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(54) **IC card processing apparatus**

(57) An IC card processing apparatus transmits that PIN information input thereto by the user, which needs to be kept secret, from a keyboard (30) to predetermined general purpose ports (43A, 43B) of a CPU (22) through a specific bus (32), without using a system data bus (24). The processing apparatus transmits the PIN information included in a collation command to be sent from the CPU (22) to an IC card (31), after changing the

structure or representation of the PIN information in accordance with a program version stored in the IC card, thus increasing the number of kinds of IC cards which can be processed, and besides more reliably preventing the PIN information from being stolen even when the collation command is sent through the system data bus (24).

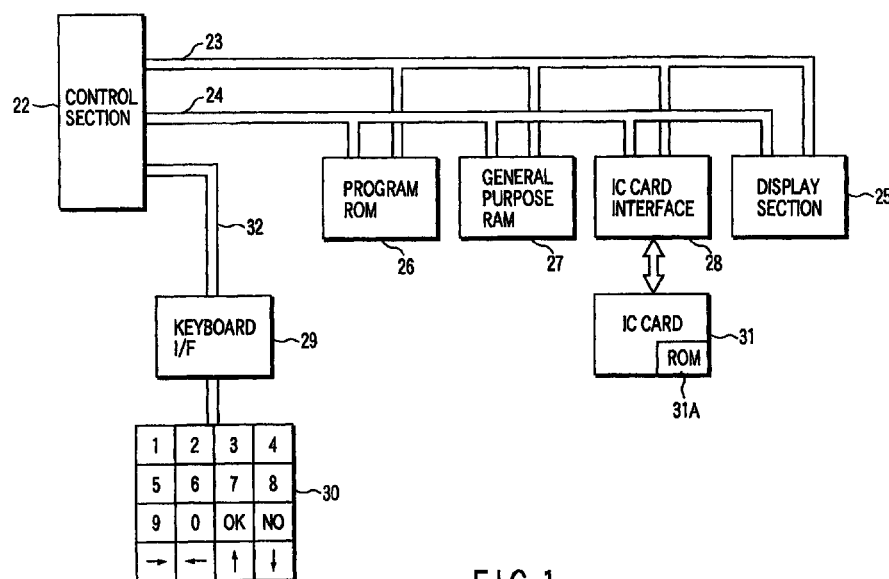


FIG. 1



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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 29 September 1999	Examiner Wolles, B
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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