Fig. 1

Data Store For Desired Setup Data

Synchronization Node

Desired Setup Data

Incumbent Setup Data

Source/Destination Application

Data Store for Incumbent Data
Fig. 2
Fig. 3
APPLICATION SETUP DATA

APPLICATION TYPE 1: CALENDAR SETUP DATA
- Background Colors
- Screen Layout, Configurable Settings
- Flags (e.g., reminders on/off)

APPLICATION TYPE 2: ADDRESS BOOK SETUP DATA

APPLICATION TYPE 3: TASK SETUP DATA

APPLICATION TYPES N: E-MAIL, BROWSER, WORD PROCESSOR AND/OR SPREADSHEET SETUP DATA

APPLICATION END-PURPOSE DATA (OPTIONAL)

APPLICATION 1: CALENDAR END-PURPOSE DATA
- Calendar Entry Data
- Alarm Data
- Reminder Data
- Cross References to Other Data

APPLICATION 2: ADDRESS BOOK END-PURPOSE DATA
- Address Entries (e.g., Names, Addresses)
- Cross References

APPLICATION 3: TASK END-PURPOSE DATA

APPLICATION N: E-MAIL, BROWSER, WORD PROCESSOR AND/OR SPREADSHEET END-PURPOSE DATA
Setup data from the application is retrieved (identified, located, accessed).

The setup data for the application is converted into a predetermined format (e.g., generic format).

The re-formatted data is synchronized.

The data is again re-formatted, if necessary, for storage.

The data is stored, after being transferred if a transfer is necessary to a data store via a network (e.g., the Internet, a LAN, etc.).
Request made for application setup data incumbent as destination application.

The setup data for the application is accessed and converted into a predetermined format.

The setup data is returned to the requestor, generally in a hierarchical format (e.g., tree structure).

The synchronization engine stores the setup data in the data store for supplanted incumbent setup data.

The synchronization engine retrieves desired setup data to be loaded into the application.

The desired setup data is converted to an application-specific format appropriate for storage to the application.

The application-specific desired data is stored as application configuration data.
Fig. 7A

- Destination Application Setup Data
  - Registry settings
  - Data files
  - Etc.

Fig. 7B

740 Request made for current application setup data
742 The setup data for the application is accessed and converted into a predetermined format.
744 The setup data is returned to the requestor, generally in a hierarchical format (e.g., tree structure).
750 The synchronization engine finds the modifications made to the setup data while the setup data was loaded into the application as desired setup data and changes needed to synchronize the data with the corresponding desired setup data in data store 730 are detected.
760 The changes are used to modify the data on the data store for desired setup data.
770 The application's supplanted setup data is accessed from the data store for incumbent setup data.
780 The supplanted setup data is converted to an application-specific format for storage to the application.
790 The supplanted setup data is stored as application configuration data, returning the application.