

COMPUTER METHOD FOR SECURE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION

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CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application claims priority benefit from co-pending U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/733,065, entitled "COMPUTER METHOD
10 FOR SECURE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION," filed September 18, 2018 (docket number 3056-031-02), which, to the extent not inconsistent with the disclosure herein, is incorporated by reference.

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SUMMARY

According to an embodiment, a computer method for providing an immutable record of human creativity includes displaying a graphical user interface (GUI) to a user including a directory screen, the directory screen
20 displaying one or more selection objects for respectively accessing a corresponding secure disclosure thread. The computer method includes receiving a selection of one of the selection objects and receiving a cryptographic key. The computer method includes decrypting at least a portion of the selected secure disclosure thread and displaying the portion of the selected secure
25 disclosure thread on the graphical user interface.

According to embodiments, a computer method includes receiving a secure and/or secret disclosure from a user via a graphical user interface, receiving metadata related to the disclosure, recording the received disclosure in an encrypted high capacity data storage structure, and logging the recording in

an access history to an encrypted medium capacity data storage structure different from the high capacity data storage structure. The computer method may further include transmitting access information to a second user for retrieving some or all of the disclosure, receiving a request for the secure and/or secret disclosure, transmitting corresponding data for decryption using a “Public” decryption key provided to the second user, and logging the transmission in the access history to the encrypted medium capacity data storage structure. The metadata may be written to a third data storage structure. Further disclosures by the user and/or the second user may similarly be securely recorded. The computer method may include displaying a directory screen showing the existence and linking to the encrypted disclosure. The high capacity data storage structure may include a blockchain carried by non-transitory computer readable media distributed across a plurality of devices. The medium capacity data storage structure may include a blockchain carried by non-transitory computer readable media distributed across a plurality of devices. The third data storage structure may include a blockchain carried by non-transitory computer readable media distributed across a plurality of devices.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a simulated graphical user interface screen showing a secure disclosure directory, according to an embodiment.

FIG. 2 is a simulated graphical user interface screen from which a new disclosure or disclosure thread can be added, according to an embodiment.

FIG. 3 is a simulated graphical user interface screen that enables sharing settings to be configured, according to an embodiment.

FIG. 4 is a simulated graphical user interface screen including a disclosure thread that has been added by the user, according to an embodiment.

FIG. 5 is a simulated graphical user interface screen enabling a user to share access to the disclosure thread, according to an embodiment.

FIG. 6 is a simulated graphical user interface screen corresponding to a guest invitation message for granting access to view a disclosure thread, according to an embodiment.

FIG. 7 is a simulated graphical user interface screen showing an access history of a disclosure thread, according to an embodiment.

FIG. 8 is a flowchart illustrating a computer method for providing an immutable record of human creative output, according to an embodiment.

FIG. 9 is a system diagram illustrating how a secure disclosure thread is encrypted and decrypted, according to an embodiment.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

In the following detailed description, reference is made to the accompanying drawings, which form a part hereof. In the drawings, similar symbols typically identify similar components, unless context dictates otherwise. Other embodiments may be used and/or other changes may be made without departing from the spirit or scope of the disclosure.

FIG. 1 is a simulated graphical user interface screen 100 showing a secure disclosure directory, according to an embodiment. The secure disclosure directory screen 100 includes one or more objects 102a, 102b, 102c corresponding to current secure disclosure threads. The secure disclosure directory screen 100 may additionally or alternatively display past (e.g., closed) secure disclosure threads. A user may initiate a process to review and/or add new material to a current secure disclosure thread by graphically actuating its corresponding object. The secure disclosure directory screen 100 may also include an add new disclosure object 104. The user may initiate a process to start a new secure disclosure thread by graphically actuating the add new disclosure object 104.

A your secure disclosure selection object 106 may be provided to select the secure disclosure directory screen 100 view that includes the current secure disclosure thread objects 102a, 102b, 102c that were initiated by the user.

5 The secure disclosure directory screen 100 selected by the your secure disclosure selection object 106 may include a partial or complete history of the user's prior secure disclosures. The selection objects 102a, 102b, 102c enable the user to access and view previous disclosure objects or previous disclosure objects or disclosure threads.

10 The simulated graphical user interface screen 100 is part of a secure disclosure system that utilizes blockchain to enable users to instantly affirm inventorship and secure evidence of prior art. When the user has an inventive or creative moment, whether the user jots the idea down on a piece of paper and snaps a picture, makes an audio or video recording of the concept, or creates a detailed document describing the invention, the secure disclosure system can
15 help the user to simultaneously create a permanent, encrypted and immutable record of the invention or creation. Users can share the secure disclosure with colleagues or collaborate with peers with confidence because the user's contribution to the art is immutably recorded.

A shared with me selection object 108 may similarly select a secure
20 disclosure directory screen 100 that includes current secure disclosure thread objects corresponding to disclosure threads shared with the user by one or more second users.

According to an embodiment, selecting the add a new disclosure object 104 enables the user to initiate a process to start a new disclosure thread.

25 **FIG. 2** is a simulated graphical user interface screen 200 from which a new disclosure or disclosure thread can be added, according to an embodiment. The screen 200 can be accessed by selecting the add new disclosure object 104 from the secure disclosure directory screen 100 shown in **FIG. 1**.

According to an embodiment, the screen 200 includes a title field 202.
30 The user can select the title field 202 in order to add a title for the new disclosure. The user can type or paste a title into the title field 202.

According to an embodiment, the screen 200 includes an add media object 204. The add media object 204 enables the user to add one or more media files to the new disclosure. The user can add a media file to the new disclosure by dragging a media file onto the add media object 204. Additionally
5 or alternatively, the user can select the add media object 204 in the screen 200 that can provide a file browsing option to enable the user to browse a file system in order to add media files to the new disclosure.

According to an embodiment, the media files can include one or more of an image file, an audio file, a video file, a text file, a document file, a PDF file, or
10 other types of media. When a user has a new creative idea, the user can make an audio recording, video recording, capture an image, make a drawing, or produce a document proving conception of the creative idea. The user can then upload the one or more media files to the add new disclosure screen 200. In this way, the user can secure proof of conception of the creative idea. According to
15 an embodiment, the media files are encrypted as a privileged asset. According to an embodiment, the media files are immutable and time stamped.

According to an embodiment, the screen 200 can include added media indicator objects 206a, 206b. The added media indicator objects 206a, 206b represent media files that have already been added to the new disclosure. The
20 added media indicator objects 206a, 206b can include a deletion object 208 that enables the user to delete the media from the new disclosure by selecting the deletion object 208.

According to an embodiment, the screen 200 includes an abstract field 209. The user can select the abstract field 209 in order to provide an abstract for
25 the new disclosure. The abstract can include a brief overview or description of the content of the new disclosure.

According to an embodiment, the screen 200 includes a keywords field 210. The keywords field 210 can enable the user to add keywords to the new disclosure as hashtags, metadata, or other kinds of labels. The keywords that
30 have been added to the new disclosure can be utilized for search indexing.

According to an embodiment, the keywords field 210 can display keywords that have already been added, as well as an object to delete those keywords that have already been added.

According to an embodiment, the screen 200 can include a submit to
5 blockchain object 212. The submit to blockchain object 212 can enable the user to submit the new disclosure to the blockchain. Submitting the disclosure to the blockchain creates an immutable record of the new disclosure, according to an embodiment.

FIG. 3 is a simulated graphical user interface screen 300 that enables
10 sharing settings to be configured, according to an embodiment. By selecting among the various options shown on the screen 300, the user can define who may access disclosures that have been added to the system.

According to an embodiment, the screen 300 includes an institutional sharing field 302. The institutional sharing field 302 enables the user to select
15 whether or not guest access will be granted to users within an organization or an institution selected by the user. The institutional sharing field 302 enables the user to enter email domains defining users that will be granted guest access. The user can enable or disable institutional sharing from the institutional sharing field 302. According to an embodiment, the institutional sharing field 302 grants
20 read-only access to other people within the selected institution or organization. According to an embodiment, the selected institution or organization is a company, a business, an organization, or an institution to which the user belongs.

According to an embodiment, the screen 300 includes a guest access
25 enablement field 304. The guest access enablement field 304 enables the user to select whether or not guest access will be allowed.

According to an embodiment, the screen 300 includes a nondisclosure agreement (NDA) requirement field 306. The NDA requirement field 306 enables
30 the user to select whether or not those who are granted guest access will be required to agree to an NDA before being allowed to view the disclosure thread.

According to an embodiment, the NDA requirement field 306 can enable the user to use a default NDA or a custom NDA. If the user selects a custom NDA, then the user can upload the custom NDA to the system.

FIG. 4 is a simulated graphical user interface screen 400 including a disclosure thread that has been added by the user, according to an embodiment. The disclosure thread as shown on the screen 400 includes a title 402, a digital signature of the owner 403, a vault date 405, an abstract 404, media attachments 406, a download object 408, a share object 410, an edit disclosure object 412, a delete object 414, and a view access history object 416, according to an embodiment.

According to an embodiment, the screen 400 includes public editable attributes. The public editable attributes can include the title 402 and the abstract 404. In an embodiment, a public editable attribute may include a sharing configuration. The public editable attributes are attributes that can be edited by the public, according to an embodiment.

According to an embodiment, the screen 400 includes immutable attributes. The immutable attributes can include the media attachments 406, the vault date 405, and the digital signature of the owner 403. The immutable attributes cannot be edited by the public.

According to an embodiment, the user can download the disclosure thread via the download object 408. According to an embodiment, the user can share the disclosure thread by selecting the share object 410. According to an embodiment, the user can edit the attributes of the disclosure thread by selecting the edit disclosure object 412. According to an embodiment, the user can delete the disclosure thread by selecting the delete object 414. According to an embodiment, the user can view the access history by selecting the view access history object 416. The view access history indicates who has viewed the disclosure thread, and the date and the time when the disclosure thread was accessed.

FIG. 5 is a simulated graphical user interface screen 500 enabling the user to share access to the disclosure thread, according to an embodiment. The

screen 500 can be accessed by selecting the share object 410 from the screen 400, according to an embodiment.

According to an embodiment, the screen 500 includes an address field 502. The address field 502 enables the user to select an email address or other
5 type of address for a guest with whom access to the disclosure thread will be shared.

According to an embodiment, the screen 500 includes a comments field 504. The comments field 504 enables the user to enter a message that will be provided to the guest with whom the disclosure thread will be shared.

10 According to an embodiment, the screen 500 can include a share object 506. The share object 506 enables the user to finally share the disclosure thread with another individual.

According to an embodiment, the screen 500 can include an NDA opt in object. The NDA opt in object can enable the user to require that the guest
15 agree to an NDA before being granted access to the disclosure thread.

According to an embodiment, the screen 500 enables an audited invitation to be sent to a third party to view the disclosure thread.

FIG. 6 is a simulated graphical user interface screen 600 corresponding to a guest invitation message for granting access to view a disclosure thread,
20 according to an embodiment. The guest invitation message can be received by the guest as a result of the owner of a disclosure thread selecting the share object 506 after filling in the contents of the screen 500.

According to an embodiment, the screen 600 includes a sender identification 602. The sender identification 602 indicates the identity of the
25 individual sending the guest invitation message.

According to an embodiment, the screen 600 includes a title 604 of the disclosure thread being shared.

According to an embodiment, the screen 600 includes a vault date 606 and a digital signature 608 of the owner of the disclosure thread.

According to an embodiment, the screen 600 includes message text 610. The message text 610 corresponds to the message provided by the sender to the guest.

According to an embodiment, the screen 600 includes an NDA opt in object 612. According to an embodiment, the guest cannot access the disclosure thread until the guest has agreed to the terms of the NDA.

According to an embodiment, the screen 600 includes a view secure disclosure object 614. After the guest has agreed to the terms of the NDA, the guest can select the view secure disclosure object 614.

10 **FIG. 7** is a simulated graphical user interface screen 700 showing an access history of a disclosure thread, according to an embodiment. The screen 700 can be accessed by selecting the view access history object 416 from the screen 400 of **FIG. 4**.

According to an embodiment, the screen 700 includes an access history
15 702. The access history 702 is a secure and immutable audit record across all users that have accessed the disclosure thread in any way. The access history 702 can include the date and the time of the vault date of the disclosure thread, as well as the name of the user responsible for the vault date. The access history 702 can include the date and the time of each instance in which the
20 disclosure thread was downloaded, as well as the identities of the individuals who downloaded the disclosure thread. The access history 702 can include the date and the time of each instance that the disclosure document was shared, as well as the identity of the individual that shared the disclosure thread. The access history 702 can also indicate the date and the time that an individual
25 accepted the terms of an NDA for viewing the disclosure thread, as well as the identity of the individual that accepted the terms of the NDA.

According to an embodiment, the screen 700 includes an access history printing object 704. The access history printing object 704 enables the user to print the access history 702.

According to an embodiment, the screen 700 includes an access history download object 706. The access history download object 706 enables the user to download the access history 702.

FIG. 8 is a flowchart illustrating a computer method 800 for providing an immutable record of human creative output, according to an embodiment. At step 802, a user identity is determined. This may be done using a conventional user account and a password and/or two-factor authentication, for example. Proceeding to step 804, a graphical user interface (GUI) is displayed to the user. The GUI may include a directory screen (see, e.g., **FIG. 1**), the directory screen displaying one or more selection objects (e.g., 102a, 102b, 102c) for respectively accessing a corresponding secure disclosure thread. Step 804 includes receiving a selection of one of the selection objects. Step 806 includes receiving a cryptographic key. Step 806 may include receiving a cryptographic key from the user via the GUI. In another embodiment, step 806 may include receiving the private key from a keystore that is associated with the user account. The keystore may be provided by a medium capacity blockchain.

Step 808 includes getting an encrypted data location corresponding to the secure disclosure thread from a blockchain. In step 810, the location of the encrypted data is decrypted. In step 812, data corresponding to the secure disclosure thread is accessed at the data location. In an embodiment, getting an encrypted data location corresponding to the secure disclosure thread from a blockchain includes getting the encrypted data location from a medium capacity blockchain. The medium capacity blockchain may include Ethereum. In an embodiment, the data location is in a high capacity blockchain. The high capacity blockchain may include BigChaindb.

Proceeding to step 814, at least a portion of the selected secure disclosure thread is decrypted. Step 816, the portion of the selected secure disclosure thread is displayed to the user via the graphical user interface.

Referring to step 804, in an embodiment, displaying the GUI to the user includes displaying one or more selection objects for respectively accessing a corresponding secure disclosure thread established by the user. In another

embodiment, displaying the GUI to the user includes displaying one or more selection objects for respectively accessing a corresponding secure disclosure thread shared with the user by a second user.

FIG. 9 is a system 900 diagram illustrating how a secure disclosure thread
5 is encrypted and decrypted, according to an embodiment.

Data is encrypted and stored in a Merkle tree using IPFS and the reference to the data is hashed on the blockchain. A base58 network encoding library for the platform is located on a github which is used inside an argos library 904. To add new secure disclosure materials to the secure disclosure thread,
10 "some data" is sent from the web application 902 to the argos library 904.

The argos library 904 encrypts and stores the data then hashes a data reference, shown as process 906, and sends it to the medium capacity blockchain 908.

E.g.,

"some data" ----> encrypt(aes256ctr) ----> store data in merkle tree dag ----
> sha.keccak256 hash the store id ----> bytes32 ----> chain

5

Result on blockchain

{

"store":

"0xbdc80a0ecb83f95c438027c88abc2aad696c55602f77e4cef9d5538df5770588"

10 ,

"active": 1

}

To read a secure disclosure thread, the storing process is reversed in the
15 argos library 904, show as process 910, to retrieve the data from the medium
capacity blockchain 908. The retrieved data provides one or more pointers to
encrypted storage locations, from which data is retrieved to the web application
902 as requested by the user.

The medium capacity blockchain 908 has a built-in keystore 912 which
20 stores all the keys for accounts, assets and attestations - when a call is made by
an individual, the identity key exchange is made publicKey ----> keystore ---->
privateKey ----> chain in order to transact. In other words, private keys are held
in trust by the medium capacity blockchain 908 provider, such as Ethereum.

Referring to the process 906, to encrypt a Secure Disclosure, the Secure
25 Disclosure is packaged and encrypted using proprietary protocols 914. The
encrypted Secure Disclosure is stored in an IPFS Merkle Tree 916, and the
address of the encrypted Secure Disclosure is (itself) encrypted in 918, and then
stored on the medium capacity blockchain 908.

According to an embodiment, the address of the encrypted Secure
30 Disclosure, under IPFS, is a hash result of its content. If a would-be hacker were
to change a single bit in the original Secure Disclosure, the IPFS address would

change and it would mismatch to the encrypted value stored on the blockchain. This would be evidence of tampering. Another way to think of it is that the immutable IPFS address stored on the medium capacity blockchain 908 points to a unique spot in the Cloud (e.g., in a high capacity blockchain) that
5 mathematically can only contain the original unaltered encrypted version of the Secure Disclosure.

Referring to the process 910, to access a Secure Disclosure, the medium capacity blockchain 908 is accessed to obtain the encrypted address of the encrypted secure disclosure. The address is decrypted in 920 and the decrypted
10 address obtains data from a storage asset (e.g., a high capacity blockchain) and is output to an IPFS Merkle Tree 922. The IPFS Merkle tree 922 is unpacked and decrypted, in 924, using proprietary protocols.

The private keys may be held in trust by the Blockchain provider (e.g., Ethereum) as a service to its clients, according to embodiments. Additionally or
15 alternatively, one or more private keys may be entered by the user using the GUI of the web application 902.

While various aspects and embodiments have been disclosed herein, other aspects and embodiments are contemplated. The various aspects and
20 embodiments disclosed herein are for purposes of illustration and are not intended to be limiting, with the true scope and spirit being indicated by the following claims.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A computer method for providing an immutable record of human creativity, comprising:
 - displaying a graphical user interface (GUI) to a user including a directory screen, the directory screen displaying one or more selection objects for respectively accessing a corresponding secure disclosure thread;
 - receiving a selection of one of the selection objects;
 - receiving a cryptographic key;
 - obtaining an encrypted data location corresponding to the secure disclosure thread from a blockchain;
 - decrypting the data location;
 - accessing encrypted data corresponding to the secure disclosure thread at the data location;
 - decrypting at least a portion of the selected secure disclosure thread; and
 - displaying the portion of the selected secure disclosure thread on the graphical user interface.
2. The computer method for providing an immutable record of human creativity of claim 1, wherein displaying the GUI to the user includes displaying the one or more selection objects for respectively accessing a corresponding secure disclosure thread established by the user.
3. The computer method for providing an immutable record of human creativity of claim 1, wherein displaying the GUI to the user includes displaying the one or more selection objects for respectively accessing a corresponding secure disclosure thread shared with the user by a second user.
4. The computer method for providing an immutable record of human creativity of claim 1, wherein receiving the cryptographic key includes receiving input from the user via the GUI.
5. The computer method for providing an immutable record of human creativity of claim 1, wherein receiving the cryptographic key includes obtaining the cryptographic key from a keystore provided by a medium capacity blockchain.
6. ~~The computer method for providing an immutable record of human creativity of claim 1, further comprising:~~
 - ~~getting an encrypted data location corresponding to the secure disclosure thread from a blockchain;~~
 - ~~decrypting the data location; and~~
 - ~~accessing data corresponding to the secure disclosure thread at the data~~

~~location.~~

76. The computer method for providing an immutable record of human creativity of claim 16, wherein getting an encrypted data location corresponding to the secure disclosure thread from a blockchain includes getting the encrypted data location from a medium capacity blockchain.
87. The computer method for providing an immutable record of human creativity of claim 76, wherein the data location is in a high capacity blockchain.