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Salt et al.

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[54] **CODE PROTECTION IN MICROCONTROLLER WITH EEPROM FUSES**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** **395/425**; 380/4

[58] **Field of Search** 395/400, 425; 380/3, 4, 25, 23

[56] **References Cited**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A semiconductor microcontroller device is adapted to control the operation of an external system. The device includes a CPU, program memory for storing instructions to be executed by the CPU to perform its control functions, and data memory for storing data for selective retrieval by the CPU. The contents of either memory are code protected by an EEPROM fuse, and are automatically erased if the code protect state of the EEPROM fuse is sought to be reset, and the EEPROM fuse is reset only after the erasure of the memory contents.

6 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet

