

In an alternative embodiment, each of servers A and B 124, 126 store a predetermined set of applications. The receptionist upon receiving a request for installation of a an application stored on server B 126 automatically routes the request to that server.

Also shown is an audit server 128 which is used to continuously audit the operations
5 of servers A and B 124, 126. In the preferred embodiment, the auditing operation also includes monitoring of data received by servers A and B from user of the remote computer 10. The auditing server 128 communicates with the independent auditor so that periodically or on demand the auditor is able to verify the actual operation of the servers A and B 124, 126.

10 The auditing operation that would take place has a dual function. The owners of the virtual store 18 are able to have accurate records as to the software that was actually installed. The user of the remote computer 10 would have the assurance that only data needed for the installation and options chosen by the user were in fact transferred to the remote server 24.

15 An additional design element of the system herein described is that it will use an exclusive audit-capable packet (XAP) to transfer data from the remote computer 10 to the remote server 24. The auditor can audit this capability by examining the C++ code, as described below, by observing a build of the software, and by verifying that the software actually running on the servers is the same software as that produced by the controlled build.

20 The following are an example of the steps that an independent auditor would use to verify that the software performs in a specific manner and does not violate the privacy interests of the user. The method described below of auditing the functionality of the software will be described using C++ calls. The C++ language is used due to its inherent mechanisms for systematic data typing such that the exact nature of data passed in packets
25 can be controlled and defined. One skilled in the art will recognize that these steps can be performed in other languages with like functionality without departing from the essence of the invention.