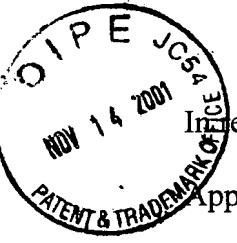


EXHIBIT 6

19/000113
MG
12-1301



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the PATENT APPLICATION of

Applicants : Miki MULLOR et al.)
)
 Appln. No. : 09/164,777)
)
 Filed : October 1, 1998)
)
 For : METHOD OF RESTRICTING)
 SOFTWARE OPERATION WITHIN)
 A LICENSED LIMITATION)
)
 Group Art Unit : 2161)
 Examiner : J. Trammell)
)
 Atty. Dkt. : 39636-176166)

Customer No.

 26694
 PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 22031

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AMENDMENT

Sir:

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Please extend the period for responding to the Office Action dated June 22, 2001 by two months so that the due date expires November 22, 2001. The requisite extension fee of \$200.00 under 37 C.F.R. 1.17 (a) (1) is attached. Should no check be attached, please charge our Deposit Account 22-0261. Please also deduct any additional fees due or credit any overage to the same account.

Responsive to the Office Action dated June 22, 2001, please amend the application as

12/14/2001 HENDON 00000006 220261 09164777
01 FC:203 27.00 CH

11/15/2001 EABUBAKI 00000001 09164777
02 FC:216 200.00 OP

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Amendment
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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amended the claims as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method of restricting software operation within a license for use with a computer including an erasable, non-volatile memory area of a BIOS of the computer, and a volatile memory area; the method comprising the steps of:

selecting a program residing in the volatile memory,

using an agent to set up verification structure in the erasable, non-volatile memory of the BIOS, the verification structure accommodating data that includes at least one license record,

verifying the program using at least the verification structure from the erasable non-volatile memory of the BIOS, and

acting on the program according to the verification.

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 2, wherein setting up a verification structure further comprising the steps of: establishing, between the computer and the bureau, a two-way data-communications linkage; transferring, from the computer to the bureau, a request-for-license including an identification of the computer and the license-record's contents from the selected program; forming an encrypted license-record at the bureau by encrypting parts of the request-for-license using part of the identification as an encryption key; transferring, from the bureau to the computer, the encrypted license-record; and storing the encrypted license record in the erasable non-volatile memory area of the BIOS.

4. (Amended) A method according to claim 2, wherein verifying the program further comprises the steps of: establishing, between the computer and the bureau, a two-way data-communications linkage; transferring, from the computer to the bureau, a request-for-

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license verification including an identification of the computer, an encrypted license-record for the selected program from the erasable, non-volatile memory area of the BIOS, and the program's license-record; enabling the comparing at the bureau; and transferring, from the bureau to the computer, the result of the comparing.

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5. (Amended) A method according to claim 3 wherein the identification of the computer includes the unique key.

6. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein selecting a program includes the steps of: establishing a licensed-software-program in the volatile memory of the computer wherein said licensed-software-program includes contents used to form the license-record.

7. (Amended) A method according to claim 6 wherein using an agent to set up the verification structure includes the steps of: establishing or certifying the existence of a pseudo-unique key in a first non-volatile memory area of the computer; and establishing at least one license-record location in the first nonvolatile memory area or in the erasable, non-volatile memory area of the BIOS.

9. (Amended) A method according to claim 7 wherein verifying the program includes the steps of: encrypting the licensed-software-program's license-record contents from the volatile memory area or decrypting the license-record in the erasable, non-volatile memory area of the BIOS, using the pseudo-unique key; and comparing the encrypted licenses-software-program's license-record contents with the encrypted license-record in the erasable, non-volatile

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memory area of the BIOS, or comparing the license-software-program's license-record contents with the decrypted license-record in erasable non-volatile memory area of the BIOS.

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10. (Amended) A method according to claim 9 wherein acting on the program includes the step: restricting the program's operation with predetermined limitations if the comparing yields non-unity or insufficiency.

11. (Amended) ~~A method according to claim 22 wherein the first non-volatile memory area is a ROM section of a BIOS.~~

12. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the erasable, non-volatile memory area is a E²PROM section of the BIOS.

sub ci 16. (Amended) The method of Claim 22, wherein the unique key includes a pseudo-unique key.

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17. (Amended) The method according Claim 72, wherein the step of using the agent to set up the verification record, including the license record, includes encrypting a license record data in the program using at least the unique key.

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18. (Amended) The method according to Claim 72, wherein the step of verifying the program includes a decrypting the license record data accommodated in the erasable second non-volatile memory area of the BIOS using at least the unique key.

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