

ABSTRACT

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR SENDING SECURE MESSAGES

A user device and method for securely sending messages to a recipient. The device and method initiate a search for a certificate needed to encrypt a message to a particular recipient prior to receiving a send instruction from the user. The device may determine when a user changes the recipients for the message and, as the user composes the message, determine whether the requisite certificates are stored locally on the device or need to be obtained from a remote source. If the certificates required are not on the device, then a search of the remote source is initiated. The detection of changes to the recipient list and the initiation of any required searches occurs prior to receipt of a send instruction from the user.

(Figure 1)