(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
18 April 2002 (18.04.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 02/031618 A3

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: H04L 9/00

(21) International Application Number: PCT/SG00/00173

(22) International Filing Date: 13 October 2000 (13.10.2000)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **KENT RIDGE DIGITAL LABS** [SG/SG]; 21 Heng Mui Keng Terrace, Singapore 119613 (SG).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **XU, Changsheng** [CN/SG]; Block 701, #06-337, West Coast Road, Singapore 120701 (SG). **WU, Jiankang** [CN/SG]; Block 51, #06-565, Teban Gardens Road, 600051 SINGAPORE (SG).

(74) Agent: **HELEN YEO & PARTNERS**; #33-00 UOB Plaza 1, 80 Raffles Place, Singapore 048624 (SG).

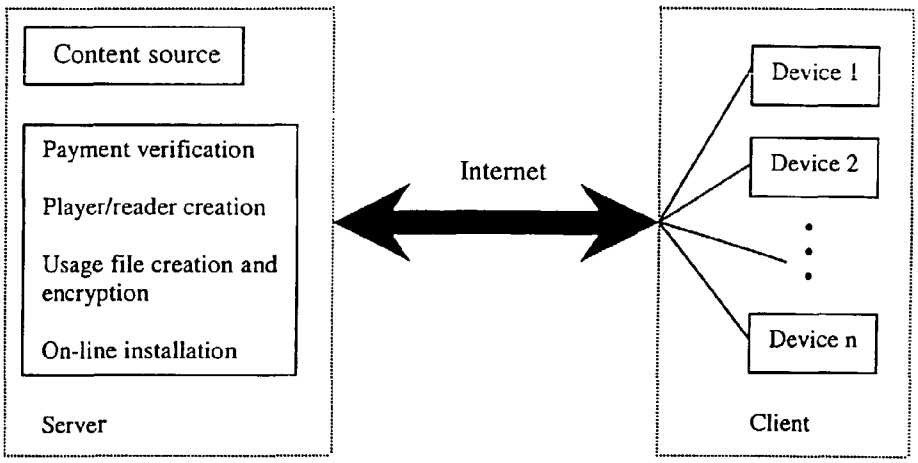
(81) Designated States *(national)*: GB, SG, US.

Published:
— *with international search report*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
26 September 2002

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CONTROLLING USAGE AND PROTECTING AGAINST COPYING OF DIGITAL MULTIMEDIA CONTENT AND ASSOCIATED PLAYERS/READERS



(57) Abstract: The present invention presents a method and system for controlling usage and protecting against copying of digital multimedia content (such as audio, video, image, and document) and their associated players or readers. The system is arranged so that digital content and their players or readers that are installed in one computer or device cannot be used if they are copied to another computer or device. The system may also be arranged so that duplicated digital content is not usable in the same computer or device. Usage data associated with each item of digital content may restrict the running time during which the content can be used and may be updated automatically after each usage of the content. The content may not be accessible if its permitted usage has expired.

WO 02/031618 A3