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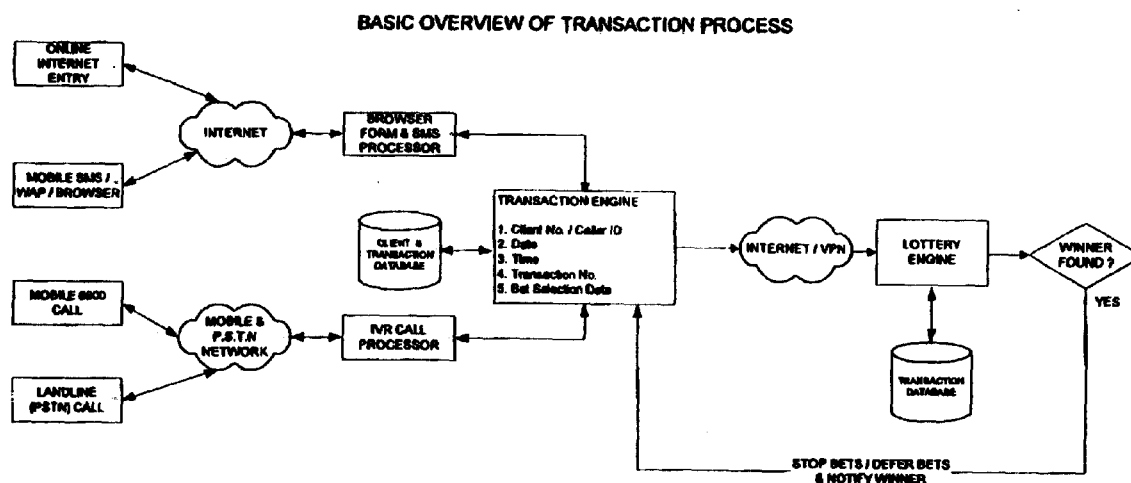
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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **COOL 123 LIMITED** [NZ/NZ]; 16 Byron Avenue, Takapuna, Auckland (NZ).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **PIPER, James, William** [—/—]; 90 Bassett Road, Remuera, Auckland (NZ). **SMITH, Glen, David** [—/—]; 5B Northwick Place, Hillcrest, Auckland (NZ).
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(54) Title: LOTTERY SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A computer based lottery which allows entries to be sold over the telephone, by ATM or POS machines, by email, or via kiosks, in which participants are invited to choose at least one unique number from a defined range of numbers, e.g. between one and one million which hopefully no-one else has or will select before the end of the competition. The participant can register their selection with an entry-logging engine (which can be an automated call answering system allowing the user to key in the number chosen by using the telephone keypad). This records the identity or contact details of the participant (for example telephone number or email address), the number selected by the participant, and the date and time of the entry, the entry-logging engine giving the participant an optional receipt number. The entry-logging engine, after receipting the participant's entry, then passes each entry in turn to a lottery engine, which allows the competition to run until a winner is determined. The winning entry being determined by the lottery engine once all but one of the numbers have been selected two or more times, and only one number remains having been selected by only one participant, with that final number being declared the winning number, and the participant having chosen that number being notified as the winner.



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