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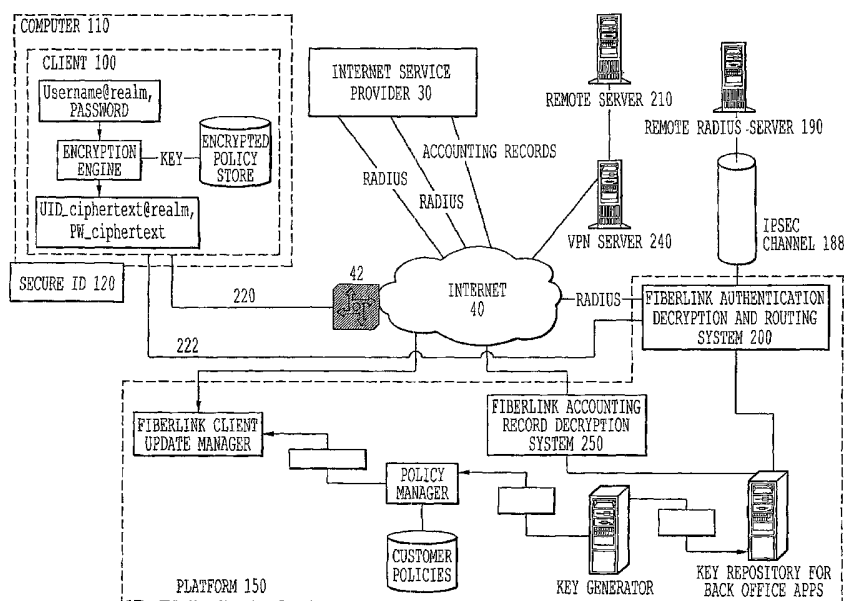
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM, METHOD, APPARATUS AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR FACILITATING DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS



(57) Abstract: A computer-implemented method and apparatus provides secured access to a computer. In one aspect of the present invention, credentials are received from a user, the credentials including a user identification and a password. The credentials are encrypted with an encryption algorithm. A request for access to a computer is created, the request for access to the computer including the encrypted credentials. The request for access to the computer is transmitted over a network. Verification is received that access to the computer is granted. Access to the computer is received.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/26211

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : H04L 9/0

US CL : 713/201

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. : 713/201

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 practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,081,508 (West et al.) 27 June 2000 (27.6.2000), Column 28 lines 8-65	1, 2, 5-14
Y	US 5,666,411 (McCarty) 9 September 1997 (9.9.1997), Column 12 lines 48-53, Column 21 lines 29-40	3, 4

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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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 invention
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"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
"L" 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 documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

23 May 2005 (23.05.2005)

Date of mailing of the international search report

25 JUL 2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/26211

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
Please See Continuation Sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: 1-14

Remark on Protest

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The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US04/26211

Continuation of Item 4 of the first sheet:

Examiner: Title too long

NEW TITLE: Product for facilitating digital communications

BOX III. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be examined, the appropriate additional examination fees must be paid.

Group 1, claim(s) 1-14, drawn to a method for securely accessing computer.

Group 2, claim(s) 15-27, 29, and 31, drawn to a method for authenticating access.

Group 3, claim(s) 28 and 30, drawn to a compute for securely accessing a computer, with no access step.

Group 4, claim(s) 32-36, drawn to an apparatus for securely accessing a computer.

Group 5, claim(s) 37-41, drawn to an apparatus for authenticating access to a computer.

Group 6, claim(s) 42-49, 56, and 58, drawn to a method of authenticating a user.

Group 7, claim(s) 50-55, 57, and 59, drawn to a method of providing a challenge.

Group 8, claim(s) 60-64, drawn to an apparatus for authenticating a user.

Group 9, claim(s) 65-69, drawn to an apparatus for providing a challenge message.

Group 10, claim(s) 70-77, 87-89, 91, 92, and 94, drawn to a method for preventing unsecured access to a computer.

Group 11, claim(s) 78-86, 90, and 93, drawn to a method for preventing unsecured access to a computer based on location.

Group 12, claim(s) 95-99, drawn to an apparatus for preventing unsecured access.

Group 13, claim(s) 100-106, drawn to drawn to an apparatus for preventing unsecured access based on location.

The inventions listed as Groups 1-13 do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: Each group has different elements and purposes of a system, that could possibly be used together, but, as disclosed, could easily be used separately for distinct purposes.