CONDITIONAL ACCESS INFORMATION ARRANGEMENT

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Apparatus in a receiver, for processing transmitted entitlement control information, includes a packet transport processor (13-15,19) for selecting signal packets having payloads containing a conditional access payload header and a remaining payload of entitlement data. Respective payload headers include groups of bytes which are coded in a manner to allow or disallow the respective receiver from processing the entitlement data. A conditional access filter (30) preprogrammed with a subscriber specific conditional access codeword examines respective byte groupings of the conditional access header for a match with the subscriber specific conditional access codeword. Only if a match occurs is the processor permitted to process (17,18,21-24) the entitlement data. The entitlement data is thereafter utilized to generate (31) decryption keys for descrambling (16) portions of the transmitted signal.

Figure 3