CLAIMS

1. A method for verifying a security device including an image having a signature, wherein the method comprises the following steps:

· acquiring the image in a first optical spectrum in order to obtain a first representation;

· extracting the signature; and

· verifying the signature.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the signature is colorimetric and comprises:

· a particular orientation of a color plate; and/or

· a particular set of base colors; and/or

· a particular hue.

3. A method according to any one of claims 1 or 2, wherein the signature is a frequency signature, the image including at least one reference spatial period, and in which the method further comprises the following steps:

· applying a spectral transformation to the first representation in order to obtain a first transform including at least one first spatial period;

· verifying that the value(s) of the spatial period(s) correspond(s) to the value(s) of the reference spatial period(s).

4. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the image is visible in the first optical spectrum and in at least one second optical spectrum, and in which the method further comprises the following steps:

· acquiring the image in the second optical spectrum in order to obtain a second representation;

· verifying that the two representations are graphically substantially identical;

· verifying that a distance between the two representations is below a threshold.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein the threshold is equal to 10 µm, preferably equal to 5 µm.

6. A method according to any one of claims 4 or 5, wherein the distance between the two representations is determined by means of a registration algorithm to identify a transformation for which one of the representations is the image of the other representation.

7. A method according to any one of claims 4 to 6, wherein the first optical spectrum is situated in the visible spectrum, and/or the second optical spectrum is situated in the infrared.

8. A method according to any one of claims 4 to 7, further comprising the following steps:

· applying the same transformation to the second representation in order to obtain a second transform;

· verifying that the first transform is substantially equal to the second transform.

9. A method according to claim 8, further comprising a step of:

· verifying that the value(s) of the spatial period(s) of the second transform correspond(s) to the value(s) of the reference spatial period(s).

10. A method according to any one of claims 8 or 9, wherein the spectral transformation is applied to at least one portion of the first representation and/or to the same at least one portion of the second representation.

11. A method according to any one of claims 8 or 10, wherein the spectral transform is applied to at least two

portions of a representation, and in which the method further comprises a step of:

· verifying that the transforms of the different portions are substantially equal.

12. A method according to any one of claims 10 or 11, further comprising a step of:

· verifying that the two representations are colorimetrically different.

13. A method according to any one of claims 4 to 12, wherein the image represents a portion of the body, preferably the face, the eye, or the finger, of a holder associated with the security device, and in which the method further comprises the steps of:

· acquiring an image of the portion of the body from a bearer of the security device;

· verifying that the acquired image corresponds biometrically with the first representation; and/or

· verifying that the acquired image corresponds biometrically with the first representation.

14. A method according to any one of claims 4 to 13, wherein the security device is associated with digital storage means including a digital representation of the image, and in which the method further comprises the steps of:

· reading the digital representation of the image;

· verifying that the digital representation is substantially identical to the first representation; and/or

· verifying that the digital representation is substantially identical to the second representation.

15. A method according to claim 14, further comprising a step of:

· verifying that the acquired image corresponds biometrically with the digital representation.

16. A verification apparatus, wherein the verification apparatus includes means for implementing a verification method according to any one of the preceding claims.

17. A computer program, wherein the computer program includes a sequence of logic instructions suitable for implementing a verification method according to any one of claims 1 to 15.

18. A computer data medium, wherein the computer data medium includes a computer program according to the preceding claim.