

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
10 March 2005 (10.03.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/022796 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **H04L 12/26**,
12/28, 12/16, 12/66, H04J 3/26, 1/00, H04N 7/16, 7/18,
7/20, 7/025, 7/173

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(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2004/028093

(22) International Filing Date: 27 August 2004 (27.08.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/499,043 29 August 2003 (29.08.2003) US

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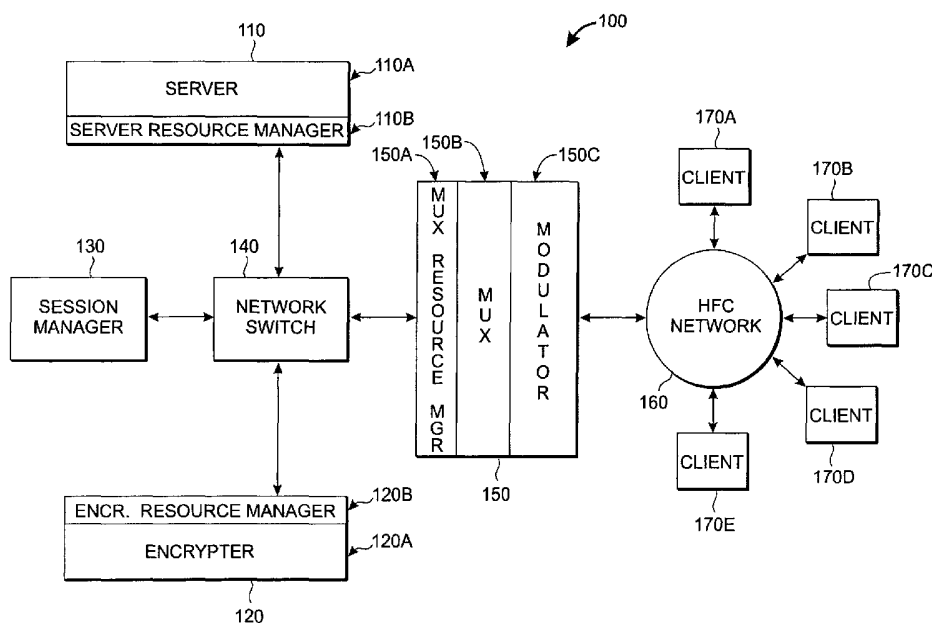
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,
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KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, 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, IT, LU, MC, 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).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ADVANCED, ADAPTIVE VIDEO MULTIPLEXER SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: An advanced multiplexer designed and optimized for next generation on-demand video distribution is described. Features and capabilities include auto-discovery, channel-staggering and compatibility with static Virtual Channel Tables (VCTs). The multiplexer system facilitates auto-discovery by inserting identifiers into MPTSs (Multi-Program Transport Streams). These identifiers are echoed back to the multiplexer by the client set-top (570'x') thereby indicating correspondence between modulators (552), service groups, and clients (570'x'). When modulating multiple channels, FEC frames (Forward Error Correction frames) are staggered across channels to reduce correlation and clipping in the IFFT processor (770).

WO 2005/022796 A3



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

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

2 June 2005

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/28093

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : H04L 12/26, 28,16 ,66; H04J 3/26, 1/00; H04N 7/16, 18, 20, 025, 173
US CL : 370/253, 257, 259, 352, 355, 397, 419, 432, 489; 375/1, 34, 36, 68, 25, 76, 87, 107, 106,

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. : 370/253, 257, 259, 352, 355, 397, 419, 432, 489; 375/1, 34, 36, 68, 25, 76, 87, 107, 106,

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	US 5973722 (WAKAI et al) 26 October 1999 (26.10.1999), entire document	
A	US 5,892,535 (ALLEN et al) 06 April 1999 (06.04.1999), entire document	
A	US 6,029,045 (PICCO et al) 22 February 2000 (22.02.2000), entire document	
A	US 6,452,924 (GOLDEN et al) 17 September 2002 (17.09.2002), entire document	

☐ 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

Date of mailing of the international search report

02 February 2005 (02.02.2005)

28 MAR 2005

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