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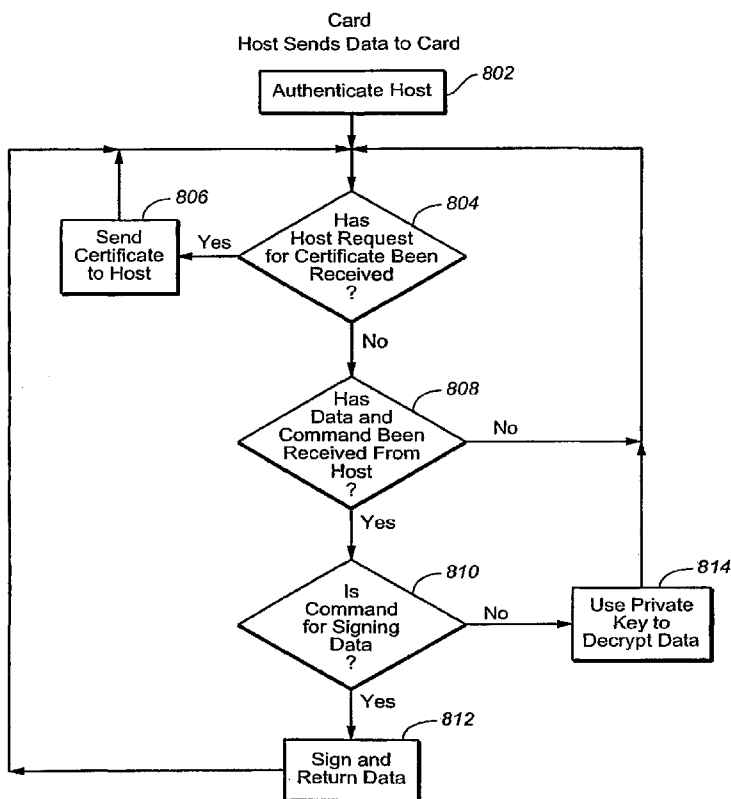
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(54) Title: CONTROL SYSTEM AND METHOD USING IDENTITY OBJECTS



(57) Abstract: An object known as an identity object comprises a public key and a private key pair and at least one certificate issued by a certificate authority that certifies that the public key of the pair is genuine. This object may be used as proof of identification by using the private key to sign data provided to it or signals derived from the data. An identity object may be stored in a non-volatile memory as proof of identity. The memory is controlled by a controller. Preferably, a housing encloses the memory and the controller. The memory system is removably connected to a host device. After the host device has been successfully authenticated, the private key of the object is used to encrypt data from the host device or signals derived from said data, and the at least one certificate and the encrypted data or signals are sent to the host device. After an entity has been authenticated by a control data structure of the memory system, the public key of the identity object and the at least one certificate to certify the public key are provided to the entity. If encrypted data encrypted by means of the public key of the identity object is received from the entity, the memory system will then be able to decrypt the encrypted data using the private key in the identity object.

WO 2008/008243 A3



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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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X	US 6 779 113 B1 (GUTHERY SCOTT B [US]) 17 August 2004 (2004-08-17) claims 1,7,15,16 column 5, lines 27-43 column 6, lines 25-28 column 7, lines 28-46 column 8, lines 9-17 -----	1-9
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