

Summary

The invention relates to a process to secure microcontroller programs with external memories against being read and to secure microcontroller assemblies against duplication.

- 5 The task of the invention resides in creating a method, using which, in combination with a simple circuit configuration, any number of selectively identifiable microcontroller assemblies can be produced under the usual assembly conditions in such a way that they cannot be reproduced by unauthorised persons and that their contents cannot be read or duplicated,
- 10 ensuring in this way that the manufacturer of the microcontroller units cannot produce or reproduce the microcontroller of his or her own accord.

According to the invention, the task is solved, as shown in the internal flow diagram in Figure 3, with a microcontroller module (1), a microcontroller (2), a selection module (7), an interface (9), an - external programming

15 signal (11), an - external memory (PROM) - (12), a - known, user-specific production key - (19), a production file (20) and a conversion algorithm (21) being in operative connection with one another.