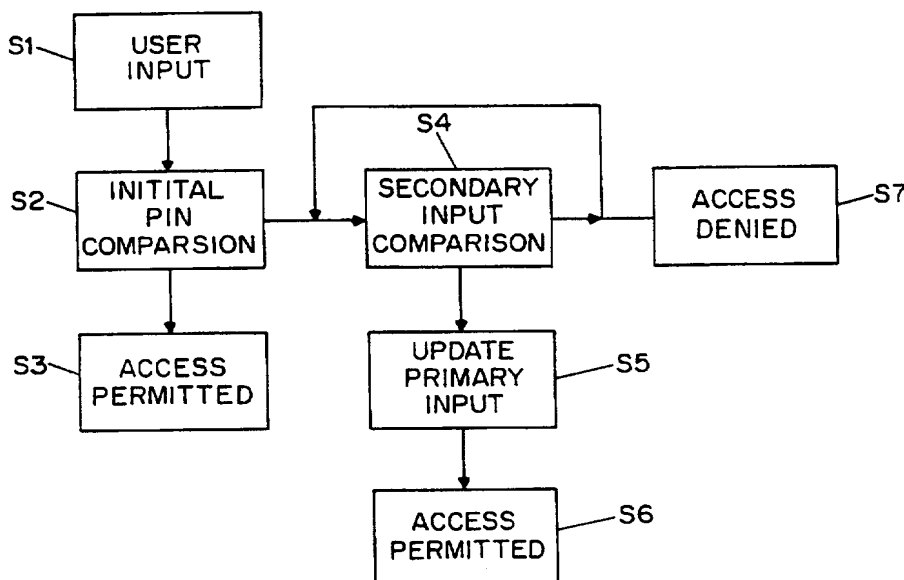




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(54) Title: SYSTEM FOR IDENTIFYING THE USER OF POSTAL EQUIPMENT



(57) Abstract

An improved system for identifying the user of postal equipment. A user provides identifying information (S1), and if access is not appropriate based on that information, an additional comparison is performed before access is denied (S7). This permits the user to select the identifying information (S4) needed for access from a set of predefined information, thereby permitting the user to change identifying information needed for access in the event the information has been or is suspected of having been compromised. Additional security may also be obtained by requiring the user to supply additional identifying information randomly selected from a predetermined set after valid first identifying information has been entered. Identifying information supplied by the user may include personal digital data, such as a digital fingerprint or retina eye scan.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US97/06838

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(6) :G06K 9/00
US CL :382/116
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
U.S. : 382/116, 115, 117, 118, 124

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4,993,068 A (PIOSENKA et al) 12 February 1991, Abstract, Figs. 1-3b; column 2, line 61 to column 5, line 51; and column 7, line 51 to column 10, line 27.	1-16
X, P	US 5,513,272 A (BOGOSIAN, JR.) 30 April 1996, Abstract; Figs. 1-4, and column 1, line 43 to column 3, line 31.	1-16

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer <i>Joseph Mancuso</i> JOSEPH MANCUSO Telephone No. (703) 308-8576