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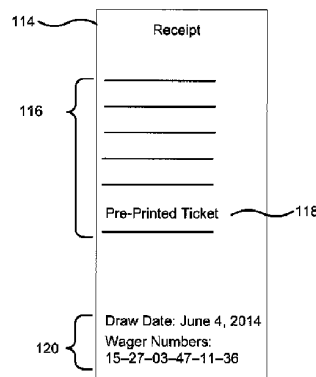
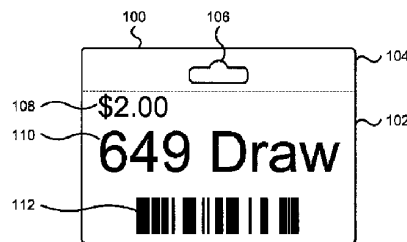
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(54) **Titre : SYSTEMES DE BILLETS DE LOTERIE PREIMPRIMES ET METHODES**

(54) **Title: PRE-PRINTED LOTTERY TICKETS SYSTEMS AND METHODS**



(57) **Abrégé/Abstract:**

Pre-printed lottery tickets allow a consumer to purchase a lottery ticket for a subsequently occurring draw. The pre-printed lottery ticket may be purchased as any other product and the point of sale terminal does not require specialized hardware such as a lottery ticket terminal.

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**BLACKHAWK EXHIBIT 2015.0001
Incomm v. Blackhawk, IPR2023-01235**

ABSTRACT

Pre-printed lottery tickets allow a consumer to purchase a lottery ticket for a subsequently occurring draw. The pre-printed lottery ticket may be purchased as any other product and the point of sale terminal does not require specialized hardware such as a lottery ticket terminal.

PRE-PRINTED LOTTERY TICKETS SYSTEMS AND METHODS

TECHNICAL FIELD

The current disclosure relates to lottery systems and in particular to the use of pre-printed lottery tickets in random draw lotteries.

5 BACKGROUND

Broadly there are two types of lotteries. The first is instant win lotteries where a printed ticket provides all of the lottery information. This tickets typically have a play area covered by scratch off material. The tickets can be purchased from a retailer, and the scratch off material removed to reveal whether the ticket is a winner. The second type
10 of lottery is a draw-based lottery, where a player makes a wager on a subsequently occurring event. For example, a player may guess at numbers that will be drawn. The selected numbers, or randomly selected numbers if the player does not have a preference for the numbers, are printed on a ticket and provided to the player. Once the event occurs, for example the numbers are drawn or generated, the ticket may be a
15 winner depending on if one or more of the selected numbers were drawn or generated.

Tickets for future draws are typically printed on special ticket paper by a printing device approved by the lottery administering body. The use of specialized hardware increases the cost for deploying purchasing locations. Further, the use of specialized hardware can complicate the purchase process. For example, a player at a grocery store may
20 need to make two purchases, one for their groceries and one for the lottery draw ticket.

It would be desirable to have an additional and/or alternative method of purchasing a lottery ticket for a draw.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Embodiments are described herein with references to the appended drawings, in which:

- 25 Figure 1 depicts a pre-printed lottery ticket and purchase receipt;
Figure 2 depicts components of a lottery system; and
Figure 3 depicts a process for providing a ticket for a random draw;

Figure 4 depicts a further process for providing a ticket for a random draw; and
Figure 5 depicts additional or alternative pre-printed lottery tickets.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Currently, online lottery products are purchased at a lottery terminal or similar hardware.

5 When an online lottery ticket, such as a ticket to a draw taking place at a later time, is purchased, a ticket is generated and printed. A system is described further herein that provides the ability to include online lottery products that can be placed in a customer's shopping cart and paid for during the normal checkout process without the use of specialized hardware, such as lottery terminals, ticket printer or customized payment
10 devices, at the point of purchase. Since no specialized hardware is required, it is possible to purchase the online lottery products at any point of purchase. For example, at a grocery store, the online lottery tickets may be purchased at each check-out lane without requiring lottery terminals at each lane and as such, the incorporation of the purchasing into multiple lanes may be cost effective. In addition to the ability to
15 purchase online lottery tickets at a point of sale without additional specialized lottery terminals, the systems and methods allow the online lottery ticket to be displayed and purchased as a regular in-store product providing additional opportunities for purchasing an online lottery ticket.

The online lottery ticket is manufactured and distributed as pre-printed lottery tickets
20 that do not have a draw date or wager (i.e. lottery numbers) assigned or associated to the pre-printed ticket. The pre-printed tickets would each have a unique bar code that identifies the particular pre-printed ticket and may also have a generic UPC bar code that would identify the lottery product. One bar code could contain both pieces of information. The pre-printed tickets are provided to retailers and are displayed to the
25 consumer.

Until purchased and activated, the pre-printed tickets have no value, nor do they have any wager or draw date assigned. They cannot be used for validation or redemption purposes prior to purchase. Once scanned by the retailer's POS and paid for by the customer, the lottery system will generate wagers for the pre-printed ticket and assign

the next available draw date. This information is printed on the customers shopping receipt. Although the draw information is printed on the customer's receipt, it is only information and the pre-printed lottery ticket is the legal instrument for validation and prize redemption.

- 5 Secure communications between the retailers POS system and the lottery system facilitate the successful completion of the above transaction and activation of the pre-printed ticket. As well, there may be a series of acknowledgments between systems to ensure the generation of the draw information and association of the draw information with the pre-printed ticket is performed as well as to handle any technical or other
10 issues that may arise. Once activated, the pre-printed ticket may be subject to the same policies and procedures as standard online lottery tickets generated from specialized lottery terminals.

- Since the wager and draw date information is not printed on the pre-printed ticket, these details may be made available through other means including but not limited to the
15 printed receipt, existing lottery terminals or self-serve ticket checkers, online websites or mobile applications.

- A variation of the above is to produce pre-printed tickets with pre-printed wagers on the ticket. In such a case, when the pre-printed ticket is purchased the lottery system may simply assign the pre-printed ticket and associated wager information to the next draw
20 date only and activated.

Further, the pre-printed tickets may include different number of wagers. For example, a single pre-printed lottery ticket may be associated with purchasing 1, 2, 3 or more wagers. When the pre-printed tickets are associated with a plurality of wagers, each wager may be for the same or different online lottery games.

- 25 The ability to purchase an online lottery ticket at a point of sale check-out, as described herein, requires no additional hardware in lane and no special thermal or lottery paper or printer. The legal ticket, namely the pre-printed ticket, does not contain the draw date and is only associated with a draw when activated by purchasing. Given there is no

value to the pre-printed ticket before activation, they can be distributed in locations that provide the most visibility and convenience for the customer with limited risk that the pre-printed ticket will be stolen. The pre-printed ticket is treated like an off the shelf commodity when checking out and should not impede the speed at checkout. The solution is extremely convenient for the customer with no additional interaction with the cashier required. Further, limited knowledge or expertise is required by the cashier and no additional point of sale hardware is required. The solution may be easily scalable and can provide a cost effective solution to enable all checkout locations in all retail locations to sell online lottery tickets. The Store POS terminal may need little or no scrutiny by lottery regulators as it does not carry sensitive transaction information and is not involved in the generation of the lottery transaction, and instead simply provides information of the pre-printed lottery ticket to the lottery system for activation.

The pre-printed tickets may be manufactured and shipped to retail locations. Retailers may manage inventory and display the pre-printed tickets in, for example, checkout lanes, at counters and throughout the store where the product is most visible to customers. Customers can select a lottery product at any time with no additional interaction with a lottery retailer and drop the pre-printed lottery ticket(s) into their shopping cart. During the checkout process, the pre-printed ticket is scanned by the cashier in the retailer's POS as they would scan any other product being purchased. The pre-printed ticket may require one, possibly two scans dependent on the bar code standard used and the technical abilities of the retailer's POS system. Upon scanning of the ticket the retailer's POS will be updated with the product description and cost. The retailer's POS will communicate the transaction type, such as purchase or cancel, and the pre-printed ticket details, such as product information and/or a unique identifier, to the lottery system through a secure communications channel.

Upon receiving information for activating a pre-printed ticket being purchased, the lottery system may initiate a pre-printed ticket wager by validating the pre-printed ticket details, generating the appropriate lottery wager information, for example generating an appropriate number of random numbers for the draw. The generated wager information may then be associated with unique identifier of the pre-printed ticket and the pre-

printed ticket activated for the next available draw. Confirmation of the activation, as well as the lottery numbers and draw information, for example when the draw is being held, may be withheld from the retailer's POS until payment confirmation is received by the lottery system. The cashier continues to scan the customer's purchases until the cart is empty. The cashier may then process payment as the normal course of action. Prior to the retailer's POS closing the sale and printing the receipt, the retailers POS system may communicate the payment confirmation and details to the lottery system. Once payment confirmation is received the lottery system may in turn communicate the lottery numbers and draw information to the retailers POS. This information may be communicated in the form of an image. The lottery numbers and draw date assigned to the pre-printed lottery ticket may be printed on the customer's store receipt. The printed receipt with the lottery information is for informational purposes only, and the pre-printed ticket would be required in order to redeem a winning ticket.

Rather than transmitting the pre-printed ticket information first, followed by confirmation of payment, it is possible to transmit the pre-printed ticket information to the lottery system only once the payment has been confirmed.

During the checkout process, age verification, if required, is done by the cashier. Where self-serve check-out kiosks are available, the retailer's POS may suspend the terminal operation until the age of the customer can be verified by store personnel or other means such as swiping of an identification card in co-operation with other biometric data. The transaction can then be approved or voided depending upon the determined age.

Purchased pre-printed tickets may be returned and cancelled, assuming the associated draw has not occurred. Tickets can be cancelled at two points in time, either during checkout, and prior to payment or after the basket has been paid for. Prior to payment a customer may change their mind and wish to have the pre-printed ticket removed from their basket. The transaction may be voided in the retailer's POS terminal as with the purchase of other products. Additionally, if the pre-printed ticket information has already been communicated to the lottery system, another transaction may be performed

indicating that the purchase of the pre-printed ticket was cancelled. The lottery system will cancel the pre-printed ticket and wager and draw information. Confirmation of the cancellation may be sent back to the POS terminal. The customer's receipt may show the inclusion and return of the pre-printed ticket but no draw or wager information will be shown on the receipt.

After the basket has been paid for and the pre-printed ticket has been activated, the customer may return and cancel the pre-printed ticket, for example at the retailer's customer service counter. Normal retailer return procedures may apply. The cashier may scan the pre-printed ticket barcode(s) into the POS. The retailer's POS will communicate the transaction type, i.e. cancellation, and pre-printed ticket details, such as product information and/or unique identifier, to the lottery system through a secure communications channel. The lottery system will locate the associated wager and cancel the transaction. The lottery system may send a confirmation to the retailer's POS along with the cancellation details, such as the pre-printed ticket identifier and/or cancellation date / time. The cancellation details may be returned in the form of an image. Cancellation information may be printed at the bottom of the customer's return receipt.

Figure 1 depicts a pre-printed lottery ticket and purchase receipt. A pre-printed ticket 100 may be placed at various locations in a retail environment. The pre-printed ticket 100 may have a main ticket portion 102 and a display portion 104 separably connected to the main ticket portion 102, for example by perforated or scored lines. The display portion 104 may include a hanging cut-out 106 in order to facilitate the display of the pre-printed ticket 100. The main ticket portion 102 includes advertising and purchase information, such as the cost of the pre-printed ticket 108 and the product the pre-printed ticket is for 110. Additionally, the main ticket portion 102 may include barcode information 112, which may be in the form of one or more barcodes although only one is depicted. Although the specific physical characteristics of the pre-printed ticket are depicted in Figure 1, it will be appreciated that the pre-printed tickets may take many different physical shapes.

Figure 1 also depicts the receipt 114 provided to the customer after the transaction is completed. The receipt is similar to commonly provided receipts and includes an itemized list of purchased items 116. The list 116 includes an indication 118 of the purchase of the pre-printed ticket. The receipt may also include draw and wager information 120 provided by the lottery system when the pre-printed ticket was activated. The draw and wager information 120, may include an indication of the draw date as well as the wager numbers. The draw and wager information associated with a pre-printed ticket may be checked by a consumer by other means, such as through a lottery system mobile application or online site.

Figure 2 depicts components of a lottery system and point of sale environment. As depicted, the environment 200 for purchasing a pre-printed lottery ticket includes a retailer's point of sale terminal 202 and a lottery system 220 connected to each other through one or more communication networks 218. The communication between retail POS terminals and the lottery system may be secured using various encryption techniques.

The retailer's POS terminal 202 may include a central processing unit (CPU) 204, memory unit 206 and I/O interface(s) 208 for communicating with devices external to the POS terminal. As depicted, a barcode scanner 210 may be connected for scanning in barcode information, such as UPC information, and pre-printed ticket 100 information.

The retailer POS terminal may also be connected to a printer 212 for printing a receipt of the transaction. The POS terminal 202 includes instructions 214 stored in the memory unit, which when executed by the processor unit 204 configure the POS terminal 202 to provide pre-printed draw-based lottery ticketing functionality 216. The functionality 216 may provide the functionality for communicating scanned in barcode information of pre-printed lottery tickets with the lottery system, and receiving confirmation of the pre-printed ticket's activation, as described above.

The lottery system 220 may include a central processing unit (CPU) 222, memory unit 226 and I/O interface(s) 224 for communicating with devices external to the lottery system 220. Instructions 228 stored in the memory unit 226, when executed by the

processing unit 222 configure the lottery system to provide pre-printed draw-based lottery ticket activation and cancellation functionality 230. The functionality 230 may receive and verify pre-printed lottery ticket information from a plurality of different retailers. The verification of the pre-printed lottery ticket information may involve
5 checking that the received information corresponds to an actual ticket, verifying one or more check-digits, and/or verifying that the preprinted lottery ticket was distributed to the retailer. The pre-printed ticket information used in verifying the received information may be stored in a pre-printed ticket information database 232. The functionality 230 may also generate draw and wager information and associate the pre-printed ticket
10 information in a draw information database 234. The draw information database 234 may be used in verifying subsequent tickets, including the pre-printed lottery tickets, as winning tickets following the draw event.

Figure 3 depicts a process for providing a ticket for a random draw. The process 300 assumes a consumer is purchasing a number of items including a pre-printed lottery
15 ticket. A pre-printed lottery ticket is scanned (302) at a POS terminal 202 and unique identification information of the pre-printed ticket is communicated (304) to a lottery system 220, which verifies the ticket information and determines draw and wager information (306), if the wager information is not already associated with the ticket information. Additional items being purchased may be scanned (308) by the POS
20 terminal, and once all of the items being purchased are scanned, payment may be made (310), for example using cash credit or debit,. After payment is received, the POS terminal 216 may communicate the payment conformation (312) to the lottery system 220, which can activate the pre-printed lottery ticket (314) for the subsequent draw. The draw and wager information may be returned to the POS terminal (316) and
25 printed on the customer's receipt (318). Once activated, the pre-printed ticket serves as a lottery ticket and may be verified as a regular lottery ticket purchased from a lottery terminal.

Figure 4 depicts a further process for providing a ticket for a random draw. The process 400 is similar to the process 300, however the unique ID is cached is transmitted with
30 payment confirmation. A pre-printed lottery ticket is scanned (402) at a POS terminal

202 and unique identification information of the pre-printed ticket is cached at the POS terminal (404) to a lottery system 220. Additional items being purchased may be scanned (406) by the POS terminal, and once all of the items being purchased are scanned, payment may be made (408), for example using cash credit or debit,. After
 5 payment is received, the POS terminal 216 may communicate the payment conformation (410) and the cached unique identification information of the pre-printed lottery ticket to the lottery system 220. The lottery system may receive and verify the ticket information and determine draw and wager information, if the wager information is not already associated with the ticket information., which can activate the pre-printed
 10 lottery ticket (412) for the subsequent draw. The draw and wager information may be returned to the POS terminal (414) and printed on the customer's receipt (416). Once activated, the pre-printed ticket serves as a lottery ticket and may be verified as a regular lottery ticket purchased from a lottery terminal.

Figure 5 depicts additional or alternative pre-printed lottery tickets. As depicted, pre-printed lottery ticket 502 is for three plays or wagers, which may be indicated by
 15 additional play information 504 and/or may be reflected by the price 506 of the pre-printed ticket. The pre-printed lottery ticket 502 is depicted as providing separate wagers for two products 508a, 508b. Wager and draw information will be generated and activated for a subsequent 649 draw and a subsequent Lotto Max draw. The
 20 information for the draw and wager information that needs to be generated may be stored by the lottery system and associated with unique information that can be stored in the barcode 510.

Pre-printed lottery ticket 512 is depicted as being for a single product and wager. However, unlike the other pre-printed lottery tickets described above, the pre-printed
 25 lottery ticket 512 is already associated with wager information 518 which may be printed on the ticket to allow selection of preferred numbers by a consumer. Accordingly, the pre-printed ticket 512 includes a purchase amount indication 514 and product or game information, as well as the wager information, which is depicted as being the numbers of the draw. When the bar-code 518 of the pre-printed ticket is scanned, the unique ID
 30 information may be used to activate the pre-printed ticket with the subsequent draw.

The wager information does not need to be generated since it is already generated and associated with the pre-printed lottery ticket, for example at the time of manufacture or printing.

5 Pre-printed lottery ticket 522 depicts a pre-printed ticket that combines multiple plays with pre-generated wager information. The ticket 522 includes an indication of the number of plays or wagers, which may be provided by play information 526 and/or reflected in price information 524. The ticket may include an indication of the game or product the wager is for 528 as well as an indication of the wager information 530a, 530b for the multiple wagers associated with the ticket. The barcode 534 includes the
10 unique identification information which may be used to activate the wagers for the subsequent draw.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of generating a lottery ticket for a random draw comprising:
 - receiving at a lottery administration system unique identification information from a pre-printed lottery ticket;
 - determining at the lottery administration system draw information for a subsequent draw being held;
 - associating at the lottery administration system the determined draw information with the unique identification information;
 - receiving at the lottery administration system payment confirmation; and
 - transmitting from the lottery administration draw details after the payment confirmation is received.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the unique identification information comprises receiving the unique identification information over a secure communication channel from a point of sale (POS) system.
3. The method of claim 1 or 2, further comprising receiving product information of the pre-printed lottery ticket along with the unique identification information.
4. The method of claim 1 or 2, further comprising retrieving product information of the pre-printed lottery ticket using the received unique identification information.
5. The method of claim 3 or 4, wherein the product information indicates one or more of:
 - a game type associated with the pre-printed lottery ticket;
 - a wager amount associated with the pre-printed lottery ticket; and
 - a number of wagers associated with the pre-printed lottery ticket.
6. The method of any one of claims 1 to 5, further comprising:
 - validating the received unique identification information.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein validating the received unique identification information comprises varying that the unique identification information corresponds to unique identification information associated with a pre-printed lottery ticket.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein validating the received unique identification information further comprises varying that the unique identification information corresponds to unique identification information associated with one of a plurality of pre-printed lottery tickets distributed to the vendor of the pre-printed lottery ticket.
9. The method of any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein determining the draw information comprises generating at least one random number for the subsequent draw.
10. The method of any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein determining the draw information comprises:
 - retrieving at least one random number from a list of previously generated random numbers; and
 - removing the retrieved at least one random number from the list of previously generated random numbers.
11. The method of any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein associating the determined draw information with the unique identification information comprises storing the associated draw information and unique identification information in a database of the lottery administration system.
12. The method of any one of claims 1 to 11, wherein transmitting the draw details comprises:
 - generating at the lottery administration system an image containing at least the draw details; and
 - transmitting the generated image.

13. The method of any one of claims 1 to 12, wherein the subsequent draw being held is a next occurring draw being held.
14. A method of providing a lottery ticket for a random draw comprising:
- scanning at a point-of-sale (POS) terminal a pre-printed lottery ticket to obtain unique identification information from the pre-printed lottery ticket;
 - transmitting the unique identification information from the POS terminal to a lottery administration system;
 - receiving at the POS terminal payment confirmation;
 - transmitting payment confirmation from the POS terminal to the lottery administration system;
 - receiving at the POS terminal from the lottery administration system draw details associated with the pre-printed lottery ticket; and
 - printing the draw details on a receipt.
15. The method of claim 14, wherein the lottery administration system transmits the draw details in accordance with the method of any one of claims 1 to 13.
16. A lottery administration system comprising:
- at least one communication interface for communicating with other computing systems;
 - at least one processing unit for executing instructions; and
 - at least one memory unit for storing instructions, which when executed by the at least one processing unit configure the lottery administration system to provide a method according to any one of claims 1 to 13.
17. A point-of-sale (POS) terminal comprising:
- at least one communication interface for communicating with other computing systems;
 - at least one scanning component;
 - at least one processing unit for executing instructions; and

at least one memory unit for storing instructions, which when executed by the at least one processing unit configure the POS terminal to provide a method according to claim 14.

18. A lottery system comprising:

a lottery administration system according to claim 16; and
a plurality of POS terminals according to claim 17 in communication with the lottery administration system.

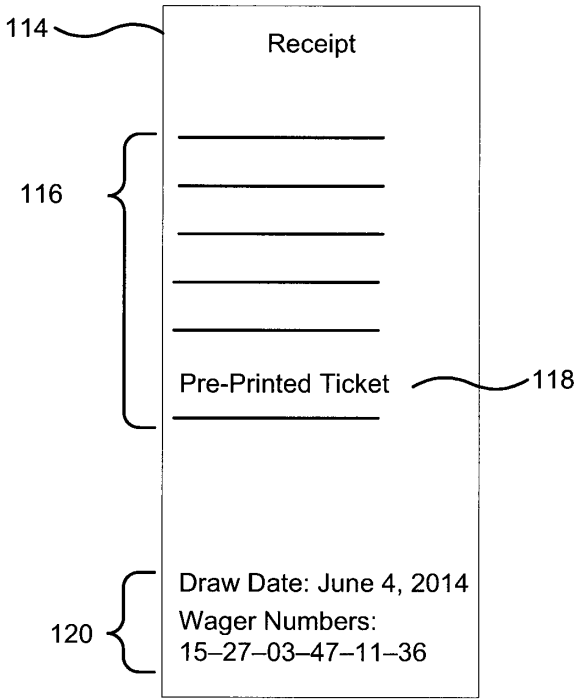
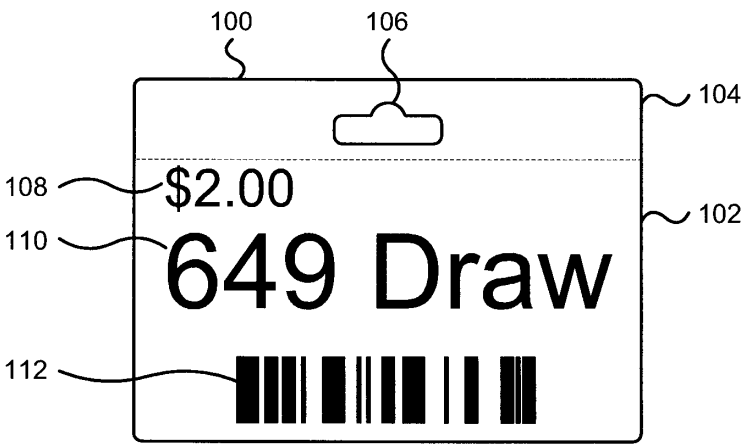


Figure 1

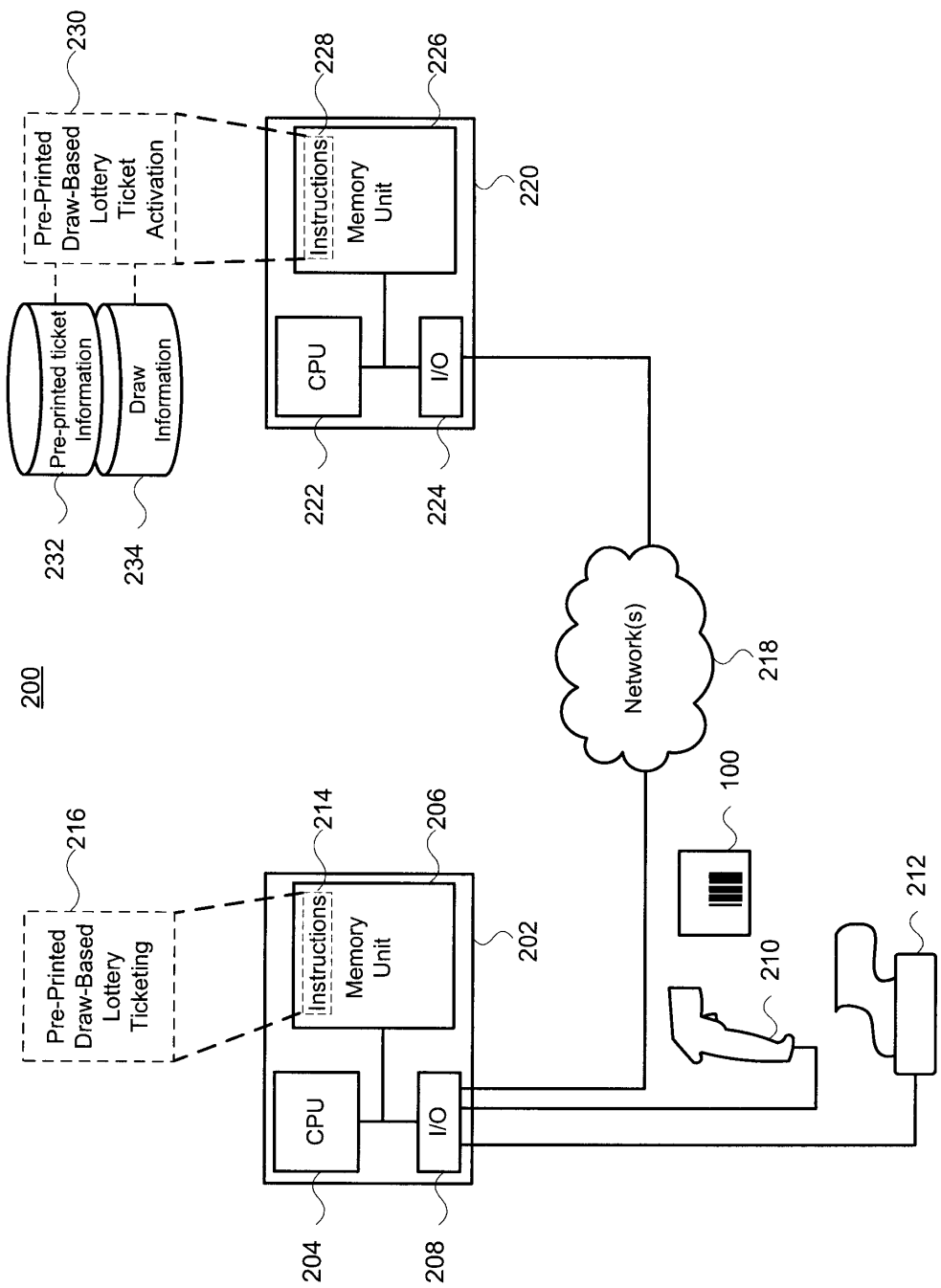


Figure 2

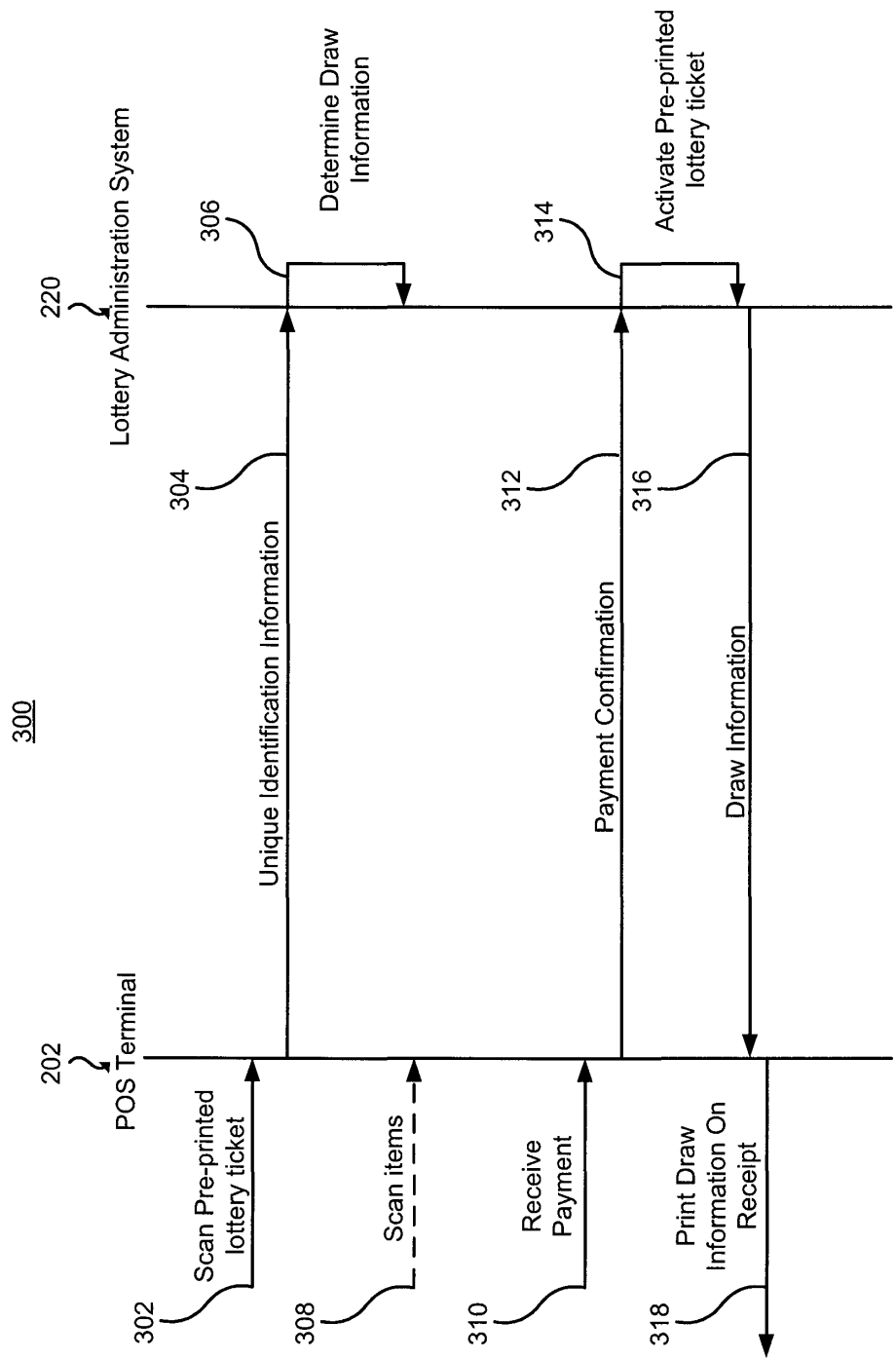


Figure 3

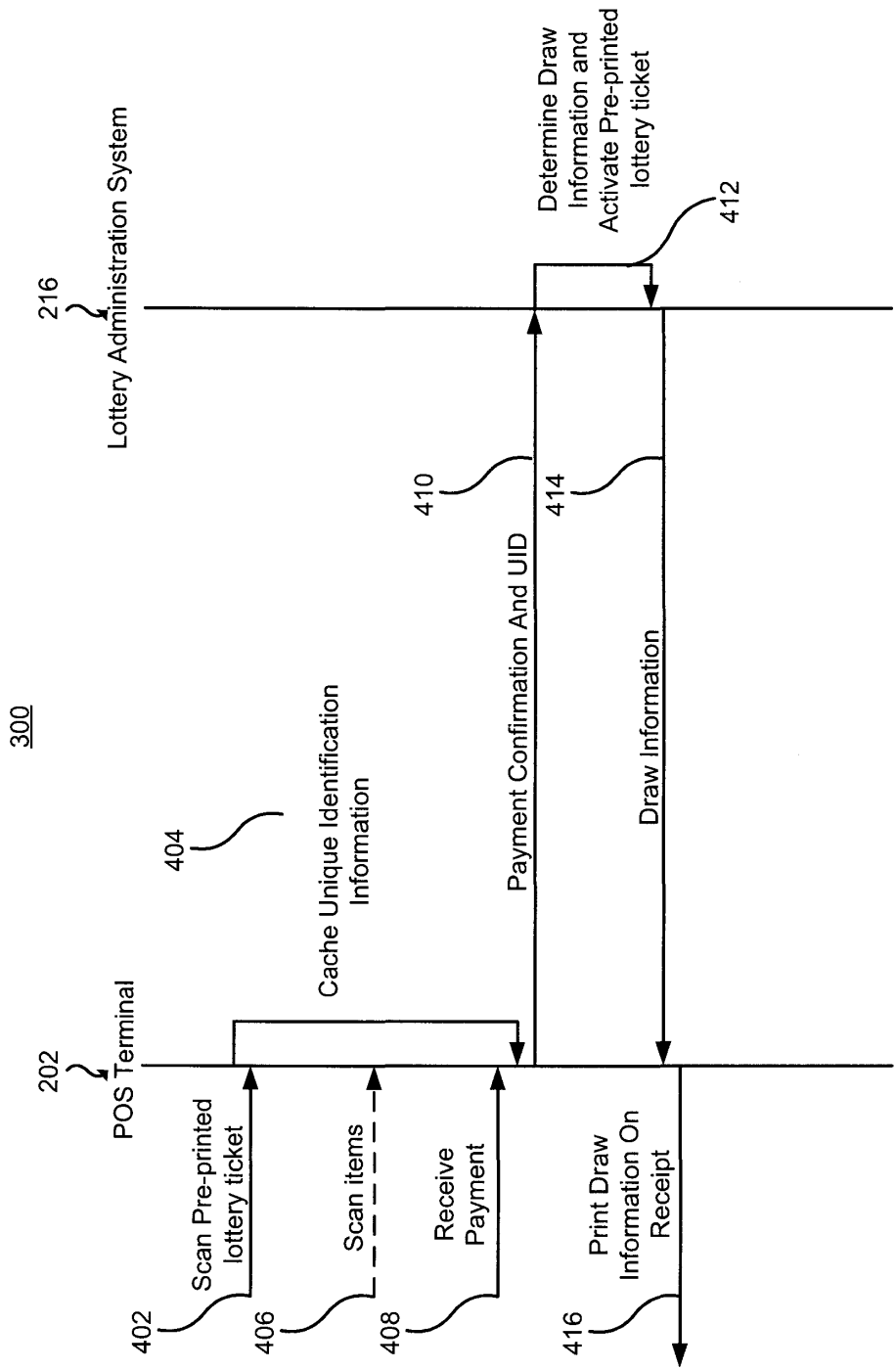


Figure 4

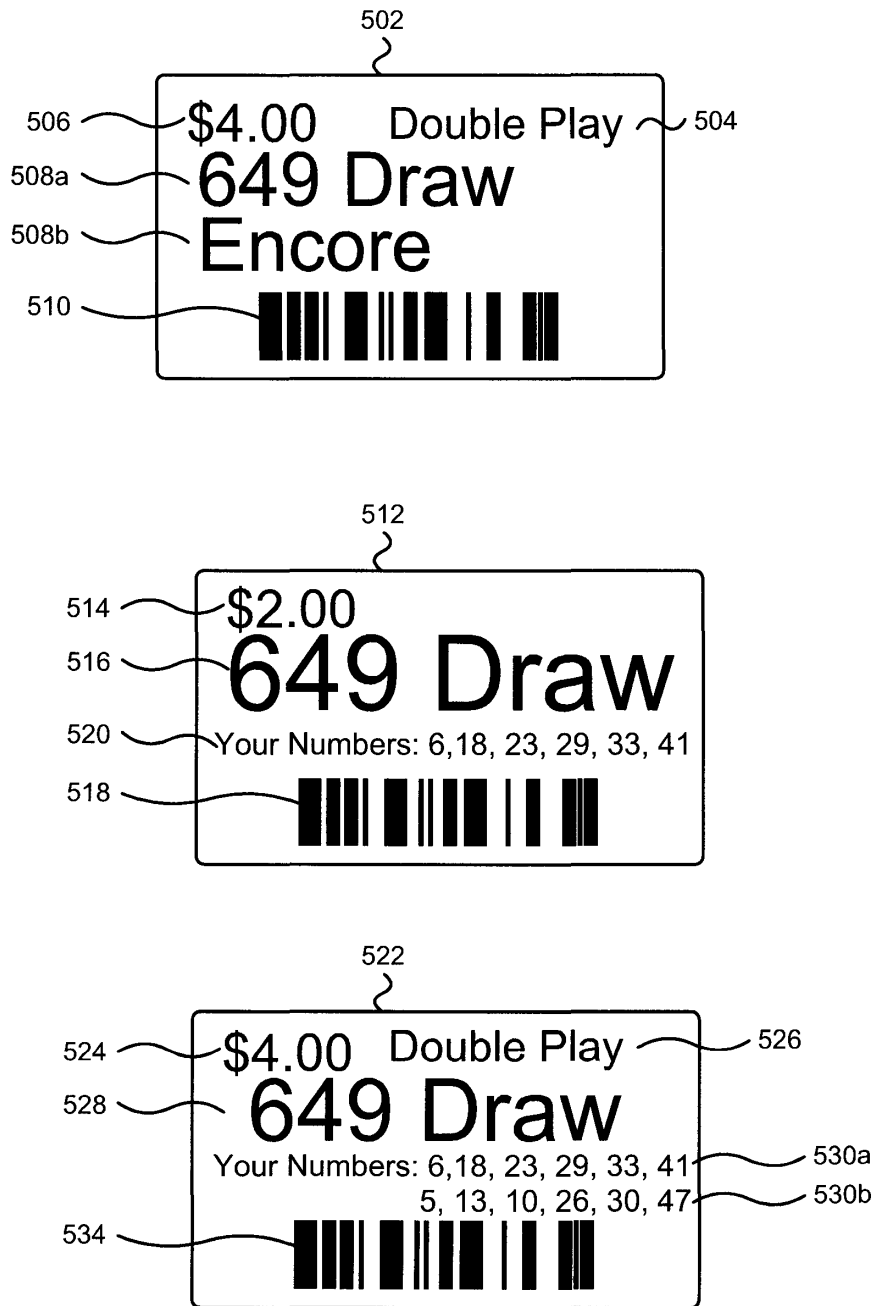


Figure 5

