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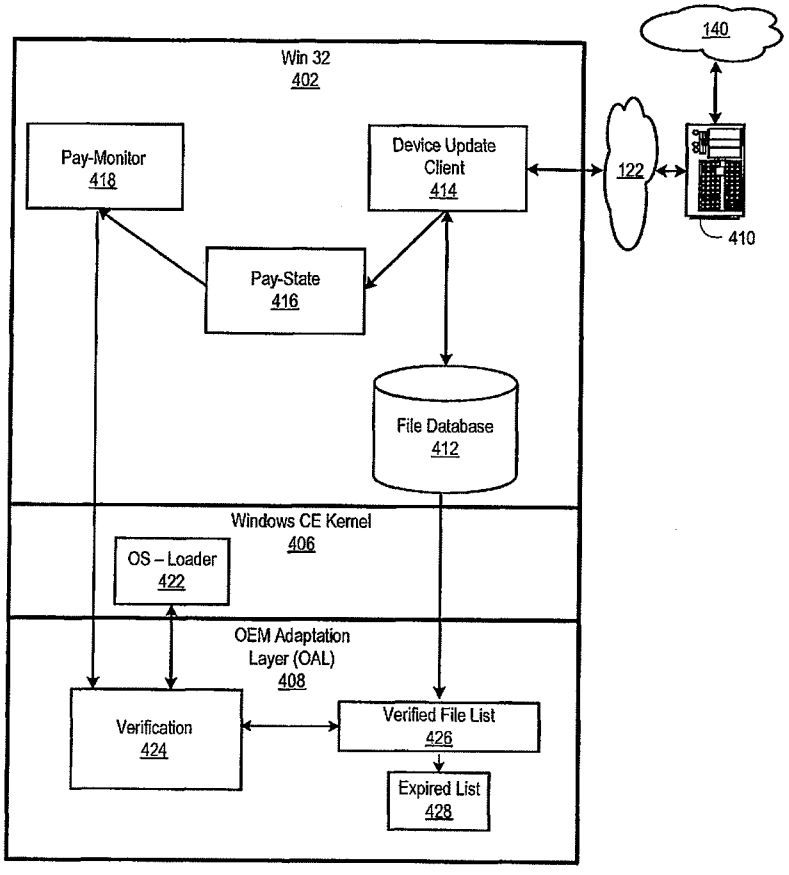
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(54) Title: VERIFIER COMPUTING ENVIRONMENT FOR PERSONAL INTERNET COMMUNICATOR



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus of the present invention provides a verified computing environment for a personal Internet communicator. In various embodiments of the invention, the functionality of software files on a personal Internet communicator can be modified based on the Pay-State of the user. Upon a request to load a particular software package, the verification module uses a verification file list containing approved software packages and also uses the pay status of the user to determine which software packages can be executed. The personal Internet communicator is operable to provide limited functionality of certain software packages based on a first pay state and to offer no functionality based on a second pay state, such as the situation where a user has discontinued the use of internet service.

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