A casino may destroy the data card or the device may erase the data card, making the reading of the associated playing cards by the device impossible.

In view of the above, in accordance with an aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided a method comprising the steps of: generating and assigning a random number to each playing card in a deck of playing cards, wherein the said random number for a playing card contains no indication of the rank or suit of the playing card; applying the random number associated with a said playing card on said playing card; recording, to a digital memory device associated with the deck, each random number associated with each said playing card in the deck, with the order in which each playing card appears in the deck, to create a data file thereof; and providing the data file to a purchaser of the deck.

In accordance with another aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided a method comprising the steps of: placing a deck of playing cards in a playing card handling device, wherein each playing card in the deck is printed with a randomly generated number thereon; associating, with the deck in the playing card handling device, a data file containing the random numbers associated with each playing card in the playing card handling device, along with order information of an order in which each playing card appears in the deck; reading the random number printed on a said playing card as the playing card is drawn from the playing card handling device; determining whether drawn playing card is expected based on the random number read from the drawn playing card as compared to the order information stored in the data file; allowing play to continue normally when the drawn playing card is expected; and signaling an alert when the drawn playing is not expected.

In accordance with yet another aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided a system comprising: a deck of playing cards, wherein a randomly generated number is applied on each said playing card in the deck; an activation device containing a data file of each randomly generated number of the playing cards in the deck, and the order of each playing

card in the deck; a playing card handling device for receiving the deck of cards therein, wherein the playing card handling device includes a sensor for detecting the randomly generated number on a said playing card as the said playing card is drawn from the playing card handling device; and wherein the playing card handling device is associated with a processor, wherein said processor: is in communication with the sensor and the activation device to receive information therefrom; determines whether a playing card drawn from the playing card handling device is expected an expected playing card based on the information from the sensor and the activation device; and disables the playing card handling device when the drawn playing card is not the expected playing card.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

For a better understanding of the various embodiments of the present invention, reference may be made to the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a playing card dealing shoe and deck of cards, with an example data card in accordance with one embodiment;

Fig. 2 is an example playing card showing one or more example position(s) for a data track thereon in accordance with one embodiment;

Fig. 3. is a chart showing an example set of data for inclusion on a data card in accordance with an example embodiment.

Fig. 4A is a flow diagram of an example method for encrypting data to be saved to a data card in an example embodiment.

Fig. 4B is a flow diagram of an example method for decrypting data read from a data card in an example embodiment.

Fig. 5 is a flow diagram of an example method for creating and using playing cards and a data card in an example embodiment.

While the disclosure is susceptible to various modifications and alternative forms, a specific embodiment thereof is shown by way of example in the drawings and will herein be described in detail. It should be understood, however, that the drawings and detailed description presented herein are not intended to limit the disclosure to the particular embodiment disclosed, but to the contrary, the intention is to cover all modifications, equivalents, and alternatives falling within the spirit and scope of the present disclosure as defined by the appended claims.