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(54) **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE AUDIO PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM**

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(65) **Prior Publication Data**

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Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 09/537,812, filed on Mar. 28, 2000, now Pat. No. 7,187,947.

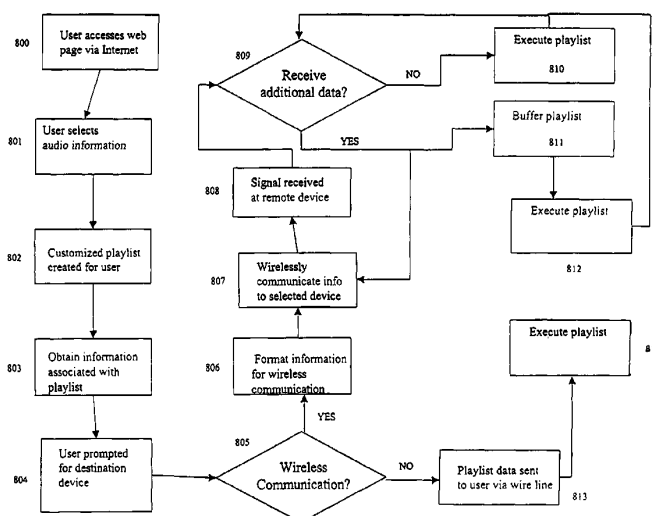(51) **Int. Cl.**
H04Q 7/20 (2006.01)
(52) **U.S. Cl.** **455/556.1**; 455/566; 455/557
(58) **Field of Classification Search** .... None
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

An audio system and method are disclosed. A system incorporating teachings of the present disclosure may include, for example, an electronic device having a display, a memory, an audio file player, and a housing component at least partially defining a cavity in which the memory and the audio file player are secured. In one embodiment, the electronic device may be a portable MP3 player. The system may also include a processor or playlist engine that can maintain a first playlist and a second playlist. In practice, the first playlist may include a selection of audio content having a corresponding audio file saved in the memory of the electronic device. In one embodiment, the system may also include an automobile having an automobile sound system that has a speaker and an in dash sound system component, which may be removably coupled to the electronic device via a cable. The in dash sound system component may have a selector, which may be, for example, a button, that allows a user to select the first playlist for outputting via the speaker. The cable interconnecting the electronic device and the in dash sound system component may be capable of providing power to the electronic device in addition to communicatively coupling the electronic device to the automobile sound system.

35 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets

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FIG. 1
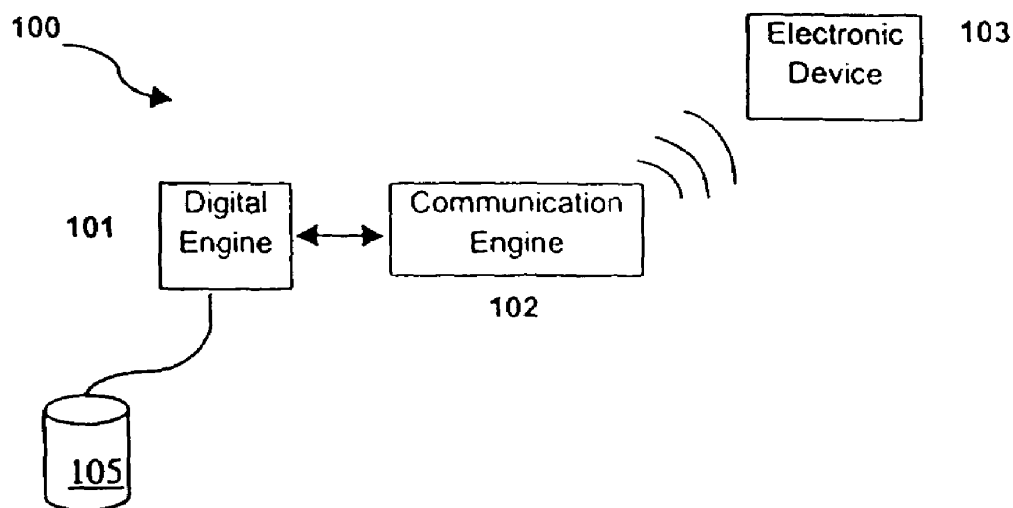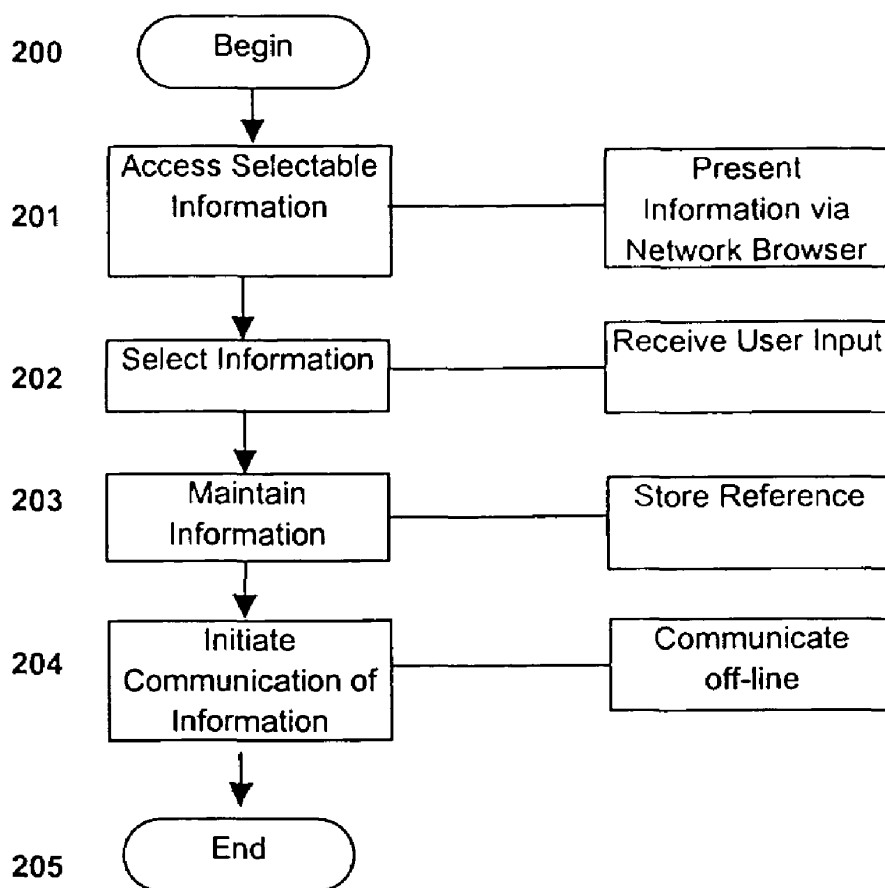
200   (Begin)

201   Access Selectable Information   Present Information via Network Browser

202   Select Information   Receive User Input

203   Maintain Information   Store Reference

204   Initiate Communication of Information   Communicate off-line

205   (End)

FIG. 2

300

301

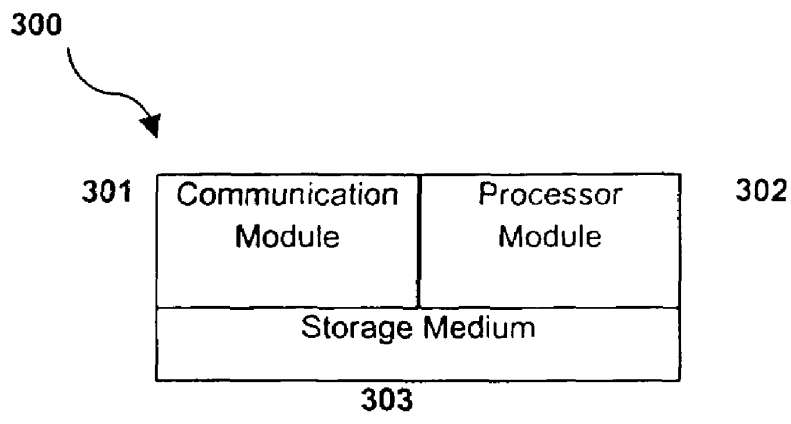| Communication Module	Processor Module
Storage Medium	

302

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FIG. 3

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