The present invention provides a method and apparatus for providing real-time, two-way transactional capabilities on the network. Specifically, one embodiment of the present invention discloses a configurable value-added network switch for enabling real time transactions on the network. The configurable value added network switch comprises means for switching to a transactional application in response to a user specification from a network application, means for transmitting a transaction request from the transactional application, and means for processing the transaction request. Additionally, a method for enabling object routing is disclosed, comprising the steps of creating a virtual information store containing information entries and attributes associating each of the information entries and the attributes with an object identity, and assigning a unique network address to each of the object identities. Finally, a method is disclosed for enabling service management of the value-added network service, to perform OAM&P functions on the services network.
INTER PARTES
REEXAMINATION CERTIFICATE
ISSUED UNDER 35 U.S.C. 316

THE PATENT IS HEREBY AMENDED AS INDICATED BELOW.

Matter enclosed in heavy brackets [ ] appeared in the patent, but has been deleted and is no longer a part of the patent; matter printed in italics indicates additions made to the patent.

AS A RESULT OF REEXAMINATION, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT:

Claims 1-19 are cancelled.

New claims 20 and 21 are added and determined to be patentable.

20. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the transaction is handed over to an exchange, wherein the exchange manages the connection between the user and the commercial service, wherein the commercial service is an online service operating across the digital network, wherein the digital network is a value-added service network atop the Web.

21. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the first computer system offering the commercial service comprising access to employee payroll information on a service network atop the Web.