Abstract

A pocket-size jacket (40) or enclosure for a smart card (20) is provided for facilitating two-way radio frequency read/write communications with a remotely associated interrogation station. The jacket includes a sleeve-like opening adapted to receive and position a smart card for providing power from the jacket to the card and also for enabling read/write communications between the card and the associated interrogation station. Power for circuitry both within the jacket and on the smart card is provided by an internal battery operated power supply (401) in the jacket. Normally held in the off-state, radiated energy from an interrogation site associated with the interrogation station turns on the jacket's internal power supply when the smart card/jacket combination is within a few feet of the radiation source at the interrogation site. A holder of the smart card/jacket combination is thus able to conduct a data transaction with the interrogation station either while standing near or moving past the interrogation site for such station. When the smart card/jacket combination is outside of the field of the radiated energy from the interrogation site, power to all the circuitry in the jacket and the card are turned off, thereby providing an extended operating life for the battery operated power supply.

This Sheet Has Been Replaced