CLAIMS

1. A method for verifying a security device including an image having a signature, wherein the method comprises the following steps:

- acquiring the image in a first optical spectrum in order to obtain a first representation;
- extracting the signature; and
- verifying the signature,

wherein:

- the signature is colorimetric and comprises a particular orientation of a color plate, or
- the signature is a frequency signature and the image includes at least one reference spatial period.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein when the signature is a frequency signature and the image includes at least one reference spatial period, the method further comprises the following steps:

- applying a spectral transformation to the first representation in order to obtain a first transform including at least one first spatial period; and
- verifying that the value of the at least one first spatial period corresponds to the value of the at least one reference spatial period.

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the image is visible in the first optical spectrum and in at least one second optical spectrum, and in which the method further comprises the following steps:

- acquiring the image in the at least one second optical spectrum in order to obtain a second representation;
- verifying that the first representation and the second representation are graphically substantially identical; and
- verifying that a distance between the first representation and the second representation is below a threshold.

4. A method according to claim 3, wherein the threshold is equal to one of: 10 µm or 5 µm.

5. A method according to claim 3, wherein the distance between the first representation and the second representation is determined by means of a registration algorithm to identify a transformation for which one of the representations is the image of the other representation.

6. A method according to claim 3, wherein the first optical spectrum is situated in the visible spectrum, and/or the at least one second optical spectrum is situated in the infrared spectrum.

7. A method according to claim 2, further comprising the following steps:

- applying the spectral transformation to the second representation in order to obtain a second transform that includes at least one second spatial period; and
- verifying that the first transform is substantially equal to the second transform.

8. A method according to claim 7, further comprising a step of:

- verifying that the value of the at least one second spatial period of the second transform corresponds to the value of the at least one reference spatial period.

9. A method according to claim 7, wherein the spectral transformation is applied to at least one portion of the first representation and/or to the same at least one portion of the second representation.

10. A method according to claim 7, wherein the spectral transformation is applied to at least two portions of a representation to produce at least two transforms, and in which the method further comprises a step of:

- verifying that the at least two transforms of the at least two portions are substantially equal.

11. A method according to claim 9, further comprising a step of:

- verifying that the first representation and the second representation are colorimetrically different.

12. A method according to claim 3, wherein the image represents a portion of the body of a holder associated with the security device, and in which the method further comprises the steps of:

- acquiring an image of the portion of the body from a bearer of the security device;
- verifying that the acquired image corresponds biometrically with the first representation; and/or
- verifying that the acquired image corresponds biometrically with the second representation.

13. A method according to claim 3, wherein the security device is associated with digital storage means including a digital representation of the image, and in which the method further comprises the steps of:

- reading the digital representation of the image;
- verifying that the digital representation is substantially identical to the first representation; and/or
- verifying that the digital representation is substantially identical to the second representation.

14. A method according to claim 13, further comprising a step of:

- verifying that the acquired image corresponds biometrically with the digital representation.

15. A verification apparatus for verifying a security device that includes an image that has a signature, the verification apparatus comprising:

a memory that includes instructions; and

a computer, operably connected to the memory, that executes the instructions to perform operations comprising:

acquiring the image in a first optical spectrum in order to obtain a first representation;

extracting the signature; and

verifying the signature,

wherein:

the signature is colorimetric and comprises a particular orientation of a color plate, or

the signature is a frequency signature and the image includes at least one reference spatial period.

16. A non-transitory computer data medium that includes a computer program that, when executed by a computer, implements a method for verifying a security device that includes an image that has a signature, the method comprising:

acquiring the image in a first optical spectrum in order to obtain a first representation;

extracting the signature; and

verifying the signature,

wherein:

the signature is colorimetric and comprises a particular orientation of a color plate, or

the signature is a frequency signature and the image includes at least one reference spatial period.