(19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 9 August 2001 (09.08.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 01/58146 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: H04N 5/00

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US01/03198

(22) International Filing Date: 31 January 2001 (31.01.2001)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

60/180,284 4 February 2000 (04.02.2000) US 09/549,292 14 April 2000 (14.04.2000) US

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- (81) Designated States (national): BR, CA, JP.
- (84) Designated States (regional): European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR).

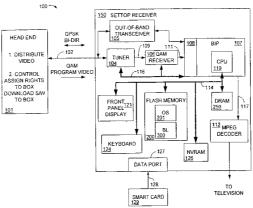
Published:

with international search report

(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 21 February 2002

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: SETTOP CABLE TELEVISION CONTROL DEVICE AND METHOD INCLUDING BOOTLOADER SOFTWARE AND CODE VERSION TABLE FOR MAINTAINING AND UPDATING SETTOP RECEIVER OPERATING SYSTEM SOFTWARE



146 A

(57) Abstract: A cable television settop receiver and method includes a software component and a frequency acquisition method for determining the ability of the operating system/control program in the settop receiver to operate the settop receiver. The software component, referred to as a "bootloader", executes on the processor contained in the settop receiver and determines the capability and version of the settop receiver operating system/control program. If the bootloader determines that the operating system/control program should be updated, the bootloader initiates a download sequence, the performance of which allows the proper operating system/control program to be downloaded to the settop receiver. The download occurs after receipt, by the settop receiver, of a code version table (CVT). The CVT includes information that the settop receiver uses to determine which frequency to tune to receive the replacement operating system/control program. In accordance with another aspect of the invention, the bootloader initiates a frequency hunt sequence to determine the proper frequency to which to tune to receive the CVT. The frequency hunt sequence covers the entire spectrum of possible frequencies over which to receive the CVT.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inter - Application No

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Special categories of cited documents : A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance		'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 invention		
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P' docume	means ent published prior to the international filing date but han the priority date claimed	ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. '&' document member of the same patent family		
Date of the	actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the internation	nal search report	
8 August 2001		17/08/2001		
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk		Authorized officer		
	Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl. Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Materne, A		

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