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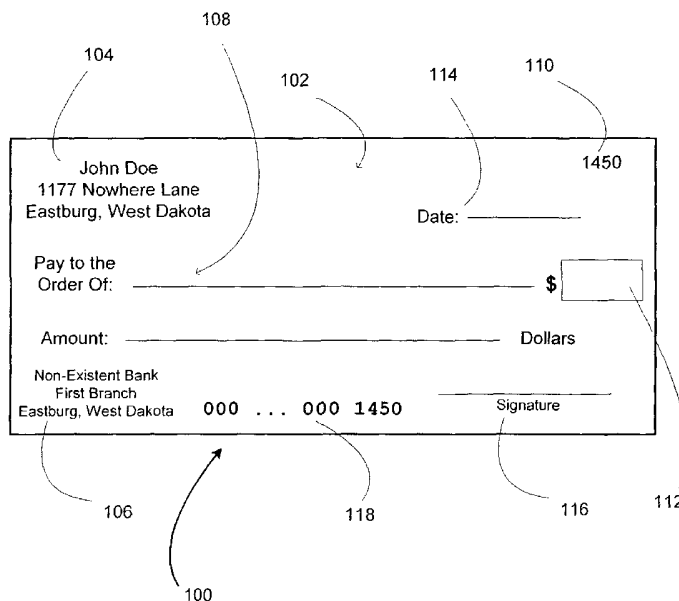
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: DIGITALLY WATERMARKING CHECKS AND OTHER VALUE DOCUMENTS



(57) Abstract: A digital watermark (100) comprises of various techniques for encoding hidden information in checks and other security documents. The hidden information provides an authentication tool. Also including a method for encoding a security document with information. The security document comprises a substrate (102) having printing thereon. The information is hidden in the printing and corresponds to text or numbers conveyed by at least a portion of the printing. The method includes dividing the information into a plurality of payload sets, wherein each payload set includes a sub-set of the information, and encoding the payload sets across the substrate (102). The plurality of payload sets is concatenated in order to retrieve the information.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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US CL :Please See Extra Sheet.

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)

U.S. : 705/76, 80, 13, 54, 156, 158, 175, 176, 169; 713/176; 382/100

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
NONE

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

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X,E	US 6,487,301 B1 (ZHAO) 26 November 2002 (26.11.2002), columns 7, 11, 13.	1-5, 7-11, 13-16, 18-22, 29-34
Y,P	US 2002/0056041 A1 (MOSKOWITZ) 09 May 2002 (09.05.2002), column 4, lines 5-67.	6, 12, 17, 23-25, 27, 35
Y	US 5,005,200 A (FISCHER) 02 April 1991 (02.04.1991), column 24, lines 23-67.	26, 28
Y	US 6,216,116 B1 (BARKAN et al) 10 April 2001 (10.04.2001), column 15.	26, 28
Y	US 6,076,064 A (ROSE, JR.) 13 June 2000 (13.06.2000), column 8.	6, 12, 17, 23-25, 27, 35

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

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"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier document published on or after the international filing date	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

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