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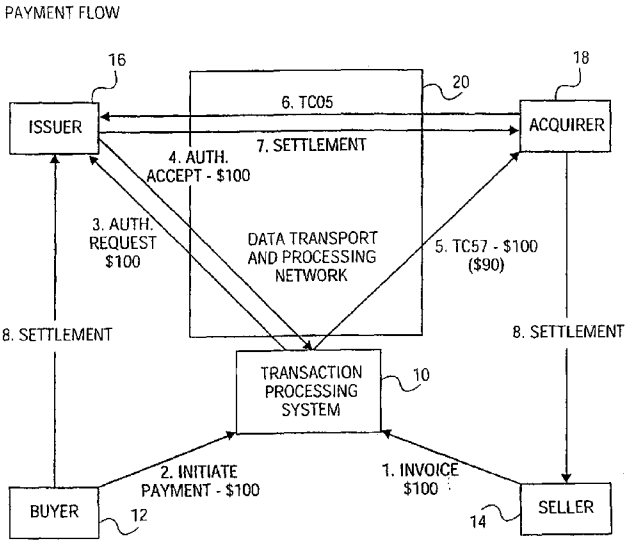
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Declaration under Rule 4.17:
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING ASSURANCE AND FINANCING SERVICES



(57) **Abstract:** A system (10) for conducting commercial transactions between buyers (12) and sellers (14) is disclosed. The system includes a transaction processing system (10) for facilitating payment for transactions between buyers (12) and sellers (14). In addition to the buyer (12) and the seller (14), the transaction processing system (10) also interacts with issuers and acquirers. The transaction processing system (10) monitors and manages payment information relating to transactions conducted between buyers (12) and sellers (14). Using such information, the transaction processing system (10) further offers a number of additional financing services including, for example, buyer (12) payment assurance, buyer bank payment assurance, buyer bank payable discounting, buyer bank payable discount aggregation, seller/receivable financing and seller bank receivable discount aggregation.

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