CLAIMS

1. A data processing system for providing user access to one or more devices (108), the system comprising processing means (103) configured to:

(i) determine a location identifier for a user;

(ii) associate the location identifier with a user identifier for the user; and

(iii) communicate (3013) the location identifier and associated user identifier to an application (301);

wherein the location identifier defines the device location according to a hierarchical structure; and

the one or more devices are communicatively coupled to a first communication channel and communicatively coupled to a second channel wherein the first channel is configured to communicate data defining a document to be processed and wherein the second channel is configured to communicate data defining device capabilities associated with the one or more devices.

2. The system according to claim 1 wherein the processing means (103) is further configured to receive a user login event message (3012) associated with the user and wherein the processing means (103) is further configured to generate a user session identifier for the user wherein the user session identifier is associated with a user login event and further wherein the processing means (103) is communicatively coupled to sending or receiving means for sending or receiving one or more messages or data.

3. The system according to any preceding claim wherein the processing means (103) is further configured to generate a login event message (3013) in response to receiving the or a user login message (3012) and wherein the processing means (103) is further configured to send the user login event message to the application (301).

4. The system according to any preceding claim wherein the location identifier comprises an alpha-numeric string and wherein the location identifier is machine readable and human readable wherein the location identifier defines a predetermined area associated with the one or more devices and wherein the location identifier is associated with a transportation hub in particular an airport and wherein the location identifier defines a location at any position within a predetermined area or region.

5. The system according to any preceding claim wherein the location identifier defines the or each device location within a plurality of different regions and wherein at least some of the different regions define a sub region which is contained within one or more of the other regions and further wherein each sub region defines a portion or part of the one or more of the regions.

6. The system according to any preceding claim further comprising an application (101, 111) for receiving a message (3100) comprising first data defining data to be processed by one of the devices (108) in response to a request by the user and wherein the first data comprises the or a location identifier associated with the user or a further user.

7. The system according to claim 6 wherein the first data further comprises any one or more of a device label associated with the location identifier, and wherein the first data comprises the or a further a location identifier concatenated with the device label and wherein the first data is associated with the or a user session identifier and wherein the or a first data comprises data defining a document to be processed by one of the devices (108) and wherein the first data comprises a location identifier associated with the user or a further user and wherein the or a first data comprises data defining a boarding pass or a bag tag.

8. The system according to any preceding claim wherein the or an application (101, 111) is configured to generate a further message (3110) for processing of at least some of the first data.

9. The system according to claim 8 wherein the further message (3110) comprises data for printing or processing a document such as a boarding pass or a bag tag and wherein the data for printing a boarding pass or bag tag is encoded within the further message (3110) according to a portable document file format and further wherein the further message (3110) comprises data associated with a boarding pass or bag tag including data defining any one or more of a flight number, departure date, class, origin, destination, departure gate, seat number, passenger name, and seat number, unique bag identifier, and intermediate stops between an origin and destination and wherein the message comprises defining a format associated with the boarding pass or bag tag.

10. The device according to any preceding claim wherein the processing means (103) is communicatively coupled to a first communication channel (124) and a second communication channel (125) and wherein the first communication channel (124) is linked to or associated with the second channel using the location identifier.

11. The system according to claim 10 wherein only data defining a document to be processed is communicated on the first communication channel (124) and wherein only data defining device capabilities associated with the one or more devices (108) is communicated on the second communication channel (125).

12. The system according to any preceding claim wherein the processing means (103) is communicatively coupled to third communication channel (121, 122) and a fourth communication channel (123) and wherein the third communication channel (124) is linked to or associated with the fourth communication channel using the location identifier.

13. The system according to claim 12 wherein only data defining a document to be processed is communicated on the third communication channel (121, 122) and wherein only data defining device capabilities associated with the one or more devices (108) is communicated on the fourth communication channel (123).

14. The system according to any preceding claim further comprising a field gateway module (FG) or application for uniquely identifying one of a plurality of the devices (108) based on the location identifier and a device label associated with the device and wherein the location identifier and device label are provided within a concatenated field within the message (3100) and further comprising a module or application (117, 118) for uniquely determining which of the plurality of devices (108) to send the or message (3110) based on a unique device identifier associated with each device and further comprising one or more devices (108) for the processing data or a document and wherein the document is a boarding pass or bag tag and wherein the one or more devices (108) are further configured to print or read the data or document.

15. A data processing method for providing user access to one or more devices (108), the method executed on a computer processor, the method comprising the steps of:

i. determining a location identifier for a user;

ii. associating the location identifier with a user identifier for the user; and

iii. communicating (3013) the location identifier and associated user identifier to an application (301);

wherein the location identifier defines the device location according to a hierarchical structure; and

the one or more devices are communicatively coupled to a first communication channel and communicatively coupled to a second channel wherein the first channel is configured to communicate data defining a document to be processed and wherein the second channel is configured to communicate data defining device capabilities associated with the one or more devices.