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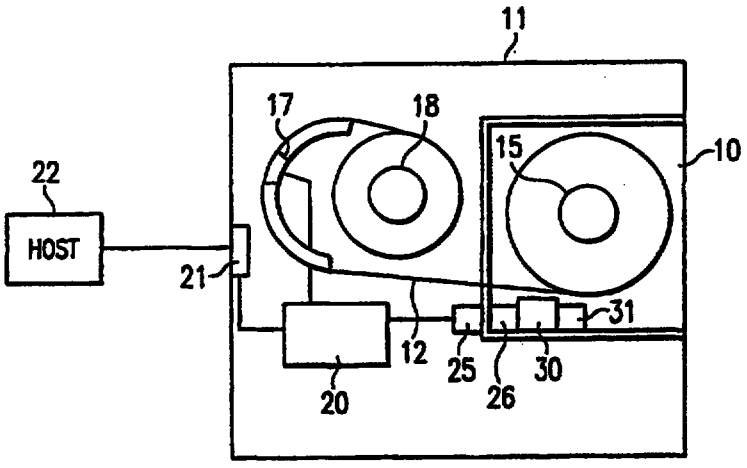
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(54) Title: WIRELESS SECURITY ACCESS MANAGEMENT FOR A PORTABLE DATA STORAGE CARTRIDGE



(57) Abstract: A portable security system mounted in a portable data storage cartridge (10) for managing access by users to the cartridge (10). A programmable computer processor (30) mounted in the cartridge (10) is powered by and receives data from and transmits data to a data storage drive (11) via a wireless RF interface (26), when mounted in the drive. A user table has a unique user identifier for each authorized user and lists permitted activities the user is authorized to conduct with respect to the data storage cartridge (10). Preferably, a private key, public key algorithm is employed. Thus, the user identifier comprises a user symbol and a user decrypting sender public key. A user authentication message from the authorized user is encrypted by a sender private key and a receiver public key, in accordance with a predetermined algorithm, employing the cryptographic algorithm. The cryptographic algorithm decrypts the user authentication message employing a receiver private key and the sender public key, whereby the user authentication message is known to have come from the user. Then, the security system algorithm grants access to the user for the listed activities with respect to the cartridge (10).

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