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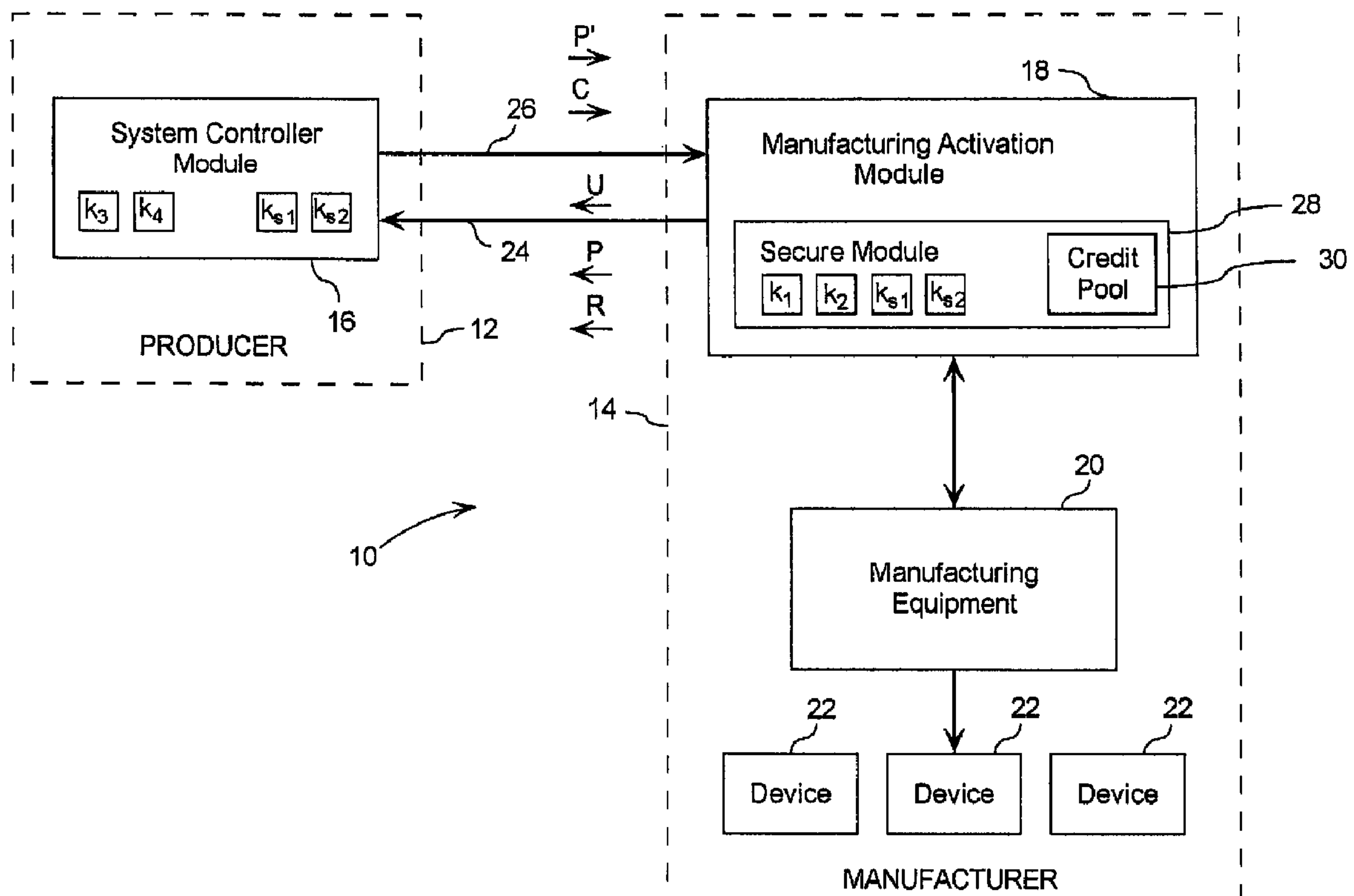
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(54) Titre : SYSTEME ET METHODE D'ENREGISTREMENT A DISTANCE D'UN DISPOSITIF

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR REMOTE DEVICE REGISTRATION



(57) **Abrégé/Abstract:**

A system and method for remote device registration, to monitor and meter the injection of keying or other confidential information onto a device, is provided. A producer who utilizes one or more separate manufacturers, operates a remote module that communicates over forward and backward channels with a local module at the manufacturer. Encrypted distribution images are sent by producer to the manufacturer and are decrypted and used in the production of devices. As distribution images are decrypted, credits from a credit pool are depleted and can be replenished by the producer through credit instructions. As



(57) **Abrégé(suite)/Abstract(continued):**

distribution images are decrypted, usage records are created and eventually concatenated, and sent as usage reports back to the producer, to enable the producer to monitor and meter production at the manufacturer.

1 **ABSTRACT**

2

3 A system and method for remote device registration, to monitor and meter the injection of keying
4 or other confidential information onto a device, is provided. A producer who utilizes one or
5 more separate manufacturers, operates a remote module that communicates over forward and
6 backward channels with a local module at the manufacturer. Encrypted distribution images are
7 sent by producer to the manufacturer and are decrypted and used in the production of devices.
8 As distribution images are decrypted, credits from a credit pool are depleted and can be
9 replenished by the producer through credit instructions. As distribution images are decrypted,
10 usage records are created and eventually concatenated, and sent as usage reports back to the
11 producer, to enable the producer to monitor and meter production at the manufacturer.

12

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR REMOTE DEVICE REGISTRATION

FIELD OF THE INVENTION:

[0001] The present invention relates generally to device registration, and particularly to registering end-user devices from remote locations during production thereof.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PRIOR ART

[0002] A device that participates in a cryptographically secure communication system, will typically have some type of unique and immutable information that was injected into the device at the time of manufacturing. This information could be a cryptographic key, a shared secret or some other data that may be cryptographically bound to an inherently unique attribute of the device. This injection of information is sometimes referred to as “keying” the device.

[0003] The purpose of this injected information is to ensure that the device is accepted as an authentic participant of the secured communication system at some point in the future, after the device has been distributed. The injected information enables a customer or user of the device to avoid tedious procedures required to register the device. The device may be granted access to a system based on cryptographic authentication that the information is trusted. This trust is based on the fact that it is exceptionally difficult to reproduce the trusted data outside of the manufacturing process.

[0004] These systems rely on the manufacturing process and the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) to provide a root of trust for the devices, and ultimately for the entire secure communication system.

[0005] In a modern business climate comprising ever-increasing device complexity and sophistication, it is not uncommon for individual parts to be manufactured and keyed by one manufacturer for later assembly by another manufacturer. In such a situation there exists certain security implications when the producer of the device or the owner of the communication system

1 is not the device manufacturer. It can therefore be paramount for a device producer to ensure the
2 integrity of the manufacturing systems that are responsible for the integrity of the producer's
3 device.

4 [0006] When considering the integrity of the manufacturing process, of particular concern
5 are issues related to the confidentiality of secret information that is used to manufacture the
6 device, as well as ensuring that the manufacturer correctly reports the identities and the number
7 of units manufactured to the producer. The device producer needs to obtain assurances that a
8 manufacturer is not creating and distributing "black market" parts or devices.

9 [0007] Traditionally, a producer that is concerned about securing the information injection
10 stage at a manufacturing site has little choice but to implicitly trust that a manufacturer is
11 operating in a manner that gives due consideration to the producer's device and system security.
12 Protective mechanisms are generally naïve, in that keying information is typically bulk encrypted
13 and sent to the manufacturer, where, upon arrival, all of the keying information is decrypted at
14 once, and the manufacturer is then trusted not to compromise the bulk of information.

15 [0008] One method to restrict access to keying information is to use an on-line client-server
16 mechanism. With such a mechanism in place, the client at the manufacturer's facility would be
17 connected to a network, and would make requests for keying information on a per-device basis,
18 to a remote key-providing server under the control of the producer.

19 [0009] There are a number of problems with implementing a manufacturing system that
20 relies on an off-site, remotely networked server, that provides keying information on such a just-
21 in-time basis. The foremost problem is that an off-site server can not guarantee a minimal service
22 level or response time to the manufacturing line if it uses a public shared packet-switched
23 network. To prevent problems in the manufacturing line, the link should guarantee a certain level
24 of service in terms of latency and through-put. Given modern manufacturing realities, where
25 production lines exist in remote jurisdictions relative to the producer, such guaranteed network
26 availability can be prohibitively expensive.

1 [0010] A manufacturing facility will typically not begin a production run without all of the
2 necessary materials on hand, including data materials. Otherwise, the risk to production line
3 delays would be too high. Any keying system used by a manufacturer, should be able to
4 guarantee service availability and provide a suitable response. This requires local availability of
5 all data resources and keying information before commencement of a production run.

6 [0011] Given that all data resources must be locally available to a production line, possibly
7 existing on computer systems, and media that is not under direct control of the producer; the
8 producer must consider how to ensure the confidentiality of any secret keying information.

9 [0012] Enough data must be locally available to commence and complete a production run.
10 This typically entails a large repository of data to be sent in advance to the manufacturer, by the
11 producer. In the event that the producer discovers unauthorised and contractually objectionable
12 behaviour by the manufacturer, the producer should also consider how to prevent such a rogue
13 manufacturer from producing black-market product, after the termination of a contract, using
14 pre-stored keying information.

15 [0013] The above issue regarding objectionable behaviour on the part of the manufacturer
16 highlights the main problem faced by the producer of the device. Once keying information is
17 released to a manufacturer, the producer should still be able to control access to the information
18 and enforce accurate reporting of its use. Any solution to such a problem should be able to
19 detect and react to unauthorised manufacturing activity and be tamper-resistant, so as to thwart
20 efforts by a manufacturer to compromise the system.

21 [0014] It is therefore an object of the present invention, to provide a system and method for
22 remote device registration that obviates or mitigates at least one of the above-described
23 disadvantages.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0015] The present invention provides a system and method that enables a producer who wishes to use a separate entity for at least a portion of the manufacturing process, to monitor production of devices from a remote location.

[0016] In one aspect, the present invention provides a system for remotely registering devices for production thereof, the system comprising a controller module and an activation module remote from each other and connected by forward and backward communication channels, the activation module having a secure module for performing cryptographic operations. The controller module sends cryptographically protected distribution images to the activation module, which are decrypted to obtain data for insertion into the devices, the number of images decrypted by the activation module being metered remotely through control messages sent by the controller module.

[0017] In another aspect, the present invention provides a method for remotely registering devices for production thereof, the method comprising the steps of having a controller module prepare and cryptographically protect a distribution image containing data to be inserted into the devices; the controller module sending the image to at least one activation module, each of the at least one activation module having a secure module for performing cryptographic operations; each secure module extracting the data from the image and co-ordinating the use of the data for insertion into the devices; and the activation module tracking the use of the image and reporting to the controller module; wherein the controller module is located remote from the activation module.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0018] An embodiment of the invention will now be described by way of example only with reference to the appended drawings wherein:

[0019] Figure 1 is a schematic view of a remote device registration system;

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1 [0020] Figure 2 is a schematic representation of a distribution image;

2 [0021] Figure 3 is a schematic representation of one implementation of the modules of
3 Figure 1;

4 [0022] Figure 4 is a flow chart depicting the provisioning procedure of Figure 3;

5 [0023] Figure 5 is a flow chart depicting the credit instruction procedure of Figure 3;

6 [0024] Figure 6 is a flow chart depicting the distribution and keying procedure of Figure 3;
7 and

8 [0025] Figure 7 is a flow chart depicting the reporting procedure of Figure 3.

9

10 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

11 [0026] Referring therefore to Figure 1, a remote device registration or trusted key injection
12 system is generally denoted by numeral 10. A producer 12 of a device 22 utilizes the services of
13 a separate entity, in this case a manufacturer 14, for the injection of unique and immutable
14 information into the devices 22. The information may be a cryptographic key, a shared secret, or
15 some other data that may be cryptographically bound to an inherently unique attribute of the
16 device 22. The producer 12 has a system controller module 16, which is a computer system that
17 is remote to the manufacturer's facility. The system controller module 16 is responsible for
18 packaging and conveying the key information and other information to the manufacturer 14. The
19 system controller module 16 selectively encrypts the keying data, i.e., the keying data is
20 partitioned into per-device data images called distribution images 40, that are described below
21 and shown in Figure 2.

22 [0027] The manufacturer 14 has a manufacturer activation module 18, which is a computer
23 system that is local to the manufacturer's facility and whose activities are metered through
24 messages sent by the controller module 16.

1 [0028] The modules 16 and 18 are connected by a forward communication channel 26, and a
2 backward communication channel 24. The channels 24 and 26 may be arbitrary communication
3 channels and are not required to be either reliable or secure. Reliability and security over the
4 channels 24 and 26 are provided using a combination of technical mechanisms and
5 processes/procedures. For example, if a message sent over the forward channel 26 to the module
6 18 does not decrypt because it is corrupt, a user may phone an operator of the system controller
7 module 16, and have them send the message again.

8 [0029] The manufacturer 14 also has equipment 20 which is used to inject the cryptographic
9 key data into the devices 22. The manufacturer activation module 18 has a secure module 28
10 that comprises special trusted hardware that is configured and set-up by the producer 12 and that
11 stores a credit pool 30. The credit pool 30 is an abstract concept representing the number of
12 distribution images 40 that may be decrypted by the secure module 28 before the secure module
13 28 begins to refuse distribution image requests made by the manufacturer 14.

14 [0030] A general outline of the procedures used by the system 10 is shown in Figure 3.
15 Firstly, a provisioning procedure is executed to initialize the modules 16, 18 and 28; and to
16 establish the cryptographic keys and identification data used in the transmission of distribution
17 images 40.

18 [0031] The provisioning procedure is followed by a credit instruction procedure once an
19 initialization has been completed, which involves the transmission of credit instruction files from
20 the controller module 16 to the activation module 18, and is used to maintain the value of the
21 credit pool 30.

22 [0032] The credit instruction procedure is followed by a distribution and keying procedure
23 which involves the decryption of distribution images 40 and the use thereof for keying the
24 devices 22. Encrypted distribution images 40 and credit instructions, are transmitted by the
25 producer 12 to the manufacture 14 using control messages C, over the forward communication
26 channel 26. The control messages are special encrypted messages that, among other things,
27 instruct the manufacturer activation module 18 to increase or decrease the credit pool 30. Thus,

1 credit instructions within the control message C are used by the provider 12 to control the value
2 of the credit pool 30.

3 **[0033]** The distribution and keying procedure is followed by a reporting procedure, which
4 involves concatenating records into a report by the secure module 28 and sending them to the
5 controller module 16 via the backward channel 24. The activation module 18 is remotely
6 metered by the producer 12, who governs the number of distribution images 40 available for
7 decryption by the secure module 28. As distribution images 40 are decrypted, the credit pool 30
8 is diminished. Since the credit pool 30 is stored within the secure module 28, it resists
9 tampering. In order to replenish the credit pool 30, the secure module 28 must retrieve a control
10 message C including a positive credit instruction from the controller module 16.

11 **[0034]** Usage report messages U are sent by the activation module 18 back to the controller
12 module 16 over the backward communication channel 24. All backward channel messages are
13 generated, encrypted, and signed within the secure module 28. Each message is assigned a
14 predictable identity to prevent data loss and ensure the integrity of the messages.

15 **[0035]** The reports are used to determine if the distribution of distribution images 40 should
16 continue. If the process should not be disrupted, the credit instruction procedure may be
17 repeated, otherwise, the manufacturing equipment 20 may be shut down until the problem is
18 resolved.

19 **[0036]** With the system 10 in place, a producer 12 can monitor production at a
20 manufacturing facility 14. The producer 12 actively monitors the credit pool 30 to ensure that
21 the manufacturer 14 has a large enough credit pool 30 in order to prevent production delays.
22 However, if the manufacturer 14 acts in bad faith, then the producer 12 has the means to force
23 the manufacturer 14 to discontinue device production by sending a negative-valued credit
24 instruction in a control message C, or by failing to replenish the credit pool 30 any further. This
25 causes the credit pool 30 to diminish to zero, thus shutting down the manufacturing equipment
26 20.

[0037] The provisioning procedure is shown in greater detail in Figure 4, and is executed in order to initialize the system 10. The secure module 28 produces and sends a provisioning request message P to the controller module 16. This message P preferably contains the serial number of the secure module 28 being used by the activation module 18. The secure module 28 generates two cryptographic key pairs k_1 , k_2 (e.g. RSA key pairs or preferably using elliptic curve cryptography (ECC)), one (k_1) for receiving encrypted messages and another (k_2) for signing outgoing messages. Preferably, the manufacturer 14 is cryptographically bootstrapped in a physically controlled environment during this exchange of key pairs k_1 and k_2 .

[0038] When the controller module 16 receives the provisioning request from the activation module 18, it checks the integrity of the message and then assigns the manufacturer a "token ID". Two keys, preferably symmetric keys k_{s1} and k_{s2} (e.g. Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) keys), are generated. These keys are to be used by the modules 16 and 18 to protect the distribution images 40 on the forward channel 26 and the usage reports U on the backward channel 24.

[0039] The controller module 16 then generates a provisioning response message P' that, for example, contains the assigned token ID, public keys of the controller module's 16 encryption and signing key pairs k_3 and k_4 respectively, the forward and backward channel symmetric keys k_{s1} and k_{s2} , some initial configuration data, and a hash digest for integrity. Similar to the provisioning request message P, it is assumed that the provisioning response message P' is handled within a physically controlled environment.

[0040] The provisioning response message P' is sent to the activation module 18, and if the controller module 16 has not been initialized, it will perform all required initialization upon receiving its first provisioning request. The structure of the provisioning response may contain a member that decrypts to a separate structure that contains symmetric keys for the forward and backward channel communications between the modules 16 and 18. It shall be noted that these keys are distinct for each secure module 28 (and thus each activation module 18), and are not shared amongst a group of secure modules. Once the provisioning procedure is complete, a normal exchange of distribution images 40 and control messages C can commence.

1 [0041] The credit instruction procedure is shown in greater detail in Figure 5. The secure
2 module 28 must consume a credit from the credit pool 30 to decrypt a distribution image 40.
3 Over time, the credit pool 30 will diminish and need to be replenished with a credit instruction
4 file sent by the controller module 16.

5 [0042] The controller module 16 only sends one control message to the activation module 18
6 at a time. One of the required files contained in this message is a credit instruction file. The file
7 can be an encrypted set of data for a specific activation module 18 that is decrypted by the secure
8 module 28, to a credit instruction. The credit instruction contains, e.g., the serial number of the
9 secure module 28 and/or activation module 18, the module's token ID, a sequence number, new
10 credit amount, and configuration data, that has all been signed by the controller module 16.

11 [0043] Upon receiving the control message C, the secure module 28 decrypts the credit
12 instruction data from the control message C, and validates the signature. The secure module 28
13 also validates the serial number and token ID as its own, if applicable. A validation of the
14 sequence number is then performed. The sequence number should be greater than the sequence
15 internally stored in the secure module 28. Once validated, the secure module 28 will update its
16 internal sequence number and set the value of the credit pool 30 to the credit value in the credit
17 instruction.

18 [0044] The secure module 28 will then process any configuration messages in the control
19 message C to update its internal configuration. Configuration messages are included in both the
20 control messages C, and the provisioning response messages P', in order to enable the controller
21 module 16 to push configuration data to the activation module 18, such as updates for filtering
22 rules, keying information, credit rules etc.. Configuration data can be intended for the secure
23 module 28 or an application running on the activation module 18. The secure module 28 looks
24 for configuration messages of a defined type to process them. Configuration messages can be
25 marked as private or public, and access thereto would then be controlled by the secure module
26 28.

27 [0045] A credit report R is the activation module's response to processing a credit instruction
28 in a control message C. The credit report R may contain the serial number and token ID of the

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1 secure module 28, the current sequence value, the current value of the credit pool 30, number of
2 refills to date, and an error code that is set to zero if no errors occurred during credit instruction
3 processing.

4 [0046] The credit report R is signed by the secure module 28 using its signing key k_2 . The
5 report R is then encrypted for the controller module 16 using the controller module's public
6 encryption key k_3 . The report R is then sent to the controller module 16.

7 [0047] The distribution and keying procedure is shown in greater detail in Figure 6. The
8 distribution image 40 is first prepared by the controller module 16. The distribution image 40 is
9 encrypted with a unique image key 42. The image key 42 is then in turn encrypted for selected
10 modules 18 that is metered by the producer 12, and stored as individual headers 48 which are
11 part of a collection 44 of headers 48 stored in a main header 46 of the distribution image 40.

12 [0048] Figure 2 also shows an exemplary message structure. For example, the distribution
13 image 40 may contain a list of type 50 and data 52 field pairs as a basic filtering mechanism.
14 The type field 50 contains type 58 and ID 60 information and the data field 52 contains size 54
15 and data 56 information. In such a structure, the data field 52 is an arbitrary byte array of a
16 particular length.

17 [0049] When it is time for the activation module 18 to decrypt the distribution image 40, the
18 activation module 18 first chooses its particular header 48 from the collection of headers 44 that
19 were pre-appended to the distribution image 40. The header 48 and encrypted distribution image
20 40 are then decrypted by the secure module 28. Once the secure module 28 has the header 48
21 and image 40, the header 46 is decrypted using its distribution key to obtain the image key 42.
22 The image key 42 is then used to decrypt the distribution image 40. The distribution image 40 is
23 then validated, e.g., using a secure hashing algorithm, MAC, or digital signature; filtered; and
24 passed back to an application of the activation module 18 in its decrypted and filtered state. The
25 secure module 28 then produces a report record that is secured via cryptographic means, and
26 sends the keying info extracted from the distribution image 40 to the equipment 20 for injection
27 to the devices 22.

1 [0050] The secure module 28 will stop releasing keying information if the following are true:
2 (a) the credit pool diminishes to a value of zero; or (b) the secure module 28 detects an attempt to
3 compromise the system, due to too many errors in the distribution image decryption and
4 validation. If the distribution of further keying information is permitted, the activation module
5 18 will continue to receive and process distribution images 40 using the secure module 28.

6 [0051] The authenticity of distribution images 40 is assumed based on the unique symmetric
7 distribution keys k_{s1} and k_{s2} shared between the modules 16 and 18. The messages can be
8 considered authentic once a successful integrity check is performed, e.g., after a sha-2 digest
9 compare.

10 [0052] The reporting procedure is shown in greater detail in Figure 7. Usage report
11 messages U are composed of individually encrypted records generated by the secure module 28
12 that are concatenated into a series of binary files. The file names of these files indicate the date
13 that the usage report message U was created. This individual records, generated by the secure
14 module 28 are encrypted with the backward channel encryption key k_1 , and returned to an
15 application of the activation module 18 from the secure module 28. Every distribution image
16 decryption causes a uniquely sequenced record to be created. An operator of the controller
17 module 16 would typically notice an absent record.

18 [0053] The usage report messages U are sent to the controller module 16 during the reporting
19 process. The controller module 16 is then able to decrypt the individual records contained in the
20 usage report message U, and validate the records. A number of validation checks may occur, the
21 first being a cryptographic check on the validity of each record. Every record may then be
22 decrypted with the backward channel symmetric key specific to the particular secure module 28.
23 A sha-2 digest may then be computed on the contents of the records, and compared to the digest
24 that was appended to the clear-text record created by the secure module 28.

25 [0054] Every record may also be tagged with a monotonically synchronous number. If all
26 the record ID values, put together, are not a contiguous set, then the operator of the controller
27 module 16 will know to track down the missing records from the particular activation module 18.

1 [0055] Backward channel records contain a list of applied filtering rules. This information
2 can be saved by the producer 12 for auditing purposes.

3 [0056] Therefore, by utilizing a remote system controller module 16 separate from the
4 manufacture activation module 18, the producer 12 is able to monitor and meter the activation
5 module 18 and secure module 28, and govern the injection of keying information on the devices
6 22, in order to ensure that the manufacturer 14 correctly reports the identities and the number of
7 units manufactured for the producer 12. This enables the producer 12 to have assurances that a
8 manufacturer 14 is not creating and distributing black market products or devices 22.

9 [0057] With the above procedures and system 10 in place, a producer 12 can monitor
10 production at a manufacturer 14. The producer 12, using the credit instructions in the control
11 messages C, can meter the production of devices 22 by adding or removing available credit for
12 use by the manufacturer 14.

13 [0058] It will be appreciated that the system 10 is not limited to one manufacturer 14 as
14 shown in Figure 1, nor is each manufacturer 14 limited to one set of equipment 20. The system
15 10 is also not to be limited to the use of a single system controller module 16 used by the
16 producer 12. The secure module 28 is most preferably trusted hardware in order to protect key
17 values and the integrity of the credit pool 30. Moreover, keying information contained in the
18 distribution image 40 does not necessarily have to be keying information, but can also be any
19 data element that requires confidentiality and authenticity. A requirement for keying data is
20 typical of a system 10 which wishes to enforce granularity of device activation.

1 **What is claimed is:**

- 2 1. A method for remotely registering devices for production thereof, said method
3 comprising the steps of: having a controller module prepare and cryptographically protect
4 distribution images containing data to be inserted into the devices; the controller module
5 sending respective ones of the images to respective ones of at least one activation
6 module, each of the at least one activation module having a secure module for performing
7 cryptographic operations; each secure module extracting respective data from the
8 respective image and co-ordinating the use of the respective data for insertion into the
9 devices; and the activation module tracking the use of the respective images and
10 reporting to the controller module; wherein the controller module is located remote from
11 the activation module.
- 12 2. A method according to claim 1, further comprising a provisioning procedure executed
13 prior to the controller module preparing and protecting the distribution image, the
14 provisioning procedure being used to initialize the controller module, the activation
15 module, and the secure module.
- 16 3. A method according to claim 2 wherein the provisioning procedure is initiated by having
17 the secure module send a provisioning request to the controller module.
- 18 4. A method according to claim 3 wherein the controller module replies to the provisioning
19 request with a provisioning response.
- 20 5. A method according to claim 4 wherein the provisioning response contains a token ID
21 assigned by the controller module to identify the respective activation module, public
22 encryption and signing keys of the controller module, and symmetric keys for a forward
23 and a backward channel between the controller module and the activation module.
- 24 6. A method according to claim 1 further comprising a credit instruction procedure for
25 establishing a credit value for a credit pool, the credit value representing the number of
26 distribution images from which the secure module can extract data.

- 1 7. A method according to claim 6 wherein the credit instruction procedure initiates by
2 having the controller module send a control message file to the activation module, the
3 control message file containing credit instruction data including an updated credit value.
- 4 8. A method according to claim 7 wherein the control message is encrypted by the
5 controller module and subsequently decrypted by the secure module upon receipt thereof,
6 the credit instruction data being obtained through the decryption operation.
- 7 9. A method according to claim 7 wherein the credit instruction data includes a sequence
8 number, the sequence number being internally updated by the secure module upon
9 extraction thereof.
- 10 10. A method according to claim 6 wherein the secure module prepares and encrypts a credit
11 report and sends the credit report to the controller module in response to the control
12 message.
- 13 11. A method according to claim 6 wherein upon extracting the data from the distribution
14 image, the secure module consumes a credit from the credit pool, thereby decreasing the
15 credit value by one.
- 16 12. A method according to claim 1 wherein the secure module decrypts a header of the
17 distribution image to obtain an image key and uses the image key to decrypt the
18 distribution image to extract the data.
- 19 13. A method according to claim 1 wherein upon extracting the data from the distribution
20 image, the secure module generates a report record.
- 21 14. A method according to claim 13 wherein upon a plurality of repetitions of the method,
22 successive report records are concatenated into a report and encrypted, the report being
23 sent to the controller module, whereby the report records are decrypted and validated, and
24 a report summary is produced.

- 1 15. A system for remotely registering devices for production thereof, the system comprising
2 a controller module and at least one activation module remote from one another, the
3 controller module connected to respective ones of the at least one activation module by
4 forward and backward communication channels, each of the at least one activation
5 module having a secure module for performing cryptographic operations, wherein the
6 controller module sends cryptographically protected distribution images to respective
7 ones of the at least one activation module, which are decrypted by the secure module to
8 obtain data for insertion into the devices, the number of images decrypted by each secure
9 module being metered remotely through control messages sent by the controller module
10 to respective ones of the at least one activation module.
- 11 16. A system according to claim 15 wherein the number of images are metered by
12 maintaining a credit pool stored by the secure module, the control messages being used to
13 update the value of the credit pool.
- 14 17. A system according to claim 15 wherein the secure module and controller module each
15 contain symmetric keys for the forward and backward communication channels.
- 16 18. A system according to claim 15 wherein the secure module and controller module each
17 have respective encryption and signing key pairs.
- 18 19. A system according to claim 15 wherein the distribution image has a header containing
19 an image key, the image key being obtained by decrypting the header and the image key
20 being used to decrypt the distribution image to obtain the data.
- 21 20. A system according to claim 15 wherein the secure module generates a report record
22 upon extracting the data, successive report records being used to generate a report to send
23 to the controller module.

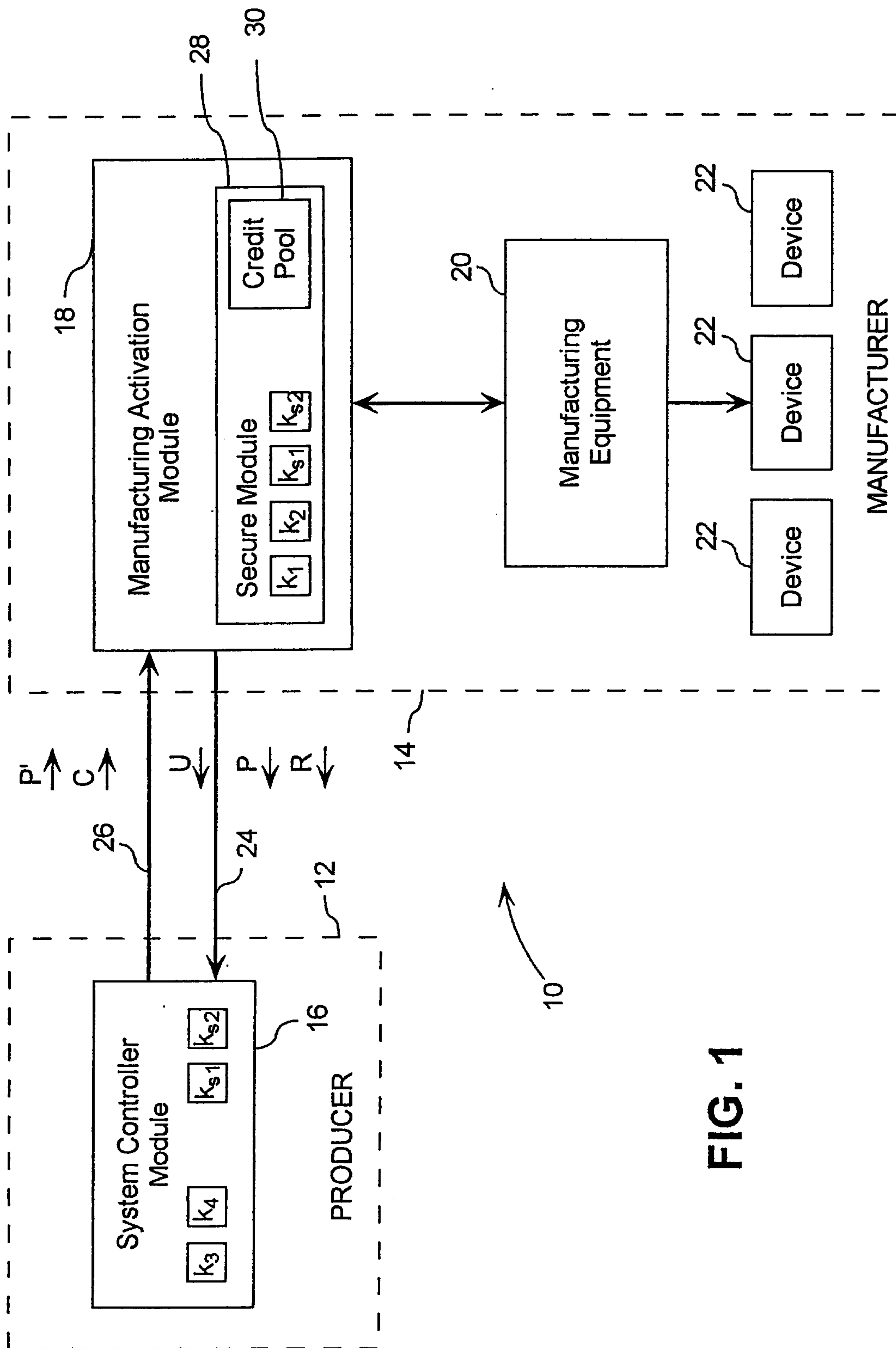


FIG. 1

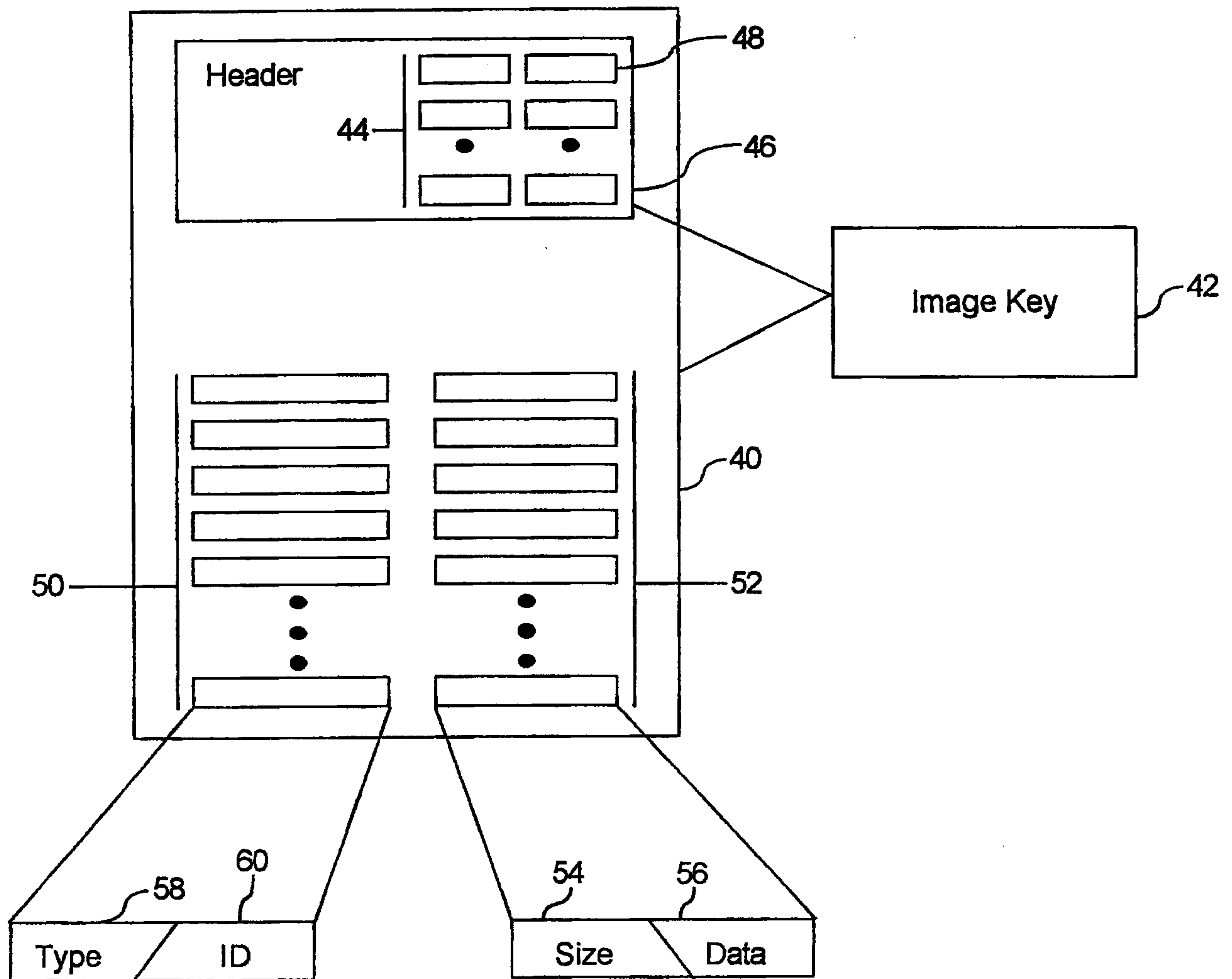
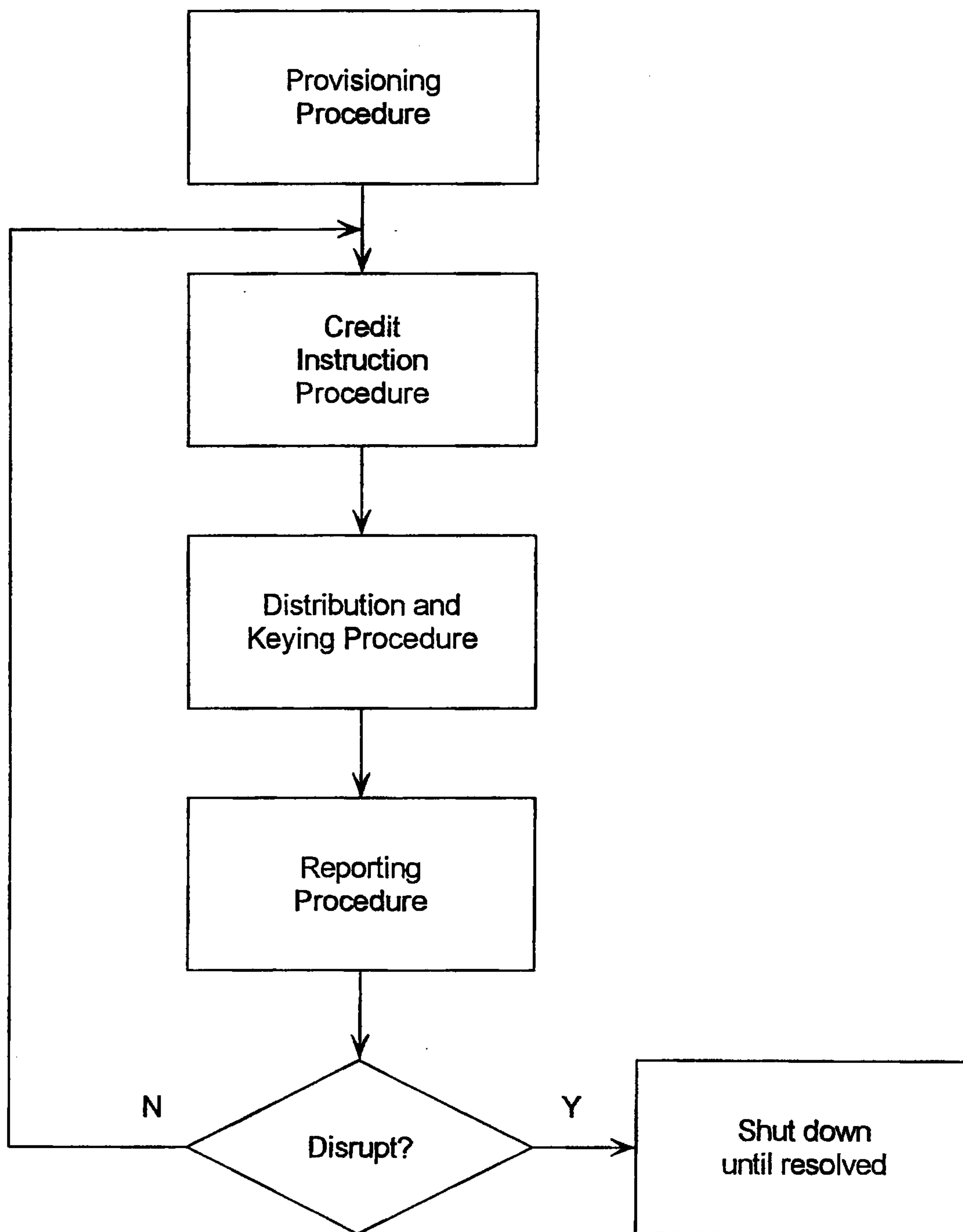


FIG. 2

**FIG. 3**

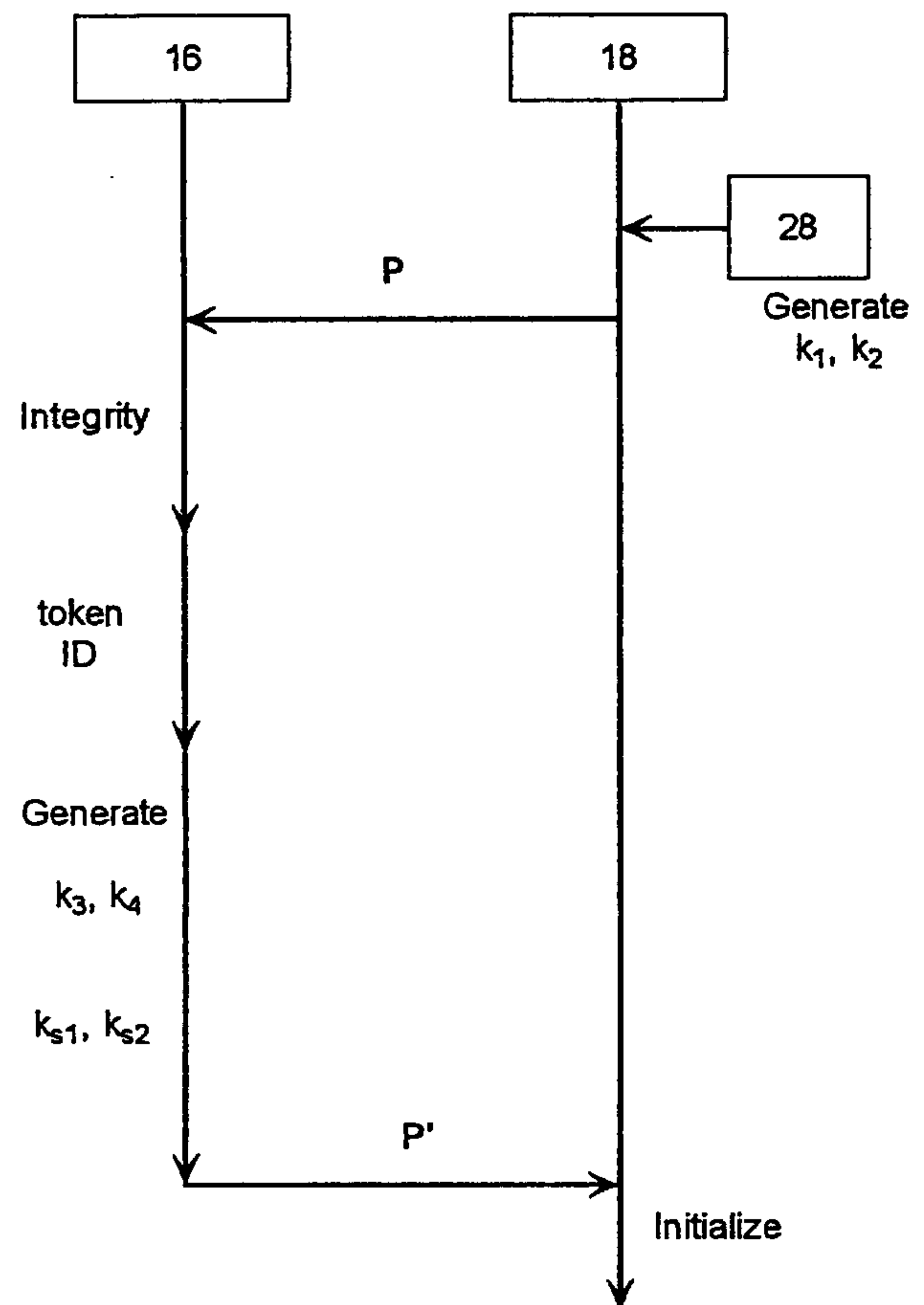
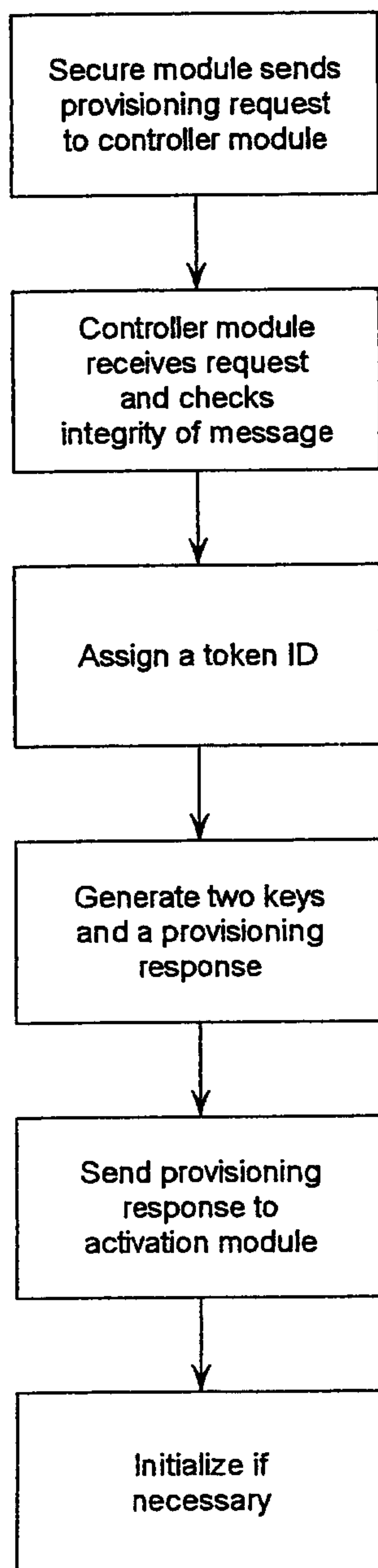


FIG.4

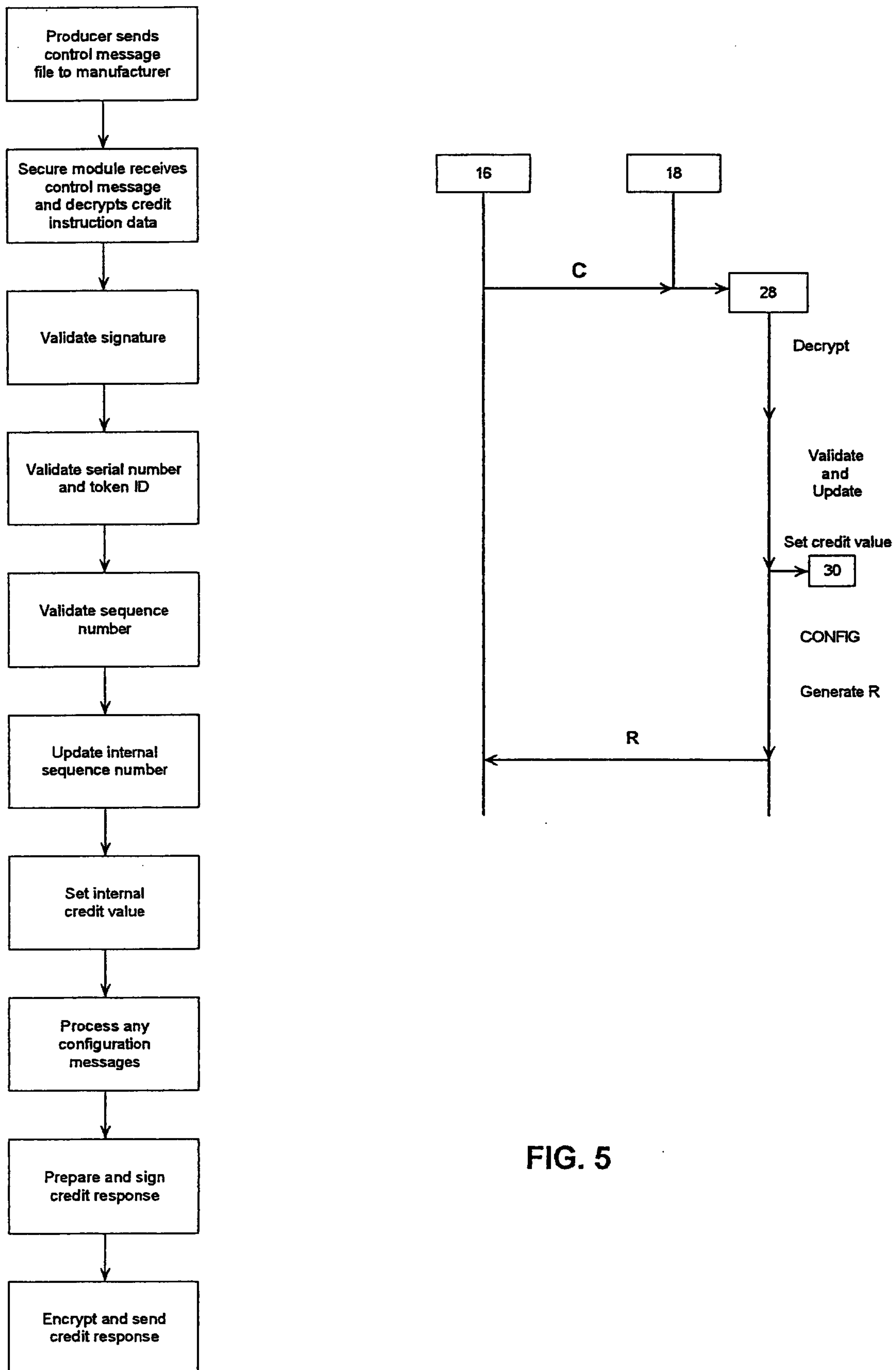


FIG. 5

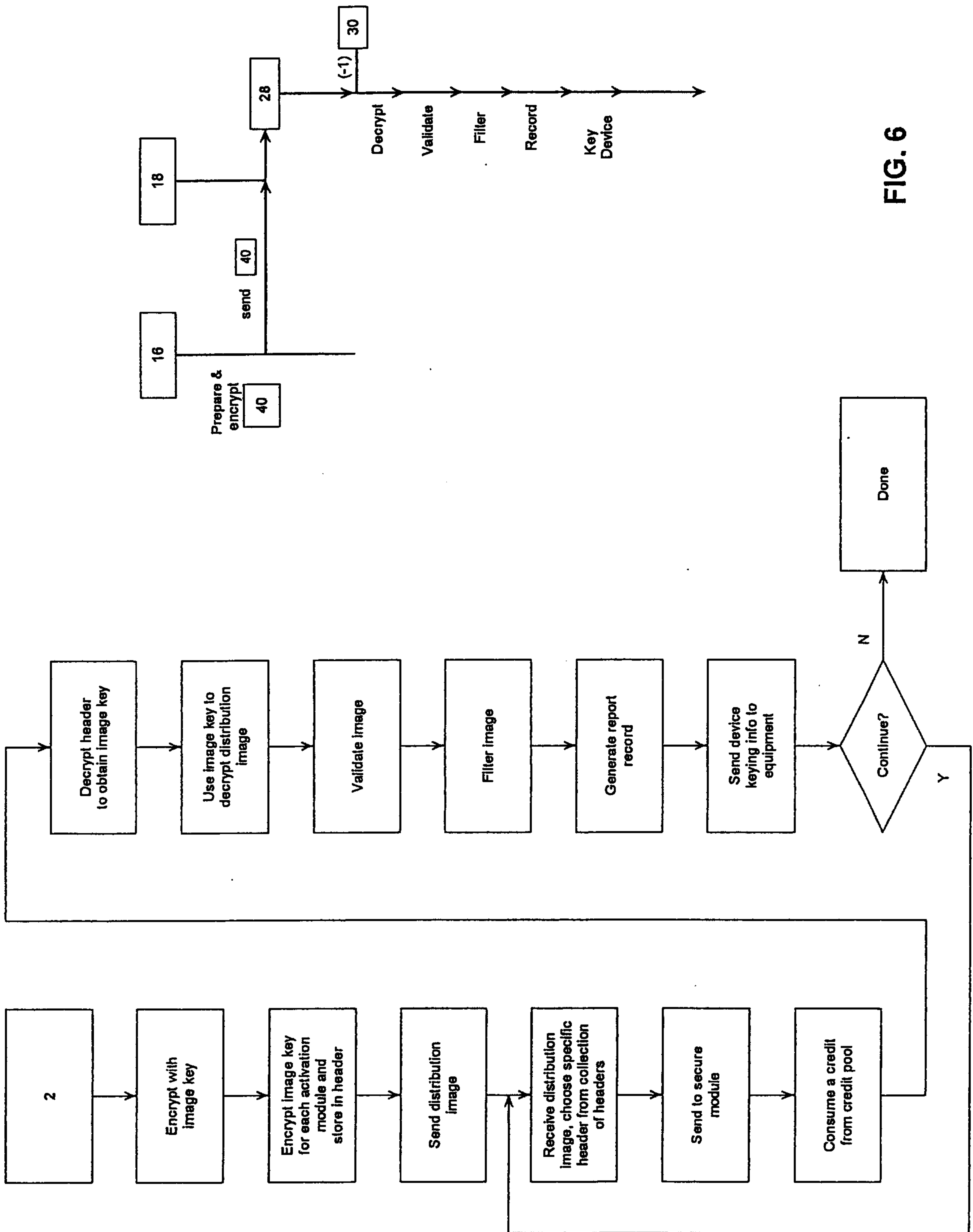


FIG. 6

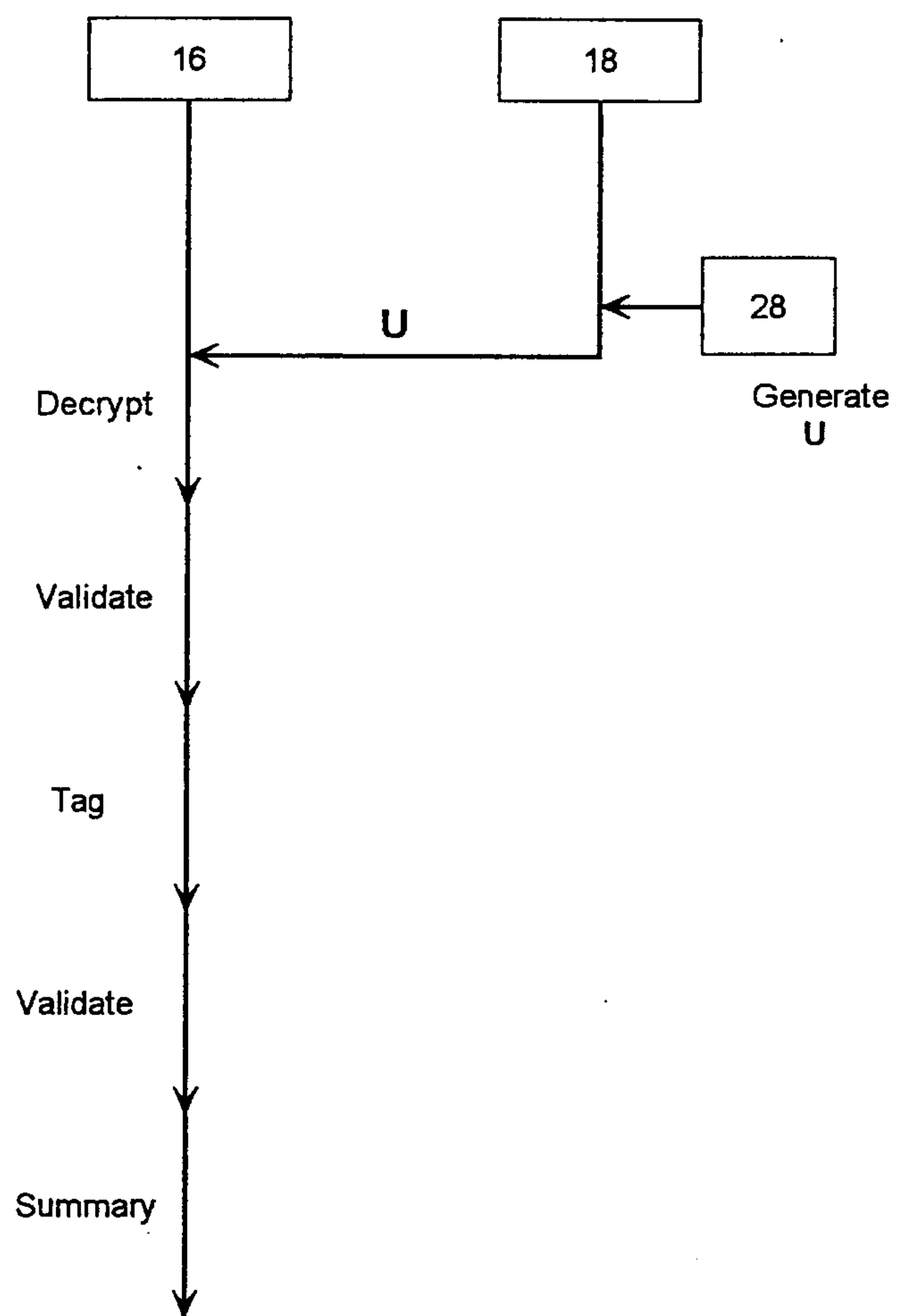
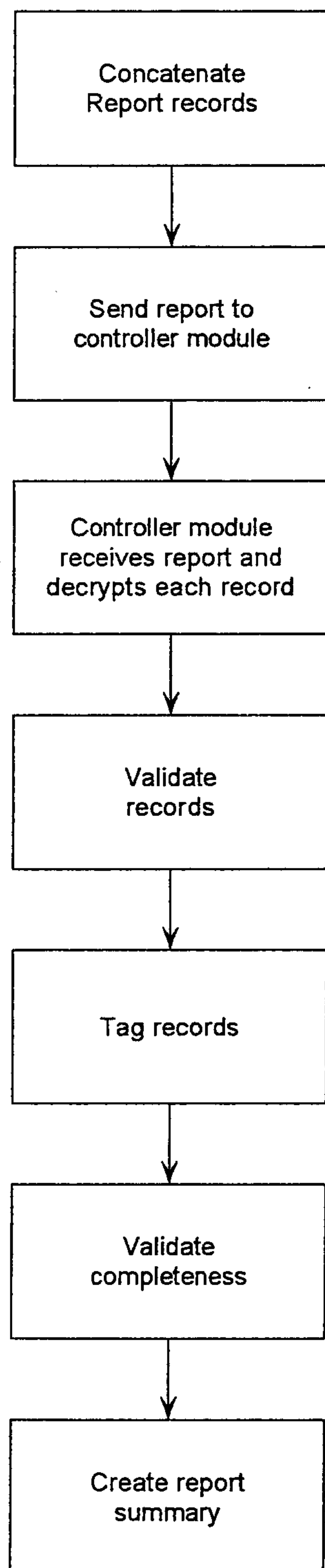


FIG. 7

