

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

MESSAGING INTERFACE FOR PROTECTED DIGITAL OUTPUTS

5 [054] An apparatus and method for determining and displaying status messages relating to protected digital content control information conveyed between a transmitting device, and a receiving device capable of establishing a secured communication channel, through the use of protected input/output ports. The status messages can be presented to the user through a plurality of implementations, including a display control panel of a
10 transmitting device or an on-screen display of a receiving device. The method of the invention can reduce potential confusion and frustration for the user, who might otherwise suspect an equipment malfunction, resulting in needless, time consuming, and costly support calls.

15 Figure 5



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