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## (54) AUTHENTICATING A CLIENT DEVICE

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**ABSTRACT** (57)

Examples described herein relate to techniques for authenticating a client device by obtaining device-type information during an initial phase of authentication process. According to some examples, identifying a client device intending to connect to a network and sending an identity-request thereto. Receiving an identity-response from the client device along with device-type information. Identifying a device category from a set of device categories corresponding to identified device-type information. Selecting a device policy applicable to the identified device-type information. Authenticating the client device to enable access to the network and applying the selected device policy to the client device.

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IDENTIFYING A CLIENT DEVICE INTENDING TO CONNECT TO A NETWORK ENVIRONMENT 152 SENDING AN IDENTITY-REQUEST TO THE CLIENT DEVICE, WHEREIN THE IDENTITY-REQUEST COMPRISES A REQUEST FOR DEVICE DATA 154 RECEIVING AN IDENTITY-RESPONSE FROM THE CLIENT DEVICE, WHEREIN THE IDENTITY RESPONSE INCLUDES DEVICE DATA 156 IN RESPONSE TO A DETERMINATION THAT THE IDENTITY-RESPONSE INCLUDES A RESPONSE-DEVICE-DATA, IDENTIFYING A DEVICE-TYPE INFORMATION FROM THE RESPONSE-DEVICE-DATA 158 IDENTIFYING A DEVICE CATEGORY FROM A SET OF DEVICE CATEGORIES CORRESPONDING TO THE DEVICE DATA 160 SELECTING A DEVICE POLICY APPLICABLE TO THE DEVICE CATEGORY

APPLYING THE DEVICE POLICY TO THE CLIENT DEVICE AND AUTHENTICATING THE CLIENT DEVICE TO ENABLE ACCESS TO THE NETWORK UPON SUCCESSFUL AUTHENTICATION 164