

CLAIMS

1. A method of distributing software across a network, the method comprising:
recording a transaction associated with the software, in a new block of a blockchain;
wherein the new block is linked to a preceding block that records a latest earlier transaction associated with the software;
computing a reputation score of the software based on the transaction and a previous reputation score stored in the linked preceding block; and
storing the computed reputation score in the new block.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
initiating a further transaction associated with the software based on the reputation score.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the further transaction is one of a purchase transaction for installing the software onto an electronic device when the reputation score is above a threshold and a de-register transaction for removing the software from the network when the reputation score is below a threshold.
4. The method of claim 1, comprising recording transactions associated with only one software in any one block of the blockchain.
5. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
broadcasting data about the transaction to a network;
wherein the data comprises an address of a smart contract of a plurality of smart contracts stored in the blockchain, the smart contract corresponding to a type of the transaction.
6. The method of claim 5, further comprising:
retrieving the corresponding smart contract based on the address; and
executing the corresponding smart contract;
wherein the smart contract comprises a set of instructions which when executed, performs the transaction and computes the reputation score when a set of predefined rules are satisfied.

7. The method of claim 5, wherein the data further comprises an address of the software.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein a further block of the blockchain stores records of transactions associated with another software.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein the software is a security software for protecting an electronic device.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein the transaction is a review of the software, wherein the transaction increases or decreases the reputation score of the software depending on an outcome of the review.
11. The method of claim 1, wherein the transaction is a purchase of the software, wherein the transaction increases the reputation score of the software.
12. A distribution system comprising:
 - a memory; and
 - at least one processor communicatively coupled to the memory and configured to:
 - generate a blockchain comprising:
 - a plurality of blocks, wherein each block of the plurality of blocks stores a record of a transaction associated with software; and
 - a plurality of smart contracts, each smart contract corresponding to a type of transaction,
 - wherein at least one smart contract of the plurality of smart contracts is configured to compute a reputation score of any software;
 - wherein each block is linked to a preceding block that stores a record of a latest earlier transaction associated with the same software as the transaction of its stored record; and
 - wherein each block stores the reputation score of the software.
13. The distribution system of claim 12, wherein each record of a transaction comprises an address of the corresponding smart contract.

14. The distribution system of claim 12, wherein the at least one smart contract computes the reputation score stored in each block based on the transaction recorded in the block and further based on a previous reputation score stored in the linked preceding block.
15. The distribution system of claim 12, wherein each block of the blockchain stores a plurality of records of transactions associated with only one software.
16. The distribution system of claim 12, wherein each smart contract comprises a set of instructions which when executed, performs the corresponding transaction and computes the reputation score when a set of predefined rules are satisfied.
17. The distribution system of claim 12, wherein the record of the transaction comprises an address of the software.
18. A distribution system comprising:
 - a plurality of nodes, wherein each node is configured to selectively initiate transactions;
 - wherein at least a subset of the plurality of nodes is configured to implement a plurality of smart contracts, each smart contract associated with a type of transactions;
 - wherein for each transaction initiated by one of the plurality of nodes, the transaction associated with software:
 - another node of the plurality of nodes is configured to record the transaction, in a new block of a blockchain, wherein the new block is linked to a preceding block that records a latest earlier transaction associated with the software; and
 - wherein at least one smart contract of the plurality of smart contracts is configured to compute a reputation score of the software based on the transaction and a previous reputation score stored in the linked preceding block.
19. The distribution system of claim 18, wherein the plurality of nodes comprises:
 - a plurality of supplier nodes that provides software; and
 - a plurality of buyer nodes, each buyer node configured to dispatch software to a respective set of electronic devices.

20. The distribution system of claim 19, wherein the plurality of buyer nodes is configured to verify the transaction before one buyer node of the plurality of buyer nodes records the transaction in the new block.