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**Hunt et al.**

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(54) **SELF-DESCRIBING ARTIFACTS AND APPLICATION ABSTRACTIONS**

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Watson, et al., "Design and implementation of the Trusted BSD MAC framework", Proceedings of 2003 DARPA Information Survivability Conference and Exposition, Sec. 1&5-7, Apr. 2003, pp. 38-49.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

See application file for complete search history.

Described herein is at least one implementation employing multiple self-describing software artifacts persisted on one or more computer-storage media of a software-based computer. In this implementation, each artifact is representative of at least part of the software components (e.g., load modules, processes, applications, and operating system components) of the computing system and each artifact is described by at least one associated "manifest," which include metadata declarative descriptions of the associated artifact.

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**41 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets**

