(54) Title: UTILIZING POWERLINE NETWORKING AS A GENERAL PURPOSE TRANSPORT FOR A VARIETY OF SIGNALS

(57) Abstract: A media adapter (286) for coupling a network device to a power line (210). The media adapter (286) comprises a physical layer (380), and an inter-working unit (390) in communication with the MAC layer (385). The inter-working unit (395) is adapted to translate information from a first format into a second format, which differ from the first format, to enable information to be received and transmitted over the power line (210).
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.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G06F 15/173
US CL : 709/250

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. : 709/250

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)
USPAT

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Y,P</td>
<td>US 6,405,261 B1 (GAUCHER) 11 June 2002 (11.06.2002) see abstract.</td>
<td>1-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y,P</td>
<td>US 6,272,551 B1 (MARTIN et al.) 07 August 2001 (07.08.2001) see col.1 lines 55-68.</td>
<td>1-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>US 6,058,104 A (SNELLING et al.) 02 May 2000 (02.05.2000) see abstract.</td>
<td>1-20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

Date of the actual completion of the international search: 15 July 2002 (15.07.2002)

Date of mailing of the international search report: 26 AUG 2002

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Box PCT
Washington, D.C. 20231
Facsimile No. (703)305-3230

Authorized officer
Dung Dinh
Telephone No. 305 9600

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1998)