



US006766456B1

(12) **United States Patent**
McKeeth

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 6,766,456 B1**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Jul. 20, 2004**

(54) **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR AUTHENTICATING A USER OF A COMPUTER SYSTEM**

6,298,447 B1 * 10/2001 Wang 713/202
6,418,424 B1 * 7/2002 Hoffberg et al. 706/21

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

JP 60 171560 A 9/1985 G06F/15/00
JP 61 142835 A 6/1986 H04L/9/00

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

(75) Inventor: **James McKeeth**, Nampa, ID (US)

(73) Assignee: **Micron Technology, Inc.**, Boise, ID (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

Knowledge Adventure, Inc., User's Guide, pp. 1-18, 1996, "Jump Start Toddlers".

Micron Electronics, Inc.—Assignee, U.S. App. S/N 09/033, 943, filed Mar. 2, 1998, "securing Restricted Operations of a Computer Program Using a Visual Key Feature."

* cited by examiner

(21) Appl. No.: **09/511,092**

(22) Filed: **Feb. 23, 2000**

(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **H04K 1/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **713/200; 713/201; 713/202; 713/183; 713/186; 713/168**

(58) **Field of Search** 713/200, 202, 713/201, 183, 184, 186; 345/168, 156, 158

Primary Examiner—Ly V. Hua

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear, LLP.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

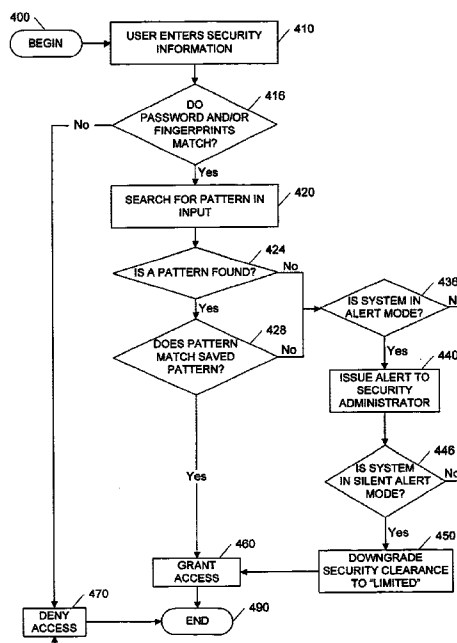
A method and system for authenticating a user to access a computer system. The method comprises communicating security information to the computer system, and providing the computer system with an implicit input. The method further comprises determining whether the security information and implicit input match corresponding information associated with the user. The method further comprises granting the user access to the computer system in the event of a satisfactory match. When authenticating the user, the method and system consider the possibility of the user being legitimate but subject to duress or force by a computer hacker.

15 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,759,063 A * 7/1988 Chaum 380/30
5,229,764 A * 7/1993 Matchett et al. 340/5.52
5,465,084 A 11/1995 Cottrell 340/825.31
5,559,961 A 9/1996 Blonder 395/188.01
5,608,387 A 3/1997 Davies 340/825.34
5,821,933 A 10/1998 Keller et al. 345/348
5,838,306 A 11/1998 O'Connor et al.
6,006,328 A * 12/1999 Drake 713/200
6,035,406 A * 3/2000 Moussa et al. 713/202
6,091,835 A * 7/2000 Smithies et al. 382/115



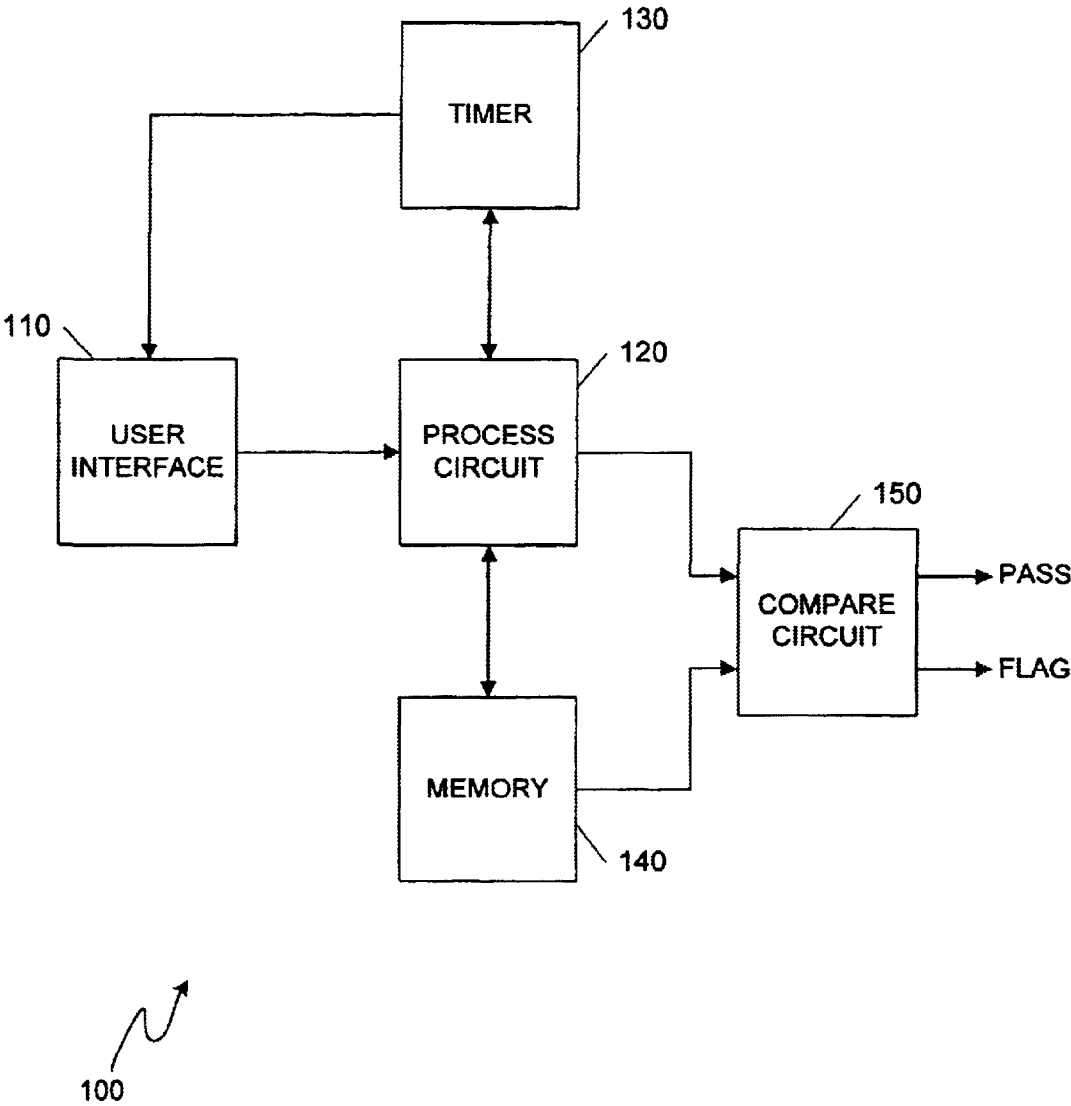


FIG. 1

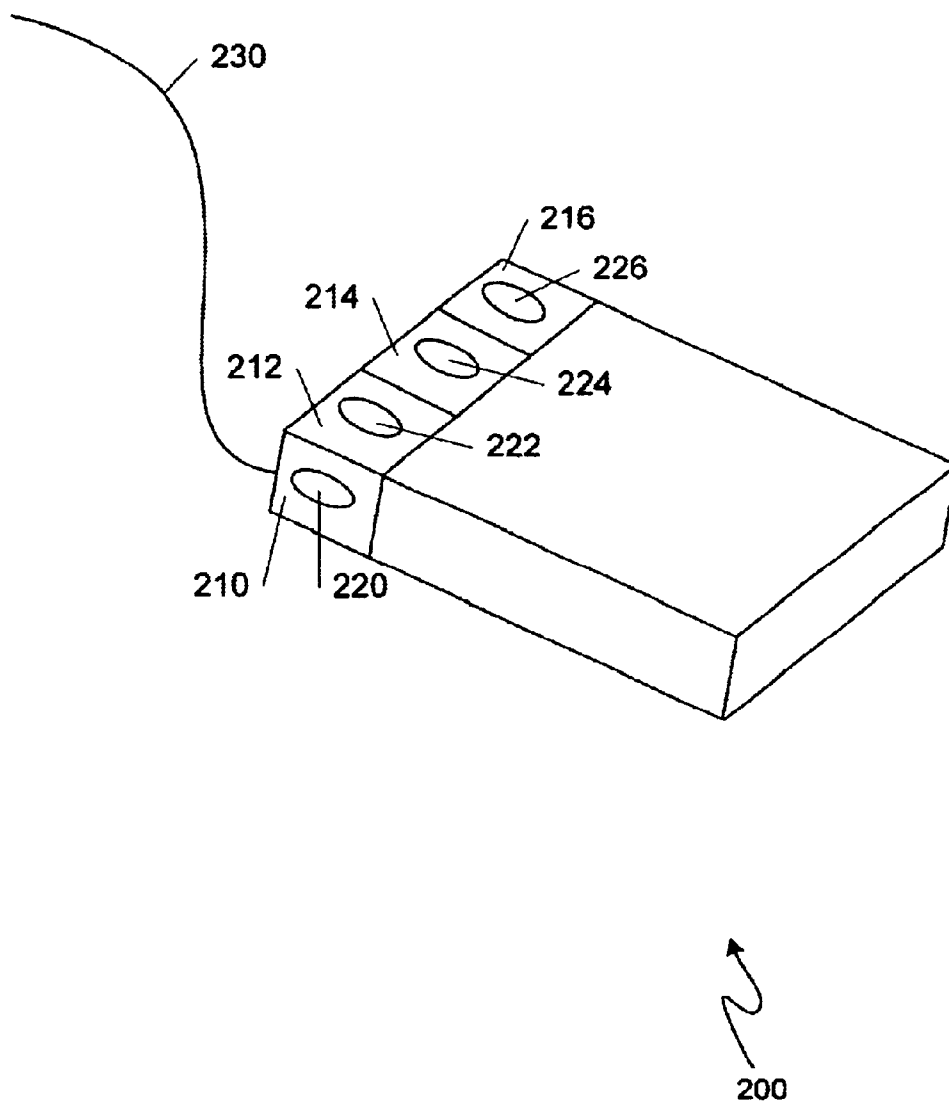


FIG. 2

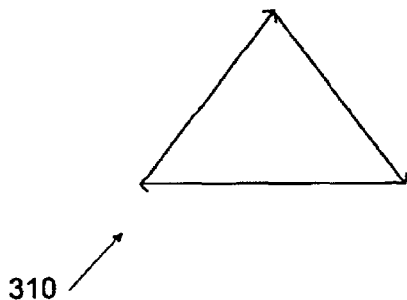


FIG. 3A

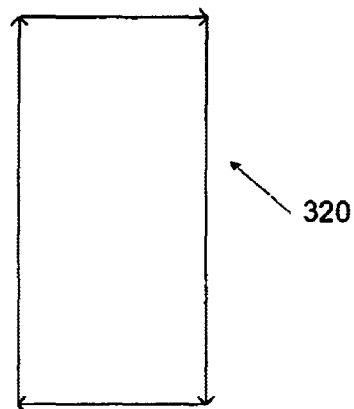


FIG. 3B

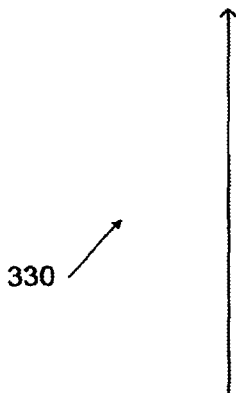


FIG. 3C

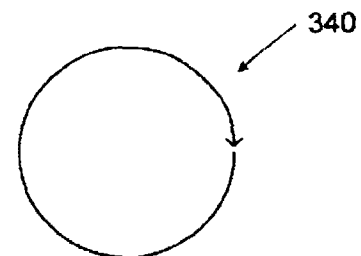


FIG. 3D

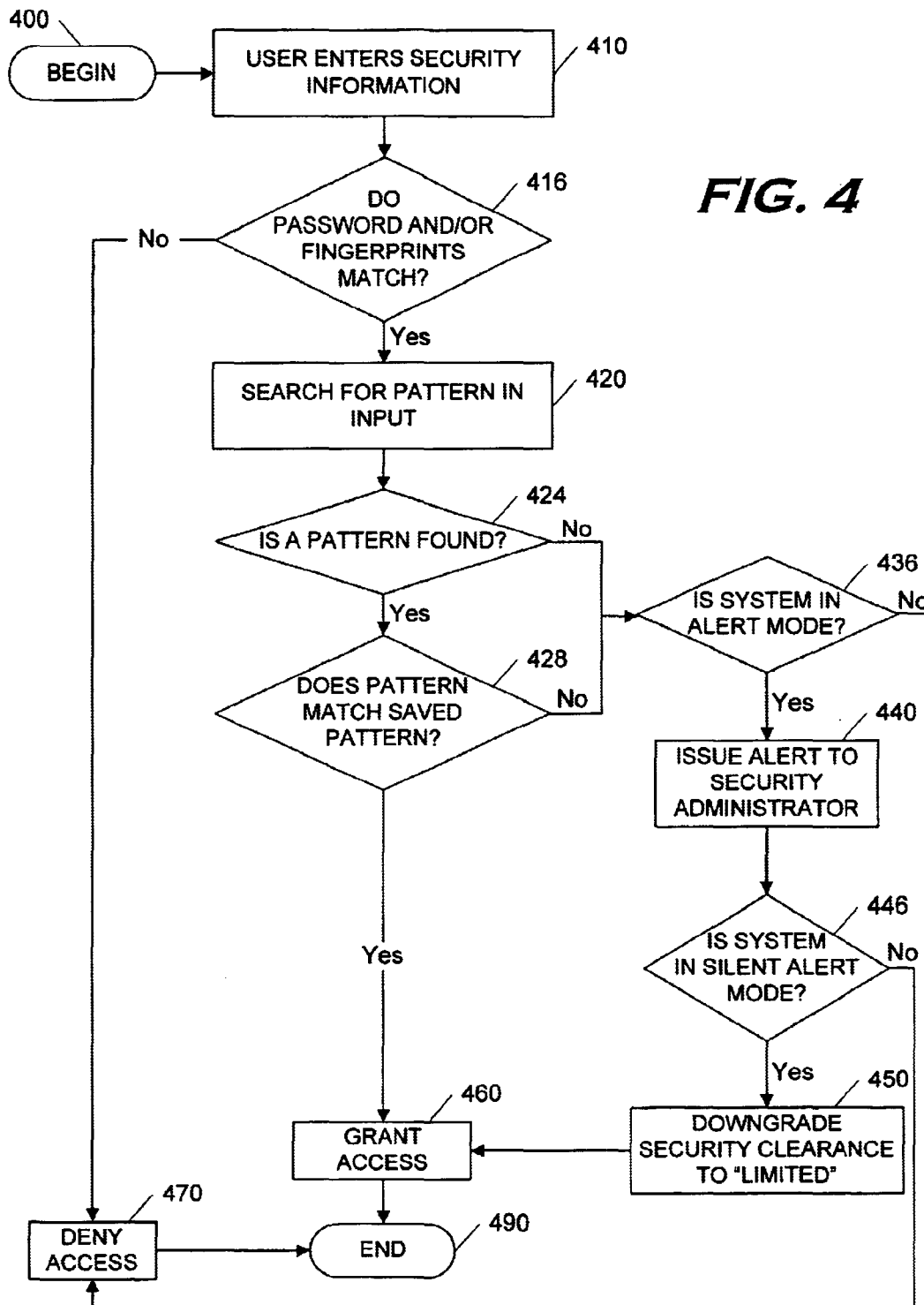


FIG. 4

Explore Litigation Insights

Docket Alarm provides insights to develop a more informed litigation strategy and the peace of mind of knowing you're on top of things.

Real-Time Litigation Alerts



Keep your litigation team up-to-date with **real-time alerts** and advanced team management tools built for the enterprise, all while greatly reducing PACER spend.

Our comprehensive service means we can handle Federal, State, and Administrative courts across the country.

Advanced Docket Research



With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

Identify arguments that have been successful in the past with full text, pinpoint searching. Link to case law cited within any court document via Fastcase.

Analytics At Your Fingertips



Learn what happened the last time a particular judge, opposing counsel or company faced cases similar to yours.

Advanced out-of-the-box PTAB and TTAB analytics are always at your fingertips.

API

Docket Alarm offers a powerful API (application programming interface) to developers that want to integrate case filings into their apps.

LAW FIRMS

Build custom dashboards for your attorneys and clients with live data direct from the court.

Automate many repetitive legal tasks like conflict checks, document management, and marketing.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.