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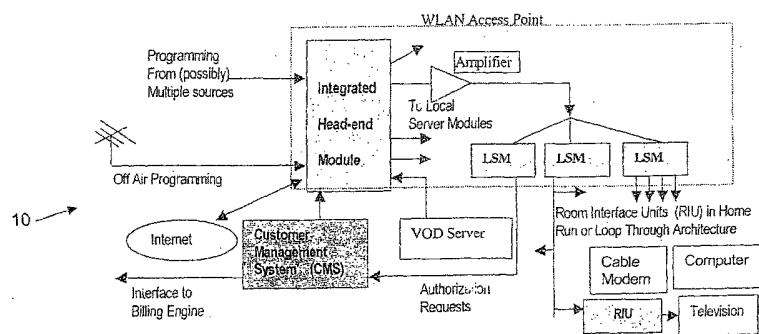
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ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: VIDEO DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR DIGITAL AND ANALOG SUBSCRIBERS

Basic System Description



Key System Elements: Room Interface Unit (RIU), Local Server Module (LSM),
Integrated Headend Module, and Customer Management System (CMS)

Cost reduction is achieved by RF Distribution Architecture and Resource Sharing

(57) **Abstract:** A cable distribution system with distributed architecture that can accommodate both digital and analog subscribers. Each home has at least one Room Interface Unit (RIU), one for each television. There is a local service module associated with a group of RIUs (e.g., one for every ten RIUs). There is also a local headend in the vicinity. The local headend has a block of integrated tuner/receiver/decoders that can be controlled to tune in a selected video channel. The selected video channels and a group of standard channels are multiplexed and sent to the local service modules where a group of programmable converters (one for each RIU) place the channel selected by its corresponding RIU at a predetermined frequency. Each of the RIUs associated with a particular local service module receive the corresponding channel. Depending upon whether the subscriber has subscribed to digital or analog service, they will have either a digital or an analog RIU. The analog RIU may include a bandpass filter while the digital RIU may include one or more IRDs. Forward and return DOCSIS channels are also provided.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : H04N 7/173

US CL : 725/118

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. : 725/118, 119, 120, 126, 127, 131, 139, 151, 78, 83

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.
Y	US 5,729,281 A (UTSUMI et al) 17 March 1998 (17.03.1998), column 5, line 60 - column 8, line 46 and Figs. 1-3.	1-33
Y	US 5,740,075 A (BIGHAM et al) 14 April 1998 (14.04.1998), column 27, lines 5-61, column 35, lines -54, column 40, line 12 - column 43, line 65 and Figs. 4-6.	1-33
Y	US 5,699,105 A (CHEN et al), 16 December 1997 (16.12.1997), column 5, line 9 - column 6, line 9.	2 and 3
Y	US 5,721,829 A (DUNN et al) 24 February 1998 (24.02.1998), column 2, lines 40-50, column 3, lines 13-63 and Fig. 1, el. 40.	6
Y	US 6,317,885 B1 (FRIES) 13 November 2001 (13.11.2001), column 3, line 66 - column 4, line 28 and Fig. 1, el. 46.	7
Y	US 2002/0019984 A1 (RAKIB) 14 February 2002 (14.02.2002), paragraphs 96-97, Fig. 6.	5
Y	US 2002/0073431 A1 (NIKOLICH) 13 June 2002 (13.06.2002), paragraphs 17 and 27-28, Figs. 1A-1B.	8, 9 and 19
Y,P	US 6,519,773 B1 (AHMED et al) 11 February 2003 (11.02.2003), column 7, line 45 - column 8, line 19 and Fig. 3B.	11
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

C. (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	FELLOWS et al, DOCSIS Cable Modem Technology, IEEE Communications Magazine, March 2001, Vol. 39. No. 3, pages 202-209.	16
Y	US 6,188,871 B1 (KITAMURA et al) 13 February 2001 (13.02.2001), column 8, lines 4-63, Fig. 3 and Fig. 7, els. 1-4.	17-18
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A	US 4,135,157 A (DEN TOONDER) 16 January 1979 (16.01.1979), whole document.	1-33
A	US 6,305,021 B1 (KIM) 16 October 2001 (16.10.2001), abstract, column 2, line 35 - column 6, line 29.	1-33