A B S T R A C T

The invention concerns a process for authentication by an offline terminal (1) of a portable object (2) comprising a processing circuit (4) able to deliver a secondary value (Rx) which the function of a primary value (Qi) transmitted by the terminal. An authentication table (5) is placed in the terminal which associates a series of primary values (Qi) and a series of control values (Ui), each control value being the transformation by a one-way function of the secondary value (Rx) calculated by the processing circuit of an authentic portable object. At the time of a connection of a portable object with the terminal, one of the primary values (Qi) from the table is transmitted to the portable object, the one-way function is applied to the secondary value (Rx) received from the portable object, and the result obtained is compared with the corresponding control value (Ui) from the table.

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