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United States Patent [19]

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Cooper et al.

[45] Date of Patent: **May 26, 1998**

[54] **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ENABLING TRIAL PERIOD USE OF SOFTWARE PRODUCTS: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR GENERATING A MACHINE-DEPENDENT IDENTIFICATION**

0 268 139 A3	5/1988	European Pat. Off.	G06F 1/00
0 561 685 A1	9/1993	European Pat. Off.	G06F 12/14
0 598 587 A1	5/1994	European Pat. Off.	G06F 1/00
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2 136 175	9/1984	United Kingdom	H03K 13/24
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both of Colo.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

"Information Distribution via Rom Disks" (IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, vol. 33, No. 12, May 1991).
"Data Masking Algorithm" (IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, vol. 32, No. 6B, Nov. 1989).

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[21] Appl. No.: **235,032**

[57] ABSTRACT

[22] Filed: **Apr. 25, 1994**

[51] Int. Cl.⁶ **H04L 9/00; H04L 9/32**

A method and apparatus is provided for distributing a software object from a source to a user. A software object is encrypted with an encryption operation utilizing a long-lived encryption key. It is directed from the source to the user. It is loaded onto a user-controlled data processing system having a particular configuration. A numerical machine identification is derived based at least in part upon the particular data processing system configuration of the user-controlled data processing system. A temporary key is derived which is based at least in part upon the numerical machine identification and the long-lived encryption key. The long-lived key generator is provided for receiving the temporary key and producing the long-lived encryption key. The user is allowed to utilize the temporary key for a prescribed interval to generate the long-lived encryption key to access the software object.

[52] U.S. Cl. **380/4; 380/21; 380/23; 380/25; 380/49**

[58] Field of Search **380/4, 9, 21, 23, 380/25, 49, 50**

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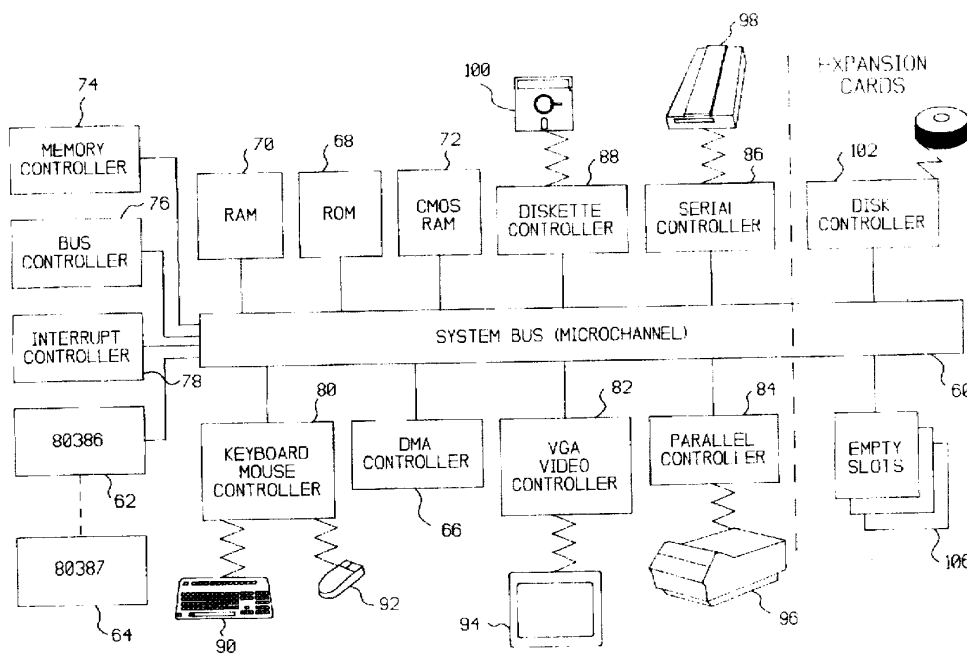
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0 268 139 A2 5/1988 European Pat. Off. G06F 1/00

8 Claims, 28 Drawing Sheets



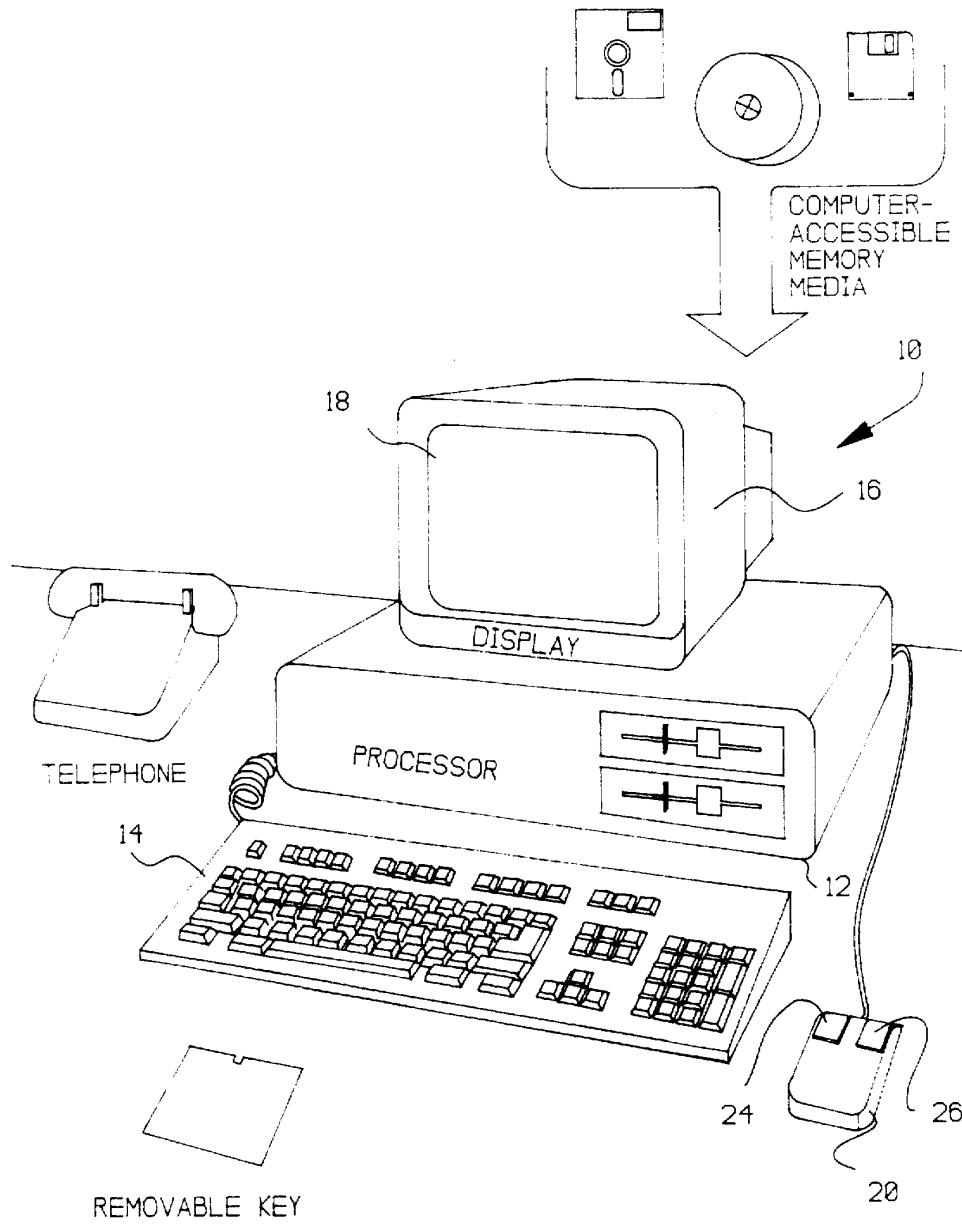


FIG. 1

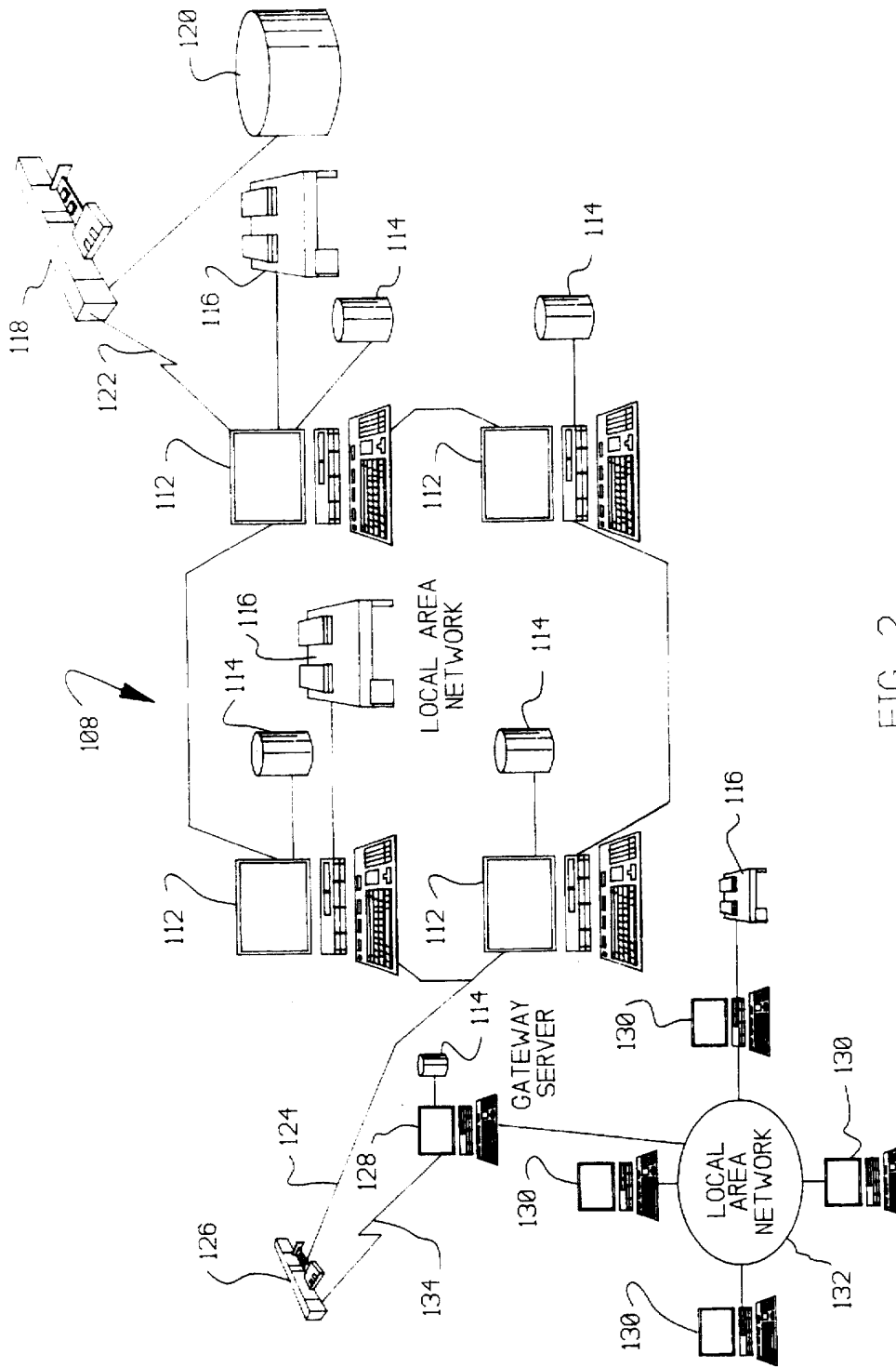


FIG. 2

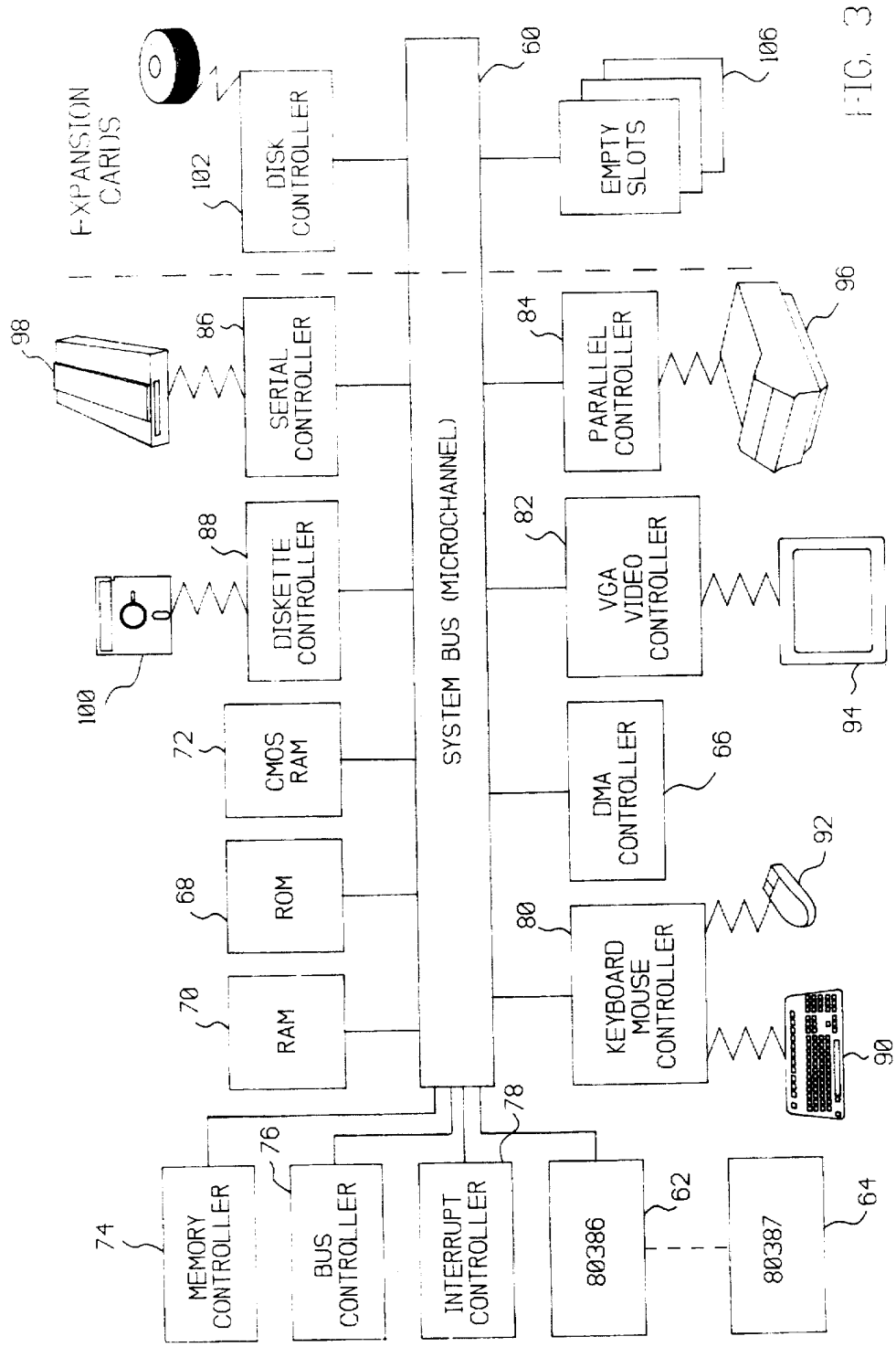


FIG. 3

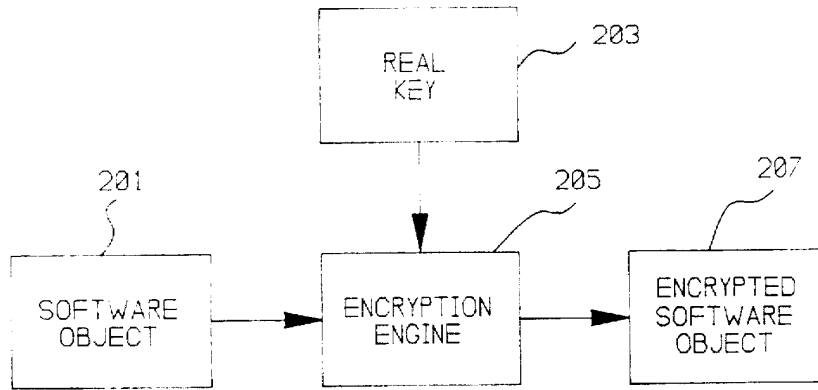


FIG. 4

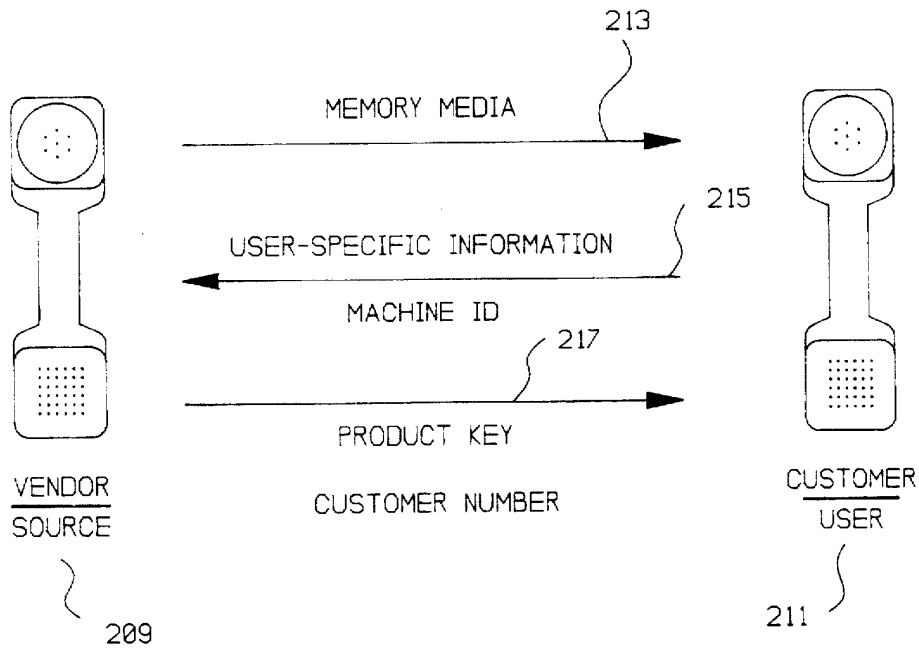


FIG. 5

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