Systems, Key Device, Apparatus and Methods for Managing Access to Data Communication Ports

Abstract

An apparatus in a system for managing access to data communication ports, wherein the apparatus comprises: a plug insertable into a data communication port to block access; a locking mechanism configured to releasably engage the plug with the data communication port; an I/O interface for interfacing the apparatus with a key device; and a processor, wherein the processor is configured to, when the key device is interfaced with the apparatus, execute instructions to operate the apparatus to: perform an authentication process to authenticate the key device; and after successful authentication, allow data communication between the apparatus and the key device for managing access to the data communication port, wherein the apparatus comprises a first part of an electrical circuit and the key device comprises a second part of the electrical circuit, and the electrical circuit is a complete circuit when the key device is interfaced with the apparatus.

FIG. 2A