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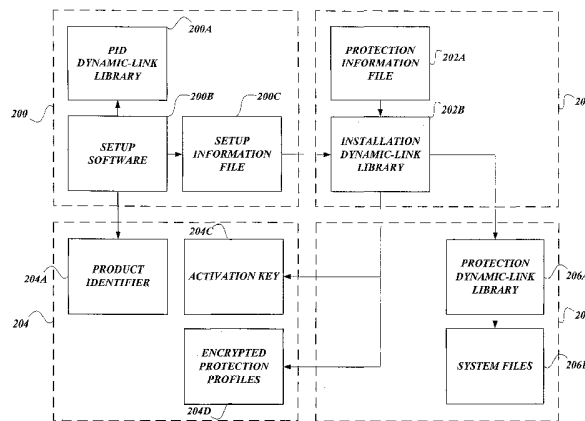
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(54) Title: SECURING SOFTWARE



(57) Abstract: Obfuscation of a software image so as to becloud the comprehension of hackers in reverse engineering pieces of software comprising the software image is provided (402). A process for determining whether the hardware resources, such as the central processing unit or the cache memory on a computing machine, belong to a class for which inhibiting software tampering is possible, is also provided (442). Thread protection inhibits tampering with various threads that execute protective pieces of software (443). Service protection inhibits tampering by allowing various unauthorized services to execute (407). Installation setup protection inhibits tampering during the installation of various pieces of software (202). Hardware protection prevents hackers from forcing various pieces of software from running on unauthorized pieces of hardware (3B).

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WIPO H04L 9/14 no limiting search terms; US 726/4, 380/25, 380/28, 380/4, 380/21, 380/49, 705/26, 705/400, 705/1; Google.		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2004/0107368 A1 (COLVIN) 03 June 2004 (03.06.2004) paragraphs 18, 114, 117-122, 176-182, 234, 236 and 300-305 and item 128 in figure 5 and item 822 in figure 31.	1-179
Y	US 6,236,971 B1 (STEFIK et al) 22 May 2001 (22.05.2001) col. 2 lines 5-7, col. 15 line 38 through col. 16 line 32, col. 27 line 20 - col. 28 line 4, col. 32 lines 24-34, col. 48 lines 37-65.	1-179
Y	US 5,748,739 A (PRESS) 05 May 1998 (05.05.1998) col. 3 lines 15-17 and lines 35-55, col. 6 line 2-7.	1-79, 105-179
Y	WO 03007571 A1 (JOOSTEN) 23 January 2003 (23.01.2003) page 2 lines 24-26.	140-159
A	Libar. Unpacking by Code Injection. The CodeBreakers-Journal, Col. 1, No. 2 (2004) [online], [retrieved 2005-1-25] Retrieved from the Internet. <URL: http://www.codebreakers-journal.com/include/getdoc.php?id=92>. Entire document.	1-179
A	WO 99/01815 A1 (COLLBERG et al.) 14 January 1999 (14.01.1999) entire document.	1-179
A	US 5,915,019 A (GINTER et al.) 22 June 1999 (22.06.1999) entire document.	1-179
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