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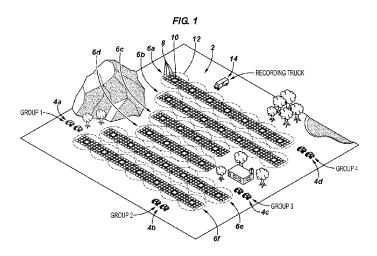
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(54) Title: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR SEISMIC DATA ACQUISITION EMPLOYING ASYNCHRONOUS, DECOUPLED DATA SAMPLING AND TRANSMISSION



(57) Abstract: Systems and methods for asynchronously acquiring seismic data are described, one system comprising one or more seismic sources, a plurality of sensor modules each comprising a seismic sensor, an A/D converter for generating digitized seismic data, a digital signal processor (DSP), and a sensor module clock, a seismic data recording station; and a seismic data transmission sub-system comprising a high precision clock, the sub-system allowing transmission of at least some of the digitized seismic data to the recording station, wherein each sensor module is configured to periodically receive from the sub-system an amount of the drift of its clock relative to the high precision clock.





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CLASSIFICATION, OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. G01V1/22 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) G01V Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, INSPEC, COMPENDEX C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Category\* Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Υ US 2002/193947 A1 (CHAMBERLAIN DONALD G 1,2 [CA]) 19 December 2002 (2002-12-19) paragraphs [0005], [0013], [0023], [0033], [0062], [0146], [0154] US 2005/047275 A1 (CHAMBERLAIN DONALD G Υ 1,2 [CA] ET AL) 3 March 2005 (2005-03-03) paragraphs [0014], [0015], [0019], [0046], [0049], [0061] Α US 6 002 640 A (HARMON JERALD L [US]) 1,2 14 December 1999 (1999-12-14) column 3 - column 4 US 4 281 403 A (SIEMS LEE E ET AL) 1,2 A 28 July 1981 (1981-07-28) abstract Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be cons \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention citation or other special reason (as specified) cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docudocument referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. other means document published prior to the international filing date but "&" document member of the same patent family later than the priority date claimed Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 23 July 2009 29/07/2009 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Lorne, Benoît Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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Information on patent family members

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