

content providing server interconnected by an open network not guaranteeing the security of data to be transferred, comprising:

registering means for registering unique identification information stored in said mobile information terminal with a customer database of said authentication server in advance;

decoding means for decoding the unique identification information encrypted by a predetermined encryption algorithm and supplied from said mobile information terminal via said open network;

determining means for determining whether the unique identification information decoded by the decoding means is registered with said customer database; and

service permission notice sending means for sending a notification to said content providing server that starting of service provision for said mobile information

terminal be permitted, if the unique identification information is found registered with said customer database by the determining means.

10. The user authentication server according to claim 9, wherein said open network is the Internet, through which the unique identification information is transmitted as encrypted by the predetermined encryption algorithm by a Web browser installed on said mobile information terminal.

11. The user authentication server according to claim 10, wherein unique identification information is read, by said Web browser, from a flash memory installed on said mobile information terminal and the retrieved unique identification information is transmitted as encrypted by the predetermined encryption algorithm by said Web browser.

12. The user authentication server according to claim 11, wherein said predetermined encryption algorithm is SSL.

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