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(71) Applicant: PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V. [NL/NL]; Groenewoudseweg 1, NL-5621 BA Eindhoven (NL).

(71) Applicant (for SE only): PHILIPS NORDEN AB [SE/SE]; Kottbygatan 7, Kista, S-164 85 Stockholm (SE).

(72) Inventors: RIJNBERG, Adriaan, Johannes; Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL). BEIJER, Paul, Arnold, Christiaan; Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).

(74) Agent: CUPPENS, Hubertus, M., M.; Internationaal Octrooibureau B.V., P.O. Box 220, NL-5600 AE Eindhoven (NL).

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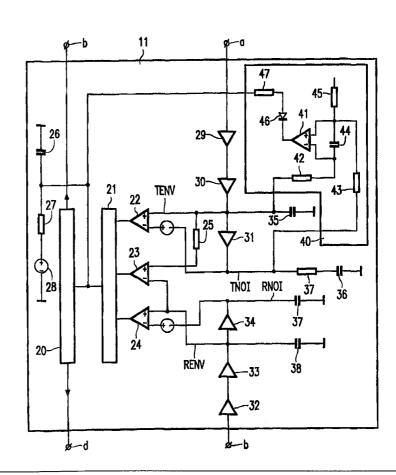
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(54) Title: A TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM, A SUBSCRIBER UNIT, AND A TELEVISION SET COMPRISING A SUBSCRIBER UNIT

#### (57) Abstract

Known is a telecommunications system comprising a near end and a far end subscriber unit communicating with each other via a transmission channel, at least the near end subscriber being arranged for handsfree communication. In the known system, the near end subscriber unit comprises a duplex controller controlling the near end subscriber unit to three stable modes, a transmit mode, a receive mode, and an idle mode. The known subscriber unit operates in half-duplex mode and has speech and noise detectors for the transmit and receive paths, and a speech level comparator controlling the mode switching. At mode switching, suitable gain adaptation is done in the transmit and receive path so as to prevent howling in handsfree mode. The known duplex controller does not operates satisfactorily if the near end speaker is at a relatively large distance from the microphone. A telecommunications system is provided that satisfactorily operates when the near end speaker is a relatively large distance from the microphone. Time constants of the system are influenced when the far end speaker stops talking and the near end speaker takes over such that no speech loss occurs at the far end.



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