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(72) Inventors; and
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): MARPLES, David [GB/GB]; 54 Birch Grove, Mansfield, Notts NG18 4JH (GB); WULLERT, John, R., II [US/US]; 1106 Mayflower Court, Martinsville, New Jersey 08836 (US).


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(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR AUTHORIZED DIGITAL CONTENT DISTRIBUTION

(57) Abstract: A digital content distribution system uses a Digital Rights Management Controller that performs a set of arbitrary tests against the transfer request from one user to another such as user A to user B. Assuming these tests are successful, the DRM sends an encryption key to transferring user A. This encryption key E is taken from a table of encryption key/hash pairs which have been provided to the DRM Controller by an external authority such as the content rights holder. User A encrypts the content using the key provided by the DRM controller and then optionally calculates a hash over the encrypted form of the content E(X) and returns this value to the DRM Controller. On checking the returned hash against the hash from the table the DRM controller knows that user A does indeed have the digital content X in good condition.
For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.
A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
   IPC(8): G06Q 30/00 (2007.01)
   USPC: 705/14
   According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED
   Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
   IPC(8): G06Q 30/00 (2007.01)
   USPC: 705/14

   Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
   USPC: 705/1, 14, 71; 713/150, 161, 171; 380/201, 255, 277

   Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
   Electronic databases: PUBWEST (USPT, FGPB, EPAB, JPAB); DialogPRO (Engineering); Google Scholar
   Search Terms Used: key, hash, digital rights management, DRM controller etc.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category*</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
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Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
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