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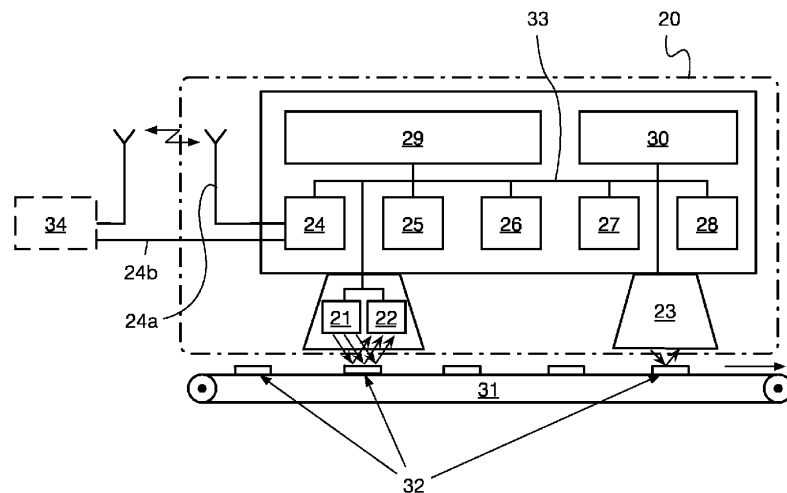


Fig. 9

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to the field of anti-counterfeit protection of products. Specifically, the invention is directed to a method of reading with a reader device a marking comprising a physical unclonable function, PUF, and a corresponding reader device. In particular, such reader device marking can be used in connection with or can form a component of a multi-component security system, in particular of an anti-counterfeit protection system, which is also disclosed herein as part of an over- all security solution for anti-counterfeit protection. The method comprises a stimulation step, wherein a physical challenge according to a predetermined challenge-response authentication scheme corresponding to the PUF is created and applied to a PUF; a detection step, wherein a response generated by the PUF in accordance with the challenge-response authentication scheme in reaction to the challenge is detected and a digital signal representing the response is generated; a processing step, wherein the digital signal is processed in order to generate a hash

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value of the response by application of a predetermined cryptographic hash function to the digital signal;and an output step, wherein data representing the generated hash value as a first reading result is output.