Claims

1. A method, implemented using a server, for authorizing an automated teller machine transaction, the method comprising:

receiving, at the server, a transaction authorization request, wherein the transaction authorization request includes an indication of an account identifier, an indication of a unique personal identifier of a customer, and an indication of biometric data for the customer;

generating a customer verification request based on the unique personal identifier of the customer and the biometric data of the customer;

sending the customer verification request to a biometric data authentication server;

receiving a customer verification response from the biometric data authentication server; and

generating a transaction authorization response based on the customer verification response.

2. A method according to claim 1, further comprising looking up customer contact information in a database and sending a transaction notification to the customer using the customer contact information.

3. A method according to claim 2, wherein the customer contact information includes a mobile telephone number associated with the customer and wherein the transaction notification is sent as a text message.

4. A computer readable medium carrying computer executable instructions which when executed on a processor cause the processor to carry out the method according to claim 1.

5. An apparatus for authorizing an automated teller machine transaction, the apparatus comprising:

a computer processor and a data storage device, wherein the data storage device comprises a customer verification module and a transaction authorization module comprising non-transitory instructions executable by the processor to:

receive a transaction authorization request, wherein the transaction authorization request includes an indication of an account identifier, an indication of a unique personal identifier of a customer, and an indication of biometric data for the customer;

generate a customer verification request based on the unique personal identifier of the customer and the biometric data of the customer;

send the customer verification request to a biometric data authentication server;

receive a customer verification response from the biometric data authentication server; and

generate a transaction authorization response based on the customer verification response.

6. An apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the data storage device further comprises a customer look up module and a notification generation module comprising non-transitory instructions executable by the computer processor to look up customer contact information in a database and send a transaction notification to the customer using the customer contact information.

7. An apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the customer contact information includes a mobile telephone number associated with the customer, and wherein the transaction notification is sent as a text message.