(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
21 December 2007 (21.12.2007)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2007/145876 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
H04B 3/00 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2007/013101

(22) International Filing Date: 4 June 2007 (04.06.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

60/810,141	2 June 2006 (02.06.2006)	US
60/810,142	2 June 2006 (02.06.2006)	US
60/810,137	2 June 2006 (02.06.2006)	US
60/810,139	2 June 2006 (02.06.2006)	US
60/810,410	2 June 2006 (02.06.2006)	US
60/810,138	2 June 2006 (02.06.2006)	US

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(81) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available)*: ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

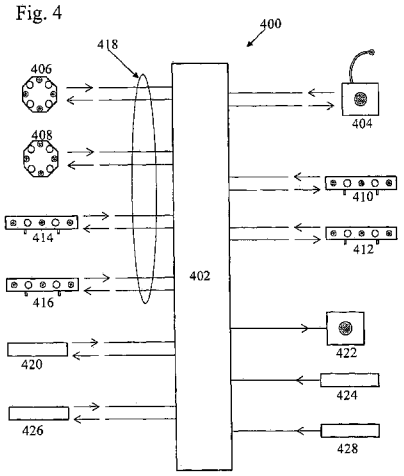
Declarations under Rule 4.17:

— *as to the identity of the inventor (Rule 4.17(i))*
— *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))*

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: COMMUNICATION SYSTEM, APPARATUS AND METHOD

Fig. 4



(57) Abstract: A system and method for generating, transmitting and distributing audio signals. The system and method may include an array having a plurality of microphones (406, 408) and a plurality of speakers (406, 408) as well as a first processor disposed proximate the array (406). The system and method can also have a second processor disposed remotely from the array (408) and communicatively coupled with the array, at least one remotely bcated device having at least one microphone and at least one speaker and one or more remotely located speakers (404, 422). Also, there may be an audio signal that is generated by one of a microphone on the array and a microphone on the at least one remotely located device, the location of the generation of the audio signal determined by one of the first processor (406) and the second processor (408), generated audio signal transmitted to at least one of the speakers on the array, the at least one speaker on the remotely located device and the one or more remotely located speakers.

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— *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))*

Published:

— *with international search report*

— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
27 November 2008

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US07/13101

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC: **H04B, 3/00**

USPC: 381/26,80,77,82,123,1,2,92,56,57,94.5,300 AND 700/94
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. : 381/26,80,77,82,123,1,2,92,56,57,94.5,300 AND 700/94

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.
X	US PAT. 7,039,197(Vankatesh et al.) May 2, 2006, see figs 2,3 and 26 and col. 8 line 50-col. 9 line 67 and col. 28 line 18-col. 19 line 67.	1-21
A	US PAT. 4,965,833(McGregor et al.) Oct. 23, 1990, see figs. 1-4 and col. 4 line 54-col. 5 line 67.	1-21
A	US PAT. 5,243,640 (Hadley et al.) Sep. 7, 1993, see figs 1-4 and col. 3 line 24-col. 4 line 33.	1-21

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

* Special categories of cited documents:

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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
29 August 2008 (29.08.2008)	26 SEP 2008
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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (April 2007)