What is claimed is:

1. A system comprising an information processing apparatus (10) and an external device (20), the information processing apparatus (10) comprising:

a measurement unit (31) that measures environmental information about an environment surrounding the information processing apparatus;

a reception unit (34) that receives environmental information which has been measured by the external device (20) or a device associated with the external device (20) in response to receiving a processing request from the external device (20);

a comparison unit (35) that compares the environmental information measured by the measurement unit (31) with the environmental information received by the reception unit (34); and

a processing unit (36) that executes a process based on the received processing request in a case where the environmental information received by the reception unit (34) and the environmental information measured by the measurement unit (31) that are compared by the comparison unit (35) are determined to be measured in a same environment, wherein

the environmental information is a feature pattern obtained based on environmental data,

the measurement unit (31) includes

an acquisition unit (41, 42, 43) that acquires environmental data about an environment surrounding the information processing apparatus (10),

a calculation unit (44) that calculates a feature pattern based on the environmental data acquired by the acquisition unit (41, 42, 43), and

a storage unit (45) that stores the feature pattern calculated by the calculation unit (44),

the comparison unit (35) compares the feature pattern stored in the storage unit (44) with the feature pattern received by the reception unit (34), and

the processing unit (36) executes a process based on the processing request received in a case where a matching rate between the feature pattern stored in the storage unit (44) and the feature pattern received by the reception unit (34) is equal to or higher than a predetermined threshold.

2. The system according claim 1, wherein the information processing apparatus (10) further comprises:

an acquisition unit (41, 42, 43) that acquires environmental data about an environment surrounding the information processing apparatus (10),

a calculation unit (44) that calculates a feature pattern based on the environmental data acquired by the acquisition unit (41, 42, 43),

a storage unit (45) that stores the feature pattern calculated by the calculation unit (44);

a comparison unit (35) that compares the feature pattern presently calculated by the calculation unit (44) with the feature pattern previously calculated by the calculation unit (44) and stored in the storage unit (45), and

a notification unit (36) that notifies that an installation place of the information processing apparatus (10) has changed in a case where the feature pattern presently calculated by the calculation unit (44) and the feature pattern stored in the storage unit (45) compared by the comparison unit (35) are different from each other.

3. The system according to claim 1 or 2,
wherein the calculation unit (44) calculates the feature pattern by performing a predetermined conversion process on the environmental data acquired during a predetermined period.

4. The system according to any one of claims 1 to 3,

wherein the storage unit (45) stores the feature pattern calculated by the calculation unit (44) in association with time related information.

5. The system according to claim 4,

wherein the storage unit (45) stores the feature pattern calculated by the calculation unit (44) for a combination of at least one or more of a day, a time of day, and a day of week.

6. The system according to any one of claims 1 to 5,

wherein the acquisition unit (41, 42, 43) includes at least one of an atmospheric pressure sensor (42), a sound sensor (43), an acceleration sensor (41), a temperature sensor, a humidity sensor, a luminance sensor, and a magnetic sensor, and

the environmental data includes at least one of atmospheric pressure data, audio data, acceleration data, temperature data, humidity data, luminance data, and magnetic data.

7. A method comprising:

at an information processing apparatus, measuring environmental information about an environment surrounding the information processing apparatus;

measuring environmental information at an external device or at a device associated with the external device, and receiving (S101; S201) the environmental information, measured at the external device or at the device associated with the external device, at the information processing apparatus in response to receiving a processing request from the external device;

at the information processing apparatus, comparing (S102; S203) the environmental information, measured at the information processing apparatus, with the received environmental information; and

at the information processing apparatus, executing (S104; S205) a process based on the received processing request in a case where the environmental information measured at the information processing apparatus and the received environmental information are determined to be measured in the same environment as a result of the comparing, wherein

the environmental information is a feature pattern obtained based on environmental data, and

the method further comprises, at the information processing apparatus

acquiring environmental data about an environment surrounding the information processing apparatus,

calculating a feature pattern based on the acquired environmental data,

storing the calculated feature pattern,

comparing the stored feature pattern with the received feature pattern, and

executing a process based on the received processing request in a case where a matching rate between the stored feature pattern and the received feature pattern is equal to or higher than a predetermined threshold.