Smart Chip in new Lightning Connector

"Apple's new Lightning connector introduced on the iPhone 5...
...the new Lightning connector uses adaptive technology to enable
it to perform a variety of functions with just eight contact pins,
dynamically assigning pin functions to suit a given situation."

"... is whether Apple has also incorporated some sort of authentication functionality into the handful of chips found inside

the Lightning connector assembly in order to inhibit third parties from manufacturing unlicensed cables."

"Chipworks has now taken a closer look at the chips found inside the Lightning to USB cable, highlighting a Texas Instruments (TI) chip that seems "likely" to include a security feature. While the exact "BQ2025" chip used in the cable is not documented in TI datasheets,..."

Source: MacRumors, October 15, 2012, "Apple's Lightning Cable Contains TI Chip 'Likely' to Have Security Features" EEC 116, Fall 2012, B. Baas



