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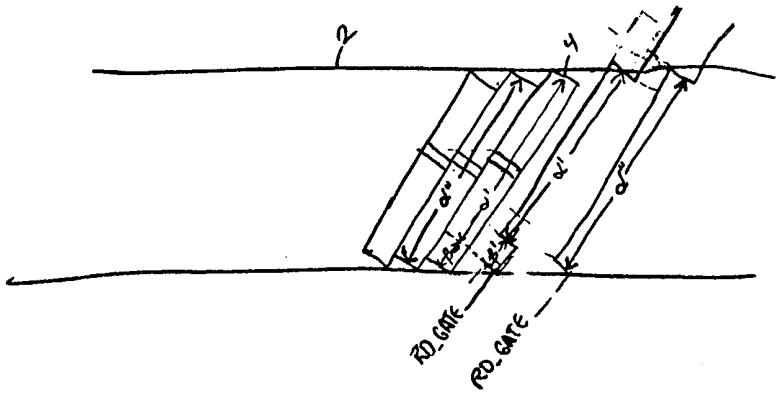
(54) Title: METHODS FOR MONITORING OR ADJUSTING A TAPE DRIVE USING CONTROL DATA PACKETS



(57) Abstract

A method for monitoring or adjusting a magnetic tape drive using central control packets (30) that are recorded on the tape (2) is presented. Central control packets (30) are used for adjusting the timing of the read head signal over the tape, adapting the reel count to that of the drive at the time the tape was recorded, and monitoring filemarks for logical tape positioning.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inte...ational Application No
PCT/US 99/27313

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G11B15/14 G11B15/54 G11B27/30 G11B27/10

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)
PAJ, EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 008, no. 060 (P-262), 22 March 1984 (1984-03-22) & JP 58 208915 A (SONY KK), 5 December 1983 (1983-12-05)	1,2
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[X] Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

[X] Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
6 July 2000	18.07.00

Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer
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	Gerard, E

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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1992)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US 99/27313

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication,where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4 471 391 A (RICK L. REAGAN) 11 September 1984 (1984-09-11) column 3, line 47 -column 4, line 42; figure 2	2
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 010, no. 102 (P-448), 18 April 1986 (1986-04-18) & JP 60 234278 A (MATSUSHITA DENKI SANGYO KK), 20 November 1985 (1985-11-20) abstract	2
A	US 5 566 032 A (BRIAN G. CLEVELAND ET AL) 15 October 1996 (1996-10-15) column 1, line 61 -column 2, line 11	3

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US 99/27313

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claim : 1

   Method of adjusting a read enable signal

2. Claim : 2

   Method of adjusting a reel tach

3. Claim : 3

   Method of monitoring a filemark position

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No
PCT/US 99/27313

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