Title: LOCAL AREA NETWORK AND METHOD FOR CONFIGURING A LOCAL AREA NETWORK WITH ENHANCED UPNP AND AVB APPLICATIONS

Abstract: A method and an Ethernet local area network are described herein in which the Ethernet local area network is configured to enable a talking device (e.g., microphone) to send a media stream to one or more listening devices (e.g., speakers). In one embodiment, the method for configuring the Ethernet local area network includes the following steps: (1) providing a user of a talking device with a 'relevant' catalog which contains information including positional information about one or more listening devices; (2) allowing the user to interface with the 'relevant' catalog so they can select at least one of the listening device(s); (3) enabling the talking device to send a subscribe-request message to the selected listening device(s) requesting that the selected listening device(s) subscribe to the talking device; (4) and sending a media stream from the talking device to the selected listening device(s).
Declarations under Rule 4.17:
— as to applicant’s entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))
— as to the applicant’s entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

Published:
— with international search report

(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 14 August 2008
**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No
PCT/US2007/080295

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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<th>H04L12/18</th>
<th>H04L12/28</th>
<th>H01R31/06</th>
<th>H04L29/08</th>
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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)
H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic database consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)
EPO-Internal, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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<td>3-5,7</td>
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X Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

X See patent family annex.

Special categories of cited documents:
- "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 filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubt on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed
- "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
- "X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- "S" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
20 March 2008

Date of mailing of the international search report
11.07.2008

Name and mailing address of the ISA
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL.-2280 HV, Rijswijk
Tel: (+31-70) 340-2004, Tx: 31-651 epo nl
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer
Köppel, Martin
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 pages 19-20. ---- | 3-5,7 |
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Box No. II  Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. □ Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. □ Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. □ Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III  Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. □ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.

2. □ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.

3. □ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. □ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

   1 - 14

Remark on Protest

□ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.

□ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.

□ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.
This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-14

   A local area network and a method for configuring a local area network

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2. claims: 15-18

   A smart plug

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