CLAIMS

1. A chip processing self-service kiosk comprising:

a chip slot;

a chip sensor; and

a mechanical arrangement disposed downstream of the chip slot, the mechanical arrangement configured to allow received chips from the chip slot to be stacked in an orientation where the received chips are countable by the chip sensor, wherein the mechanical arrangement comprises a receptacle for the received chips from the chip slot and

an actuator coupled to the receptacle, the actuator configured to tilt the receptacle to the orientation where the received chips are countable by the chip sensor.

2. The chip processing self-service kiosk of claim 1, wherein the receptacle is, by default, tilted in the orientation where the received chips are countable by the chip sensor.

3. The chip processing self-service kiosk of claim 1 or 2, wherein the receptacle is configured to shake before being counted by the chip sensor.

4. The chip processing self-service kiosk of any one of the claims 1 to 3, wherein the mechanical arrangement further comprises

a passageway disposed to guide the received chips from the chip slot into the receptacle.

5. The chip processing self-service kiosk of any one of the claims 1 to 4, further comprising:

an electromagnetic shielding enclosure within which the chip sensor and the receptacle are disposed.

6. The chip processing self-service kiosk of any one of the claims 1 to 5, further comprising:

a chip authentication mechanism to determine that the received chips are recognised by the self-service kiosk.

7. The chip processing self-service kiosk of claim 6, wherein the chip authentication mechanism comprises a counting detector configured to determine a number count of the received chips and wherein the chip processing self-service kiosk is configured to

receive a signal from the chip sensor providing a number count of the received chips; and

transmit an alert if the number count from the counting detector differs from the number count received from the chip sensor.

8. The chip processing self-service kiosk of claim 6, wherein the chip authentication mechanism comprises a weight detector coupled to the receptacle, the weight detector configured to determine a measured weight of the received chips in the receptacle,

wherein the chip processing self-service kiosk is configured to

receive a signal from the weight detector providing the measured weight of the received chips;

receive a signal from the chip sensor providing a number count of the received chips; and

transmit an alert if the measured weight of the received chips differs from a weight derived from the number count of the received chips.

9. The chip processing self-service kiosk of claim 8, wherein the weight detector is tared before determining the measured weight.

10. The chip processing self-service kiosk of claim 8 or 9, wherein the weight derived from the number count of the received chips is based on data communicated to the chip processing self-service kiosk providing a weight of the received chips.

11. The chip processing self-service kiosk of any one of the claims 9 to 10, further comprising

a collection bin for storing received chips that are accepted; and

a return tray for releasing received chips that are rejected,

wherein the chip processing self-service kiosk is configured to cause the actuator to tilt the receptacle to drop the received chips in the direction of either the collection bin or the return tray after the received chips are counted by the chip sensor.

12. The chip processing self-service kiosk of claim 11, further comprising

a divider configured to divert the received chips into either the collection bin when the received chips are determined to be accepted or divert the received chips into the return tray when the received chips are determined to be rejected.

13. The chip processing self-service kiosk of claim 12, wherein the received chips are determined to be accepted upon receipt of user confirmation that the number count provided by the chip

sensor is correct and one or both of: the measured weight of the received chips tallying with the weight derived from the number count of the received chips; the number count from the counting detector tallying with the number count received from the chip sensor, and wherein the received chips are determined to be rejected when the alert that the measured weight of the received chips differs from the weight derived from the number count of the received chips is transmitted; the alert that the number count from the counting detector differs from the number count received from the chip sensor is transmitted; or lack of receipt of the user confirmation that the number count provided by the chip sensor is correct.

14. The chip processing self-service kiosk of any one of the claims 1 to 13, further comprising a height sensor disposed at the receptacle to determine whether the received chips reach a height limit within the receptacle.

15. The chip processing self-service kiosk of claim 14, further comprising a shutter mechanism configured to close the chip slot in response to the height sensor indicating the height limit being reached.

16. The chip processing self-service kiosk of claim 15, wherein the shutter mechanism closes the chip slot in response to chip processing self-service kiosk failure.

17. The chip processing self-service kiosk of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the chip processing self-service kiosk further comprises a cash repository and wherein the chip processing self-service kiosk is configured to

receive user confirmation that the number count provided by the chip sensor is correct; and

dispense from the cash repository a monetary value calculated from the counted received chips.

18. The chip processing self-service kiosk of claim 17, wherein the chip processing self-service kiosk is configured to effect the crediting of a membership account with the monetary value calculated from the counted received chips.

19. The chip processing self-service kiosk of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the chip processing self-service kiosk is further configured to determine whether the counted received chips are registered in a database.

20. The chip processing self-service kiosk of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the chip sensor is a unidirectional RFID antenna.