CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for ordering food online, the method comprising:

receiving at a computer, information from a plurality of suppliers;

identifying by the computer based on the information, a plurality of food items offered by the plurality of suppliers, wherein at least one food item of the plurality of food items is offered by at least two suppliers of the plurality of suppliers;

generating by the computer, a food item list by categorizing the plurality of food items based on at least one of food type or cooking style;

receiving at the computer, a food order placed by a user, wherein the food order comprises two or more food items in the food item list;

determining by the computer based on the food order, a supplier combination that matches the two or more food items in the food order, the supplier combination comprising two or more suppliers capable of collectively supplying the two or more food items in the food order, wherein each supplier in the supplier combination supplies a different portion of the food order;

determining by the computer, a recommendation rating for the supplier combination; and

recommending by the computer, to the user, the supplier combination with the recommendation rating satisfying a predetermined condition.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the two or more suppliers in the supplier combination are within a predetermined distance from a delivery address.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the recommendation rating comprises a price recommendation rating and a review recommendation rating; and

recommending, to the user, the supplier combination with the recommendation rating satisfying the predetermined condition comprises: recommending, to the user, a first supplier combination with a price recommendation rating satisfying a first condition and a second supplier combination with a review recommendation rating satisfying a second condition.

4. The method according to claim 3, wherein

if the recommendation rating is a price recommendation rating, determining a recommendation rating of each supplier combination comprises:

for the food items in the food order, calculating a difference between a quoted price from the supplier combination and an average price, and using the difference as the price recommendation rating of the supplier combination.

5. The method according to claim 3, wherein

if the recommendation rating is a review recommendation rating, determining the recommendation rating of each supplier combination comprises:

for the food items in the food order, determining a food review score of the supplier combination; and

calculating an average review score of the supplier combination for all the food items in the food order based on the food review score, and using the average review score as the review recommendation rating of the supplier combination.

6. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the supplier combination comprises a number of suppliers that is smaller or equal to a threshold number of suppliers.

7. A apparatus for processing a service, the apparatus comprising a plurality of modules configured to perform the method of any one of claims 1 to 6.