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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **QUALCOMM Incorporated** [US/US]; Attn: International IP Administration, 5775 Morehouse Drive, San Diego, CA 92121 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **WINGERT, Christopher, R.** [US/US]; 13855 Mira Montana Drive, Del Mar, CA 92014 (US). **AGGARWAL, Pooja** [US/US]; 4663 Torrey Circle, H-202, San Diego, CA 92130 (US). **HAWKES, Philip, Michael** [AU/AU]; 18-20 Knocklayde Street, #30, Ashfield, NSW 2131 (AU).

(74) Agents: **OGROD, Gregory, D.** et al.; Attn: International IP Administration, 5775 Morehouse Drive, San Diego, CA 92121 (US).

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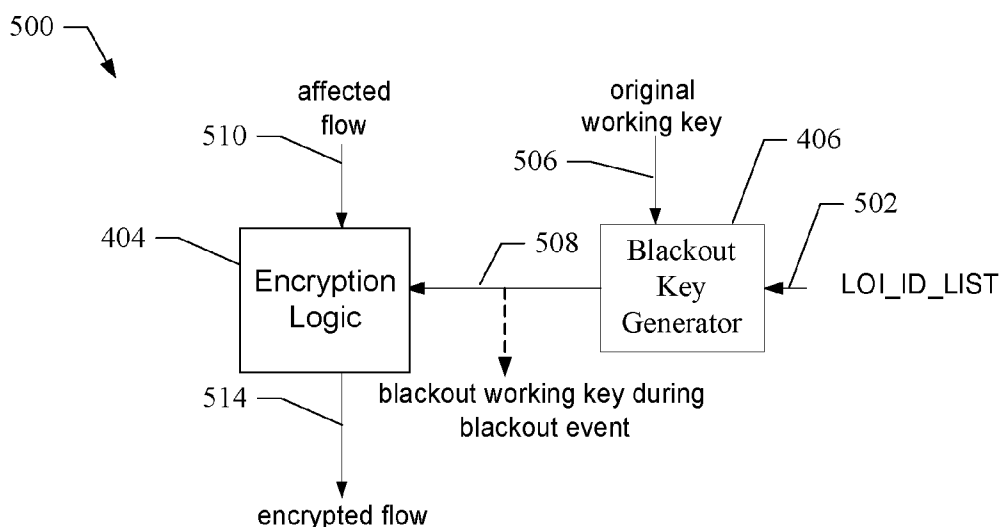
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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR BLACKOUT PROVISIONING IN A DISTRIBUTION NETWORK



(57) Abstract: Methods and systems for blackout provisioning in a communication network. In an aspect, a method is provided for blackout provisioning in a distribution network. The method includes determining one or more affected regions, and generating a blackout key based an original key and the affected regions. The method also includes encrypting content with the blackout key to produce encrypted content, and transmitting the encrypted content and an encrypted version of the original key over the distribution network. An apparatus is provided for blackout provisioning that includes provisioning logic to determine one or more affected regions, a key generator to generate a blackout key based an original key and the affected regions, encryption logic to encrypt content with the blackout key to produce encrypted content, and a transmitter to transmit the encrypted content and an encrypted version of the original key over the distribution network.

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- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

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