

(12) **United States Patent**
Abelow

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(54) **METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR GATHERING INFORMATION FROM UNITS OF A COMMODITY ACROSS A NETWORK**

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This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

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(58) **Field of Classification Search** 705/1, 705/7, 10; 434/107, 118, 365, 350; 235/38

See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

In an exemplary system, information is received at a central location from different units of a commodity. The information is generated from two-way local interactions between users of the different units of the commodity and a user interface in the different units of the commodity. The interactions elicit from respective users their perceptions of the commodity.

74 Claims, 39 Drawing Sheets

