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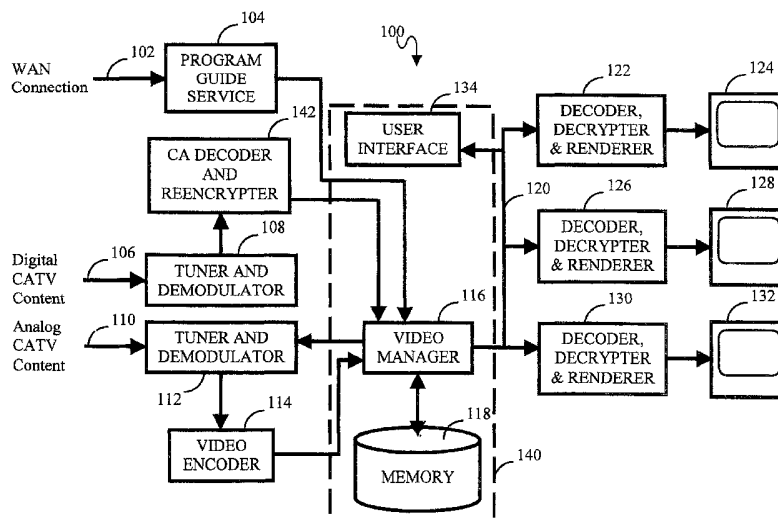
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- (71) **Applicant (for all designated States except US):** UCEN-
TRIC HOLDINGS, INC. [US/US]; 2 Clock Tower Place,
Suite # 350, Maynard, MA 01754 (US).
- (72) **Inventors; and**
- (75) **Inventors/Applicants (for US only):** VASILEVSKY,
Alexander [US/US]; 5 Gooseneck Lane, Westford, MA
01886 (US). SPARRELL, Carlton, J. [US/US]; 3A
Wadden Ct., Marblehead, MA 01945 (US). PARISE,
Sergio [US/US]; 33 Hyacinth Drive, Westfor, MA 01886
(US). WATLINGTON, John, A. [US/US]; 4 Pinewood
Road, Acton, MA 01720 (US). KACZOWKA, Peter,
- A. [US/US]; 145 Highland Street, Townsend, MA 01469
(US).
- (74) **Agent:** JACOBS, David, A.; Lucash, Gesmer & Upde-
grove LLP, 40 Broad Street, Boston, MA 02109 (US).
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[Continued on next page]

- (54) Title:** CENTRALIZED DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING AND PLAYBACK SYSTEM ACCESSIBLE TO MULTIPLE REPRODUCTION AND CONTROL UNITS VIA A HOME AREA NETWORK



- (57) Abstract:** A centralized Digital Video Recording (DVR) and reproduction system (100) links several reproduction and control units (124)(such as television receivers, etc.) and a centralized server (134) via a home area network. This allows programming to be distributed throughout the premises, and novelty allows live-pause recording and playback to be effected from more than one reproduction and control unit (124) in a seamless manner. For example, during a live-pause episode, a viewer can pause a program from one control and reproduction unit, and resume viewing the program from the same pause point at another control and reproduction unit on the premises. The present invention also allows a viewer to view multiple programs from the server on the same monitor using a multiple picture-in-picture display.



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

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : H04N 5/76, 5/781

US CL : 386/46, 125

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. : 386/46, 125, 126; 725/46, 102

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
NONE

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
EAST data base search

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5,867,223 A (SCHINDLER et al) 02 February 1999 (02.02.1999), column 1, lines 20-30, column 22 lines 1-25, figure 1B.	1-4, 8-12, 16-17
—		
Y		5-7, 13-15
Y	WO 00/58967 A1 (BROWN et al) 05 October 2000 (05.10.2000), Abstract.	5-7, 13-15
A	5,945,988 A (WILLIAMS et al) 31 August 1999 (31.8.1999), column 5.	1-16
A	4,792,849 A (MCCALLEY et al) 20 December 1988 (20.12.1988), Abstract.	1-4, 8-12, 16-17



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

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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

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document member of the same patent family

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Box PCT

Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703)305-3230

Authorized officer

HUY T NGUYEN

Telephone No. (703) 306-0377