cessors could be made available for a network supercomputer user, providing it with the power 10,000,000 times greater than would be available using today's internal parallel processing supercomputers (assuming the same microprocessor technology). Because of it's virtually limitless scalability mentioned above, resources made available by the network to the supercomputer user or PC user would be capable of varying significantly during any computing function, so that peak computing loads would be met with effectively whatever level of resources are necessary.

In summary, regarding monitoring the net provision of power between PC and network, FIGS. **1–9** show embodiments of a system for a network of computers, including personal computers, comprising: means for network services including browsing functions, as well as shared computer processing such as parallel processing, to be provided to the personal computers within the network; at least two personal computers; means for at least one of the personal computers, when idled by a personal user, to be made available temporarily to provide the shared computer processing services to the network; and means for monitoring on a net basis the provision of the services to each the personal computer or to the personal computer user. In addition, FIGS. **1–9** show embodiments including where the system is scalar in that the system imposes no limit to the number of the personal computers, including at least 1024 personal computers; the system is scalar in that the system imposes no limit to the number of personal computers participating in a single shared computer processing operation, including at least 256 personal computers; the network is connected to the Internet and its equivalents and successors, so that the personal computers includes at least a million personal computers; the network is connected to the World Wide Web and its successors; the network includes at least one network server that participates in the shared computer processing.; the monitoring means includes a meter device to measure the flow of computing power between the personal computers and the network; the monitoring means includes a means by which the personal user of the personal computer is provided with a prospective estimate of cost for the network to execute an operation requested by the personal user prior to execution of the operation by the network; the system has a control means by which to permit and to deny access to the personal computers by the network for shared computer processing; access to the personal computers by the network is limited to those times when the personal computers are idle; and the personal computers having at least one microprocessor and communicating with the network through a connection means having a speed of data transmission that is at least greater than a peak data processing speed of the microprocessor.

Also, relative to maintaining a standard cost, FIGS. **1–9** show embodiments of a system for a network of computers, including personal computers, comprising: means for network services including browsing functions, as well as shared computer processing such as parallel processing, to be provided to the personal computers within the network; at least two personal computers; means for at least one of the personal computers, when idled by a personal user, to be made available temporarily to provide the shared computer processing services to the network; and means for maintaining a standard cost basis for the provision of the services to each personal computer or to the personal computer user. In addition, FIGS. **1–9** show embodiments including where the system is scalar in that the system imposes no limit to the number of personal computers, including at least 1,024 personal computers; the system is scalar in that the system imposes no limit to the number of the personal computers participating in a single shared computer processing operation, including at least 256 personal computers; the network is connected to the Internet and its equivalents and successors, so that the personal computers include at least a million personal computers; the standard cost is fixed; the fixed standard cost is zero; the means for maintaining a standard cost basis includes the use of making available a standard number of personal computers for shared processing by personal computers; the network is connected to the World Wide Web and its successors; the personal user can override the means for maintaining a standard cost basis so that the personal user can obtain additional network services; the system has a control means by which to permit and to deny access to the personal computers by the network for shared computer processing; the personal computers having at least one microprocessor and communicating with the network through a connection means having a speed of data transmission that is at least greater than a peak data processing speed of the microprocessor.

Browsing functions generally include functions like those standard functions provided by current Internet browsers, such as Microsoft Explorer 3.0 or 4.0 and Netscape Navigator 3.0 or 4.0, including at least searching World Wide Web or Internet sites, exchanging E-Mail worldwide, and worldwide conferencing; an intranet network uses the same browser software, but might not include access to the Internet or WWW. Shared processing includes parallel processing and multitasking processing involving more than two personal computers, as defined above. The network system is entirely scalar, with any number of PC microprocessors potentially possible.

As shown in FIGS. **10A–10I**, to deal with operational and security issues, it may be optimal for individual users to have one microprocessor or equivalent device that is designated, permanently or temporarily, to be a master **30** controlling device (comprised of hardware and/or software and/of firmware and/or other component) that remains unaccessible (preferably using a hardware and/or software and/or firmware and/or other component firewall **50**) directly by the network but which controls the functions of the other, slave microprocessors **40** when the network is not utilizing them.

For example, as shown in FIGS. **10A**, a typical PC **1** might have four or five microprocessors (even on a single microprocessor chip), with one master **30** and three or four slaves **40**, depending on whether the master **30** is a controller exclusively (through different design of any component part), requiring four slave microprocessors **40** preferably; or the master microprocessor **30** has the same or equivalent microprocessing capability as a slave **40** and multiprocesses in parallel with the slave microprocessors **40**, thereby requiring only three slave microprocessors **40**, preferably. The number of PC slave microprocessors **40** can be increased to virtually any other number, such as at least about eight, about 16, about 32, about 64, about 128, about 256, about 512, about 1024, and so on (these multiples are preferred; the PC master microprocessors **30** can also be increased. Also included is the preferred firewall **50** between master **30** and slave **40** microprocessors. As shown in preceding FIGS. **1–9**, the PC **1** in FIG. **10A** is preferably connected to a network computer **2** and to the Internet or WWW or present or future equivalent or successor **3**, like the MetaInternet.

Other typical PC hardware components such as hard drive **61**, floppy diskette **62**, CD-ROM **63**, DVD **64**, Flash memory **65**, RAM **66**, video or other display **67**, graphics card **68**, and sound card **69**, together with the software and/or firmware stored on or for them, can be located on