(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
8 February 2007 (08.02.2007)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2007/015946 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
G06F 21/00 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2006/028213

(22) International Filing Date: 20 July 2006 (20.07.2006)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
11/192,259 28 July 2005 (28.07.2005) US

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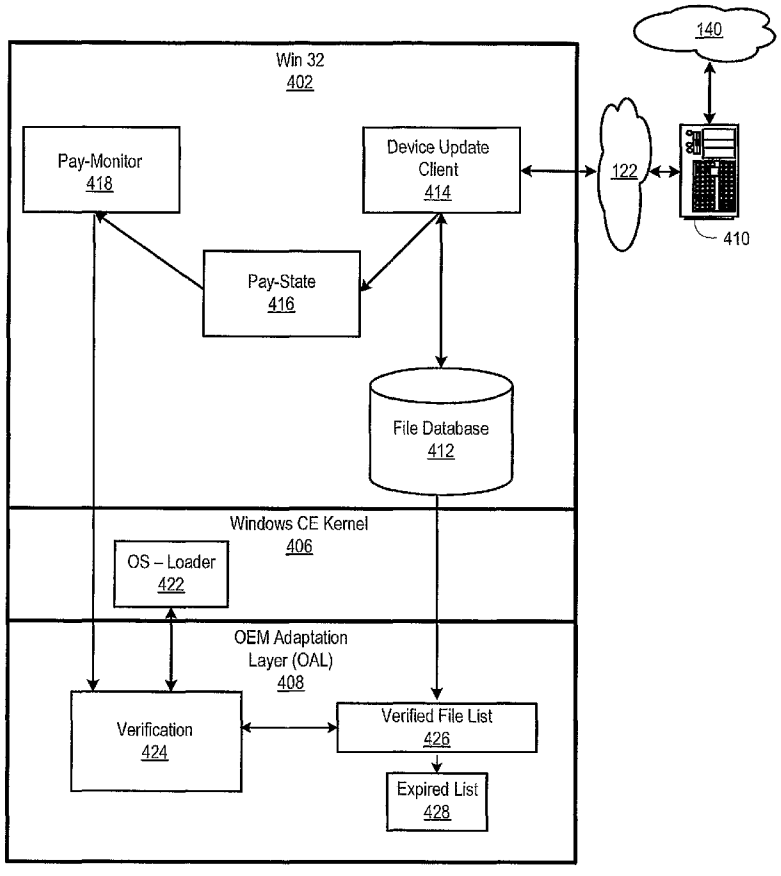
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(81) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available)*: ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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(54) Title: VERIFIER COMPUTING ENVIRONMENT FOR PERSONAL INTERNET COMMUNICATOR



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus of the present invention provides a verified computing environment for a personal Internet communicator. In various embodiments of the invention, the functionality of software files on a personal Internet communicator can be modified based on the Pay-State of the user. Upon a request to load a particular software package, the verification module uses a verification file list containing approved software packages and also uses the pay status of the user to determine which software packages can be executed. The personal Internet communicator is operable to provide limited functionality of certain software packages based on a first pay state and to offer no functionality based on a second pay state, such as the situation where a user has discontinued the use of internet service.

WO 2007/015946 A3

Published:
— *with international search report*
— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
18 May 2007

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.