CLAIMS

1. A transmission system comprising:

a transmission management system that manages participation time information indicating a participation time in which a conversation is participated using a given transmission terminal; and

a fee management system that manages participation fee information indicating a participation fee incurred when the conversation is participated using the transmission terminal, wherein

the transmission management system includes

a transmission unit that transmits the participation time information for each transmission terminal to the fee management system through a communication network, and

the fee management system includes:

a user management unit that manages user identification information for identifying a user of the transmission terminal and terminal identification information for identifying the transmission terminal used by the user in a manner linked to each other;

a reception unit that receives the participation time information transmitted from the transmission management system;

a participation time calculation unit that calculates a total participation time in which conversation is made using each transmission terminal based on the received participation time information;

a participation fee calculation unit that calculates a participation fee for each transmission terminal based on the calculated total participation time; and

a participation fee summing unit that

refers to the user management unit,

sums up participation fees of each transmission terminal indicated by the corresponding terminal identification information for each user identification information, and

calculates a total participation fee for each user.

2. The transmission system according to claim 1, wherein

the user management unit manages an e-mail address of a user indicated by the user identification information, for each user identification information, and

the fee management system includes charging means that refers to the user management unit, and transmits an e-mail for charging the total participation fee to the e-mail address corresponding to the user identification information on the user charged the total participation fee.

3. The transmission system according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the communication network includes a dedicated line.

4. A participation fee management method for a transmission system that includes:

a transmission management system that manages participation time information indicating a participation time in which conversation is participated using a given transmission terminal; and

a fee management system that

manages participation fee information indicating a participation fee incurred when the conversation is participated using the transmission terminal and

includes a user management unit that manages

user identification information for identifying a user of the transmission terminal and terminal identification information for identifying the transmission terminal used by the user in a manner linked to each other,

the method, executed by the transmission management system, comprising:

transmitting the participation time information to the fee management system through a communication network for each transmission terminal;

receiving the participation time information transmitted from the transmission management system;

participation time calculating that includes calculating a total participation time in which conversation is made by each transmission terminal based on the received participation time information;

participation fee calculating that includes calculating a participation fee for each transmission terminal based on the calculated total participation time; and

participation fee summing that includes

referring to the user management unit,

summing up each participation fee of the transmission terminal indicated by the corresponding terminal identification information for each user identification information, and

calculating a total participation fee for each user.

5. The participation fee management method according to claim 4, wherein

the user management unit manages an e-mail address of a user indicated by the user identification information, for each user identification information, and

the method further comprises

charging, executed by the fee management system, that includes

referring to the user management unit, and

transmitting an e-mail for charging the total participation fee to the e-mail address corresponding to the user identification information of the user charged the total participation fee.

6. A non-transitory computer program product, of which program code stored therein when executed, causing a computer to execute the method according to claim 4 or 5.

7. A maintenance system that performs maintenance for the transmission management system or the fee management system according to any one of claims 1 to 3.

CLAIMS

1. A transmission system comprising:

a transmission management system that manages information on a conference that a plurality of transmission terminals participate, and

a fee management system that manages participation fee information indicating a participation fee incurred when each transmission terminal participates the conference,

wherein the transmission management system includes:

a plurality of processing servers configured to each receive raw history information on the participation in the conference and each process the raw history information, so as to generate pieces of processed history information,

a history management server configured to exclude, from the pieces of the processed history information respectively generated by the processing servers, any piece of the processed history information in which a defect occurs, and

a transmission circuit configured to transmit the processed history information other than the excluded piece of the processed history information,

the fee management system including circuitry configured to:

receive the processed history information transmitted from the transmission management system,

calculate a total participation time in which each transmission terminal participates the conference based on the received processed history information,

calculate a participation fee for each transmission terminal based on the calculated total participation time, and

sum up participation fees of each of the transmission terminals to calculate a total participation fee.

2. The transmission system according to claim 1, wherein the circuitry is further configured to:

manage an e-mail address of a user indicated by user identification information, for each user identification information, and

transmit an e-mail for charging the total participation fee to the e-mail address corresponding to the user identification information on the user charged the total participation fee.

3. The transmission system according to claim 1, wherein the transmission management system communicates with the fee management system through a communication network that includes a dedicated line.

4. A participation fee management method for a transmission system that includes:

a transmission management system that manages information on a conference that a plurality of transmission terminals participate, and

a fee management system that manages participation fee information indicating a participation fee incurred when each transmission terminal participates the conference,

wherein the transmission management system includes:

a plurality of processing servers configured to each receive raw history information on the participation in the conference and each process the raw history information, so as to generate pieces of processed history information,

a history management server configured to exclude, from the pieces of the processed history information respectively generated by the processing servers, any piece of the processed history information in which a defect occurs, and

a transmission circuit configured to transmit the processed history information other than the excluded piece of the processed history information,

the participation fee management method, executed by the transmission system, comprising:

receiving raw history information on the participation in the conference and processing the raw history information to generate pieces of processed history information;

excluding, from the pieces of the processed history information any piece of the processed history information in which a defect occurs;

transmitting the processed history information other than the excluded piece of the processed history information to the fee management system through a communication network for each transmission terminal;

receiving the processed history information transmitted from the transmission management system;

calculating a total participation time in which each transmission terminal participates the conference based on the received processed history information;

calculating a participation fee for each transmission terminal based on the calculated total participation time;

summing up participation fees of each of the transmission terminals; and

calculating a total participation fee.

5. The participation fee management method according to claim 4, wherein the fee management system including circuitry configured to:

manage an e-mail address of a user indicated by user identification information, for each user identification information, and

the method further comprises

charging, executed by the fee management system, that includes:

referring to the circuitry, and

transmitting an e-mail for charging the total participation fee to the e-mail address corresponding to the user identification information of the user charged the total participation fee.

6. A non-transitory computer program product, of which program code stored therein when executed, causing a computer to execute the method according to claim 4.

7. The transmission system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a maintenance system that performs maintenance for the transmission management system or the fee management system.