PINProof™.com

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Instant Verification of Cashed Checks

Advanced graphic software helps fraudsters pass false checks, which takes the bank too long to catch on to. PINProof adds to the check a digital digest of its image, encrypted with the issuer private key, instantly verifiable by a scanner interpreting the digest with the issuer public key.

Digital Signatures are recognized as a binding legal commitment in the US and in most advanced countries. But so far, they applied to forms filled in electronically. Paper documents are still authenticated with an old fashioned pen-scribbled signature. PINProof **applies digital signatures to hand written checks.**

How does PINProof work?

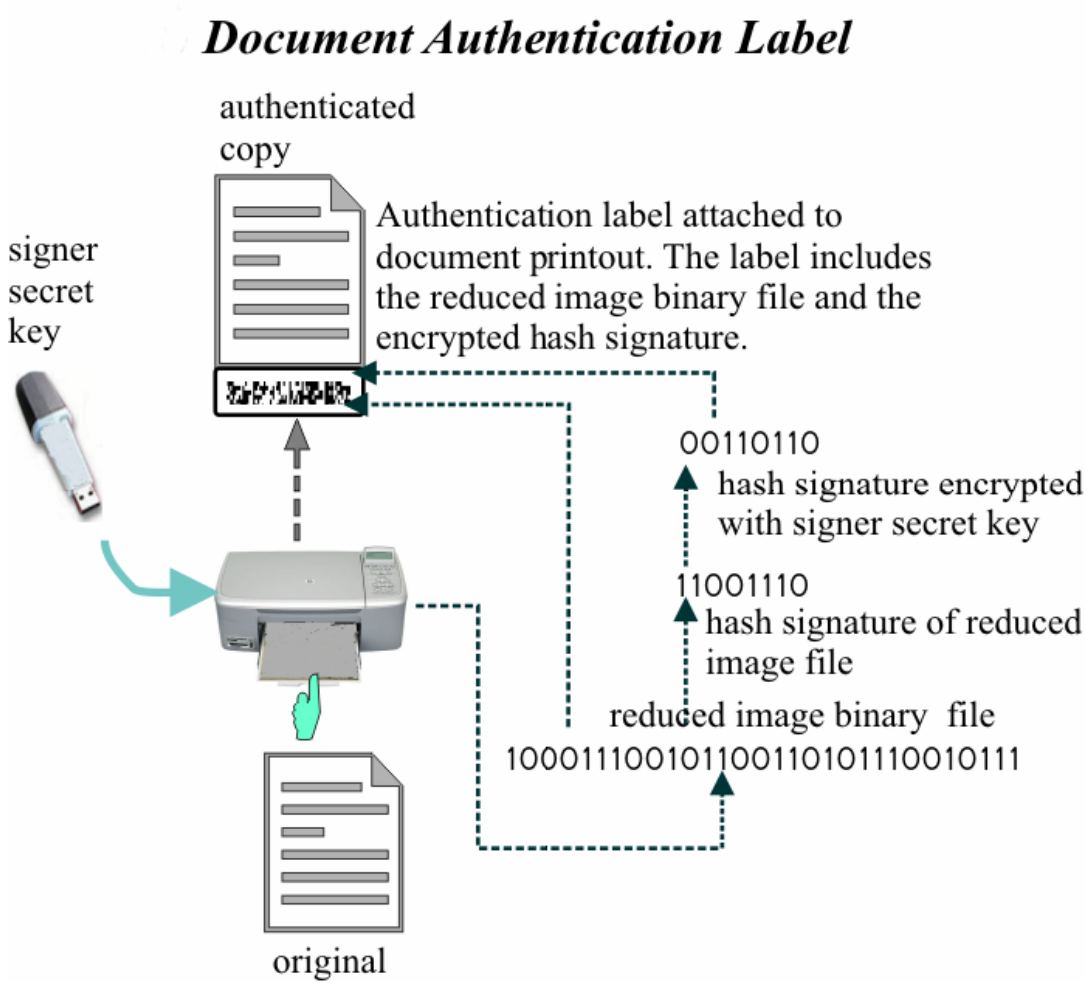
Before explaining the PINProof solution let's understand why digital signatures so far have by-passed the paper document. A digital signature is a small binary string that is derived from a large string. The mathematics, known as "hash", is such that no matter how long the large string, if even one bit in it flips -- the resulting signature (the small string) would be completely different. What happens when you deal with a physical paper document? You scan it, and generate an electronic version thereof. Albeit, if you re-scan it, with the paper positioned however slightly different, then the electronic version would be different. If the paper attracted some specs of dust, a coffee stain, a stapler hole, a crease, or if the scanner is of different resolution -- the result would be a different electronic file. When the various electronic files are translated to viewable images they all look similar, but it's impossible to sign these files, using the hashing method so successfully employed with electronic files because each scan will have a different signature.

And so, despite the advances in cryptography, paper-laden file cabinets are pestering office dwellers around the globe, holding on to originals, relying on the iffy determination that a scribbled signature is authentic.

Enter PINProof

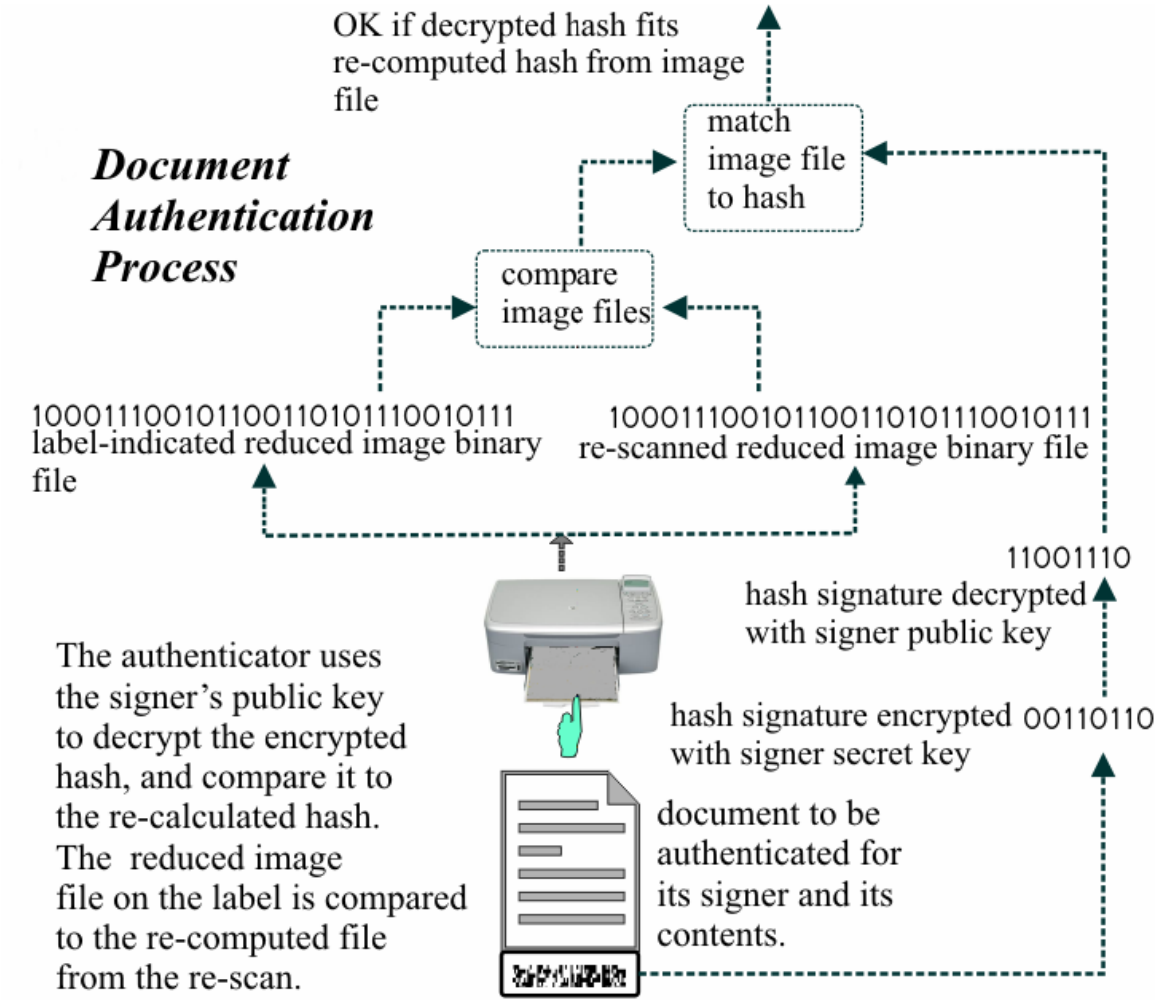
Simply put: PINProof is an innovative technology that translates a paper image into the same long string of bits (electronic file) regardless of the scanner's resolution, oblivious to normal stains, despite foldings, regardless of tears and holes. PINProof issues a sticker that contains a reduced image of the page (the long string), and its signed hash. Anyone can use the signer public key, extract the unencrypted hash and thereby validate the long string (the reduced image string). That string can be recomputed from a newly scanned image of the paper. If the two image strings agree, the verifier knows that this image (and the corresponding paper) were signed by the person who is identified on the paper as the writer, and at the same time verify that nobody tampered with the contents of that letter or check: Double hit: the signer and his letter are both authenticated. Since this is image based authentication, there is no advantage to the original over a copy. As long as the reduced image string and its encrypted hash are attached, the document is verifiable, and will also withstand false repudiation.

The PINProof technology can be used for passing paper documents among untrustworthy strangers. Each copy, will be equipped with the sticker. The sticker would feature the long and short strings through two-dimensional bar-code. Any PC system equipped with the PINProof software would be able to scan the copy and the sticker, and verify the signer and the contents.



Copies would be kept in a searchable database along with their PINProof strings, and this by itself means a dramatic saving in intensive labor. Think of how many hours office workers waste chasing a misplaced document, or hunting for one, in a distant, hard-to-access archive. All that would change in a jiffy. Paper storage, checking images would be fully computerized -- compact and searchable. The last argument in favor of paper media -- the scribbled signature, is now overturned.

A closing note: PINProof is image oriented and hence it would work with hand written documents, drawings, art-work, photographs -- anything that goes on paper. You can mark ownership for anything visual by taking a picture thereto, and PINproofing its paper image.



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This innovation was developed using "The Innovation Turing Machine", available on Amazon.com