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(54) Title: SYSTEM FOR AUTHENTICATING ITEMS

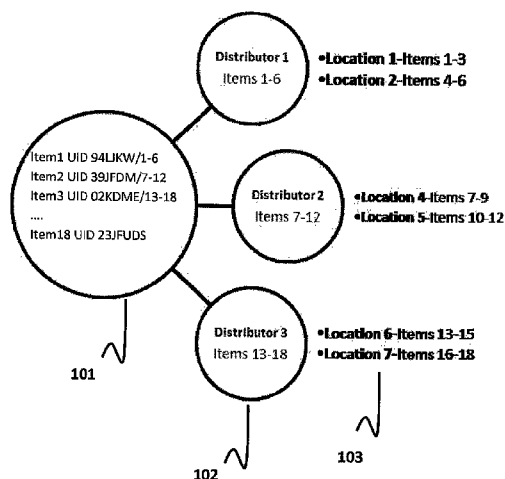


Figure 1

(57) Abstract: A system and method is presented for the authentication of products. Each product is marked with a unique ID. A remote server maintains a database with information regarding each product and its mark. End users with a device such as a smartphone can scan the unique ID and send the ID to the server which will determine (based on the mark, time, and location of the scanned item) whether the item is authentic or not, and return a message to the user accordingly. Time and location data in addition to data about other items shipped in the same lot/factory/time period are used to determine probability of authenticity.