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(54) Title: ON THE FLY CONFIGURATION OF ELECTRONIC DEVICE WITH ATTACHABLE SUB-MODULES

(57) Abstract: Electronic device (10) comprising a control unit (11), a plurality of slots (15) for attaching/connecting sub-modules (12, 13), and means (15, 16, 17) for interconnecting the control unit (11) with those sub-modules (12, 13) that are attached/connected to the slots (15). The control unit (11) is capable of issuing commands in order to put the sub-modules (12, 13) in a by-pass mode, to read identification information from sub-modules (12, 13), write parameters into and/or read parameters from at least one of the sub-modules (12, 13), and to re-check whether the configuration of the electronic device (10) has changed by adding or removing a sub-module (12, 13).

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G06F13/40 G06F G06F13/10 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 G06F 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) EPO-Internal, INSPEC, WPI Data C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. χ US 5 325 368 A (JAMES LARRY C ET AL) 1,3,4, 28 June 1994 (1994-06-28) 7-17 column 1, line 10 - line 25 column 2, line 59 - line 64 column 4, line 13 - line 63 column 8, line 35 - line 56 column 9, line 36 - column 10, line 31 column 11, line 6 - line 9 column 13, line 7 - line 30 EP 1 041 491 A (SUN MICROSYSTEMS INC) Α 1 - 174 October 2000 (2000-10-04) the whole document Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. χ Patent family members are listed in annex. ° Special categories of cited documents: *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or document is combined with one or more other such docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 9 August 2004 14/09/2004 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, Dewyn, T Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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