CLAIMS:

1. A method, performed by a content distribution server, for providing a user device access to digital content, the method comprising:

receiving a check-out request from the user device via a content access device;

providing metainfo to the user device via the content access device, the metainfo including a unique identifier of a check-out transaction associated with the check-out request;

receiving an open content command comprising an identifier of the digital content, an identifier for a user from the user device, and an identifier of an owner of the digital content;

determining from the open content command whether the user device is authorized to view the digital content;

providing a license response to the user device based on the user device being authorized to view the digital content, the license response comprising a license for viewing the digital content and the digital content,

receiving a check-in request from the user device, the check-in request including the unique identifier of the check-out transaction; and

revoking the license for viewing the digital content provided to the user device based on receiving the check-in request from the user device.

2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising making the license for viewing the digital content available to other user devices to gain viewing rights to the digital content.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the license comprises an expiration date timestamp, the expiration date timestamp defines a period of time after which the license for viewing the digital content expires and the user device no longer has rights to view the digital content.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the content access device is a wireless router, and the content distribution server interacts with the user device via a browser of the user device.

5. The method according to claim 4, wherein the wireless router comprises a network access storage (NAS) that stores the digital content.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the license comprises encryption keys for decrypting digital content.

7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the digital content was encrypted using a base 64 encode Secure Hash Algorithm 1 (SHA1) hash and the encryption keys from the license allow the user device to decrypt the base 64 SHA1 hash.

8. The method according to claim 7, wherein the digital content is an electronic book (e-book) in an ePUB standard stored in an encrypted state in Web Crypto.

9. A content distribution system for providing a user device access to digital content, the system comprising:

a content access device configured for wireless communication with the user device; and

a content distribution server configured for:

receiving a check-out request from the user device via the content access device;

providing metainfo to the user device via the content access device, the metainfo including a unique identifier of a check-out transaction associated with the check-out request;

receiving an open content command comprising an identifier of the digital content, an identifier for a user from the user device, and an identifier of an owner of the digital content;

determining from the open content command whether the user device is authorized to view the digital content;

providing a license response to the user device based on the user device being authorized to view the digital content, the license response comprising a license for viewing the digital content and the digital content;

receiving a check-in request from the user device, the check-in request including the unique identifier of the check-out transaction; and

revoking the license for viewing the digital content provided to the user device based on receiving the check-in request from the user device.

10. The system according to claim 9, wherein the content distribution system is further configured for making the license for viewing the digital content available to other user devices to gain viewing rights to the digital content.

11. The system according to claim 9, wherein the license comprises an expiration date timestamp, the expiration date timestamp defines a period of time after which the license for viewing the digital content expires and the user device no longer has rights to view the digital content.

12. The system according to claim 9, wherein the content access device is a wireless router, and the content distribution server interacts with the user device via a browser of the user device.

13. The system according to claim 12, wherein the wireless router comprises a network access storage (NAS) that stores the digital content.

14. The system according to claim 9, wherein the license comprises encryption keys for decrypting digital content.

15. The system according to claim 14, wherein the digital content was encrypted using a base 64 encode Secure Hash Algorithm 1 (SHA1) hash and the encryption keys from the license allow the user device to decrypt the base 64 SHA1 hash.

16. The system according to claim 15, wherein the digital content is an electronic book (e-book) in an ePUB standard stored in an encrypted state in Web Crypto.