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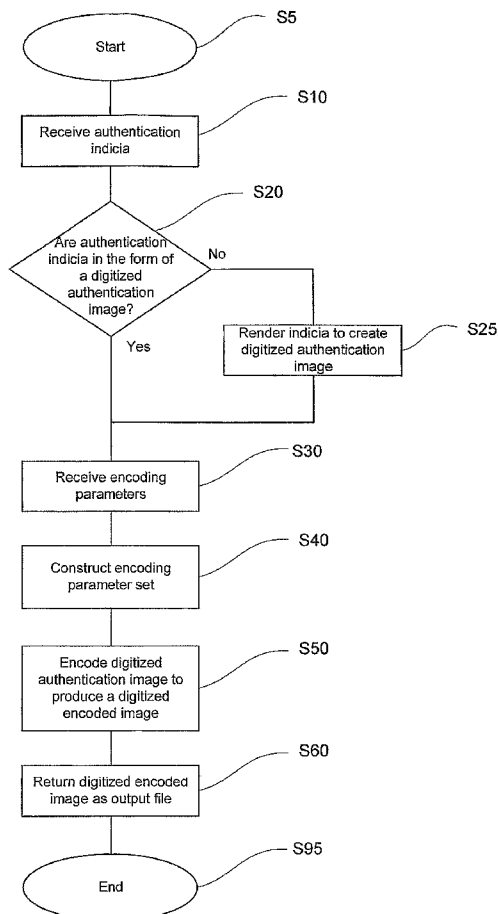
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(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CONTROLLING ENCODED IMAGE PRODUCTION



(57) Abstract: An automated method of producing encoded images for incorporation into digital document is provided. The method comprises receiving a request from a user to produce an encoded image. The request includes user-supplied data for producing the encoded image, the user-supplied data including user-supplied authentication indicia and/or at least one user-supplied encoding parameter. The method further comprises determining whether the user is authorized to produced an encoded image using the user-supplied data. Responsive to a determination that the user is authorized to produced an encoded image using the user-supplied data, encoding actions are carried out. The encoding actions include establishing at least one digitized authentication image and establishing an encoding parameter set including any user-supplied encoding parameters, the encoding parameter set is usable to encode one or more of the least one digitized authentication image. The encoding actions also include encoding one or more of the at least one digitized authentication image using the encoding parameter set to produce a final encoded image.

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