card partial character string, which is a character string corresponding to a piece, from the input terminals; and

a business card partial character string accumulating step of the business card partial character string accumulating unit accumulating the business card partial character string received in the partial business card information receiving step, in the business card information storage unit, in association with the business card identifier received in the partial business card information receiving step,

wherein the business card information has a business card image, a business card identifier, and two or more pairs of a business card partial character string and item information, which is information indicating an item of the business card partial character string,

in the partial business card information receiving step, partial business card information having a business card identifier, a business card partial character string, and item information is received from the input terminals, and

in the business card partial character string accumulating step, the business card partial character string received in the partial business card information receiving step is accumulated in the business card information storage unit, in association with the business card identifier and the item information received in the partial business card information receiving step.

11. A business card management method performed using a business card management server forming a business card management system that includes: the business card management server that manages business card information; and one or more input terminals that output information on a business card; wherein the business card management server includes: a business card information storage unit in which one or more sets of business card information each having a business card image and a business card identifier for identifying the business card image are stored; a piece storage unit in which two or more pieces, each of which is an image in which only part of a business card image is recognizable, are stored for each of one or more business card images; a piece transmitting unit; a partial business card information receiving unit; a business card partial character string accumulating unit; and a piece generating unit; the method comprising:

a piece transmitting step of the piece transmitting unit transmitting two or more sets of piece information each of which has one of two or more pieces corresponding to one business card image and further has a business

card identifier for identifying the one business card image, to the one or more input terminals;

a partial business card information receiving step of the partial business card information receiving unit receiving partial business card information having a business card identifier and a business card partial character string, which is a character string corresponding to a piece, from the input terminals;

a business card partial character string accumulating step of the business card partial character string accumulating unit accumulating the business card partial character string received in the partial business card information receiving step, in the business card information storage unit, in association with the business card identifier received in the partial business card information receiving step; and

a piece generating step of the piece generating unit acquiring two or more pieces from a business card image stored in the business card information storage unit, by detecting two or more image regions that are to be used as the pieces, and accumulating the two or more pieces in the piece storage unit.

12. A business card management method performed using a business card management server forming a business card management system that includes: the business card management server that manages business card information; and one or more input terminals that output information on a business card; wherein the business card management server includes: a business card information storage unit in which one or more sets of business card information each having a business card image and a business card identifier for identifying the business card image are stored; a piece storage unit in which two or more pieces, each of which is an image in which only part of a business card image is recognizable, are stored for each of one or more business card images; a piece transmitting unit; a partial business card

information receiving unit; and a business card partial character string accumulating unit; the method comprising:

a piece transmitting step of the piece transmitting unit transmitting two or more sets of piece information each of which has one of two or more pieces corresponding to one business card image and further has a business card identifier for identifying the one business card image, to the one or more input terminals;

a partial business card information receiving step of the partial business card information receiving unit receiving partial business card information having a business card identifier and a business card partial character string, which is a character string corresponding to a piece, from the input terminals; and

a business card partial character string accumulating step of the business card partial character string accumulating unit accumulating the business card partial character string received in the partial business card information receiving step, in the business card information storage unit, in association with the business card identifier received in the partial business card information receiving step;

wherein the business card management server further includes: a privilege identifier storage unit in which a privilege identifier, which is information for communicating with an input terminal of a privileged operator who can view a business card image without masking, is stored; and a business card image transmitting unit;

the business card management method further comprises a business card image transmitting step of the business card image transmitting unit, in a case where a business card partial character string corresponding to at least part of items of one business card image is undetermined, transmitting input prompting information and a business card identifier of the one business card image, the input prompting information being information for prompting a privileged input terminal, which is an input terminal identified

with the privilege identifier, to input the undetermined business card partial character string; and

in the partial business card information receiving step, partial business card information having the business card identifier and the undetermined business card partial character string is received from the privileged input terminal.

13. A business card information processing method performed using a business card information processing server forming a business card management system that includes: multiple business card management servers that manage business card information; and the business card information processing server; wherein the business card information processing server includes: a business card information storage unit in which one or more business card images are stored; a language judging unit; and a foreign business card image transmitting unit; the method comprising:

a language judging step of the language judging unit judging a language in a business card image stored in the business card image storage unit; and

a foreign business card image transmitting step of the foreign business card image transmitting unit transmitting a business card image, to one business card management server of the multiple business card management servers, according to the language judged in the language judging step.

14. A business card image acquiring method performed using: a first business card image storage unit in which a business card image is stored; a masked image output unit; an input accepting unit; a business card image acquiring unit; a second business card image storage unit in which a business card image acquired by the business card image acquiring unit is stored; and a business card image accumulating unit; the method comprising:

a masked image output step of the masked image output unit constructing and outputting a business card masked image, which is a masked image in which characters that appear in the business card image stored in the first business card image storage unit are masked;

an input accepting step of the input accepting unit accepting input of a cutout instruction, which is an instruction containing an instruction to cut out a business card image portion, on the business card masked image;

a business card image acquiring step of the business card image acquiring unit acquiring region information regarding a region that is to be extracted from the business card masked image according to the cutout instruction, and acquiring a business card image of the region corresponding to the region information, from the business card image corresponding to the business card masked image; and

a business card image accumulating step of the business card image accumulating unit accumulating the business card image acquired in the business card image acquiring step, in the second business card image storage unit.

15. A program for causing a computer capable of accessing: a business card information storage unit in which one or more sets of business card information each having a business card image and a business card identifier for identifying the business card image are stored; and a piece storage unit in which two or more pieces, each of which is an image in which only part of a business card image is recognizable, are stored for each of one or more business card images; to function as a business card management server forming a business card management system that includes: the business card management server that manages business card information; and two or more input terminals that output information on a business card;

wherein the computer is caused to function as:

a piece transmitting unit that transmits two or more sets of piece information each of which has one of two or more pieces corresponding to one business card image and further has a business card identifier for identifying the one business card image, to the two or more input terminals;

a partial business card information receiving unit that receives partial business card information having a business card identifier and a business card partial character string, which is a character string corresponding to a piece, from the input terminals; and

a business card partial character string accumulating unit that accumulates the business card partial character string received by the partial business card information receiving unit, in the business card information storage unit, in association with the business card identifier received by the partial business card information receiving unit;

the computer can further access a determination condition storage unit in which a determination condition, which is a condition for determining the business card partial character strings and is a condition indicating that business card partial character strings transmitted from the input terminals of at least two or more operators match each other, is stored,

the computer is caused to further function as a determination judging unit that, in a case where the partial business card information receiving unit receives two or more business card partial character strings of the same item corresponding to one business card identifier, from two or more input terminals, judges whether or not the two or more business card partial character strings match a determination condition, which is a condition for determining the business card partial character strings and is a condition indicating that business card partial character strings transmitted from the input terminals of at least two or more operators match each other, the

determination condition being stored in the determination condition storage unit, and

the business card partial character string accumulating unit determines the business card partial character strings, only in a case where the determination judging unit judges that the business card partial character strings match the determination condition.

16. A program for causing a computer capable of accessing: a business card information storage unit in which one or more sets of business card information each having a business card image and a business card identifier for identifying the business card image are stored; and a piece storage unit in which two or more pieces, each of which is an image in which only part of a business card image is recognizable, are stored for each of one or more business card images; to function as a business card management server forming a business card management system that includes: the business card management server that manages business card information; and one or more input terminals that output information on a business card;

wherein the computer is caused to function as:

a piece transmitting unit that transmits two or more sets of piece information each of which has one of two or more pieces corresponding to one business card image and further has a business card identifier for identifying the one business card image, to the one or more input terminals;

a partial business card information receiving unit that receives partial business card information having a business card identifier and a business card partial character string, which is a character string corresponding to a piece, from the input terminals; and

a business card partial character string accumulating unit that accumulates the business card partial character string received

by the partial business card information receiving unit, in the business card information storage unit, in association with the business card identifier received by the partial business card information receiving unit,

the business card information has a business card image, a business card identifier, and two or more pairs of a business card partial character string and item information, which is information indicating an item of the business card partial character string,

the partial business card information receiving unit receives partial business card information having a business card identifier, a business card partial character string, and item information, from the input terminals, and

the business card partial character string accumulating unit accumulates the business card partial character string received by the partial business card information receiving unit, in the business card information storage unit, in association with the business card identifier and the item information received by the partial business card information receiving unit.

17. A program for causing a computer capable of accessing: a business card information storage unit in which one or more sets of business card information each having a business card image and a business card identifier for identifying the business card image are stored; and a piece storage unit in which two or more pieces, each of which is an image in which only part of a business card image is recognizable, are stored for each of one or more business card images; to function as a business card management server forming a business card management system that includes: the business card management server that manages business card information; and one or more input terminals that output information on a business card;

wherein the computer is caused to function as:

a piece transmitting unit that transmits two or more sets of piece information each of which has one of two or more pieces

corresponding to one business card image and further has a business card identifier for identifying the one business card image, to the one or more input terminals;

a partial business card information receiving unit that receives partial business card information having a business card identifier and a business card partial character string, which is a character string corresponding to a piece, from the input terminals;

a business card partial character string accumulating unit that accumulates the business card partial character string received by the partial business card information receiving unit, in the business card information storage unit, in association with the business card identifier received by the partial business card information receiving unit; and

a piece generating unit that acquires two or more pieces from a business card image stored in the business card information storage unit, by detecting two or more image regions that are to be used as the pieces, and accumulates the two or more pieces in the piece storage unit.

18. A program for causing a computer capable of accessing: a business card information storage unit in which one or more sets of business card information each having a business card image and a business card identifier for identifying the business card image are stored; and a piece storage unit in which two or more pieces, each of which is an image in which only part of a business card image is recognizable, are stored for each of one or more business card images; to function as a business card management server forming a business card management system that includes: the business card management server that manages business card information; and one or more input terminals that output information on a business card;

wherein the computer is caused to function as:

a piece transmitting unit that transmits two or more sets of piece information each of which has one of two or more pieces corresponding to one business card image and further has a business card identifier for identifying the one business card image, to the one or more input terminals;

a partial business card information receiving unit that receives partial business card information having a business card identifier and a business card partial character string, which is a character string corresponding to a piece, from the input terminals; and

a business card partial character string accumulating unit that accumulates the business card partial character string received by the partial business card information receiving unit, in the business card information storage unit, in association with the business card identifier received by the partial business card information receiving unit;

the computer is caused to further function as a business card image transmitting unit that, in a case where a business card partial character string corresponding to at least part of items of one business card image is undetermined, transmits input prompting information and a business card identifier of the one business card image, the input prompting information being information for prompting a privileged input terminal, which is an input terminal identified with a privilege identifier, to input the undetermined business card partial character string, the privilege identifier being stored in a privilege identifier storage unit and being information for communicating with an input terminal of a privileged operator who can view a business card image without masking, and

the partial business card information receiving unit receives partial business card information having the business card identifier and the

undetermined business card partial character string, from the privileged input terminal.

19. A program for causing a computer capable of accessing: a first business card image storage unit in which a business card image is stored; and a second business card image storage unit in which a business card image, acquired from the business card image stored in the first business card image storage unit, is stored; to function as:

a masked image output unit that constructs and outputs a business card masked image, which is a masked image in which characters that appear in the business card image stored in the first business card image storage unit are masked;

an input accepting unit that accepts input of a cutout instruction, which is an instruction containing an instruction to cut out a business card image portion, on the business card masked image;

a business card image acquiring unit that acquires region information regarding a region that is to be extracted from the business card masked image according to the cutout instruction, and acquires a business card image of the region corresponding to the region information, from the business card image corresponding to the business card masked image; and

a business card image accumulating unit that accumulates the business card image acquired by the business card image acquiring unit, in the second business card image storage unit.