ABSTRACT

In a content delivery system, delivery of a content and charging for the fee of the content are performed and managed in a highly secure and effective fashion. If a content-purchasing request is transmitted from a user device to a shop server, a charging process is performed. If the charging process is successfully completed, the shop server transmits, to the user device, an encrypted content key in a form which can be decrypted by a key stored in the user device. A user device authentication server, which manages content delivery, converts an encrypted content key KpDAS(Kc) encrypted using a public key of the user device authentication server (DAS) into an encrypted content key KpDEV(Kc) encrypted using a public key KpDEV of the user device. Provided that the charging process has been successfully completed in response to the content-purchasing request, the shop server transmits the key-converted content key to the user device.