

Software activation and copy protection method

ABSTRACT

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A method is disclosed for controlling the installation and activation of a software application on a Client Machine which may be coupled with a modem with Internet access, or a user uses his hand phone instead, to contact a Web Server. Upon inputting the user's particulars and software product key, a serial
10 key is generated along with hardware (e.g. IMEI no.) or firmware (e.g. SIM card no.) encrypted and sent to the Web Server as the "serial key". Upon receiving the encrypted serial key, it is decrypted and compared and, if necessary, stored in a database comprising previously registered particulars of genuine copies of the software. If the received information is authentic and has not been registered
15 before (i.e. no multiple installation is licensed), then an acknowledgement is sent to the Client Machine. Once the acknowledgement is verifying as a valid source, an activation code is generated to enable the installation to proceed to allow the software application to be activated for full use. Similar steps may be made to control software updates, patches and fixes to be downloaded by a registered
20 user.

FIGURE 1 accompanies the abstract.