Abstract

Disclosed herein is an authentication system offering high degrees of security and convenience by use of two storage media. An automatic log-in system (100) requests a server (110) to perform a user authentication process using card-specific information (101) retrieved from an IC card (10) and password information (102) from a portable memory (11). The server (110) authenticates the user by acquiring a user ID and a password using the card-specific information (101) and password information (102). The card-specific information (101) and password information (102) constitute authentication request information, and the user ID and password make up authentication information. Following successful authentication of the user, the server (110) allows the user to log in; in case of unsuccessful authentication, the server (110) denies log-in.