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(54) Title: SMARTCARD TERMINAL**(57) Abstract**

This invention concerns a smartcard terminal, that is a device that is able to read information from a smartcard and write information to a smartcard. The terminal includes a smartcard reader and a data assembly and transmissions means to receive position data from a computer display pointing device having a serial communications capability, and from the smartcard reader. The data assembly and transmission means is able to transmit position information from the pointing device, and smartcard information from the smartcard reader to an associated computer, and to receive information which is to be written to the smartcard from the computer. The data assembly and transmission means assemble position information and smartcard information into separate frames before transmitting them serially, and it labels each frame depending on whether it contains position information or smartcard information. A smartcard terminal is typically provided as a peripheral for a computer, such as a personal computer, a workstation, a network server or a network computer.

