CLAIMS:

1. A system for providing a la carte reproduction services, comprising:

a reproduction system;

said reproduction system including a printing system, said printing system being capable of performing multiple operational printing modes;

said printing system being configured, in a normal operational printing state, to perform a user-selectable subset of the multiple operational printing modes that is selected by the user; and

a printer service provider server operatively connected to said printing system;

said printing system including a user interface to enable a user to select an operational printing mode;

said printing system, in response to a user selecting an operational printing mode not included in subset of the multiple operational printing modes, communicating with said printer service provider server to request authorization to perform the user selected operational printing mode;

said printer service provider server requesting predetermined information from said printing system;

said printer service provider server, upon processing and verification of information received from said printing system, configuring said printing system to perform the selected operational printing mode.

2. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said printing system is configured to perform the subset of the multiple operational printing modes when said printing system first communicates with said printer service provider server, said configuration being based upon a predetermined relationship between said printing system and the printer service provider associated with said printer service provider server.

3. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said printing system is configured to perform the subset of the multiple operational printing modes when said printing system is manufactured.

4. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein a first one of the multiple operational printing modes is black and white printing and a second one of the multiple operational printing modes is color printing;

said printing system being configured to perform black and white printing in the normal operational state and not to perform color printing in the normal operational state.

5. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein a first one of the multiple operational printing modes is low resolution printing and a second one of the multiple operational printing modes is high resolution printing;

said printing system being configured to perform low resolution printing in the normal operational state and not to perform high resolution printing in the normal operational state.

6. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein a first one of the multiple operational printing modes is draft quality printing and a second one of the multiple operational printing modes is high quality printing;

said printing system being configured to perform draft quality printing in the normal operational state and not to perform is high quality printing in the normal operational state.

7. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said remote reproduction system includes a scanning system, said scanning system being capable of performing multiple operational scanning modes, said scanning system being configured, in a normal operational printing state, to perform a subset of the multiple operational scanning modes.

8. The system as claimed in claim 7, wherein a first one of the multiple operational scanning modes is black and white scanning and a second one of the multiple operational scanning modes is color scanning;

said scanning system being configured to perform black and white scanning in the normal operational state and not to perform is color scanning in the normal operational state.

9. The system as claimed in claim 7, wherein a first one of the multiple operational scanning modes is low resolution scanning and a second one of the multiple operational scanning modes is high resolution scanning;

said scanning system being configured to perform low resolution scanning in the normal operational state and not to perform is high resolution scanning in the normal operational state.

10. The system as claimed in claim 7, wherein a third one of the multiple operational scanning modes is optical character recognition;

said scanning system being configured not to perform optical character recognition in the normal operational state.

11. The system as claimed in claim 7, wherein a third one of the multiple operational scanning modes is scan to multiple destinations;

said scanning system being configured not to perform scan to multiple destinations in the normal operational state.

12. The system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said remote reproduction system is configured to prevent copying in the normal operational state and a selectable operational mode is copying enabled.

13. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said remote reproduction system is configured to prevent job-based accounting in the normal operational state and a selectable operational mode is job-based accounting enabled.

14. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the predetermined information includes payment information from the user.

15. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the predetermined information includes information authenticating the user.

16. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the predetermined information includes information authenticating said printing system.

17. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said printer service provider server is operatively connected to said printing system through said reproduction system.

18. A method for providing a la carte reproduction services, comprising:

providing a reproduction system, the reproduction system including a printing system, the printing system being capable of performing multiple operational printing modes;

configuring the printing system, in a normal operational printing state, to perform a user-selectable subset of the multiple operational printing modes that is selected by the user;

providing a printer service provider server operatively connected to the printing system;

enabling a user to select an operational printing mode through a user interface associated with the printing system;

the printing system communicating, in response to a user selecting an operational printing mode not included in subset of the multiple operational printing modes, with the printer service provider server to request authorization to perform the user selected operational printing mode;

the printer service provider server requesting predetermined information from the printing system;

the printer service provider server configuring, upon processing and verification of information received from said printing system, the printing system to perform the selected operational printing mode.

19. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the printing system is configured to perform the subset of the multiple operational printing modes when the printing system first communicates with the printer service provider server, the configuration being based upon a predetermined relationship between the printing system and the printer service provider associated with the printer service provider server.

20. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the printing system is configured to perform the subset of the multiple operational printing modes when the printing system is manufactured.

21. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein a first one of the multiple operational printing modes is black and white printing and a second one of the multiple operational printing modes is color printing;

the printing system being configured to perform black and white printing in the normal operational state and not to perform color printing in the normal operational state.

22. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein a first one of the multiple operational printing modes is low resolution printing and a second one of the multiple operational printing modes is high resolution printing;

the printing system being configured to perform low resolution printing in the normal operational state and not to perform high resolution printing in the normal operational state.

23. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein a first one of the multiple operational printing modes is draft quality printing and a second one of the multiple operational printing modes is high quality printing;

the printing system being configured to perform draft quality printing in the normal operational state and not to perform is high quality printing in the normal operational state.

24. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the remote reproduction system includes a scanning system, the scanning system being capable of performing multiple operational scanning modes, the scanning system being configured, in a normal operational printing state, to perform a subset of the multiple operational scanning modes.

25. The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein a first one of the multiple operational scanning modes is black and white scanning and a second one of the multiple operational scanning modes is color scanning;

said scanning system being configured to perform black and white scanning in the normal operational state and not to perform is color scanning in the normal operational state.

26. The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein a first one of the multiple operational scanning modes is low resolution scanning and a second one of the multiple operational scanning modes is high resolution scanning;

the scanning system being configured to perform low resolution scanning in the normal operational state and not to perform is high resolution scanning in the normal operational state.

27. The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein a third one of the multiple operational scanning modes is optical character recognition;

the scanning system being configured not to perform optical character recognition in the normal operational state.

28. The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein a third one of the multiple operational scanning modes is scan to multiple destinations;

the scanning system being configured not to perform scan to multiple destinations in the normal operational state.

29. The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein the remote reproduction system is configured to prevent copying in the normal operational state and a selectable operational mode is copying enabled.

30. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the remote reproduction system is configured to prevent job-based accounting in the normal operational state and a selectable operational mode is job-based accounting enabled.

31. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the predetermined information includes payment information from the user.

32. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the predetermined information includes information authenticating the user.

33. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the predetermined information includes information authenticating the printing system.

34. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the printer service provider server is operatively connected to the printing system through the reproduction system.

CLAIMS

1. A system for providing a la carte reproduction services, comprising:

a reproduction system;

said reproduction system including a printing system, said printing system being capable of performing a predetermined number of operational printing modes;

said printing system being configured such that, in a normal operational printing state, said printing system is capable of performing a subset of the predetermined number of operational printing modes, a number of operational printing modes in the subset of the predetermined number of operational printing modes being less than the predetermined number of operational printing modes, a number of the operational printing modes not included in said subset of the operational printing modes being at least one, the operational printing modes not included in said subset of the operational printing modes being non-enabled operational printing modes, said subset of the operational printing modes being enabled operational printing modes, said enabled operational printing modes co-existing with said non-enabled operational printing modes when said printing system is configured and in the normal operational printing state of said printing system, said non-enabled operational printing modes being established when said printing system is configured; and

a printer service provider server, operatively connected to said printing system, to provide authorization to enable said printing system to perform said non-enabled operational printing modes, said enabled operational printing modes being enabled to be performed by said printing system without requiring authorization from said printer service provider server;

said printing system including a user interface to enable a user to select a non-enabled operational printing mode;

said printing system, in response to a user selecting a non-enabled operational printing mode, communicating with said printer service provider server to request authorization to perform the user selected non-enabled operational printing mode;

said printer service provider server requesting predetermined information from said printing system ;

said printer service provider server, upon processing and verification of information received from said printing system, configuring said printing system to perform the user selected non-enabled operational printing mode.

2. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said printing system is configured to perform the subset of the multiple operational printing modes when said printing system first communicates with said printer service provider server, said configuration being based upon a predetermined relationship between said printing system and the printer service provider associated with said printer service provider server.

3. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said printing system is configured to perform the subset of the multiple operational printing modes when said printing system is manufactured.

4. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein a first one of the multiple operational printing modes is black and white printing and a second one of the multiple operational printing modes is color printing;

said printing system being configured to perform black and white printing in the normal operational state and not to perform color printing in the normal operational state.

5. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein a first one of the multiple operational printing modes is low resolution printing and a second one of the multiple operational printing modes is high resolution printing;

said printing system being configured to perform low resolution printing in the normal operational state and not to perform high resolution printing in the normal operational state.

6. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein a first one of the multiple operational printing modes is draft quality printing and a second one of the multiple operational printing modes is high quality printing;

said printing system being configured to perform draft quality printing in the normal operational state and not to perform is high quality printing in the normal operational state.

7. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said reproduction system includes a scanning system, said scanning system being capable of performing multiple operational scanning modes, said scanning system being configured, in a normal operational printing state, to perform a subset of the multiple operational scanning modes.

8. The system as claimed in claim 7, wherein a first one of the multiple operational scanning modes is black and white scanning and a second one of the multiple operational scanning modes is color scanning;

said scanning system being configured to perform black and white scanning in the normal operational state and not to perform is color scanning in the normal operational state.

9. The system as claimed in claim 7, wherein a first one of the multiple operational scanning modes is low resolution scanning and a second one of the multiple operational scanning modes is high resolution scanning;

said scanning system being configured to perform low resolution scanning in the normal operational state and not to perform is high resolution scanning in the normal operational state.

10. The system as claimed in claim 8 or claim 9, wherein a third one of the multiple operational scanning modes is optical character recognition;

said scanning system being configured not to perform optical character recognition in the normal operational state.

11. The system as claimed in claim 8 or claim 9, wherein a third one of the multiple operational scanning modes is scan to multiple destinations;

said scanning system being configured not to perform scan to multiple destinations in the normal operational state.

12. The system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said reproduction system is configured to prevent copying in the normal operational state and a selectable operational mode is copying enabled.

13. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said reproduction system is configured to prevent job-based accounting in the normal operational state and a selectable operational mode is job-based accounting enabled.

14. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the predetermined information includes payment information from the user.

15. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the predetermined information includes information authenticating the user.

16. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the predetermined information includes information authenticating said printing system.

17. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said printer service provider server is operatively connected to said printing system through said reproduction system.

18. A method for providing a la carte reproduction services, comprising:

providing a reproduction system, the reproduction system including a printing system, the printing system being capable of performing a predetermined number of operational printing modes;

configuring the printing system such that, in a normal operational printing state, said printing system is capable of performing a subset of the predetermined number of operational printing modes, a number of operational printing modes in the subset of the predetermined number of operational printing modes being less than the predetermined number of operational printing modes, a number of the operational printing modes not included in the subset of the operational printing modes being at least one, the operational printing modes not included in the subset of the operational printing modes being non-enabled operational printing modes, the subset of the operational printing modes being enabled operational printing modes, the enabled operational printing modes co-existing with the non-enabled operational printing modes when the printing system is configured and in the normal operational printing state of the printing system, the non-enabled operational printing modes being established when the printing system is configured;

providing a printer service provider server operatively connected to the printing system, to provide authorization to enable the printing system to perform the non-enabled operational printing modes, the enabled operational printing modes being enabled to be performed by the printing system without requiring authorization from the printer service provider server;

enabling a user to select a non-enabled operational printing mode through a user interface associated with the printing system;

the printing system communicating, in response to a user selecting a non-enabled operational printing mode, with the printer service provider server to request authorization to perform the user selected non-enabled operational printing mode;

the printer service provider server requesting predetermined information from the printing system; the printer service provider server configuring, upon processing and verification of information received from said printing system, the printing system to perform the user selected non-enabled operational printing mode.

19. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the printing system is configured to perform the subset of the multiple operational printing modes when the printing system first communicates with the printer service provider server, the configuration being based upon a predetermined relationship between the printing system and the printer service provider associated with the printer service provider server.

20. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the printing system is configured to perform the subset of the multiple operational printing modes when the printing system is manufactured.

21. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein a first one of the multiple operational printing modes is black and white printing and a second one of the multiple operational printing modes is color printing;

the printing system being configured to perform black and white printing in the normal operational state and not to perform color printing in the normal operational state.

22. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein a first one of the multiple operational printing modes is low resolution printing and a second one of the multiple operational printing modes is high resolution printing;

the printing system being configured to perform low resolution printing in the normal operational state and not to perform high resolution printing in the normal operational state.

23. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein a first one of the multiple operational printing modes is draft quality printing and a second one of the multiple operational printing modes is high quality printing;

the printing system being configured to perform draft quality printing in the normal operational state and not to perform is high quality printing in the normal operational state.

24. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the reproduction system includes a scanning system, the scanning system being capable of performing multiple operational scanning modes, the scanning system being configured, in a normal operational printing state, to perform a subset of the multiple operational scanning modes.

25. The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein a first one of the multiple operational scanning modes is black and white scanning and a second one of the multiple operational scanning modes is color scanning;

said scanning system being configured to perform black and white scanning in the normal operational state and not to perform is color scanning in the normal operational state.

26. The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein a first one of the multiple operational scanning modes is low resolution scanning and a second one of the multiple operational scanning modes is high resolution scanning;

the scanning system being configured to perform low resolution scanning in the normal operational state and not to perform is high resolution scanning in the normal operational state.

27. The method as claimed in claim 25 or claim 26, wherein a third one of the multiple operational scanning modes is optical character recognition;

the scanning system being configured not to perform optical character recognition in the normal operational state.

28. The method as claimed in claim 25 or claim 26, wherein a third one of the multiple operational scanning modes is scan to multiple destinations;

the scanning system being configured not to perform scan to multiple destinations in the normal operational state.

29. The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein the reproduction system is configured to prevent copying in the normal operational state and a selectable operational mode is copying enabled.

30. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the reproduction system is configured to prevent job-based accounting in the normal operational state and a selectable operational mode is job-based accounting enabled.

31. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the predetermined information includes payment information from the user.

32. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the predetermined information includes information authenticating the user.

33. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the predetermined information includes information authenticating the printing system.

34. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the printer service provider server is operatively connected to the printing system through the reproduction system.