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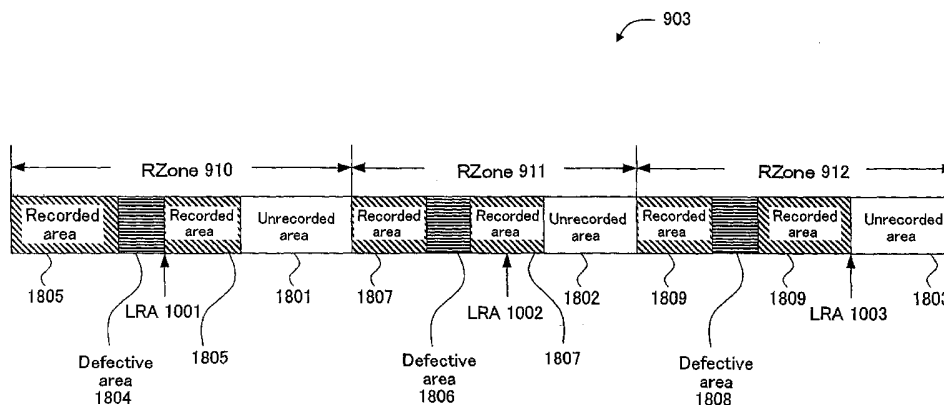
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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **MAT-SUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.** [JP/JP]; 1006, Oaza Kadoma, Kadoma-shi, Osaka 5718501 (JP).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **KATO, Hisae. YAMAMOTO, Yoshikazu. UEDA, Hiroshi. ITO, Motoshi.**
- (74) Agents: **YAMAMOTO, Shusaku** et al.; Fifteenth Floor, Crystal Tower, 2-27, Shiromi 1-chome, Chuo-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka 5406015 (JP).
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(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR SEARCHING FOR WRITABLE AREA, APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR UPDATING RECORDING MANAGEMENT INFORMATION, INTEGRATED CIRCUIT, AND WRITE-ONCE INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM



(57) Abstract: An apparatus is provided for searching for a writable area of a write-once information recording medium, comprising a searching portion and a control portion. The searching portion searches for an unrecorded area using a prescribed address as a reference. The control portion provides a candidate address indicating a candidate for a writable area based on a result of the search, and performs a determination procedure for determining whether or not there is a defective area address indicating an address matching the candidate address in defect management information. When it is determined that there is not the defective area address indicating an address matching the candidate address, the control portion determines an area indicated by the candidate address as the writable area.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 G11B20/18 G11B20/12

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)

IPC 7 G11B

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

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Y	US 2002/136134 A1 (FUKUSHIMA TOSHIYUKI ET AL) 26 September 2002 (2002-09-26) paragraph '0002! paragraphs '0016! - '0069! paragraph '0116! - paragraph '0136! paragraph '0195! - paragraph '0214! figures 4,5A,5B,10,14,18-20 ----- -/-	1-6

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European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Barel-Faucheux, C

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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