IC CARD, IC CARD SYSTEM, AND IC FOR IC CARD

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An IC card system has, at least, an IC card having a first set of terminals and an external unit having a second set of terminals. The IC card has a detector for detecting a contact condition between the first and second sets of terminals, a controller, and an internal circuit such as an EEPROM. If the detector determines that the contact condition is faulty, the controller completes a given process, and then, stops the operation of the internal circuit. If an access operation to the internal circuit is in progress when the detector finds contact fault, the controller does not stop immediately and continues to complete the access operation, to prevent the writing or reading of erroneous data. The present invention also provides an IC card for the IC card system and a semiconductor IC incorporated in the IC card.

FIGURE 3