

**ABSTRACT****KEY PROTECTING METHOD AND A COMPUTING APPARATUS**

A key protecting method includes the steps of: (a) in response to receipt of an access request, configuring
5 a control application program module (11) to generate a key confirmation request; (b) in response to receipt of the key confirmation request, configuring a hardware control module (2) to generate, via the control application program module (11), a key input request
10 to prompt a user for a key input; (c) upon receipt of the key input, configuring the hardware control module (2) to determine if the key input matches a predefined key preset in the hardware control module (2); (d) configuring the hardware control module (2) to enter
15 an execution mode if it is determined in step (c) that the key input matches the predefined key; and (e) configuring the hardware control module (2) to enter a failure mode if it is determined in step (c) that the key input does not match the predefined key.

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FIG.1 is suggested for publication

