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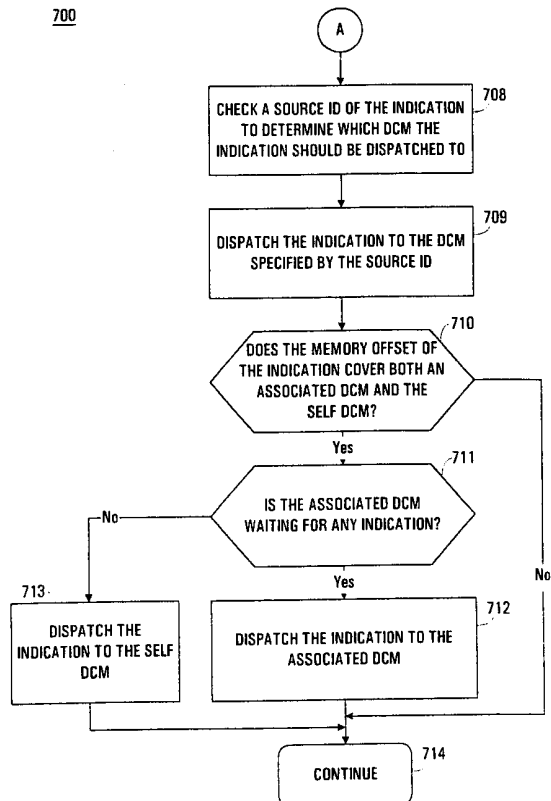
<p>(51) International Patent Classification ⁷ : G06F 3/00, 9/06, 13/00, 13/22, 15/02, H04M 11/00, H04N 7/167, 7/173, H04Q 5/04</p>	<p>A3</p>	<p>(11) International Publication Number: WO 00/31912 (43) International Publication Date: 2 June 2000 (02.06.00)</p>
<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/25876 (22) International Filing Date: 3 November 1999 (03.11.99) (30) Priority Data: 09/199,973 25 November 1998 (25.11.98) US (71) Applicant: SONY ELECTRONICS, INC. [US/US]; 1 Sony Drive, Park Ridge, NJ 07656 (US). (72) Inventor: ZOU, Feng; 1775 Milmont Drive, Milpitas, CA 95035 (US). (74) Agents: GALLENSON, Mavis, S. et al.; Ladas & Parry, Suite 2100, 5670 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90036-5679 (US).</p>	<p>(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</p> <p>Published <i>With international search report.</i></p> <p>(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 26 October 2000 (26.10.00)</p>	

(54) Title: A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MESSAGE DISPATCHING

(57) Abstract

A method of routing a received message to a proper software controller in a home audio/video network of connected network devices. A message is received from a network bus by an intelligent device coupled to the network bus, wherein the intelligent device includes a memory having stored therein a plurality of software controllers for communicating with a plurality of network devices. The intelligent device examines the received message to determine a memory space indication (710) and a source device identification (708) stored therein. The intelligent device then determines whether any software controllers associated with the device match the memory space indication (710). Provided that only one software controller matches the memory space indication (710), the received message is dispatched to the one software controller. Provided that more than one software controller matches the memory space indication (710), the received message is dispatched to that software controller that is also associated with the source device identification (708) of the received message.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US99/25876**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC(7) : Please See Extra Sheet.

US CL : Please See Extra Sheet.

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)

U.S. : 340/825.25; 348/7, 14; 380/200; 709/220, 253; 710/8, 11, 29, 72, 129

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 practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A,E	US 6,052,750 A (LEA) 18 April 2000, col.4-28	1-18
A,E	US 6,032,202 A (LEA ET AL.) 29 February 2000, col. 4-28	1-18
A	US 5,815,678 A (HOFFMAN ET AL) 29 September 1998, col. 2-16	1-18
A	US 5,805,925 A (BLACKWELL ET AL.) 08 September 1998, col. 2-9.	1-18
A	US 5,809,329 A (LICHTMAN ET AL.) 15 September 1998, col. 11-43.	1-18
A	US 5,787,246 A (LICHTMAN ET AL.) 28 July 1998, col. 11-44.	1-18

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.
 See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

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13 JUN 2000

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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PCT/US99/25876

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A,P	US 5,894,320 A (VANCELETTE) 13 April 1999, col.5-11.	1-18
A	US 5,787,259 A (HAROUN ET AL.) 28 July 1998, col. 2-9.	1-18
A	US 5,818,935 A (MAA) 06 OCTOBER 1998, col. 5-20.	1-18
A	US 5,436,618 A (VAN STEENBRUGGE) 25 July 1995, col.5-8.	1-18

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