WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A trading system method for trading one or more IP-focused products, comprising the steps of:

providing a communication infrastructure by which transactions involving one or more IP-focused products of one or more entities listed on the trading system are facilitated, the communication infrastructure comprising a processor and a display unit;

identifying by the processor one or more potential entities for listing on the trading system;

utilizing the processor to select the one or more entities from the one or more potential entities for listing on the trading system through the use of listing criteria, wherein said utilizing step further comprises the step of measuring by the processor a patent portfolio for each of the one or more potential entities using IP metrics to provide a patent portfolio value, said listing criteria consisting of: an average intellectual property quotient score forecasting an economic return value of each patent in the patent portfolio calculated by comparing a characteristic of each patent in the patent portfolio to that characteristic in a set of other patents, a patent maintenance value, and a patent exchange value;

selecting by the processor the one or more entities from the one or more potential entities based on the patent portfolio value to obtain one or more listed entities;

listing by the processor the one or more listed entities on the trading system;

evaluating by the processor the one or more listed entities for continued fulfillment of the listing criteria in order for the one or more listed entities to remain listed on the trading system, wherein the one or more listed entities remain listed on the trading system when the IP metrics are satisfied;

processing by the processor one or more value metrics to assign a product value to the one or more IP-focused products of the one or more listed entities;

publishing by the processor to a display unit the one or more IP-focused products including the product value of the one or more listed entities; and

facilitating by the processor a sale, a purchase, or a license of the one or more IP-focused products of the one or more listed entities.

2. The trading system method of claim 1, further comprising the step of purchasing the one or more IP-focused products.

3. The trading system method of claim 1, further comprising the step of defining a procedure for trading the one or more IP-focused products.

4. The trading system method of claim 1, further comprising the step of reporting transactional data relating to the one or more IP-focused products.

5. The trading system method of claim 1, wherein said publishing step further includes the step of reporting periodically the product value of the one or more IP-focused products.

6. The trading system method of claim 1, wherein said offering step further comprises the step of presenting the one or more IP-focused products over-the-counter.

7. The trading system method of claim 1, further comprising the step of providing a graphical user interface for executing a trade of the one or more IP-focused products.

8. The trading system method of claim 7, wherein the graphical user interface includes an investigation tab for examination of the one or more IP-focused products.

9. The trading system method of claim 7, wherein the graphical user interface includes a portfolio tab for access to an investor portfolio interface.

10. The trading system method of claim 1, wherein the one or more IP-focused products is one or more derivative financial contracts.

11. The trading system method of claim 10, wherein said one or more derivative financial contracts is based on a plurality of intangible assets of a single entity.

12. The trading system method of claim 10, wherein said one or more derivative financial contracts is based on a plurality of intangible assets of a plurality of entities.

13. The trading system method of claim 10, wherein said one or more derivative financial contracts is one or more futures contracts.

14. The trading system method of claim 10, wherein said one or more derivative financial contracts is one or more forward contracts.

15. The trading system method of claim 1, wherein the one or more value metrics includes a variable multiplier.

16. The trading system method of claim 1, wherein said one or more listed entities is a company.

17. The trading system method of claim 1, wherein the patent maintenance value is calculated by the processor from maintenance data to obtain a statistical probability that each patent in the patent portfolio will be maintained.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A marketplace for exchanging intangible assets, comprising:

a trading system by which transactions involving one or more IP-focused products of one or more listed entities are facilitated, wherein each of said IP-focused products is published and assigned a value through use of one or more value metrics and said one or more listed entities are identified through use of listing criteria including IP metrics;

said trading system including a computer system including a communication infrastructure and a communication interface through the use of which investors can determine details and engage in said transactions of said one or more IP-focused products.

2. The marketplace of claim 1, wherein said listing criteria includes one or more of patent rating measures for measuring the quality and/or value of a company's patent portfolio selected from the group: patent count, patent age, patent decay rate, patent velocity, patent flow, patent abandonment count, patent diversification, total patent forward cites, new patent forward cites, average intellectual property quotient score, patent maintenance value, and patent exchange value.

3. The marketplace of claim 1, wherein said trading system is a hybrid trading system.

4. The marketplace of claim 1, wherein said value metric includes a variable multiplier.

5. The marketplace of claim 1, wherein said one or more listed entities is a company.

6. The marketplace of claim 1, wherein said one or more IP-focused products is one or more derivative financial contracts.

7. The marketplace of claim 6, wherein said one or more derivative financial contracts is based on a plurality of intangible assets of a single entity.

8. The marketplace of claim 6, wherein said one or more derivative financial contracts is based on a plurality of intangible assets of a plurality of entities.

9. The marketplace of claim 6, wherein said one or more derivative financial contracts is one or more futures contracts.

10. The marketplace of claim 6, wherein said one or more derivative financial contracts is one or more forward contracts.

11. A trading system method for trading one or more IP-focused products, comprising the steps of:

providing a communication infrastructure by which transactions involving one or more IP-focused products of one or more listed entities are facilitated;

implementing software to identify the one or more listed entities through the use of listing criteria including IP metrics;

processing one or more value metrics to assign a value to the one or more IP-focused products of the one or more listed entities;

publishing on a display unit the one or more IP-focused products; and

offering for sale the one or more IP-focused products.

12. The trading system method of claim 11, further comprising the step of purchasing the one or more IP-focused products.

13. The trading system method of claim 11, further comprising the step of defining a procedure for trading the one or more IP-focused products.

14. The trading system method of claim 11, further comprising the step of reporting transactional data relating to the one or more IP-focused products.

15. The trading system method of claim 11, wherein said publishing step further includes the step of reporting periodically the value of the one or more IP-focused products.

16. The trading system method of claim 11, wherein said offering step further comprises the step of presenting the one or more IP-focused products over-the-counter.

17. The trading system method of claim 11, further comprising the step of providing a graphical user interface for facilitating the trading of the one or more IP-focused products.

18. The trading system method of claim 17, wherein the graphical user interface includes an investigation tab for examination of the one or more IP-focused products.

19. The trading system method of claim 17, wherein the graphical user interface includes a portfolio tab for access to an investor portfolio interface.

20. The trading system method of claim 11, wherein the one or more IP-focused products is one or more derivative financial contracts.