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(54) Title: PAYLOAD ASSURANCE AT A NETWORK BOUNDARY

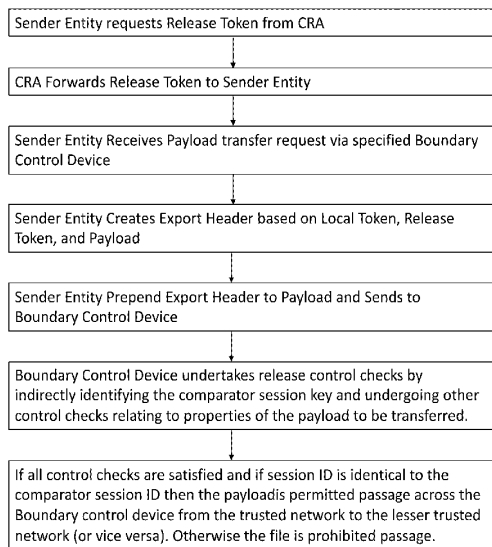


Figure 2

(57) Abstract: A payload assurance system and method for a payload having a header which is to be transferred across a network boundary via at least one predetermined boundary control device. The system comprises at least one computer processor and at least one data storage device, arranged to provide an electronic authorisation token for authorising properties of the payload to be transferred, which electronic authorisation token comprises at least one entropy element for ensuring that multiple electronic authorisation tokens authorising the same payload properties are unique. A boundary transfer assessment step may be provided at the network boundary, for indirectly determining whether the payload possesses the Authorisation token, using the payload header.

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