CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for transmitting a transaction identifier from a handheld communication device to an Electronic Data Capture (EDC) device, comprising:

coding the transaction identifier into audio frequency tones, by the handheld communication device;

emitting the audio frequency tones by the handheld communication device;

receiving the emitted audio frequency tones by the EDC device; and

decoding the audio frequency tones and retrieving the transaction identifier, by the EDC device;

wherein the Electronic Data Capture (EDC) device is an Automated Teller Machine (ATM).

2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

capturing user inputs at the handheld communication device; and

generating the transaction identifier.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the user inputs comprise of a Personal Identification Number (PIN) and an account number of the user.

4. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

encrypting the transaction identifier at the handheld communication device; and

decrypting the transaction identifier at the EDC device.

~~5. The method according to claim 1, wherein the Electronic Data Capture (EDC) device is a Point of Sale (POS) terminal.~~

~~6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the Electronic Data Capture (EDC) device is an Automated Teller Machine (ATM).~~

~~7. The method according to claim 1, wherein the Electronic Data Capture (EDC) device is a mobile device.~~

~~8~~5. A system for transmitting a transaction identifier from a handheld communication device to an Electronic Data Capture (EDC) device, the system comprising:

an audio frequency generator module configured to encode the transaction identifier into audio frequency tones at the handheld communication device,

an emitter module configured to emit the audio frequency tones from the handheld communication device,

a receiving module configured to receive the audio frequency tones at the EDC device, and

a tone recognition module configured to decode the audio frequency tones and retrieve the transaction identifier at the EDC device.

~~9~~6. The system according to claim ~~8~~ 5, further comprising:

means for entering user inputs to the handheld communication device; and

means for generating the transaction identifier.

~~10~~7. The system according to claim ~~9~~ 6, wherein the user inputs comprise of a Personal Identification Number (PIN) and an account number of the user.

~~11~~8. The system according to claim ~~8~~ 5, further comprising:

an encryption module configured to encrypt the transaction identifier at the handheld communication device; and

a decryption module configured to decrypt the transaction identifier at the EDC device.

~~12~~9. The system according to claim ~~8~~ 5, wherein the EDC is a Point of Sale (POS) terminal.

~~13~~10. The system according to claim ~~8~~ 5, wherein the EDC is an Automated Teller Machine (ATM).

~~14~~11. The method according to claim ~~8~~ 5, wherein the Electronic Data Capture (EDC) device is a mobile device.

~~15~~12. A computer program product for transmitting a transaction identifier from a handheld communication device to an Electronic Data Capture (EDC) device, the computer program product consisting of a plurality of program instructions stored on a tangible computer readable media which when run upon a computer processor carries out steps for transmitting the transaction identifier, the program instructions comprising:

means for coding the transaction identifier into audio frequency tones, by the handheld communication device;

means for emitting the audio frequency tones by the handheld communication device;

means for receiving the emitted audio frequency tones by the EDC device; and

means for decoding the audio frequency tones and retrieving the transaction identifier, by the EDC device.

~~16~~13. The computer program product of claim ~~15~~ 12, wherein the program instructions further comprise:

means for providing user inputs at the handheld communication device;

means for generating the transaction identifier.

~~17~~14. The computer program product according to claim ~~16~~ 13, wherein the user inputs comprise of a Personal Identification Number (PIN) and an account number of the user.

~~18~~15. The computer program product according to claim ~~15~~ 12, wherein the program instructions further comprise:

means for encrypting the transaction identifier at the handheld communication device; and

means for decrypting the transaction identifier at the EDC device.

~~19~~16. The computer program product according to claim ~~15~~ 12, wherein the EDC device is a Point of Sale (POS) terminal.

~~20~~17. The computer program product according to claim ~~15~~ 12, wherein the EDC device is an Automated Teller Machine (ATM) terminal.

~~21~~18. The method according to claim ~~15~~ 12, wherein the Electronic Data Capture (EDC) device is a mobile device.