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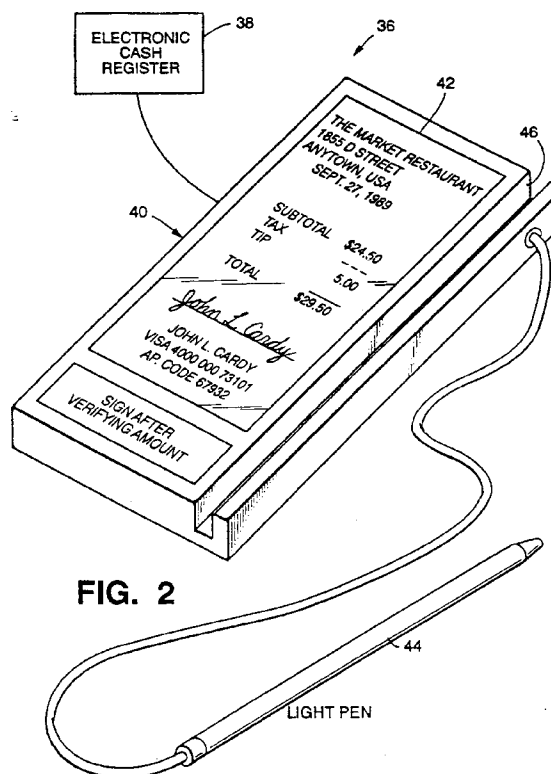
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(54) **A system for validating the authenticity of a transaction employing electronic receipts.**

(57) A digitized code signal representative of the signature of the purchaser is generated at the point of sale by the transaction terminal (36). This code signal along with the parameters of the transaction are stored (52) electronically. In the event that the customer questions the transaction, the financial institution (26) associated with the merchant (34) can generate a hard copy receipt which includes the parameters of the transaction as well as a representation of the signature of the purchaser. This hard copy receipt is then sent to the customer for validating the transaction. This eliminates the need to generate, transfer and store hard copy receipts unless they are specifically requested. At sale, transaction parameters are entered into an electronic cash register (38). A module (40) displays transaction data on a CRT (42). The module (40) may have a slot (46) for reading a magnetic stripe transaction card (22). Signature is effected with a light pen (44).



**FIG. 2**



European Patent  
Office

# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 91 30 7072

Page 1

| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                       |                                                 |                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Category                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages                                                                         | Relevant to claim                               | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5) |
| Y                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | DE-A-2 759 196 (TRANSACTION MANAGEMENT)<br>* page 15, line 2 - page 16, line 18 *<br>* page 37, line 1 - page 39, line 27 *<br>* claims 4-10 *<br>--- | 1-13                                            | G07G1/12<br>G07F19/00<br>G07C9/00<br>G07G5/00 |
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| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                       |                                                 |                                               |
| Place of search<br>THE HAGUE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                       | Date of completion of the search<br>11 MAY 1993 | Examiner<br>GIVOL O.                          |
| <p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone<br/>Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category<br/>A : technological background<br/>O : non-written disclosure<br/>P : intermediate document</p> <p>I : theory or principle underlying the invention<br/>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date<br/>D : document cited in the application<br/>L : document cited for other reasons</p> <p>&amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p> |                                                                                                                                                       |                                                 |                                               |

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P0401)



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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 91 30 7072

Page 2

| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                               |                                                 |                                               |
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