

(43) International Publication Date
1 November 2012 (01.11.2012)(51) International Patent Classification:
G06F 11/30 (2006.01)(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US20 12/034765(22) International Filing Date:
24 April 2012 (24.04.2012)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
13/096,603 28 April 2011 (28.04.2011) US(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **ABSIO CORPORATION** [US/US]; 8321 South Sangre De Crista Road, Suite 302, Littleton, CO 80127-6425 (US).

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report (Art. 21(3))

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SECURE DATA STORAGE

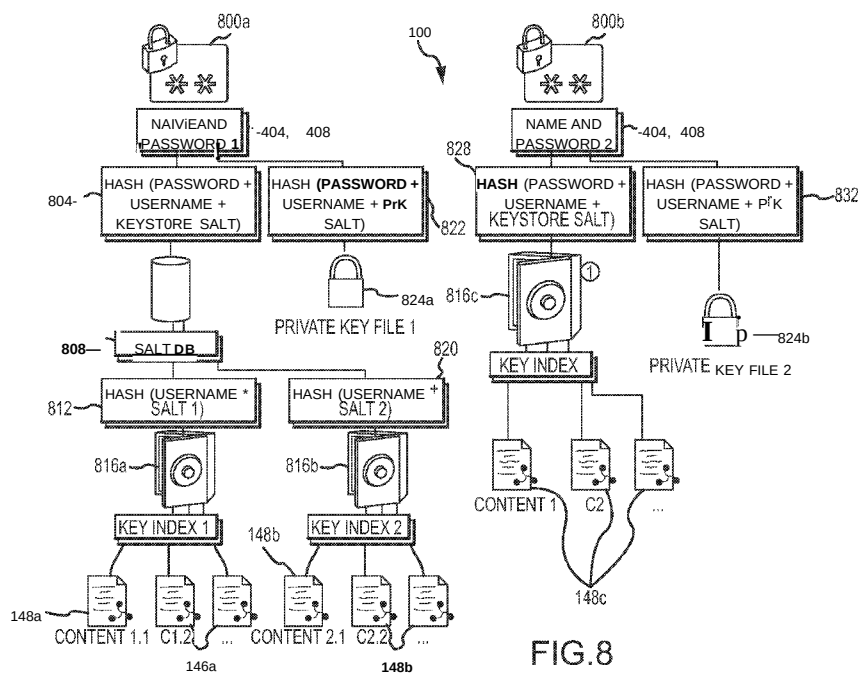


FIG. 8

(57) **Abstract:** Methods and systems for obscuring the location of critical system files are provided. In particular, the locations of files stored within a file system are selected by applying various inputs to a hash algorithm. For system files, the inputs applied to the hash algorithm can include a user name and password. For data files, the information provided to the hash algorithm can include the file name. In addition to providing random file locations, a file system in accordance with embodiments of the present invention can homogenize other information, including file names, sizes and creation dates.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 12/34765

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - G06F 11/30 (201 3.01)**USPC - 713/193**

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)

USPC: 713/193

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

USPC: 713/193; 713/189; 726/26 (keyword limited; terms below)

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

PatBase; Google Scholar; Google Patents

Keywords: File; Identifier; iisername; password; hash; salt; storage; location; index; key; size

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 2010/1 11438 A2 (FIELDER) 30 September 2010 (30.09.2010), entire document, especially; para [0004]-[0007], [0023], [0026], [0029], [0032], [0050], [0059], [0061], [0062], [0065], [0074], [0077], [0078], [0080], [0088], [0089], [0092]-[0101], [0136], [0138]	1 - 20
A	US 2010/03331 16 A1 (PRAHLAD et al.) 30 December 2010 (30.12.2010), entire document	1 - 20
A	US 2009/0235091 A1 (KURN) 17 September 2009 (17.09.2009), entire document	1 - 20

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"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

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"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

12 February 2013 (12.02.2013)

Date of mailing of the international search report

08 APR 2013

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PCT OSP: 571-272-7774