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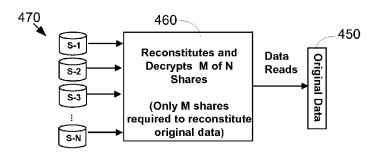


FIG. 9

(57) Abstract: Methods and systems for managing data blocks and I/O requests are provided. One method is a method of managing data blocks in a secure storage appliance. The method includes receiving a block of data associated with a volume, the volume associated with a plurality of shares stored on a plurality of physical storage devices, and storing the block of data in a buffer. The method also includes associating the block of data with a state from among a plurality of states, each of the states corresponding to a status of the block of data. The method further includes processing the block of data by performing at least one cryptographic operation on the block of data, and upon completion of processing the block of data, updating the state of the block of data.





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International application No

PCT/US2009/064786 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. G06F21/00 H04L29/06 ADD. 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) G06F 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) EPO-Internal, WPI Data C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. X US 2007/160198 A1 (ORSINI RICK [US] ET AL) 1-2312 July 2007 (2007-07-12) paragraph [0483] - paragraph [0492]; figures 30-32 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "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 docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled other means in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 11/10/2010 1 October 2010 Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040

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A	US 2008/183975 A1 (FOSTER LYNN [US] ET AL) 31 July 2008 (2008-07-31) figure 1	1-23

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