AO 120 (Rev. 08/10)

TO:	REPORT ON THE FILING OR DETERMINATION OF AN ACTION REGARDING A PATENT OR TRADEMARK
Mail Stop 8 Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	

In Compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 290 and/or 15 U.S.C. § 1116 you are hereby advised that a court action has been filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas (Beaumont) on the following

☐ Trademarks or ☑ Patents. (☐ the patent action involves 35 U.S.C. § 292.):

DOCKET NO.	DATE FILED	U.S. DISTRICT COURT
1:11-cv-00036	1/28/2011	for the Eastern District of Texas (Beaumont)

PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT
Affinity Labs of Texas, LLC	Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.; Volkswagen Group of America Chattanooga Operations, LLC

	PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1	7,324,833 B2	1/29/2008	Affinity Labs, LLC
2	7,634,228 B2	12/15/2009	Affinity Labs of Texas, LLC
3	7,778,595 B2	8/17/2010	Affinity Labs of Texas, LLC
4			
5			

In the above—entitled case, the following patent(s)/ trademark(s) have been included:

DATE INCLUDED	INCLUDED BY ☐ Amendment ☐ Answer ☐ Cross Bill ☐ Other Pleading	
PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

In the above—entitled case, the following decision has been rendered or judgement issued:

DECISION/JUDGEMENT

CLERK	(BY) DEPUTY CLERK	DATE

Copy 1—Upon initiation of action, mail this copy to Director Copy 3—Upon termination of action, mail this copy to Director
Copy 2—Upon filing document adding patent(s), mail this copy to Director Copy 4—Case file copy

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
10/947,755	09/23/2004	Russell W. White	111111.1111-2C

CONFIRMATION NO. 1751

21906
TROP PRUNER & HU, PC
1616 S. VOSS ROAD, SUITE 750
HOUSTON, TX 77057-2631

POA ACCEPTANCE LETTER

OC000000032247196

Date Mailed: 09/25/2008

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

This is in response to the Power of Attorney filed 09/17/2008.

The Power of Attorney in this application is accepted. Correspondence in this application will be mailed to the above address as provided by 37 CFR 1.33.

/llam/

Office of Data Management, Application Assistance Unit (571) 272-4000, or (571) 272-4200, or 1-888-786-0101

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
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10/947,755	09/23/2004	Russell W. White	111111.1111-2C

CONFIRMATION NO. 1751

65550
AFFINITY LABS, LLC
10904 DOSWELL COVE
AUSTIN, TX 78739

POWER OF ATTORNEY NOTICE

OC000000032247174

Date Mailed: 09/25/2008

NOTICE REGARDING CHANGE OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

This is in response to the Power of Attorney filed 09/17/2008.

- The Power of Attorney to you in this application has been revoked by the assignee who has intervened as provided by 37 CFR 3.71. Future correspondence will be mailed to the new address of record(37 CFR 1.33).

/llam/

Office of Data Management, Application Assistance Unit (571) 272-4000, or (571) 272-4200, or 1-888-786-0101

Doc Code:

PTO/SB/80 (01-06)
Approved for use through 12/31/2008. OMB 0651-0035
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

POWER OF ATTORNEY TO PROSECUTE APPLICATIONS BEFORE THE USPTO

I hereby revoke all previous powers of attorney given in the application identified in the attached statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b).

I hereby appoint:

☒ Practitioners associated with the Customer **21906**

OR

☐ Practitioner(s) named below (if more then ten practitioners are to be named, then a customer number must be used):

Name	Registration Number	Name	Registration Number

as attorney(s) or agent(s) to represent the undersigned before the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in connection with any and all patent applications assigned only to the undersigned according to the USPTO assignment records or assignment documents attached to this form in accordance with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Please change the correspondence address for the application identified in the attached statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) to:

☒ The address associated with Customer **21906**

OR

☐ Firm or Individual Name			
Address			
City		State	Zip
Country			
Telephone		Email	

Assignee Name and Address:
Affinity Labs of Texas, LLC
3838 River Place Boulevard
Austin, TX 78730

A copy of this form, together with a statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) (Form PTO/SB/96 or equivalent) is required to be filed in each application in which this form is used. The statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) may be completed by one of the practitioners appointed in this form if the appointed practitioner is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee, and must identify the application in which this Power of Attorney is to be filed.

SIGNATURE of Assignee of Record
The individual whose signature and title is supplied below is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee

Signature		Date	9/17/08
Name	**Russell W. White**	Telephone	**512-217-3524**
Title	**Vice-President**		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.31, 1.32 and 1.33. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	3958453
Application Number:	10947755
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	1751
Title of Invention:	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE AUDIO PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Russell W. White
Customer Number:	65550
Filer:	Mark J. Rozman
Filer Authorized By:	
Attorney Docket Number:	111111.1111-2C
Receipt Date:	17-SEP-2008
Filing Date:	23-SEP-2004
Time Stamp:	15:30:08
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Assignee showing of ownership per 37 CFR 3.73(b).	AFF004C2USExecuted373.pdf	77370 84ef3bbd9b58d6aad76188bcb482060a64b79930	no	2

Warnings:	
Information:	

2	Power of Attorney	AFFINITYExecutedPOA.pdf	56742 1182cb135ef2f72320ce11d9c1a2f487dfca4853	no	1

Warnings:	
Information:	
Total Files Size (in bytes):	134112

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111
If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371
If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office
If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

PTO/SB/96 (01-08)
Approved for use through 06/30/2008. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)

Applicant/Patent Owner: **Russell W. White, et al.**

Application No./Patent No.: **7,324,833** Filed/Issue Date: **January 29, 2008**

Entitled: **System And Method For Connecting A Portable Audio Player To An Automobile Sound System**

Affinity Labs of Texas, LLC , a **Limited Liability Company**

(Name of Assignee) (Type of Assignee, e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.)

states that it is:

1. ☑ the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest; or

2. ☐ an assignee of less than the entire right, title and interest
(The extent (by percentage) of its ownership interest is _____ %)

in the patent application/patent identified above by virtue of either:

A. ☐ An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application/patent identified above. The assignment was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel _____ , Frame _____ , or for which a copy thereof is attatched.

OR

B. ☑ A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the patent application/patent identified above, to the current assignee as follows:

1. From: **Kevin R. Imes, Russell W. White** To: **The Russell White, LLC**
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at
Reel **016870** , Frame **0669** , or for which a copy thereof is attached.

2. From: **The Russell White, LLC** To: **Affinity Labs, LLC**
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at
Reel **017472** , Frame **0406** , or for which a copy thereof is attached.

3. From: **Affinity Labs, LLC** To: **The Russell White, LLC**
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at
Reel **020941** , Frame **0844** , or for which a copy thereof is attached.

☑ Additional documents in the chain of title are listed on a supplemental sheet.

☑ As required by 37 CFR 3.73(b)(1)(i), the documentary evidence of the chain of title from the original owner to the assignee was, or concurrently is being, submitted for recordation pursuant to 37 CFR 3.11.

[NOTE: A separate copy (*i.e.*, a true copy of the original assignment document(s)) must be submitted to Assignment Division in accordance with 37 CFR Part 3, to record the assignment in the records of the USPTO. See MPEP 302.08]

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.

Signature	9/17/08 Date
Russell W. White Printed or Typed Name	**512-217-3524** Telephone number
Vice-President Title	

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)

Applicant: **Russell W. White, et al.**
Patent No.: **7,324,833** Issued: **January 29, 2008**
Entitled: **Pedometer System And Method Of Use**

Affinity Labs of Texas, LLC

THIS SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET LISTS ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS IN THE CHAIN OF TITLE

4. From: **The Russell White, LLC** To: **Affinity Labs of Texas**
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel **020963**, Frame **0072**, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

5. From: To:
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel , Frame , or for which a copy thereof is attached.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
10/947,755	09/23/2004	Russell W. White	111111.1111-2C

CONFIRMATION NO. 1751

65550
AFFINITY LABS, LLC
10904 DOSWELL COVE
AUSTIN, TX 78739

IMPROPER CPOA LETTER

OC000000032025401

Date Mailed: 09/15/2008

NOTICE REGARDING POWER OF ATTORNEY

This is in response to the Power of Attorney filed 09/03/2008. The Power of Attorney in this application is not accepted for the reason(s) listed below:

- The Power of Attorney is from an assignee and the Certificate required by 37 CFR 3.73(b) has not been received.

/hgray/

Office of Data Management, Application Assistance Unit (571) 272-4000, or (571) 272-4200, or 1-888-786-0101

AO 120 (Rev. 3/04)

TO:	REPORT ON THE FILING OR DETERMINATION OF AN ACTION REGARDING A PATENT OR TRADEMARK
Mail Stop 8 Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	

In Compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 290 and/or 15 U.S.C. § 1116 you are hereby advised that a court action has been filed in the U.S. District Court Lufkin, Texas on the following ☑ Patents or ☐ Trademarks:

DOCKET NO.	DATE FILED	U.S. DISTRICT COURT
9:08-CV-00171	8/29/2008	Lufkin, Texas

PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT
Affinity Labs of Texas, LLC	Alpine Electronics of America, Inc.; Clarion Corporation of America; et al

	PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1	7,324,833 B2	1/29/2008	Affinity Labs, LLC
2			
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5			

In the above—entitled case, the following patent(s)/ trademark(s) have been included:

DATE INCLUDED	INCLUDED BY ☐ Amendment ☐ Answer ☐ Cross Bill ☐ Other Pleading	
PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
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In the above—entitled case, the following decision has been rendered or judgement issued:

DECISION/JUDGEMENT

CLERK	(BY) DEPUTY CLERK	DATE
David Maland		9/3/08

Copy 1—Upon initiation of action, mail this copy to Director **Copy 3—Upon termination of action, mail this copy to Director**
Copy 2—Upon filing document adding patent(s), mail this copy to Director **Copy 4—Case file copy**

✎ AO 120 (Rev. 3/04)

TO:	REPORT ON THE FILING OR DETERMINATION OF AN ACTION REGARDING A PATENT OR TRADEMARK
Mail Stop 8 Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	

In Compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 290 and/or 15 U.S.C. § 1116 you are hereby advised that a court action has been filed in the U.S. District Court Lufkin, Texas on the following ☑ Patents or ☐ Trademarks:

DOCKET NO.	DATE FILED	U.S. DISTRICT COURT
9:08-CV-00164	8/27/2008	Lufkin, Texas

PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT
Affinity Labs of Texas, LLC	BMW North America, LLC; BMW Manufacturing Co., LLC; et al

	PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1	7,324,833 B2	1/29/2008	Affinity Labs, LLC
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In the above—entitled case, the following patent(s)/ trademark(s) have been included:

DATE INCLUDED	INCLUDED BY ☐ Amendment ☐ Answer ☐ Cross Bill ☐ Other Pleading	
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AO 120 (Rev. 3/04)

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DOCKET NO.	DATE FILED	U.S. DISTRICT COURT
9:08-CV-00163	8/25/2008	Lufkin, Texas

PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT
Affinity Labs of Texas, LLC	Dice Electronics, LLC; JWIN Electronics Corporation; TomTom Inc.; VAIS Technology, Ltd.

	PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1	7,324,833 B2	1/29/2008	Affinity Labs, LLC
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In the above—entitled case, the following patent(s)/ trademark(s) have been included:

DATE INCLUDED	INCLUDED BY ☐ Amendment ☐ Answer ☐ Cross Bill ☐ Other Pleading	
PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
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In the above—entitled case, the following decision has been rendered or judgement issued:

DECISION/JUDGEMENT

CLERK	(BY) DEPUTY CLERK	DATE
David Maland	Debbie Haschke	8/27/08

Copy 1—Upon initiation of action, mail this copy to Director Copy 3—Upon termination of action, mail this copy to Director
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AO 120 (Rev. 3/04)

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DOCKET NO.	DATE FILED	U.S. DISTRICT COURT
9:08-CV-00164	8/27/2008	Lufkin, Texas

PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT
Affinity Labs of Texas, LLC	BMW North America, LLC; BMW Manufacturing Co., LLC; et al

	PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1	7,324,833 B2	1/29/2008	Affinity Labs, LLC
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PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT
Affinity Labs of Texas, LLC	Dice Electronics, LLC; JWIN Electronics Corporation; TomTom Inc.; VAIS Technology, Ltd.

	PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
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Affinity Labs of Texas, LLC	BMW North America, LLC; BMW Manufacturing Co., LLC; et al

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Copy 2—Upon filing document adding patent(s), mail this copy to Director Copy 4—Case file copy

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Russell W. White, et al.	§	Class/Subclass:	455/556.1
Patent No.:	7,324,833	§	Examiner:	Erika A. Gary
Issued:	January 29, 2008	§		
For:	System And Method For Connecting A Portable Audio Player To An Automobile Sound System	§	Atty. Dkt. No.:	AFF.004C2US

POWER OF ATTORNEY BY ASSIGNEE

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 3.71, the undersigned assignee of record of the entire interest in the above-identified patent/patent application by virtue of an assignment recorded (check as applicable):

☐ Concurrently Herewith
☒ Date Recorded May 19, 2008
Reel 020963 Frame 0072

elects to conduct the prosecution of the application/maintenance of the patent to the exclusion of the inventor(s). The undersigned hereby declares that he has reviewed the above-referenced assignment and hereby declares that, to the best of his knowledge, title is in the Assignee, and further declares that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true. The assignee hereby revokes any previous powers of attorney and appoints the practitioners associated with:

Customer No. 21906

to prosecute the application identified above, and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

The undersigned is authorized to sign this statement on behalf of the Assignee.

Please direct all communications to: **Customer No. 21906**

Please direct all telephone calls to: Mark J. Rozman at (512) 418-9944.

ASSIGNEE
Affinity Labs of Texas, LLC

Date: 9/3/08 BY: _____

Russell W. White
Vice-President
Affinity Labs of Texas, LLC
10904 Doswell Cove
Austin, TX 78739

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
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APPLICATION NO.	ISSUE DATE	PATENT NO.	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/947,755	01/29/2008	7324833	111111.1111-2C	1751

65550 7590 01/09/2008

AFFINITY LABS, LLC
10904 DOSWELL COVE
AUSTIN, TX 78739

ISSUE NOTIFICATION

The projected patent number and issue date are specified above.

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)
(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment is 0 day(s). Any patent to issue from the above-identified application will include an indication of the adjustment on the front page.

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (571)-272-4200.

APPLICANT(s) (Please see PAIR WEB site http://pair.uspto.gov for additional applicants):

Russell W. White, Austin, TX;
Kevin R. Imes, Austin, TX;

10947755

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2686
Examiner Name	Perez-Gutierrez, R.
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Document Number Number-Kind Code[2] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear CLASS	SUBCLASS	
R.W.G.		US- US-2003/0008646	12-2002	Shanahan	455	418	
R.W.G.		US- US-2005/0010633	01-2003	~~Baughan~~ Shanahan	455	419	
R.W.G.		US- 6,587,835	07-2003	Treyz et al.	705	14	
R.W.G.		US- 6,496,692 12/2002	~~01-2003~~	Shanahan	455	418	
R.W.G.		US- 6,510,210	01-2003	Shanahan	455	418	
R.W.G.		US- 6,396,769	05-2002	Polany	367	131	
R.W.G.		US- 6,240,297	05-2001	Jadoul	455	557	
R.W.G.		US- 6,061,306	05-2000	Buchheim	369	2	
R.W.G.		US- 5,953,657	09-1999	Ghisler	455	414.1	
R.W.G.		US- 5,940,767	08-1999	Bourgeois et al.	455	349	
R.W.G.		US- 5,870,680	02-1999	Guerlin et al.	455	557	
R.W.G.		US- 5,774,793 6/1998	~~02-1998~~	Cooper et al.	455	418	
R.W.G.		US- 5,587,560	12-1996	Crooks et al.	235	379	
R.W.G.		US- 5,586,090	12-1996	Otte	369	2	
R.W.G.		US- 5,450,471	09-1995	Hanawa et al.	455	550.1	
R.W.G.		US- 5,307,326	04-1994	Osawa	369	2	
R.W.G.		US- 4,905,272	02-1990	Van de Mortel et al.	455	410	
		US-					
		US-					

12/11/07

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Foreign Patent Document Country Code[3]-Number[4]-Kind Code[5] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T[6]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	9/20/05

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. [1] Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). [2] See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. [3] Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). [4] For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. [5] Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. [6] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

10947755

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Complete if Known	
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Art Unit	2686
Examiner Name	Perez-Gutierrez, R.
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

12/10/07 G

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Document Number / Number-Kind Code[2] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear: Class	Subclass	
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R.P.G.		US- 6,587,835	07-2003	Treyz et al.	705	14	
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R.P.G.		US- 5,586,090	12-1996	Otte	369	2	
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R.P.G.		US- 4,905,272	02-1990	Van de Mortel et al.	455	410	
		US-					
		US-					

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Foreign Patent Document: Country Code[3] Number[4] Kind Code[5] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T[6]

Examiner Signature	Rafael Pérez-Gutiérrez	Date Considered	9/20/05

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. [1] Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). [2] See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. [3] Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). [4] For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. [5] Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. [6] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Specification with the following replacement paragraphs:

NM 12/06/07

[0001] This is a continuation application of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/537,812 filed on March 28, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 7,187,947, Issued March 6, 2007, the entirety of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0092] During operation, electronic device 907 may be mounted within interface 904. Electronic device 907 may also be powered or recharged via power line 910 and communicate with the systems audio system via interface cable or bus line 911. Audio information communicated to electronic device 907 may be transferred to audio system 901 such that a user may listen to selected audio information. For example, a user may have previously selected a plurality of audio files to be transmitted to electronic device 907. Electronic device 907~~905~~ may communicate the selected audio information to the automobiles audio system that utilizes interface 901 thereby allowing the user to listen to selected audio information. In one embodiment, cable 908 may be custom-installed to audio system 901. For example, the cable may be coupled to an auxiliary line for the system's radio or may be coupled to CD player line 912.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
or Fax (571)-273-2885

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

65550 7590 11/30/2007

AFFINITY LABS, LLC
10904 DOSWELL COVE
AUSTIN, TX 78739

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

Laura H. Andre	(Depositor's name)
/laura h andre/	(Signature)
04 December 2007	(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/947,755	09/23/2004	Russell W. White	111111.1111-2C	1751

TITLE OF INVENTION: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE AUDIO PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	$720	$300	$0	$1020	02/29/2008

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
GARY, ERIKA A	2617	455-556100

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.

☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

(1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,

(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE	(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)
Affinity Labs, LLC	Austin, Texas

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ☐ Individual ☑ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

☑ Issue Fee

☑ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)

☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s): **(Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)**

☐ A check is enclosed.

☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

☑ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-3797 (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. **Change in Entity Status** (from status indicated above)

☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature /russell w white/ Date 04 December 2007

Typed or printed name Russell W. White Registration No. 45,691

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal

Application Number:	10947755
Filing Date:	23-Sep-2004
Title of Invention:	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE AUDIO PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Russell W. White
Filer:	Russell W. White/Laura H. Andre
Attorney Docket Number:	111111.1111-2C
Filed as Small Entity	

Utility Filing Fees

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Basic Filing:				
Pages:				
Claims:				
Miscellaneous-Filing:				
Petition:				
Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:				
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:				
Utility Appl issue fee	2501	1	720	720
Publ. Fee- early, voluntary, or normal	1504	1	300	300

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Extension-of-Time:				
Miscellaneous:				
			Total in USD ($)	1020

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt	
EFS ID:	2542789
Application Number:	10947755
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	1751
Title of Invention:	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE AUDIO PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Russell W. White
Customer Number:	65550
Filer:	Russell W. White/Laura H. Andre
Filer Authorized By:	Russell W. White
Attorney Docket Number:	111111.1111-2C
Receipt Date:	05-DEC-2007
Filing Date:	23-SEP-2004
Time Stamp:	12:17:25
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment Type	Deposit Account
Payment was successfully received in RAM	$1020
RAM confirmation Number	6069
Deposit Account	503797
Authorized User	
The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows: Charge any Additional Fees required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.21 (Miscellaneous fees and charges)	

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes) /Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Issue Fee Payment (PTO-85B)	1111-2C_PTOL-85B_Issue_Fee.pdf	116679 68ffebb72f1d677a6a90316a3c8e60d5095ad605	no	1
Warnings:					
Information:					
2	Fee Worksheet (PTO-06)	fee-info.pdf	8323 1745460cf47cb12f8ba9acd4d4f9a5619796aec5	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
		Total Files Size (in bytes):	125002		

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111
If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371
If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office
If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
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P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

65550 7590 11/30/2007

AFFINITY LABS, LLC
10904 DOSWELL COVE
AUSTIN, TX 78739

EXAMINER	
GARY, ERIKA A	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2617	

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2007

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/947,755	09/23/2004	Russell W. White	111111.1111-2C	1751

TITLE OF INVENTION: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE AUDIO PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	$720	$300	$0	$1020	02/29/2008

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PTOL-85 (Rev. 08/07) Approved for use through 08/31/2010.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
or Fax (571)-273-2885

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CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

65550 7590 11/30/2007

AFFINITY LABS, LLC
10904 DOSWELL COVE
AUSTIN, TX 78739

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/947,755	09/23/2004	Russell W. White	111111.1111-2C	1751

TITLE OF INVENTION: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE AUDIO PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	$720	$300	$0	$1020	02/29/2008

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
GARY, ERIKA A	2617	455-556100

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.

☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

(1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,

(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

☐ Issue Fee

☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)

☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s): **(Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)**

☐ A check is enclosed.

☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. **Change in Entity Status** (from status indicated above)

☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____ Date _____

Typed or printed name _____ Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/947,755	09/23/2004	Russell W. White	111111.1111-2C	1751

65550 7590 11/30/2007

AFFINITY LABS, LLC
10904 DOSWELL COVE
AUSTIN, TX 78739

EXAMINER	
GARY, ERIKA A	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2617	

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2007

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)
(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 0 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 0 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

PTOL-85 (Rev. 08/07) Approved for use through 08/31/2010.

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/947,755	WHITE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Erika A. Gary	2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *11/15/07*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *36-70*.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
   (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
   (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

   Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

ERIKA A. GARY
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Issue Classification	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent under Reexamination	
	10/947,755	WHITE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Erika A. Gary	2617	

ISSUE CLASSIFICATION

ORIGINAL		CROSS REFERENCE(S)								
CLASS	SUBCLASS	CLASS	SUBCLASS (ONE SUBCLASS PER BLOCK)							
455	556.1	455	566	557						
INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION										
H 0 4 Q	7/20									
	/									
	/									
	/									
	/									

N/A (Assistant Examiner) (Date)	ERIKA A. GARY PRIMARY EXAMINER (Primary Examiner) 11/24/07 (Date)	Total Claims Allowed: 35
(Legal Instruments Examiner) (Date)		O.G. Print Claim(s): 1 / O.G. Print Fig.: 8

☐ Claims renumbered in the same order as presented by applicant ☐ CPA ☐ T.D. ☐ R.1.47

Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original
	~~1~~		~~31~~	26	61		91		121		151		181
	~~2~~		~~32~~	27	62		92		122		152		182
	~~3~~		~~33~~	28	63		93		123		153		183
	~~4~~		~~34~~	29	64		94		124		154		184
	~~5~~		~~35~~	30	65		95		125		155		185
	~~6~~	1	36	31	66		96		126		156		186
	~~7~~	2	37	32	67		97		127		157		187
	~~8~~	3	38	33	68		98		128		158		188
	~~9~~	4	39	34	69		99		129		159		189
	~~10~~	5	40	35	70		100		130		160		190
	~~11~~	6	41		71		101		131		161		191
	~~12~~	7	42		72		102		132		162		192
	~~13~~	8	43		73		103		133		163		193
	~~14~~	9	44		74		104		134		164		194
	~~15~~	10	45		75		105		135		165		195
	~~16~~	11	46		76		106		136		166		196
	~~17~~	12	47		77		107		137		167		197
	~~18~~	13	48		78		108		138		168		198
	~~19~~	14	49		79		109		139		169		199
	~~20~~	15	50		80		110		140		170		200
	~~21~~	16	51		81		111		141		171		201
	~~22~~	17	52		82		112		142		172		202
	~~23~~	18	53		83		113		143		173		203
	~~24~~	19	54		84		114		144		174		204
	~~25~~	20	55		85		115		145		175		205
	~~26~~	21	56		86		116		146		176		206
	~~27~~	22	57		87		117		147		177		207
	~~28~~	23	58		88		118		148		178		208
	~~29~~	24	59		89		119		149		179		209
	~~30~~	25	60		90		120		150		180		210

Search Notes	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent under Reexamination	
	10/947,755	WHITE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Erika A. Gary	2617	

SEARCHED			
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner

INTERFERENCE SEARCHED			
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner
see	attached	11/26/2007	EAG

SEARCH NOTES (INCLUDING SEARCH STRATEGY)		
	DATE	EXMR
see EAST search attached	11/26/2007	EAG

CUSTOMER NO.
65550

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Russell W. White et al.		
Title:	System and Method for Connecting a Portable MP3 Player to an Automobile Sound System (AS AMENDED)		
App. No.:	10/947,755	Filed:	09/23/2004
Examiner:	GARY, Erika A.	Group Art Unit:	2617
Atty. Dkt No.:	111111.1111-2C	Confirmation No.:	1751

M/S AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Dear Commissioner:

In reply to the Non-Final Office Action mailed November 9, 2007, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application and the allowance thereof:

Please Enter 11/20/07

Claim Amendments begin on page 2.

Remarks begin at page 9.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BIB DATA SHEET

CONFIRMATION NO. 1751

SERIAL NUMBER	FILING or 371(c) DATE	CLASS	GROUP ART UNIT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
10/947,755	09/23/2004 RULE	455	2617	111111.1111-2C

APPLICANTS
Russell W. White, Austin, TX;
Kevin R. Imes, Austin, TX;

**** CONTINUING DATA ***************************
This application is a CON of 09/537,812 03/28/2000 PAT 7,187,947 OIC EH

**** FOREIGN APPLICATIONS ***************************

**** IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED **** ** SMALL ENTITY **
11/10/2004

Foreign Priority claimed	Met after Allowance	STATE OR COUNTRY	SHEETS DRAWINGS	TOTAL CLAIMS	INDEPENDENT CLAIMS
☐ Yes ☑ No	☐	TX	9	35	5
35 USC 119(a-d) conditions met ☐ Yes ☑ No					
Verified and Acknowledged Examiner's Signature	Initials				

ADDRESS
AFFINITY LABS, LLC
10904 DOSWELL COVE
AUSTIN, TX 78739
UNITED STATES

TITLE
SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE AUDIO PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM

FILING FEE RECEIVED	FEES: Authority has been given in Paper	
1256	No._____ to charge/credit DEPOSIT ACCOUNT No._____ for following:	☐ All Fees ☐ 1.16 Fees (Filing) ☐ 1.17 Fees (Processing Ext. of time) ☐ 1.18 Fees (Issue) ☐ Other _____ ☐ Credit

EAST Search History

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	Time Stamp
L1	0	((multimedia or mp3 or music or media adj player or audio adj file) with (receiv$3 or receiver or radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (broadcast$3 or transmit$4)) with ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or associated adj information or artist) with (display$3)) and (mp3 or digital adj audio adj file) and ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or artist or song or associated adj information) with display$3) and ((gui or graphical adj user adj interface) with ((soft adj (key or button)) or touch adj screen or touchscreen))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/11/26 18:36
L2	0	((multimedia or mp3 or music or media adj player or audio adj file) with (receiv$3 or receiver or radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (broadcast$3 or transmit$4)) with ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or associated adj information or artist) with (display$3)) and (mp3 or digital adj audio adj file) and ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or artist or song or associated adj information) with display$3) and ((gui or graphical adj user adj interface or menu) with ((soft adj (key or button)) or touch adj screen or touchscreen))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/11/26 18:30
L3	0	(((multimedia or mp3 or music or media adj player or audio adj file) with (receiv$3 or receiver or radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (broadcast$3 or transmit$4)) with ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or associated adj information or artist) with (display$3)) and (mp3 or digital adj audio adj file) and ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or artist or song or associated adj information) with display$3) and ((gui or graphical adj user adj interface or menu) with ((soft adj (key or button)) or touch adj screen or touchscreen))).clm.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/11/26 18:26

EAST Search History

L4	0	(((multimedia or mp3 or music or media adj player or audio adj file) with (receiv$3 or receiver or radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (broadcast$3 or transmit$4)) with ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or associated adj information or artist) with (display$3)) and (mp3 or digital adj audio adj file) and ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or artist or song or associated adj information) with display$3) and ((gui or graphical adj user adj interface or menu))).clm.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/11/26 18:31
L5	14	(((multimedia or mp3 or music or media adj player or audio adj file) with (receiv$3 or receiver or radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (broadcast$3 or transmit$4)) with ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or associated adj information or artist) with (display$3)) and (mp3 or digital adj audio adj file) and ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or artist or song or associated adj information) with display$3) and ((gui or graphical adj user adj interface or menu)))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/11/26 18:27
L6	10	(((multimedia or mp3 or music or media adj player or audio adj file) with (receiv$3 or receiver or radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (broadcast$3 or transmit$4)) with ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or associated adj information or artist) with (display$3)) and (mp3 or digital adj audio adj file) and ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or artist or song or associated adj information) with display$3) and ((gui or graphical adj user adj interface)))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/11/26 18:28
L7	4	5 not 6	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/11/26 18:28

EAST Search History

L8	0	((multimedia or mp3 or music or media adj player or audio adj file) with (receiv$3 or receiver or radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (broadcast$3 or transmit$4)) with ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or associated adj information or artist) with (display$3)) and (mp3 or audio adj file) and ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or artist or song or associated adj information) with display$3) and ((gui or graphical adj user adj interface or menu) with ((soft adj (key or button)) or touch adj screen or touchscreen))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/11/26 18:30
L9	16	(((multimedia or mp3 or music or media adj player or audio adj file) with (receiv$3 or receiver or radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (broadcast$3 or transmit$4)) with ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or associated adj information or artist) with (display$3)) and (mp3 or audio adj file) and ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or artist or song or associated adj information) with display$3) and ((gui or graphical adj user adj interface or menu)))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/11/26 18:33
L10	2	9 not 5	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/11/26 18:31
L11	11	(((multimedia or mp3 or music or media adj player or audio adj file) with (receiv$3 or receiver or radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (broadcast$3 or transmit$4)) with ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or associated adj information or artist) with (display$3)) and (mp3 or audio adj file) and ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or artist or song or associated adj information) with display$3) and ((gui or graphical adj user adj interface)))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/11/26 18:36

EAST Search History

L12	0	11 not 9	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/11/26 18:33
L13	0	(((multimedia or mp3 or music or media adj player or audio adj file) with (receiv$3 or receiver or radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (broadcast$3 or transmit$4)) with ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or associated adj information or artist) with (display$3)) and (mp3 or audio adj file) and ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or artist or song or associated adj information) with display$3) and ((gui or graphical adj user adj interface))). clm.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/11/26 18:36
L14	0	((multimedia or mp3 or music or media adj player or audio adj file) with (receiv$3 or receiver or radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (broadcast$3 or transmit$4)) with ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or associated adj information or artist) with (display$3)) and ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or artist or song or associated adj information) with display$3) and ((gui or graphical adj user adj interface) with ((soft adj (key or button)) or touch adj screen or touchscreen))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/11/26 18:37
L15	16	((multimedia or mp3 or music or media adj player or audio adj file) with (receiv$3 or receiver or radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (broadcast$3 or transmit$4)) with ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or associated adj information or artist) with (display$3)) and ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or artist or song or associated adj information) with display$3) and ((gui or graphical adj user adj interface))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/11/26 18:41

EAST Search History

L16	5	15 not 9	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/11/26 18:37
L17	4	((multimedia or mp3 or music or media adj player or audio adj file) with (receiv$3 or receiver or radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (broadcast$3 or transmit$4)) with ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or associated adj information or artist) with (display$3)) and ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or artist or song or associated adj information) with display$3) and ((gui or graphical adj user adj interface)).clm.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/11/26 18:42
L18	0	((multimedia or mp3 or music or media adj player or audio adj file) with (receiv$3 or receiver or radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (broadcast$3 or transmit$4)) with ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or associated adj information or artist) with (display$3)) and ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or artist or song or associated adj information) with display$3) and ((gui or graphical adj user adj interface) with ((soft adj (key or button)) or touchscreen or touch adj screen)).clm.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/11/26 18:42
L19	0	((multimedia or mp3 or music or media adj player or audio adj file) with (receiv$3 or receiver or radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (broadcast$3 or transmit$4)) with ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or associated adj information or artist) with (display$3)) and ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or artist or song or associated adj information) with display$3) and ((gui or graphical adj user adj interface) with ((soft adj (key or button)) or touchscreen or touch adj screen))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/11/26 18:42

CUSTOMER NO.
65550

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Russell W. White et al.		
Title:	System and Method for Connecting a Portable MP3 Player to an Automobile Sound System (AS AMENDED)		
App. No.:	10/947,755	Filed:	09/23/2004
Examiner:	GARY, Erika A.	Group Art Unit:	2617
Atty. Dkt No.:	111111.1111-2C	Confirmation No.:	1751

M/S AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Dear Commissioner:

In reply to the Non-Final Office Action mailed November 9, 2007, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application and the allowance thereof:

Claim Amendments begin on page 2.

Remarks begin at page 9.

CLAIM LISTING

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-35 (Canceled)

36. (Currently amended) An audio system, comprising:

a portable electronic device having a display, a memory, and an audio file player;

a first portion of software saved at the portable electronic device and configured to initiate a displaying of a graphical interface item on the display, the graphical interface item comprising a name associated with an audio file saved in the memory;

a mounting location on the portable electronic device that includes a physical interface configured to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to a different electronic device having an associated display; and

an other portion of software saved at the portable electronic device and configured to communicate a representation of the graphical interface item to the different electronic device via the physical interface to facilitate a displaying of the representation on the associated display, wherein the portable electronic device is configured to communicate interface information to the different electronic device in order to allow a user to view at least a partial representation of a graphical user interface that includes the graphical interface item on the associated display, wherein the graphical user interface comprises a plurality of preprogrammed soft buttons that are linked to respective audio information sources.

37. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, wherein the other portion of software is further configured to communicate a collection of information to the different electronic device via the physical interface such that a user can utilize the different electronic device to navigate through a plurality of audio files.

38. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, wherein the different electronic device is an automobile sound system component.

39. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, wherein the portable electronic device is a cellular telephone.

40. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, further comprising an automobile having a sound system, wherein the different electronic device is a component of the automobile sound system.

41. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, further comprising a wireless communication device configured to engage the physical interface and to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the different electronic device via a wireless signal.

42. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 41, wherein the wireless signal is communicated as a locally transmitted signal at a frequency between 88 and 108 MHz.

43. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, wherein the name is a playlist name.

44. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, wherein the name is a song title.

45. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, wherein the name is an artist name.

46. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, wherein the name is a user customized name identifying a playlist that comprises the audio file.

47. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, wherein the physical interface is further configured to couple the portable electronic device to the different electronic device such that a power supply of the different electronic device provides power to the portable electronic device.

48. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 36, wherein the graphical interface item is updateable by thea user.

49. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 48, further comprising a software application configured to execute on a personal computer, wherein the software application is configured to allow the user to update the graphical interface item of the portable electronic device.

50. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 36, wherein the associated display is a touch screen display and the touch screen display allows the user to select a given soft button by touching the touch screen display. ~~wherein the portable electronic device is configured to communicate interface information to the different electronic device in order to allow the user to view at least a partial representation of a GUI that includes the graphical interface item on the associated display, wherein the GUI comprises a plurality of preprogrammed soft buttons that are linked to respective audio information sources.~~

51. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 36, wherein the other portion of software is further configured to communicate a collection of information to the different electronic device via the physical interface such that ~~a~~ the user can utilize the different electronic device to select an audio information source that is an audio file saved in the memory ~~file for playing~~.

52. (Currently amended) An audio system, comprising:

a portable electronic device that has a display, a memory, and a processor; ~~and~~

software saved at the portable electronic device and configured to direct the portable electronic device to save an audio file in the memory, to associate the audio file with a name, to include the name in a graphical menu of available content, to present the name on the display of the portable electronic device, and to communicate a collection of information comprising the name to a different electronic device that has an associated display such that a user can interact with the different electronic device: (1) to navigate through a plurality of audio files; (2) to view at least a portion of the graphical menu on the associated display,

wherein the portion comprises the name; and (3) to select an available audio file for processing; and

wherein the portable electronic device is configured to communicate interface information to the different electronic device in order to allow the user to view the graphical menu on the associated display in a graphical user interface that includes a plurality of preprogrammed soft buttons that are linked to respective audio information sources..

53. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 52, wherein the portable electronic device is a cellular telephone.

54. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 52, further comprising the different electronic device, wherein the different electronic device is a home stereo component.

55. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 52, further comprising the different electronic device, wherein the different electronic device is an automobile stereo component.

56. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 52, wherein the portable electronic device is configured to communicate interface information to the different electronic device in order to allow the user to view the graphical menu in its entirety on the associated display.

57. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 52, wherein the associated display is a touch screen display and the touch screen display is operable as a user interface mechanism ~~The system of Claim 56wherein the graphical menu is a graphical user interface that has a plurality of preprogrammed soft buttons that are linked to respective audio information sources~~.

58. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 52, further comprising a mounting location on the portable electronic device that includes a physical interface configured to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the different electronic device.

59. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 58, wherein the physical interface is configured to couple a power supply associated with the different electronic device to a local power supply of the portable electronic device.

60. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 52, wherein the software is embedded in the portable electronic device as firmware.

61. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 52, wherein the memory is flash memory.

62. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 52, further comprising:
a mounting location on the portable electronic device that includes a physical interface configured to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the different electronic device; and
a mount configured to communicatively couple to the different electronic device and to engage the physical interface.

63. (Currently amended) An audio system, comprising:
an automobile having a sound system that includes an electronic device with an associated display and a user interface mechanism;
a mount communicatively coupled to the electronic device and configured to engage a physical interface of a portable electronic device that has a display, a memory, a processor, and software saved at the portable electronic device and configured to direct the portable electronic device to save an audio file in the memory, to associate the audio file with a name, to include the name in a menu of available content, to present the name on the display of the portable electronic device, and to communicate a collection of information comprising the name to the electronic device such that a user can interact with the electronic device: (1) to navigate through a plurality of audio files; (2) to view at least a partial representation of the menu on the associated display; and (3) to select an available audio file for processing; and
wherein the electronic device is configured to receive the collection of information and to present the partial representation of the menu on the associated display, further

wherein the partial representation of the menu is presented on the associated display in a graphical user interface that includes a plurality of preprogrammed soft buttons that are linked to respective audio information sources.

64. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 63, wherein the electronic device is configured to receive the collection of information and to present the name on the associated display by software embedded in the electronic device as firmware.

65. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 63, wherein the ~~partial representation of the menu is presented on the associated display as a graphical user interface that has a~~ plurality of preprogrammed soft buttons ~~that~~ are all viewable on the associated display at the same time and the respective audio information sources are separate files saved in the memory~~linked to respective audio information sources~~.

66. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 65, wherein the associated display is a touch screen display and the touch screen display is the user interface mechanism.

67. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 66, wherein the user interface mechanism allows the user to navigate through a plurality of audio files saved in the memory and to select the audio file for processing.

68. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 63, wherein the user interface mechanism allows the user to navigate through the plurality of audio files and to select the available audio file for processing.

69. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 63, wherein the associated display and the user interface mechanism are integrated into a console of the automobile.

70. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 69, wherein a portion of the mount that is configured to engage the physical interface of the portable electronic device is not integrated into the console, further comprising a cable at least partially couples the portion of the mount that is configured to engage the physical interface of the portable

electronic device and an other portion of the mount that is communicatively coupled to the electronic device.

REMARKS

Applicants thank Examiner Gary for the Non-final Office Action mailed November 9, 2007. Applicants further thank Examiner Gary for indicating that Claims 50, 57, and 65-57 recite allowable subject matter. Applicants have reviewed the Office Action and have amended claims 36, 48, 50-52, 57, 63, and 65.

Objections

On Page 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner objects to Claims 50, 57, and 65-67, because these otherwise allowable claims depend from rejected independent claims. Applicants have amended the rejected independent claims (i.e., Claims 36, 52, and 63) to incorporate the subject matter of the otherwise allowable claims. As such, Applicants submit that all pending claims are allowable.

Rejections

On Pages 2 through 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects 36-49, 51-56, 58-64, and 68-70 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Naim (US Pat. No. 6,694,200) in view of Saib (US Pat. No. 6,230,322). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections. On page 4, the Examiner takes Official Notice with respect to local wireless communications between 88 and 108 MHz and the utilization of a physical interface. Applicants object to these takings of Official Notice pursuant to MPEP §2144.03.

However, to facilitate full allowance of the case, Applicants have amended independent claims 36, 52, and 63, to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims of 48, 50, 51, 57, and 65, respectively. As such, the allowable subject matter of claims 50, 51, 57, and 65 is now included in independent claims 36, 52, and 63. Applicants submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

The Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is courteously requested. Please, contact the

undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number in order to expedite resolution of any issues and to expedite passage of the present application to issue, if any comments, questions, or suggestions arise in connection with the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-3797.

Respectfully submitted,

_/Russell W White/_____ __November 15, 2007_____
Russell W. White; Reg. No. 45,691 Date
LARSON NEWMAN ABEL POLANSKY & WHITE, LLP
5914 W. Courtyard Dr., Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78730
(512) 439-7100 (phone)
(512) 439-7199 (fax)

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	2472947
Application Number:	10947755
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	1751
Title of Invention:	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE AUDIO PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Russell W. White
Customer Number:	65550
Filer:	Russell W. White/Laura H. Andre
Filer Authorized By:	Russell W. White
Attorney Docket Number:	111111.1111-2C
Receipt Date:	15-NOV-2007
Filing Date:	23-SEP-2004
Time Stamp:	15:36:15
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes) /Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1		1111-2C_NFOA_Reply.pdf	39734 bcd7a6f2984f5481cf00556dce73d2cab3b2c257	yes	10

	Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description		
	Document Description	**Start**	**End**
	Amendment - After Non-Final Rejection	1	1
	Claims	2	8
	Applicant Arguments/Remarks Made in an Amendment	9	10
Warnings:			
Information:			
	Total Files Size (in bytes):	39734	

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111
If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371
If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office
If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

PTO/SB/06 (07-06)
Approved for use through 1/31/2007. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD Substitute for Form PTO-875	Application or Docket Number 10/947,755	Filing Date 09/23/2004	☐ To be Mailed

APPLICATION AS FILED – PART I

	(Column 1)	(Column 2)	SMALL ENTITY ☒		OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
FOR	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE ($)	FEE ($)		RATE ($)	FEE ($)
☐ BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	
☐ SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (i), or (m))	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	
☐ EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(i))	minus 20 =	*	X $ =		OR	X $ =	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	minus 3 =	*	X $ =			X $ =	
☐ APPLICATION SIZE FEE (37 CFR 1.16(s))	If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is $250 ($125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).						
☐ MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))							
* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.			TOTAL			TOTAL	

APPLICATION AS AMENDED – PART II

		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)	SMALL ENTITY		OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
	11/15/2007	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)		RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
AMENDMENT	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	* 35	Minus	** 35	= 0	X $25 =	0	OR	X $ =	
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	* 3	Minus	***5	= 0	X $105 =	0	OR	X $ =	
	☐ Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))									
	☐ FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							OR		
						TOTAL ADD'L FEE	0	OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)					
		CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)		RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
AMENDMENT	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=	X $ =		OR	X $ =	
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=	X $ =		OR	X $ =	
	☐ Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))									
	☐ FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							OR		
						TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.
** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".
*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".
The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.

Legal Instrument Examiner:
/CORALIA -. BETANCOURT/

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.16. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/947,755	09/23/2004	Russell W. White	111111.1111-2C	1751

65550 7590 11/09/2007

AFFINITY LABS, LLC
10904 DOSWELL COVE
AUSTIN, TX 78739

EXAMINER	
GARY, ERIKA A	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2617	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
11/09/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/947,755	WHITE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Erika A. Gary	2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *09 October 2007*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *36-70* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *36-49,51-56,58-64 and 68-70* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *50,57 and 65-67* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 36-49, 51-56, 58-64, and 68-70 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Naim, US Patent Number 6,694,200 (hereinafter Naim) in view of Saib et al., US Patent Number 6,230,322 (hereinafter Saib).

Regarding claims 36, 52, and 63, Naim discloses an audio system, comprising: a portable electronic device having a display, a memory, and an audio file player; a first portion of software saved at the portable electronic device and configured to initiate a displaying of a graphical interface item on the display, the graphical interface item comprising a name associated with an audio file saved in the memory; a mounting location on the portable electronic device that includes a physical interface configured to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to a different electronic device having an associated display; and an other portion of software saved at the portable electronic device and configured to communicate a representation of the graphical interface item to the different electronic device via the physical interface [col. 2: lines 32-56; col. 3: lines 1-5, 27-29, 54-66; col. 8: lines 1-8, 29-40; col. 10: lines 3-7, 38-41].

What Naim does not specifically teach is that information communicated to the different electronic device is to facilitate a displaying of the representation on the

associated display. However, Saib teaches this limitation as Saib teaches receiving communicated information from a source and displaying a representation on an associated display [col. 1: lines 55-61; col. 2: lines 30-37; col. 3: lines 1-22].

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Naim in include Saib. Naim teaches a portable electronic device that can upload information (video, music, etc) to a different electronic device capable of playing the information, but does not go into detail about the playing or display of information on the different electronic device. Saib teaches receiving information from a source and using a graphical user interface to display a representation of the received information. The rationale for this modification would have been to specifically describe how the received information is displayed.

Regarding claims 37, 51, and 68, Saib teaches wherein the other portion of software is further configured to communicate a collection of information to the different electronic device via the physical interface such that a user can utilize the different electronic device to navigate through a plurality of audio files display [col. 1: lines 55-61; col. 2: lines 30-37; col. 3: lines 1-22].

Regarding claims 38, 40, 55, and 69, Naim teaches the different electronic device is an automobile sound system component [col. 13: line 26].

Regarding claims 39 and 53, Naim teaches the portable electronic device is a cellular telephone [col. 2: lines 51-56].

Regarding claim 41, Naim discloses a wireless communication device configured to engage the physical interface and to communicatively couple the portable electronic

device to the different electronic device via a wireless signal [col. 8: lines 37-40; col. 9: lines 27-30].

Regarding claim 42, the Examiner takes Official Notice that it is well known in the art for the wireless signal to be communicated as a locally transmitted signal at a frequency between 88 and 108 MHz. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include this feature to specifically point out the frequency used.

Regarding claims 43-46, Naim discloses wherein the name is a playlist name, a song title, an artist name, or a user customized name identifying a playlist that comprises the audio file [col. 3: lines 64-65; col. 7: lines 4-5].

Regarding claims 47 and 59, the Examiner takes Official Notice that it is well known in the art to include that the physical interface is further configured to couple the portable electronic device to the different electronic device such that a power supply of the different electronic device provides power to the portable electronic device. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include this feature in order to conserve power of the portable electronic device.

Regarding claims 48 and 49, Naim discloses the graphical interface item is updateable by a user [col. 3: line 64 – col. 4: line 2].

Regarding claim 54, Naim suggests the different electronic device, wherein the different electronic device is a home stereo component [col. 9: lines 32-34].

Regarding claims 56 and 64, Saib discloses communicating interface information to the different electronic device in order to allow the user to view the graphical menu in

its entirety on the associated display [col. 1: lines 55-61; col. 2: lines 30-37; col. 3: lines 1-22].

Regarding claims 58 and 62, Naim discloses a mounting location on the portable electronic device that includes a physical interface configured to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the different electronic device [col. 11: lines 12-17].

Regarding claim 60, Naim discloses the software is embedded in the portable electronic device as firmware [col. 3: lines 1-5].

Regarding claim 61, Naim discloses the memory is flash memory [col. 5: lines 18-20].

Regarding claim 70, Naim discloses a portion of the mount that is configured to engage the physical interface of the portable electronic device is not integrated into the console, further comprising a cable at least partially couples the portion of the mount that is configured to engage the physical interface of the portable electronic device and an other portion of the mount that is communicatively coupled to the electronic device [col. 9: lines 27-35; col. 11: lines 12-17].

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 50, 57, and 65-67 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 36-70 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

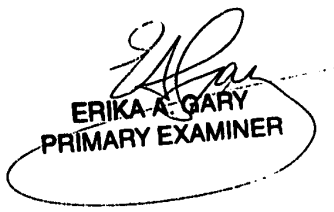
5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Rolf, US Patent Number 7,065,342, discloses a system and mobile cellular telephone device for playing recorded music.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Erika A. Gary whose telephone number is 571-272-7841. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Appiah can be reached on 571-272-7904. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

EAG
November 7, 2007



Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 10/947,755	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination WHITE ET AL.	
	Examiner Erika A. Gary	Art Unit 2617	Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
*	A	US-7,065,342	06-2006	Rolf, Devon A.	455/412.1
*	B	US-6,694,200	02-2004	Naim, Ari B.	700/94
*	C	US-6,230,322	05-2001	Saib et al.	725/40
	D	US-			
	E	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
	H	US-			
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

Search Notes	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent under Reexamination
	10/947,755	WHITE ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Erika A. Gary	2617

SEARCHED			
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner

INTERFERENCE SEARCHED			
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner

SEARCH NOTES (INCLUDING SEARCH STRATEGY)		
	DATE	EXMR
see EAST search attached	10/31/2007	EAG

EAST Search History

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	Time Stamp
L1	2	(("6681120") or ("6278884")).PN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2007/11/07 10:51
S1	2	(("6722212") or ("6061306")).PN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2007/04/05 16:15
S2	2	(("6772212") or ("6061306")).PN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:01
S3	84	(audio or stereo or music) with (car or vehicle or automobile) with (portable or mp3) with cable	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:08
S4	26	S3 and cable with power	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:09
S5	12	S3 and cable with power with (charg$3 or recharg$4)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:09
S6	12	S5 and button	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:05
S7	12	(audio or stereo or music) with (car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3) with cable	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:11
S8	2	S7 and cable with power	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:18
S9	0	S8 and cable with power with (charg$3 or recharg$4)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:09

EAST Search History

S10	10	S7 not S8	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:10
S11	16	(car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3) with cable	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:13
S12	4	S11 not S7	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:12
S13	20	(car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music) with cable	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:37
S14	4	S13 not S11	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:13
S15	2	(("6123309") or ("6042414")).PN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:18
S16	893	(car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:20
S17	306	S16 and (car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3).ab.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:33
S18	30	S17 and cable	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:30

EAST Search History

S19	3	S18 and cable with power	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:21
S20	27	S18 not S19	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:21
S21	24	S17 and (wired or wire)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:30
S22	3	S17 and ((wired or wire) with power)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:31
S23	21	S21 not S22	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:31
S24	10	S23 not S20	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:31
S25	69	S17 and power	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:33
S26	12	S25 and port	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:33

EAST Search History

S27	40	(car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file) with (cable or cord or wire or wired or wires)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:47
S28	6	S27 and (cable or cord or wire or wired or wires) with power	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:39
S29	34	S27 not S28	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:39
S30	471	((car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file)) and (cable or cord or wire or wired or wires)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 14:52
S31	83	S30 and (cable or cord or wire or wired or wires) with power	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:48
S32	219	S30 and (recharg$4 or charg$3)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:48
S33	64	S31 and (recharg$4 or charg$3)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 14:54
S34	3	S33 and ((car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file)). ab.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:49

EAST Search History

S35	61	S33 not S34	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:49
S36	58	S35 not (S4 or S21)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:49
S37	327	((car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file or music or cd adj player or compact adj2 player)) and ((cable or cord or wire or wired or wires) with power)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:15
S38	113	S37 and (recharg$4 or charg$3) with (power or battery)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:16
S39	47	S38 and (cable or cord or wire or wired or wires) with (recharg$4 or charg$3) with (power or battery)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:16
S40	3	S39 and ((car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file or music or cd adj player or compact adj2 player)).ab.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:17
S41	44	S39 not S40	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 14:56
S42	6	S41 and playlist$	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:14

EAST Search History

S43	38	S41 not S42	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 14:58
S44	66	S38 not S39	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:14
S45	2	S44 and playlist$	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:17
S46	64	S44 not S45	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:15
S47	1290	((car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file or music or cd adj player or compact adj2 player or audio)) and ((cable or cord or wire or wired or wires) with power)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:15
S48	95	S47 and (cable or cord or wire or wired or wires) with (recharg$4 or charg$3) with (power or battery)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:16
S49	48	S48 not S39	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:16
S50	112	S46 or S49	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:18

EAST Search History

S51	0	S49 and playlist$	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:17
S52	0	S49 and ((car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file or music or cd adj player or compact adj2 player)).ab.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:40
S53	2	S50 and ((car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file or music or cd adj player or compact adj2 player)).ab.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2007/02/21 16:14
S54	121	((car or vehicle or automobile) with (radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file or music or cd adj player or compact adj2 player)) and ((cable or cord or wire) with (power))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2007/02/21 16:34
S55	9	((car or vehicle or automobile) with (radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file or music or cd adj player or compact adj2 player)) with ((cable or cord or wire) with (power))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2007/02/21 16:34
S56	112	S54 not S55	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2007/02/21 16:34
S57	9	S56 and ((car or vehicle or automobile) with (radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file or music or cd adj player or compact adj2 player)).ab. and ((cable or cord or wire) with (power))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2007/02/21 16:38

EAST Search History

S58	1	S56 and ((car or vehicle or automobile) with (radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file or music or cd adj player or compact adj2 player)).clm. and ((cable or cord or wire) with (power)).clm.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2007/02/21 16:38
S59	8	S56 and ((car or vehicle or automobile) with (radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file or music or cd adj player or compact adj2 player)).clm. and ((cable or cord or wire) with (power))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2007/02/21 16:38
S60	8	S59 not S57	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2007/02/21 16:42
S61	95	S56 not (S57 or S59)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2007/02/21 16:42
S62	2	(("20030022703") or ("20010028717")).PN.	US-PGPUB	OR	OFF	2007/04/05 16:18
S63	2	(("6526335") or ("6563769")).PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2007/04/05 16:18
S64	22	((multimedia or mp3 or music or media adj player or audio adj file) with (receiv$3 or receiver or radio or stereo or sound adj system) with (broadcast$3 or transmit$4)) with ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or associated adj information or artist) with (display$3)) and (mp3 or digital adj audio adj file) and ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or artist or song or associated adj information) with display$3)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/05/22 15:38

EAST Search History

S65	98	((multimedia or mp3 or music or media adj player or audio adj file) with (receiv$3 or receiver or radio or stereo or sound adj system)) with ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or associated adj information or artist) with (display$3)) and (mp3 or digital adj audio adj file or audio adj file) and ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or artist or song or associated adj information) with display$3)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/10/31 19:45
S66	76	S65 not S64	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/05/22 15:39
S67	1	("20020023028").PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2007/05/22 16:29
S68	1	S67 and display$3	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2007/05/22 16:30
S69	2	(("7065342") or ("6694200")).PN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2007/10/31 18:08
S70	1	"6408332".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:23
S71	1	"6332175".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:26
S72	1	"5991727".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:26
S73	1	"5914941".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:26
S74	1	"5905632".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:27
S75	1	"5870710".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:27
S76	1	"5841979".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:29
S77	1	"5839108".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:30
S78	1	"5809520".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:30
S79	1	"5787399".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:31
S80	1	"5737491".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:31
S81	1	"5680293".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:32

EAST Search History

S82	1	"5557541".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:32
S83	1	"5511000".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:34
S84	1	"5491774".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:34
S85	1	"5490235".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:35
S86	1	"5359698".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:35
S87	1	"5195022".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:36
S88	1	"5155662".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:36
S89	1	"5195022".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:36
S90	1	"5220520".PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:37
S91	7	"6694200".uref.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2007/10/31 18:43
S92	2	(("6681120") or ("6278884")).PN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2007/10/31 18:43
S93	273	((multimedia or mp3 or music or media adj player or audio adj file) with (receiv$3 or receiver or radio or stereo or sound adj system or car or automobile)) with ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or associated adj information or artist) with (display$3)) and (mp3 or digital adj audio adj file or audio adj file or music) and ((text$3 adj information or metadata or title or artist or song or associated adj information) with display$3)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/10/31 19:47
S94	142	S93 and (multimedia or mp3 or music or media adj player or audio adj file). ab.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/10/31 19:47

CUSTOMER NO.
65550

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Russell W. White et al.		
Title:	System and Method for Connecting a Portable MP3 Player to an Automobile Sound System (AS AMENDED)		
App. No.:	10/947,755	Filed:	09/23/2004
Examiner:	GARY, Erika A.	Group Art Unit:	2617
Atty. Dkt No.:	111111.1111-2C	Confirmation No.:	1751

M/S AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION AND INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Dear Commissioner:

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed August 16, 2007, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application and allowance thereof. The Claims have not been amended in this Reply. Remarks begin on page 2.

REMARKS

Applicants thank Examiner Gary for meeting and discussing the Final Office Action mailed August 16, 2007. The interview was held on October 4, 2007, was in person, and involved Examiner Gary and Russell White. The interview discussion focused on the pending 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph rejection.

Agreement was reached during the interview in that Examiner Gary agreed that the Detailed Description does contain a written description of the claimed invention in terms that would enable a person skilled in the art to make and use the same. As such, Examiner Gary agreed to remove the §112 rejection and to issue a new action. The interview included discussions of the Detailed Description generally. Examples portions discussed include: Dial 412 of Fig. 4; the latter half of Para [0053]; Para [0054]; the first half of Para [0056]; the latter half of Para [0059]; the first half of Para [0060]; Para [0061]; and the first half of Para [0062].

CONCLUSION

The Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number in order to expedite resolution of any issues and to expedite passage of the present application to issue, if any comments, questions, or suggestions arise in connection with the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-3797.

Respectfully submitted,

/Russell W White/
Russell W. White; Reg. No. 45,691
(512) 439-7100 (phone)
(512) 439-7199 (fax)

October 9, 2007
Date

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	2293761
Application Number:	10947755
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	1751
Title of Invention:	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE AUDIO PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Russell W. White
Customer Number:	65550
Filer:	Russell W. White/Laura H. Andre
Filer Authorized By:	Russell W. White
Attorney Docket Number:	111111.1111-2C
Receipt Date:	09-OCT-2007
Filing Date:	23-SEP-2004
Time Stamp:	12:00:23
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes) /Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1		1111-2C_FINAL_OA_Reply.pdf	22993 93ba1bca51e54cc69877413d061a4138344b3191	yes	2

	Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description		
	Document Description	**Start**	**End**
	Amendment After Final	1	1
	Applicant Arguments/Remarks Made in an Amendment	2	2
Warnings:			
Information:			
	Total Files Size (in bytes):	22993	

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111
If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371
If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office
If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

PTO/SB/06 (12-04)
Approved for use through 7/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD
Substitute for Form PTO-875

Application or Docket Number: 10/947755

APPLICATION AS FILED – PART I

FOR	(Column 1) NUMBER FILED	(Column 2) NUMBER EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE ($)	SMALL ENTITY FEE ($)	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE ($)	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY FEE ($)
BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))							
SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (l), or (m))							
EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))							
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(i))	minus 20 =	*	X =		OR	X =	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	minus 3 =	*	X =			X =	
APPLICATION SIZE FEE (37 CFR 1.16(s))	If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is $250 ($125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).						
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))							
* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.			TOTAL			TOTAL	

APPLICATION AS AMENDED – PART II

AMENDMENT A — 10/9/07

	(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE ($)	SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE ($)	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE ($)	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	* 35	Minus	** 35	=	X =		OR	X =	
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	* 3	Minus	*** 5	=	X =		OR	X =	
Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))							OR		
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))					TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

AMENDMENT B

	(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)	OR	RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=	X =		OR	X =	
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=	X =		OR	X =	
Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))									
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							OR		
					TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.
** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".
*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".
The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.16. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2

Interview Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/947,755	WHITE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Erika A. Gary	2617	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) *Erika A. Gary*. (3)_____.

(2) *Russell White*. (4)_____.

Date of Interview: *04 October 2007*.

Type: a)☐ Telephonic b)☐ Video Conference
c)☒ Personal [copy given to: 1)☐ applicant 2)☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d)☐ Yes e)☒ No.
If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: *36,52 and 63*.

Identification of prior art discussed: *N/A*.

Agreement with respect to the claims f)☐ was reached. g)☐ was not reached. h)☒ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: *Applicant and Examiner discussed the previous 112 rejection. Applicant provided an explanation along with pertinent portions of the specification providing support for the written description requirement. The Examiner agreed that the 112 rejection should be withdrawn*.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

ERIKA A. GARY
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

Examiner's signature, if required

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/947,755	09/23/2004	Russell W. White	111111.1111-2C	1751

65550 7590 08/16/2007

AFFINITY LABS, LLC
10904 DOSWELL COVE
AUSTIN, TX 78739

EXAMINER	
GARY, ERIKA A	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2617	
MAIL DATE	**DELIVERY MODE**
08/16/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/947,755	WHITE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Erika A. Gary	2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 7/6/07.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) 36-70 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) 36-70 is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claims 36-70 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Independent claims 36, 52, and 63 disclose a portable electronic device displaying a graphical interface item comprising a name associated with an audio file wherein the portable electronic device is communicatively coupled to a different electronic device and the portable electronic device communicates a representation of the graphical interface item to the different electronic device for display on said different electronic device. This embodiment is not disclosed in the specification. The specification discloses a portable electronic device containing an audio file, wherein the portable electronic device is coupled to a different electronic device which can receive and play the audio file of the portable electronic device [paragraphs, 0049, 0066, 0091-0092]. There is no mention of transmitting the associated name information to the different electronic device and subsequently displaying the information on the different electronic device. Further, figure 4 and

paragraph 0056 of the specification teach a graphical user interface in relation to obtaining audio files via the Internet, but does not teach or suggest displaying a name associated with an audio file on both the portable electronic device and a different electronic device coupled to the portable electronic device.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed July 6, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant has pointed out some portions of the specification to try to justify the pending claims. However, the Examiner maintains that sufficient support is not found that supports the comprehensive embodiment of the independent claims. The specification discloses a portable electronic device displaying a graphical interface item, coupling the portable electronic device to another electronic device to play audio files stored on the portable electronic device on said another electronic device. The specification does not adequately teach or disclose communicating a representation of the graphical interface to said another electronic device for display, and wherein the graphical interface item comprises a name associated with an audio file. Further, the specification teaches that the electronic device can communicate with an automobile sound system and information is communicated from the electronic device to the automobile sound system *such that a user may listen to selected audio information* [paragraph 0092]. There is no teaching of transferring a graphical interface item to display on the automobile sound system. Paragraph 0062 teaches that the radio dial (graphical interface item) can be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device.

However, there is no teaching of communicating a portable electronic device's radio dial to another electronic device that is coupled to the portable electronic device.

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Erika A. Gary whose telephone number is 571-272-7841. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Appiah can be reached on 571-272-7904. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

EAG
August 14, 2007

ERIKA A. GARY
PRIMARY EXAMINER

CUSTOMER NO.
65550

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Russell W. White et al.		
Title:	System and Method for Connecting a Portable MP3 Player to an Automobile Sound System (AS AMENDED)		
App. No.:	10/947,755	Filed:	09/23/2004
Examiner:	GARY, Erika A.	Group Art Unit:	2617
Atty. Dkt No.:	111111.1111-2C	Confirmation No.:	1751

M/S AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Dear Commissioner:

In reply to the Non-Final Office Action mailed May 24, 2007, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application and the allowance thereof:

Claim Amendments begin on page 2.

Remarks begin at page 8.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile or electronically transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents on July 6, 2007.

Laura H. Andre — /laura h andre/
Typed or Printed Name — Signature

CLAIM LISTING

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-35 (Canceled)

36. (Previously presented) An audio system, comprising:

a portable electronic device having a display, a memory, and an audio file player;

a first portion of software saved at the portable electronic device and configured to initiate a displaying of a graphical interface item on the display, the graphical interface item comprising a name associated with an audio file saved in the memory;

a mounting location on the portable electronic device that includes a physical interface configured to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to a different electronic device having an associated display; and

an other portion of software saved at the portable electronic device and configured to communicate a representation of the graphical interface item to the different electronic device via the physical interface to facilitate a displaying of the representation on the associated display.

37. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, wherein the other portion of software is further configured to communicate a collection of information to the different electronic device via the physical interface such that a user can utilize the different electronic device to navigate through a plurality of audio files.

38. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, wherein the different electronic device is an automobile sound system component.

39. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, wherein the portable electronic device is a cellular telephone.

40. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, further comprising an automobile having a sound system, wherein the different electronic device is a component of the automobile sound system.

41. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, further comprising a wireless communication device configured to engage the physical interface and to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the different electronic device via a wireless signal.

42. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 41, wherein the wireless signal is communicated as a locally transmitted signal at a frequency between 88 and 108 MHz.

43. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, wherein the name is a playlist name.

44. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, wherein the name is a song title.

45. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, wherein the name is an artist name.

46. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, wherein the name is a user customized name identifying a playlist that comprises the audio file.

47. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, wherein the physical interface is further configured to couple the portable electronic device to the different electronic device such that a power supply of the different electronic device provides power to the portable electronic device.

48. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, wherein the graphical interface item is updateable by a user.

49. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 48, further comprising a software application configured to execute on a personal computer, wherein the software application is

configured to allow the user to update the graphical interface item of the portable electronic device.

50. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 36, wherein the portable electronic device is configured to communicate interface information to the different electronic device in order to allow the user to view at least a partial representation of a ~~GUI~~ graphical user interface that includes the graphical interface item on the associated display, wherein the ~~GUI~~ graphical user interface comprises a plurality of preprogrammed soft buttons that are linked to respective audio information sources.

51. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 36, wherein the other portion of software is further configured to communicate a collection of information to the different electronic device via the physical interface such that a user can utilize the different electronic device to select an audio file for playing.

52. (Previously presented) An audio system, comprising:

a portable electronic device that has a display, a memory, and a processor; and

software saved at the portable electronic device and configured to direct the portable electronic device to save an audio file in the memory, to associate the audio file with a name, to include the name in a graphical menu of available content, to present the name on the display of the portable electronic device, and to communicate a collection of information comprising the name to a different electronic device that has an associated display such that a user can interact with the different electronic device: (1) to navigate through a plurality of audio files; (2) to view at least a portion of the graphical menu on the associated display, wherein the portion comprises the name; and (3) to select an available audio file for processing.

53. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 52, wherein the portable electronic device is a cellular telephone.

54. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 52, further comprising the different electronic device, wherein the different electronic device is a home stereo component.

55. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 52, further comprising the different electronic device, wherein the different electronic device is an automobile stereo component.

56. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 52, wherein the portable electronic device is configured to communicate interface information to the different electronic device in order to allow the user to view the graphical menu in its entirety on the associated display.

57. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 56, wherein the graphical menu is a ~~GUI~~ graphical user interface that has a plurality of preprogrammed soft buttons that are linked to respective audio information sources.

58. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 52, further comprising a mounting location on the portable electronic device that includes a physical interface configured to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the different electronic device.

59. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 58, wherein the physical interface is configured to couple a power supply associated with the different electronic device to a local power supply of the portable electronic device.

60. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 52, wherein the software is embedded in the portable electronic device as firmware.

61. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 52, wherein the memory is flash memory.

62. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 52, further comprising:
a mounting location on the portable electronic device that includes a physical interface configured to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the different electronic device; and

a mount configured to communicatively couple to the different electronic device and to engage the physical interface.

63. (Currently amended) An audio system, comprising:

an automobile having a sound system that includes an electronic device with an associated display and a user interface mechanism;

a mount communicatively coupled to the electronic device and configured to engage a physical interface of a portable electronic device that has a display, a memory, a processor, and software saved at the portable electronic device and configured to direct the portable electronic device to save an audio file in the memory, to associate the audio file with a name, to include the name in a menu of available content, to present the name on the display of the portable electronic device, and to communicate a collection of information comprising the name to the electronic device such that a user can interact with the ~~different~~ electronic device: (1) to navigate through a plurality of audio files; (2) to view at least a partial representation of the menu on the associated display; and (3) to select an available audio file for processing; and

wherein the electronic device is configured to receive the collection of information and to present the partial representation of the menu on the associated display.

64. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 63, wherein the electronic device is configured to receive the collection of information and to present the name on the associated display by software embedded in the electronic device as firmware.

65. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 63, wherein the partial representation of the menu is presented on the associated display as a ~~GUI~~ graphical user interface that has a plurality of preprogrammed soft buttons that are linked to respective audio information sources.

66. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 65, wherein the associated display is a touch screen display and the touch screen display is the user interface mechanism.

67. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 66, wherein the user interface mechanism allows the user to navigate through a plurality of audio files saved in the memory and to select the audio file for processing.

68. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 63, wherein the user interface mechanism allows the user to navigate through the plurality of audio files and to select the available audio file for processing.

69. (New) The system of Claim 63, wherein the associated display and the user interface mechanism are integrated into a console of the automobile.

70. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 69, wherein a portion of the mount that is configured to engage the physical interface of the portable electronic device is not integrated into the console, further comprising a cable at least partially couples the portion of the mount that is configured to engage the physical interface of the portable electronic device and an other portion of the mount that is communicatively coupled to the electronic device.

REMARKS

Applicants thank Examiner Gary for the Non-final Office Action mailed May 24, 2007. Applicants have reviewed the Office Action and have corrected Claims 50, 57, 63, and 65. Applicants have also added a Claim 69 and respectfully offer the following remarks.

Objections

On Page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to Applicants' use of the acronym GUI in lieu of the actual words "graphical user interface." Applicants have amended Claims 50, 57, and 65 to replace "GUI" with "graphical user interface." Applicants respectfully request removal of the objection.

On Page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to Applicants' use of "the different electronic device" in Claim 63. Applicants have corrected Claim 63 as suggested in the Office Action to replace "the different electronic device" with "the electronic device." Applicants respectfully request removal of the objection.

On Page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner correctly notes that Applicants forgot to include Claim 69. Claim 69 has been added. Applicants respectfully request removal of the objection.

Rejections

On Pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects Claims 36-70 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph and states that the claims fail to comply with the written description requirement. Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse this rejection.

The Examiner suggests that the specification does not teach or suggest the existence of a graphical interface item that: (1) links a name to an audio file; and, (2) is communicated to and used by different devices. Applicants respectfully disagree. The Examiner also points out that the disclosed graphical user interface of Figure 4 and the description included in paragraph [0056] describe a GUI for obtaining audio files from the Internet. Applicants disagree slightly with the Examiner's characterization of Figure 4. While Figure 4 does illustrate a GUI 400 that

includes several graphical elements that may be used to assist a user in obtaining audio files from the Internet, at least two of the items included in Figure 4 deserve special attention – namely, radio dial 412 and program interface 413.

Radio dial 412 is one example of a relatively complex graphical interface. Other graphical interfaces may not need to be as complex. As mentioned in the specification quotes presented below, radio dial 412 includes user-defined names that are linked to available audio sources such as playlists of stored MP3 files. radio dial 412 was specifically described as a customizable user interface application that can be communicated to and used by several different types of electronic devices.

In one of the described embodiments, a user is allowed to access a web page (e.g., GUI 400). At the web page, the user is allowed to create and update a menu of named links (depicted as soft station buttons in radio dial 412). The menu is then sent as part of radio dial 412 to various electronic devices where radio dial 412 operates as a user interface for the various devices. In practice, communicating a radio dial-like interface application to different devices allows a user to interact with a somewhat familiar and consistent interface – no matter what device the user is then using to access available content. Please consider, for example, the following:

"[R]adio dial 412 surpasses the limitations of conventional systems through providing a programmable radio dial of user customized audio information. **Radio dial 412 includes several stations that may be programmed using program interface 413**. The preset stations may include several different types of user customized preset information such as user selected playlists … or other information associated with audio information." [0061]

Importantly, "**Radio dial 412 may also be displayed as a separate user interface** and in some embodiments does not require a browsing environment to view radio dial 412. For example, **an electronic device … having a display may graphically present radio dial 412 to a user. On example may be using electronic device in association with an automobile audio system**." [0062]

In practice, "a user can communicate selective information to several devices without having to download the information separately for each device." [0060]

In practice, "**Radio dial 412 may be operable as an application for use with several different types of electronic devices … operable to display radio dial 412** and in some embodiments may be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device." [0062]

While the particular embodiment described in the last quote mentions the use of wireless communications to send radio dial 412 from one device to another, the specification frequently mentions that communications between devices can occur wirelessly or via a cable. For example, the specification later mentions that "**information … may be wirelessly communicated** to the PDA device … **[or] communicated** to a PDA device **via a hard wire** coupled to a computer system" [0093].

Moreover, in the automobile-centric embodiment of Figure 9, a wireline connection is shown as the communication medium between two electronic devices – namely, a portable electronic device and an automobile sound system component. In Figure 9, "[e]lectronic device 907 may … communicate with the [car's sound] system via interface cable … 911." [0092]. As such, "information communicated to electronic device 907 may be transferred to [the car's sound] system 901 such that a user may listen to selected audio information." [0092]. As shown, the display of system 901 is not large enough to present an entire version of radio dial 412 and instead only presents a portion of the dial – namely, the user defined name 98.1.

Applicants submit that the above discussion, by itself, clearly illustrates that the specification supports the currently pending claims. With that said, there are additional passages that support the claims. While applicants consider the above quotes to be more than sufficient, applicants do not consider the above listing to be exhaustive.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the current 112 rejections and full allowance of all pending claims.

CONCLUSION

The Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number in order to expedite resolution of any issues and to expedite passage of the present application to issue, if any comments, questions, or suggestions arise in connection with the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-3797.

Respectfully submitted,

_/Russell W White/_____ __July 6, 2007_____
Russell W. White; Reg. No. 45,691 Date
LARSON NEWMAN ABEL POLANSKY & WHITE, LLP
5914 W. Courtyard Dr., Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78730
(512) 439-7100 (phone)
(512) 439-7199 (fax)

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	1947538
Application Number:	10947755
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	1751
Title of Invention:	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE AUDIO PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Russell W. White
Customer Number:	65550
Filer:	Russell W. White/Laura H. Andre
Filer Authorized By:	Russell W. White
Attorney Docket Number:	111111.1111-2C
Receipt Date:	06-JUL-2007
Filing Date:	23-SEP-2004
Time Stamp:	17:14:30
Application Type:	Utility

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1		1111-2C_NFOA_Reply.pdf	50958	yes	11

	Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description		
	Document Description	**Start**	**End**
	Amendment - After Non-Final Rejection	1	1
	Claims	2	7
	Applicant Arguments/Remarks Made in an Amendment	8	11
Warnings:			
Information:			
	Total Files Size (in bytes):	50958	

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111
If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371
If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office
If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

10/947,755

PTO/SB/06 (06-03)
Approved for use through 7/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD
Substitute for Form PTO-875

Application or Docket Number

CLAIMS AS FILED – PART I

FOR	(Column 1) NUMBER FILED	(Column 2) NUMBER EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE	SMALL ENTITY FEE	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY FEE
BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a))				385	OR		770
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(c))	minus 20 =	*	x $25.		OR	x $50.	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(b))	minus 3 =	*	x $100.		OR	x $200.	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(d))			+ $180.		OR	+ $360.	
			TOTAL		OR	TOTAL	

* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED – PART II

AMENDMENT A — 11/27/06

	(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE	SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE
Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	* 35	Minus	** 35	0	x $25		OR	x $50	
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	* 5	Minus	*** 5	0	x $100		OR	x $200	
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(d))					+ $180		OR	+ $360	
					TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

AMENDMENT B — 2/16/07

	(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE	OR	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	* 85	Minus	** 35	0	x $		OR	x $	
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	* 5	Minus	*** 5	0	x $		OR	x $	
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(d))					+ $		OR	+ $	
					TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

AMENDMENT C

	(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE	OR	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	* 35	Minus	** 35	0	x $		OR	x $	
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	* 3	Minus	*** 5	0	x $		OR	x $	
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(d))					+ $		OR	+ $	
					TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.
** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".
*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".
The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
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Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/947,755	09/23/2004	Russell W. White	111111.1111-2C	1751

65550 7590 05/24/2007

AFFINITY LABS, LLC
10904 DOSWELL COVE
AUSTIN, TX 78739

EXAMINER	
GARY, ERIKA A	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2617	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
05/24/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/947,755	WHITE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Erika A. Gary	2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *19 March 2007*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *36-70* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *36-70* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 50, 57, and 66 are objected to because of the following informalities: the acronym GUI should be spelled out in the claim before the use of the acronym. Appropriate correction is required.

2. Claim 63 is objected to because of the following informalities: "the different electronic device" should be "the electronic device". Appropriate correction is required.

3. Claim 69 is objected to because of the following informalities: the claim is missing. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

5. Claims 36-70 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Independent claims 36, 52, and 63 disclose a

portable electronic device displaying a graphical interface item comprising a name associated with an audio file wherein the portable electronic device is communicatively coupled to a different electronic device and the portable electronic device communicates a representation of the graphical interface item to the different electronic device for display on said different electronic device. This embodiment is not disclosed in the specification. The specification discloses a portable electronic device containing an audio file, wherein the portable electronic device is coupled to a different electronic device which can receive and play the audio file of the portable electronic device [paragraphs, 0049, 0066, 0091-0092]. There is no mention of transmitting the associated name information to the different electronic device and subsequently displaying the information on the different electronic device. Further, figure 4 and paragraph 0056 of the specification teach a graphical user interface in relation to obtaining audio files via the Internet, but does not teach or suggest displaying a name associated with an audio file on both the portable electronic device and a different electronic device coupled to the portable electronic device.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Erika A. Gary whose telephone number is 571-272-7841. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Appiah can be reached on 571-272-7904. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

EAG
May 22, 2007

ERIKA A. GARY
PRIMARY EXAMINER

PTO/SB/30EFS (08/06)
Approved for use through 08/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION(RCE)TRANSMITTAL
(Submitted Only via EFS-Web)

Application Number	10947755	Filing Date	2004-09-23	Docket Number (if applicable)	111111.1111-2C	Art Unit	2617
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White			Examiner Name	GARY, Erika A.		

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. The Instruction Sheet for this form is located at WWW.USPTO.GOV

SUBMISSION REQUIRED UNDER 37 CFR 1.114

Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

- ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- ☐ Other _____

☒ Enclosed

- ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- ☐ Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)
- ☐ Other _____

MISCELLANEOUS

☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of months _____ (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)

☐ Other _____

FEES

☒ **The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.**
The Director is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No 503797

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

☒ Patent Practitioner Signature

☐ Applicant Signature

Signature of Registered U.S. Patent Practitioner			
Signature	/russell w white/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2007-03-19
Name	Russell W. White	Registration Number	45691

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether the Freedom of Information Act requires disclosure of these record s.

2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.

3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.

4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).

5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).

7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.

8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspections or an issued patent.

9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

CUSTOMER NO.
34456

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Russell W. White et al.		
Title:	System and Method for Connecting a Portable MP3 Player to an Automobile Sound System (AS AMENDED)		
App. No.:	10/947,755	Filed:	09/23/2004
Examiner:	GARY, Erika A.	Group Art Unit:	2617
Atty. Dkt No.:	111111.1111-2C	Confirmation No.:	1751

M/S AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE AND SUBMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R § 1.114

Dear Commissioner:

Applicants hereby submit a Request for Continuing Examination and Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application and the allowance thereof:

Specification Amendments begin on page 2.

Claim Amendments begin on page 3.

Remarks begin at page 9.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically or facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents on 03-19-2007

Laura H. Andre
Typed or Printed Name

Signature

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Specification with the following replacement paragraphs:

[0001] This is a continuation application of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/537,812 filed on March 28, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 7,187,947, Issued March 6, 2007, the entirety of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0092] During operation, electronic device 907 may be mounted within interface 904. Electronic device 907 may also be powered or recharged via power line 910 and communicate with the systems audio system via interface cable or bus line 911. Audio information communicated to electronic device 907 may be transferred to audio system 901 such that a user may listen to selected audio information. For example, a user may have previously selected a plurality of audio files to be transmitted to electronic device 907. Electronic device 907~~905~~ may communicate the selected audio information to the automobiles audio system that utilizes interface 901 thereby allowing the user to listen to selected audio information. In one embodiment, cable 908 may be custom-installed to audio system 901. For example, the cable may be coupled to an auxiliary line for the system's radio or may be coupled to CD player line 912.

CLAIM LISTING

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-35 (Canceled)

36. (New) An audio system, comprising:

a portable electronic device having a display, a memory, and an audio file player;

a first portion of software saved at the portable electronic device and configured to initiate a displaying of a graphical interface item on the display, the graphical interface item comprising a name associated with an audio file saved in the memory;

a mounting location on the portable electronic device that includes a physical interface configured to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to a different electronic device having an associated display; and

an other portion of software saved at the portable electronic device and configured to communicate a representation of the graphical interface item to the different electronic device via the physical interface to facilitate a displaying of the representation on the associated display.

37. (New) The system of Claim 36, wherein the other portion of software is further configured to communicate a collection of information to the different electronic device via the physical interface such that a user can utilize the different electronic device to navigate through a plurality of audio files.

38. (New) The system of Claim 36, wherein the different electronic device is an automobile sound system component.

39. (New) The system of Claim 36, wherein the portable electronic device is a cellular telephone.

40. (New) The system of Claim 36, further comprising an automobile having a sound system, wherein the different electronic device is a component of the automobile sound system.

41. (New) The system of Claim 36, further comprising a wireless communication device configured to engage the physical interface and to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the different electronic device via a wireless signal.

42. (New) The system of Claim 41, wherein the wireless signal is communicated as a locally transmitted signal at a frequency between 88 and 108 MHz.

43. (New) The system of Claim 36, wherein the name is a playlist name.

44. (New) The system of Claim 36, wherein the name is a song title.

45. (New) The system of Claim 36, wherein the name is an artist name.

46. (New) The system of Claim 36, wherein the name is a user customized name identifying a playlist that comprises the audio file.

47. (New) The system of Claim 36, wherein the physical interface is further configured to couple the portable electronic device to the different electronic device such that a power supply of the different electronic device provides power to the portable electronic device.

48. (New) The system of Claim 36, wherein the graphical interface item is updateable by a user.

49. (New) The system of Claim 48, further comprising a software application configured to execute on a personal computer, wherein the software application is configured to allow the user to update the graphical interface item of the portable electronic device.

50. (New) The system of Claim 36, wherein the portable electronic device is configured to communicate interface information to the different electronic device in order to allow the user to view at least a partial representation of a GUI that includes the graphical interface

item on the associated display, wherein the GUI comprises a plurality of preprogrammed soft buttons that are linked to respective audio information sources.

51. (New) The system of Claim 36, wherein the other portion of software is further configured to communicate a collection of information to the different electronic device via the physical interface such that a user can utilize the different electronic device to select an audio file for playing.

52. (New) An audio system, comprising:

a portable electronic device that has a display, a memory, and a processor; and

software saved at the portable electronic device and configured to direct the portable electronic device to save an audio file in the memory, to associate the audio file with a name, to include the name in a graphical menu of available content, to present the name on the display of the portable electronic device, and to communicate a collection of information comprising the name to a different electronic device that has an associated display such that a user can interact with the different electronic device: (1) to navigate through a plurality of audio files; (2) to view at least a portion of the graphical menu on the associated display, wherein the portion comprises the name; and (3) to select an available audio file for processing.

53. (New) The system of Claim 52, wherein the portable electronic device is a cellular telephone.

54. (New) The system of Claim 52, further comprising the different electronic device, wherein the different electronic device is a home stereo component.

55. (New) The system of Claim 52, further comprising the different electronic device, wherein the different electronic device is an automobile stereo component.

56. (New) The system of Claim 52, wherein the portable electronic device is configured to communicate interface information to the different electronic device in order to allow the user to view the graphical menu in its entirety on the associated display.

57. (New) The system of Claim 56, wherein the graphical menu is a GUI that has a plurality of preprogrammed soft buttons that are linked to respective audio information sources.

58. (New) The system of Claim 52, further comprising a mounting location on the portable electronic device that includes a physical interface configured to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the different electronic device.

59. (New) The system of Claim 58, wherein the physical interface is configured to couple a power supply associated with the different electronic device to a local power supply of the portable electronic device.

60. (New) The system of Claim 52, wherein the software is embedded in the portable electronic device as firmware.

61. (New) The system of Claim 52, wherein the memory is flash memory.

62. (New) The system of Claim 52, further comprising:

a mounting location on the portable electronic device that includes a physical interface configured to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the different electronic device; and

a mount configured to communicatively couple to the different electronic device and to engage the physical interface.

63. (New) An audio system, comprising:

an automobile having a sound system that includes an electronic device with an associated display and a user interface mechanism;

a mount communicatively coupled to the electronic device and configured to engage a physical interface of a portable electronic device that has a display, a memory, a

processor, and software saved at the portable electronic device and configured to direct the portable electronic device to save an audio file in the memory, to associate the audio file with a name, to include the name in a menu of available content, to present the name on the display of the portable electronic device, and to communicate a collection of information comprising the name to the electronic device such that a user can interact with the different electronic device: (1) to navigate through a plurality of audio files; (2) to view at least a partial representation of the menu on the associated display; and (3) to select an available audio file for processing; and

wherein the electronic device is configured to receive the collection of information and to present the partial representation of the menu on the associated display.

64. (New) The system of Claim 63, wherein the electronic device is configured to receive the collection of information and to present the name on the associated display by software embedded in the electronic device as firmware.

65. (New) The system of Claim 63, wherein the partial representation of the menu is presented on the associated display as a GUI that has a plurality of preprogrammed soft buttons that are linked to respective audio information sources.

66. (New) The system of Claim 65, wherein the associated display is a touch screen display and the touch screen display is the user interface mechanism.

67. (New) The system of Claim 66, wherein the user interface mechanism allows the user to navigate through a plurality of audio files saved in the memory and to select the audio file for processing.

68. (New) The system of Claim 63, wherein the user interface mechanism allows the user to navigate through the plurality of audio files and to select the available audio file for processing.

70. (New) The system of Claim 69, wherein a portion of the mount that is configured to engage the physical interface of the portable electronic device is not integrated into the console, further comprising a cable at least partially couples the portion of the mount that is configured to engage the physical interface of the portable electronic device and an other portion of the mount that is communicatively coupled to the electronic device.

REMARKS

The Final Office Action mailed February 27, 2007 has been received and considered. In this Request for Continuing Examination, claims 1-35 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 36-70 have been added. Support for the new claims can be found in the specification of the parent application (U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/537,812 filed March 28, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 7,187,947, Issued March 6, 2007), from which this application claims priority.

New Claims

To advance prosecution of this case, claims 1-35 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. In addition, each of newly added claims 36-70 recite elements not disclosed or suggested by any of the cited references.

For example, claim 36 recites a portable electronic device that has a memory and a display and is "configured to initiate a displaying of a graphical interface item on the display, the graphical interface item comprising a name associated with an audio file saved in the memory." Claim 36 also recites "software saved at the portable electronic device and configured to communicate a representation of the graphical interface item to the different electronic device via the physical interface to facilitate a displaying of the representation on the associated display [of a different electronic device]."

In practice, a graphical interface item (which could be, for example, Radio dial 412 of Fig. 4) includes a name that is associated with a given audio file. The graphical interface item can be viewed on the display of a first electronic device (e.g., the portable electronic device). And, at least some part of the graphical interface item can be viewed on a display of a different electronic device (e.g., a car stereo). As explained in the Specification, providing a graphical interface of music choices that can be shown on displays of several different types of electronic devices allows a user to be familiar with and to comfortably navigate through and select songs from the different types of devices – even in an automobile environment. Moreover, as claimed in pending claim 50, elements of a given graphical interface may be "preprogrammable" – allowing the user to customize the display that appears on various electronic devices.

This limitation, and others as well, are missing from the cited art. For example, in the earlier Actions, the Examiner considered the laptop-like device of Looney (e.g., unit 700 of Figs. 18 and 19) to be the portable electronic device. The Looney system requires a user to interact with the laptop-like device (e.g., keyboard 704 or microphone 766, which are both integrated into the laptop-like device) and to use the laptop-like device's screen (e.g., display 702) to navigate through files, to view names, and to select an audio file for processing. There is no suggestion that the graphical user screens of Looney or any portions of those screens are to be shared by two different kinds of devices.

In light of the above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and reconsideration of the claims.

Previous Objections & Rejections

In the Final Office Action mailed February 27, 2007, the Office Objected to informalities in the specification. These informalities have been addressed above. Applicants believe the objection has been overcome and respectfully request its removal.

In the Final Office Action mailed February 27, 2007, the Office rejected claims 1-35 based on Looney (U.S. Patent No. 6,232,539), Sorscher (U.S. Patent No. 4,807,292), and several instances of Official Notice. The Office took Official Notice that: (1) "it is well known in the art to connect accessory devices to this port," (2) "it is well known in the art for cellular telephones to include music playback functionality and for cellular telephones to be connected to an automobile sound system," and, (3) "pausing the playing of audio content and outputting audio information represented by a received incoming cellular signal ... is well known in the art."

Applicants respectfully traverse each of the rejections included in the February 27, 2007 Action. Applicants also object to each and every taking of Official Notice included in the February 27, 2007 Action. If the Examiner elects to reassert a rejection that would include a taking of Official Notice similar to the ones described above, Applicants request that the Examiner either produce a reference with a clear suggestion to combine the reference or allow the claim. In light of the new claims and the canceling of the old claims, Applicants respectfully

assert that the earlier rejections are moot and that the claims are allowable over the earlier cited art.

CONCLUSION

The Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number in order to expedite resolution of any issues and to expedite passage of the present application to issue, if any comments, questions, or suggestions arise in connection with the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-3797.

Respectfully submitted,

/Russell W White/ March 19, 2007

Russell W. White; Reg. No. 45,691 Date
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Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal

Application Number:	10947755
Filing Date:	23-Sep-2004
Title of Invention:	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE AUDIO PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Russell W. White
Filer:	Russell W. White/Laura Andre
Attorney Docket Number:	111111.1111-2C
Filed as Small Entity	

Utility Filing Fees

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Basic Filing:				
Pages:				
Claims:				
Claims in excess of 20	2202	26	25	650
Miscellaneous-Filing:				
Petition:				
Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:				
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:				
Extension-of-Time:				

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Miscellaneous:				
Request for continued examination	2801	1	395	395
		Total in USD ($)		**1045**

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt	
EFS ID:	1602884
Application Number:	10947755
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	1751
Title of Invention:	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE AUDIO PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Russell W. White
Customer Number:	65550
Filer:	Russell W. White/Laura Andre
Filer Authorized By:	Russell W. White
Attorney Docket Number:	111111.1111-2C
Receipt Date:	19-MAR-2007
Filing Date:	23-SEP-2004
Time Stamp:	16:18:09
Application Type:	Utility

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment was successfully received in RAM	$1045
RAM confirmation Number	491
Deposit Account	503797
The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows: Charge any Additional Fees required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.16 and 1.17	

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	1111-2C_RCE.pdf	641970	no	3
Warnings:					
Information:					
2		1111-2C_Amendment.pdf	823215	yes	11
	Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description				
	Document Description		**Start**	**End**	
	Amendment After Final		1	1	
	Specification		2	2	
	Claims		3	8	
	Applicant Arguments/Remarks Made in an Amendment		9	11	
Warnings:					
Information:					
3	Fee Worksheet (PTO-06)	fee-info.pdf	8348	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
		Total Files Size (in bytes):	1473533		

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111
If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371
If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office
If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

10/944755

PTO/SB/06 (08-03)
Approved for use through 7/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD

Substitute for Form PTO-875

Application or Docket Number [redacted]

CLAIMS AS FILED – PART I

	(Column 1)	(Column 2)	SMALL ENTITY		OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
FOR	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	FEE		RATE	FEE
BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a))				$385.00	OR		$770.00
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(c))	minus 20 = *	*	x $25. =		OR	x $50. =	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(b))	minus 3 = *	*	x $100. =		OR	x $200. =	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(d))			+$180. =		OR	+$360. =	
			TOTAL		OR	TOTAL	

* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED – PART II

AMENDMENT A — 11/27/06

	(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE	SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE
Total (37 CFR 1.16(c))	* 35	Minus	** 35	*	x $25 =		OR	x $50 =	
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(b))	* 5	Minus	*** 5	*	x $100 =		OR	x $200 =	
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(d))					+$180 =		OR	+$360 =	
					TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

AMENDMENT B — 2/15/07

	(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE	OR	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
Total (37 CFR 1.16(c))	* 35	Minus	** 35	*	x $ =		OR	x $ =	
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(b))	* 5	Minus	*** 5	*	x $ =		OR	x $ =	
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(d))					+$ =		OR	+$ =	
					TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

AMENDMENT C

	(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE	OR	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
Total (37 CFR 1.16(c))	*	Minus	**	*	x $ =		OR	x $ =	
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(b))	*	Minus	***	*	x $ =		OR	x $ =	
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(d))					+$ =		OR	+$ =	
					TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.
** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".
*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".
The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/947,755	09/23/2004	Russell W. White	111111.1111-2C	1751

65550 7590 02/27/2007

AFFINITY LABS, LLC
10904 DOSWELL COVE
AUSTIN, TX 78739

EXAMINER	
GARY, ERIKA A	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2617	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/27/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/947,755	WHITE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Erika A. Gary	2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *11/27/06*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-35* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-35* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: in paragraph 0092, "Electronic device 905" should be "Electronic device 907".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-10, 12-18, 21-28, and 30-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Looney et al., US Patent Number 6,232,539 (hereinafter Looney).

Regarding claims 1, 12, 13, 15, 17, 24, 30, and 31, Looney discloses an audio system comprising: a portable electronic device having a display, a memory, an audio file player, and a housing component a least partially defining a cavity in which the memory and the audio file player are secured, the portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system; a playlist engine operable to maintain a first playlist and a second playlist, wherein the first playlist is operable to include a selection of audio content having a corresponding audio file saved in the memory; an automobile having an automobile sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash sound

system component operable to be coupled to the portable electronic device via a cable; the in dash sound system component comprising a selector operable to allow a user to select the first playlist for outputting via the speaker; and the cable being communicatively coupled between the portable electronic device and the in dash sound system, wherein the cable is coupled to each of the portable electronic device and the in dash sound system at a single interconnection point, and wherein the cable includes a conductive element for providing power to the portable electronic device, the cable further operable to charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device [col. 2: lines 6-61; col. 4: lines 35-44; col. 5: lines 12-41; col. 6: lines 42-45; col. 9: lines 16-17; col. 13: lines 7-46].

Regarding claims 2, 4, 14, 16, and 32, Looney discloses the portable electronic device is an MP3 player and the cable communicates a processed digital representation of the selection of audio content to the in dash sound system component [col. 6: lines 42-46].

Regarding claims 3, 25, 28, and 33-35, Looney discloses the initiating playing of playlist in response to detecting the selection of a button selector wherein the button selector is a virtual button, comprising a graphical user interface element presented on a touch screen that is removable from the automobile sound system [col. 2: lines 21-25; col. 9: lines 57-63].

Regarding clams 5, 6, and 26, Looney discloses a second selector operable to allow the user to select the second playlist for outputting via the speaker, wherein the second selector is a second button [col. 10: lines 19-28].

Regarding claims 7 and 21, Looney discloses a playlist generator to generate the first playlist to be presented by the in dash sound system component [col. 9: lines 57-63].

Regarding claim 8, Looney discloses the in dash sound system component is fixed in a first location and the cable is routed to allow the portable electronic device to be located in a different location [col. 13: lines 15-19].

Regarding claims 9 and 10, Looney disclose the single interconnection point in each of the portable electronic device and the in dash sound system is a port [col. 13: lines 7-29].

Regarding claim 18, Looney discloses installing the cable at a rear portion of the automobile sound system component [fig. 22].

Regarding claim 22, Looney discloses the information is selected from a group consisting of a playlist name, a playlist number, a song title, a song genre, and a performing artist [col. 2: lines 18-20].

Regarding claim 23, Looney discloses a graphical representation of the information to the user [col. 2: lines 21-22].

4. Claims 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sorscher, US Patent Number 4,807,292 (hereinafter Sorscher).

Regarding claims 12-16, Sorscher discloses an audio system comprising: a portable 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, the portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system; a device interface system that comprises a sound system connector and a device connector; the sound system connector operable to communicatively couple the device interface system to a sound system at a single interconnection point in the sound system; and the device connector operable to releasably engage the portable electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the portable electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the portable electronic device, the device connector further operable to connect a power source to recharge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device [fig. 3; col. 1: lines 23-26; col. 2: lines 10-36]. Sorscher also discloses an automobile sound system comprising a speaker and an in dash sound system, wherein the sound system comprises a portable radio. Sorscher further discloses a cable operable to provide power to the portable electronic device. Sorscher also discloses the audio content is a streaming audio format [col. 1: lines 23-26; col. 2: lines 10-36].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 11, 19, 20, and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Looney.

Regarding claims 11 and 20, Looney does not specifically disclose that the port is a compact disk player interconnect point. However, the Examiner takes Official Notice that it is well known in the art to connect accessory devices to this port. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Looney to include this feature. The motivation would have been to specifically point out the type of port used. The specific port type, however, lacks criticality to the overall function of the invention.

Regarding claim 19, Looney does not specifically disclose that the portable electronic device is a cellular telephone. However, the Examiner takes Official Notice that it is well known in the art for cellular telephones to include music playback functionality and for cellular phones to be connected to an automobile sound system.

Regarding claim 29, Looney does not specifically disclose pausing the playing of audio content and outputting audio information represented by a received incoming cellular signal. However, the Examiner takes Official Notice that this feature is well known in the art. The motivation for this modification would have been to discontinue music output to inform a user of an incoming call through the automobile sound system.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed 11/27/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that Looney does not teach the cable coupling the

portable electronic device and the in dash sound system at a single connection point. However, the Examiner disagrees as Looney teaches that the cable (wires 764) connect the portable electronic device (display) with a power source that can be part of the main audio system. Also, figures 21 and 22 show the wires 764 as one cable. It is inherent in the art that a cable includes more than one wire inside. Applicant also argues that Looney does not teach a button selector operably coupled to the automobile sound system. However, the Examiner disagrees, as it is inherent for an automobile sound system to include buttons to allow control of music playback (i.e. volume button, on/off button, etc.). Further, the button selector is "operably coupled" to the automobile sound system. Therefore, the button can be interpreted as the button on the portable electronic device. Further, claims 25, 34 and 35 allude to the button being on the portable electronic device and not on the actual in dash sound system.

Regarding Sorscher, Applicant argues that the reference does not teach coupling the portable electronic device and the in dash sound system at a single connection point. However, the Examiner disagrees and Sorscher teaches this in figure 3, references 42 and 44 and column, lines 10-36].

Conclusion

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Erika A. Gary whose telephone number is 571-272-7841. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Appiah can be reached on 571-272-7904. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

EAG
February 21, 2007

ERIKA A. GARY
PRIMARY EXAMINER

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 3

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2617
Examiner Name	GARY, Erika A.
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Document Number Number-Kind Code[2] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
EG	B1	US- 2005/0054379	03/10/05	Cao et al.	
	B2	US- 2004/0078274	04/22/04	Aarnio, Ari	
	B3	US- 2002/0046084	04/18/02	Steele et al.	
	B4	US- 6,975,835	12/13/05	Lake et al.	
	B5	US- 6,956,833	10/18/05	Yukie et al.	
	B6	US- 6,915,272	07/05/05	Zilliacus et al.	
	B7	US- 6,907,112	06/14/05	Guedalia et al.	
	B8	US- 6,792,615	09/14/04	Rowe et al.	
	B9	US- 6,741,980	05/25/04	Langseth et al.	
	B10	US- 6,721,710	04/13/04	Lueck, Charles D.	
	B11	US- 6,671,715	12/30/03	Langseth et al.	
	B12	US- 6,526,335	02/25/03	Treyz et al.	
	B13	US- 6,516,466	02/04/03	Jackson, Vincent C.	
	B14	US- 6,496,205	12/17/02	White et al.	
	B15	US- 6,418,138	07/09/02	Cerf et al.	
	B16	US- 6,407,750	06/18/02	Gioscia et al.	
	B17	US- 6,401,085	06/04/02	Gershman et al.	
	B18	US- 6,339,706	01/15/02	Tillgren et al.	
EG	B19	US- 6,314,094	11/06/01	Boys, Donald	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Foreign Patent Document Country Code[3]-Number[4]-Kind Code[5] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T[6]
	B21					
	B22					
	B23					
	B24					
	B25					
	B26					

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	2/21/07

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. [1] Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). [2] See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. [3] Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). [4] For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. [5] Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. [6] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2 of 3

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2617
Examiner Name	GARY, Erika A.
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Document Number Number-Kind Code[2] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
EG	B27	US- 6,247,130	06/12/01	Fritsch, Bernhard	
	B28	US- 6,236,832	05/22/01	Ito, Seigo	
	B29	US- 6,199,076	03/06/01	Logan et al.	
	B30	US- 6,167,253	12/26/00	Farris et al.	
	B31	US- 6,144,848	11/07/00	Walsh et al.	
	B32	US- 6,088,730	07/11/00	Kato et al.	
	B33	US- 6,029,064	02/22/00	Farris et al.	
	B34	US- 6,014,569	01/11/00	Bottum, Joshua	
	B35	US- 5,953,005	09/14/99	Liu, James C.	
	B36	US- 5,900,564	05/04/99	Kurakake, Yasushi	
	B37	US- 5,694,120	12/02/97	Indekeu et al.	
EG	B38	US- 5,594,779	01/14/97	Goodman, William	
	B39	US-			
	B40	US-			
	B41	US-			
	B42	US-			
	B43	US-			
	B44	US-			
	B45	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Foreign Patent Document Country Code[3]-Number[4]-Kind Code[5] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T[6]
	B46					
	B47					
	B48					
	B49					
	B50					
	B51					

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	2/21/07

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(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 3 of 3

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2617
Examiner Name	GARY, Erika A.
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T[2]
EG	1-B	U.S. Patent No. 60/167,179, filed 11/23/1999	
EG	2-B	U.S. Patent No. 09/234,259, filed 01/20/1999	
	3-B		
	4-B		
	5-B		
	6-B		
	7-B		
	8-B		
	9-B		
	10-B		

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
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	First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
	Art Unit	2617
	Examiner Name	GARY, Erika A.
	Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

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Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Patent Number	Kind Code[1]	Issue Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
EH	1	6509716		2003-01-21	Yi, Sang	

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	1	6509716		2003-01-21	Yi, Sang	
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	Art Unit	2617
	Examiner Name	GARY, Erika A.
	Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Please see 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 to make the appropriate selection(s):

☐ That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

OR

☒ That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

☐ See attached certification statement.

☐ Fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17 (p) has been submitted herewith.

☒ None

SIGNATURE

A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with CFR 1.33, 10.18. Please see CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.

Signature	/russell w white/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2007-01-23
Name/Print	Russell W. White	Registration Number	45691

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The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

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EFS ID:	1458957
Application Number:	10947755
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	1751
Title of Invention:	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE AUDIO PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Russell W. White
Customer Number:	65550
Filer:	Russell W. White/Laura Andre
Filer Authorized By:	Russell W. White
Attorney Docket Number:	111111.1111-2C
Receipt Date:	23-JAN-2007
Filing Date:	23-SEP-2004
Time Stamp:	15:46:52
Application Type:	Utility

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File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Filed	111111-1111-2C_SB08A.pdf	771926	no	4
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DATE	December 20, 2006	FAX NO.	(713) 229-2707
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TO	Examiner Erika A. Gary U.S. Patent and Trademark Office	FAX NO. VOICE NO.	(571) 273-8300 (571) 272-7841

MESSAGE

Please direct this facsimile to patent examiner Examiner Erika A. Gary in Art Unit 2617. This facsimile concerns the following patent application:

Serial No.	10/947,755
Applicant:	Russell W. White, et al.
Filed:	September 23, 2004
Invention:	System and Method for Connecting a Portable Audio Player to an Automobile Sound System

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Date

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In re patent application of:	§	
	§	
Russell W. White, et al.	§	
	§	
Serial No.: 10/947,755	§	Group No.: 2617
	§	
Filed: September 23, 2004	§	Examiner: Gary, Erika A.
	§	
For: System and Method for Connecting a Portable Audio Player to an Automobile Sound System	§	

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants respectfully request, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, that the art listed on the attached PTO-1449 form be considered and cited in the examination of the above-identified application. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97(g) and (h), no representation is made that these references are material to the patentability of the present application. In accordance with the guidance provided in 1276 Off. Gaz. Pat. Off. 55, copies of the U.S. patents identified in the attached PTO-1449 are not included herewith.

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being submitted before the mailing of the earliest of a notice of allowance or a final office action. Applicants

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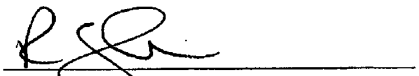
hereby authorize and instruct the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to charge Deposit Account No. 02-0383 (matter 111111.1111-2C) in the amount of $180.00 for the filing of this information disclosure statement. Applicants hereby authorize and instruct the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to charge Deposit Account No. 02-0383 (matter 111111.1111-2C) for any additional charges necessary for the filing of this response.

Respectfully submitted,



Roger Fulghum
Registration No. 39,678

Baker Botts L.L.P.
One Shell Plaza
910 Louisiana
Houston, TX 77002-4995
(713) 229-1707

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	B1	US- 2005/0054379	03/10/05	Cao et al.	
	B2	US- 2004/0078274	04/22/04	Aarnio, Ari	
	B3	US- 2002/0046084	04/18/02	Steele et al.	
	B4	US- 6,975,835	12/13/05	Lake et al.	
	B5	US- 6,956,833	10/18/05	Yukie et al.	
	B6	US- 6,915,272	07/05/05	Zilliacus et al.	
	B7	US- 6,907,112	06/14/05	Guedalia et al.	
	B8	US- 6,792,615	09/14/04	Rowe et al.	
	B9	US- 6,741,980	05/25/04	Langseth et al.	
	B10	US- 6,721,710	04/13/04	Lueck, Charles D.	
	B11	US- 6,671,715	12/30/03	Langseth et al.	
	B12	US- 6,526,335	02/25/03	Treyz et al.	
	B13	US- 6,516,466	02/04/03	Jackson,Vincent C.	
	B14	US- 6,496,205	12/17/02	White et al.	
	B15	US- 6,418,138	07/09/02	Cerf et al.	
	B16	US- 6,407,750	06/18/02	Gioscia et al.	
	B17	US- 6,401,085	06/04/02	Gershman et al.	
	B18	US- 6,339,706	01/15/02	Tillgren et al.	
	B19	US- 6,314,094	11/06/01	Boys, Donald	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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	B25					
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	B28	US- 6,236,832	05/22/01	Ito, Seigo	
	B29	US- 6,199,076	03/06/01	Logan et al.	
	B30	US- 6,167,253	12/26/00	Farris et al.	
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	B42	US-			
	B43	US-			
	B44	US-			
	B45	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Foreign Patent Document Country Code[3]-Number[4]-Kind Code[5] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T[6]
	B46					
	B47					
	B48					
	B49					
	B50					
	B51					

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 3 of 3

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2617
Examiner Name	GARY, Erika A.
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T[2]
	1-B	U.S. Patent No. 60/167,179, filed 11/23/1999	
	2-B	U.S. Patent No. 09/234,259, filed 01/20/1999	
	3-B		
	4-B		
	5-B		
	6-B		
	7-B		
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	9-B		
	10-B		

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1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.
This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: **Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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10/947755

PTO/SB/06 (06-03)
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PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD
Substitute for Form PTO-875

Application or Docket Number

CLAIMS AS FILED – PART I

FOR	(Column 1) NUMBER FILED	(Column 2) NUMBER EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE	SMALL ENTITY FEE	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY FEE
BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a))				$385.00	OR		$770.00
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(c))	minus 20 =	*	x $25 =		OR	x $50 =	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(b))	minus 3 =	*	x $100 =		OR	x $200 =	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(d))			+$180 =		OR	+$360 =	
* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.			TOTAL		OR	TOTAL	

CLAIMS AS AMENDED – PART II

		(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE	SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE
AMENDMENT A	11/27/06									
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(c))	* 35	Minus	** 35	=	x $25 =		OR	x $50 =	
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(b))	* 5	Minus	*** 5	=	x $100 =		OR	x $200 =	
	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(d))					+$180 =		OR	+$360 =	
						TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	
AMENDMENT B										
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(c))	*	Minus	**	=	x $____ =		OR	x $____ =	
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(b))	*	Minus	***	=	x $____ =		OR	x $____ =	
	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(d))					+$____ =		OR	+$____ =	
						TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	
AMENDMENT C										
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(c))	*	Minus	**	=	x $____ =		OR	x $____ =	
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(b))	*	Minus	***	=	x $____ =		OR	x $____ =	
	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(d))					+$____ =		OR	+$____ =	
						TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.
** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".
*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".
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DATE	November 27, 2006	FAX NO.	(713) 229-2707
PAGES	20 (including cover)	RETURN TO	Roger Fulghum
TO	Examiner Erika A. Gary U.S. Patent and Trademark Office	FAX NO. VOICE NO.	(571) 273-8300 (571) 272-7857

MESSAGE

Please direct this facsimile to patent examiner Examiner Erika A. Gary in Art Unit 2674. This facsimile concerns the following patent application:

Serial No.	10/947,755
Applicant:	Russell W. White, et al.
Filed:	September 23, 2004
Invention:	System and Method for Connecting a Portable Audio Player to an Automobile Sound System

If you do not receive all pages, please call: 713.229.1730 or 713.229.1621 for assistance.

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Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.6(d) and 1.8, I hereby certify that I have information and a reasonable basis for belief that this correspondence will be transmitted by facsimile to telephone number (571) 273-8300 on November 27, 2006.

Signature

11-27-06
Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:	§	
	§	
Russell W. White, et al.	§	
	§	
Application No.: 10/947,755	§	Group No. 2674
	§	
Filed: September 23, 2004	§	Examiner: Erika A. Gary
	§	
For: System and Method for Connecting a Portable Audio Player to an Automobile Sound System	§	

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED MARCH 17, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In response to the Office Action mailed June 26, 2006, Applicants submit this response and respectfully request reconsideration of the examiner's objections and rejections.

Petition for Extension of Time

Applicants petition for a two-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 up to and including November 27, 2006. Applicants note that November 26, 2006 was a Sunday and that November 27, 2006 is the first business day following November 26, 2006. Applicants

hereby authorize and instruct the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to charge Deposit Account No. 02-0383 (matter 111111.1111-2C) in the amount of $225.00 for the two month extension of time necessary for the filing of this response. Applicants hereby authorize and instruct the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to charge Deposit Account No. 02-0383 (matter 111111.1111-2C) for any additional charges necessary for the filing of this response.

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Amendments to the Claims

A complete list of claims follows, with indicated amendments:

1. (Currently Amended) An audio system, comprising:

a portable 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, the portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system;

a playlist engine operable to maintain a first playlist and a second playlist, wherein the first playlist is operable to include a selection of audio content having a corresponding audio file saved in the memory;

an automobile having an automobile sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash sound system component operable to be coupled to the portable electronic device via a cable;

the in dash sound system component comprising a selector operable to allow a user to select the first playlist for outputting via the speaker; and

the cable being communicatively coupled between the portable electronic device and the in dash sound system, wherein the cable is coupled to each of the portable electronic device and in dash sound system at a single interconnection point, and wherein the cable includes a conductive element for providing power to the portable electronic device ~~having at least one conductive element operable to provide power and charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device, the cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system~~.

2. (Previously Amended) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the portable electronic device is a portable MP3 player and the cable communicates a processed digital representation of the selection of audio content to the in dash sound system component.

3. (Original) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the selector comprises a button.

4. (Previously Amended) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the audio file player is an MP3 player.

5. (Original) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the in dash sound system component further comprises a second selector operable to allow the user to select the second playlist for outputting via the speaker.

6. (Previously Amended) The audio system of claim 5, wherein the selector is a first button and the second selector is a second button.

7. (Original) The audio system of claim 1, further comprising a playlist generator to generate the first playlist to be presented by the in dash sound system component.

8. (Previously Amended) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the in dash sound system component is fixed in a first location and the cable is routed to allow the portable electronic device to be located in a different location.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the single interconnection point in each of the portable electronic device and the in dash sound system is ~~cable plugs into the in dash sound system component at~~ a port.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the port is located behind an automobile dashboard.

11. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the port is a compact disk player interconnect point of the in dash sound system component.

12. (Currently Amended) An audio system, comprising:

a portable 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, the portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system;

a device interface system that comprises a sound system connector and a device connector;

the sound system connector operable to communicatively couple the device interface system to a sound system at a single interconnection point in the sound system; and

the device connector operable to releasably engage the portable electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the portable electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the portable electronic device, the device connector further operable to connect a power source to recharge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device.

13. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 12, further comprising an automobile having an automobile sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash sound system component, wherein the automobile sound system is the sound system.

14. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the sound system comprises a portable radio.

15. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein the contact portion of the device interface system is provided at an end portion of a cable having at least one conductive element, the cable operable to provide power to the portable electronic device.

16. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the audio file player is operable to process audio content having a format selected from a group consisting of an MP3 file format, a WAV file format, and a streaming audio format.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating the outputting of audio content comprising:

accessing an automobile sound system component having at least a first button for controlling an operational feature of the automobile sound system; and

installing a cable at a single interconnection point of the automobile sound system component, wherein the cable is operable to communicatively couple the automobile sound system component to a portable electronic device that allows a user to output via the automobile sound system ~~a playing of~~ an audio content file stored in ~~a~~ the memory of a portable electronic device ~~that comprises the 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~~, and wherein the cable is operable to couple a power source of the automobile to supply power to the portable electronic device and to recharge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, further comprising installing the cable ~~to the automobile sound system component, the cable operable to conductively couple the portable electronic device to a power supply associated with the automobile~~ at a rear portion of the automobile sound system component.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the ~~cable is further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system component to output the playing of an audio content file via a speaker assembly of the automobile sound system~~ portable electronic device is a cellular telephone.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the cable enables communication between the portable electronic device and the automobile sound system component via a compact disk player port of the automobile sound system component.

21. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the audio content file is included within a playlist, further wherein the cable allows the portable electronic device to communicate information about the playlist to the automobile sound system component.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the information is selected from a group consisting of a playlist name, a playlist number, a song title, a song genre, and a performing artist.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the automobile sound system component is operable to present a graphical representation of the information to the user.

24. (Currently Amended) A method of outputting audio content, comprising:

communicatively coupling an automobile sound system to a portable electronic device via an adapter cable, the portable electronic device having an audio file player, a local rechargeable power supply, and a memory operable to store a plurality of selected audio content files, the adapter cable operable to ~~conductively couple the portable electronic device to a power supply associated with an automobile to recharge the local rechargeable power supply, the portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the automobile sound system~~ be coupled to the automobile sound system at a single interconnection point such that: ;

the adapter cable communicatively couples the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system via the single interconnection point so that an audio file played by the portable electronic device can be heard via a speaker assembly of the automobile sound system; and

the adapter cable conductively couples the portable electronic device to a power supply associated with an automobile via the single interconnection point in a manner that allows the power supply associated with the automobile to recharge the local rechargeable power supply associated with the portable electronic device;

allowing selection of a first audio content file via a button selector operably coupled to the automobile sound system;

detecting a selection of the button selector;

playing the first audio content file with the audio file player in response to the detection; and

outputting a representation of the first audio content file via a speaker assembly of the automobile sound system.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24, further comprising initiating playing of a first playlist comprising the first audio content file in response to detecting the selection of the button selector, wherein the button selector is a virtual button comprising a graphical user interface element presented on a touch screen that is removable from the automobile sound system.

26. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 25, further comprising initiating playing of a second playlist comprising the second audio content file in response to detecting selection of a second button selector.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising receiving an input to randomly play the first playlist.

28. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 24, further comprising:

accessing the memory of the portable electronic device to identify the playlist to be output by an automobile sound system; and

linking the button selector with the playlist.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24, further comprising:

receiving ~~a wireless~~ an incoming cellular signal ~~with a receiver of the automobile sound system~~;

pausing the playing of the first audio content file in response to the recognition of the incoming cellular signal; and

outputting audio information represented by the ~~wireless~~ incoming cellular signal.

30. (Currently Amended) An audio system, comprising:

an automobile sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash component that includes an auxiliary connection port;

a portable electronic device mount formed to releasably engage a portion of a portable audio file player operable to be used independent of the automobile sound system that includes a rechargeable power supply and a processor operable to play a locally stored audio file; and

an interface cable interconnecting the auxiliary connection port and the portable electronic device mount, the interface cable having at least one conductive element operable to deliver power from the auxiliary connection port to the portable audio file player to recharge the rechargeable power supply, the interface cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable audio file player to the in dash component via the auxiliary connection port such that a playing of an audio file by the processor is output via the speaker.

31. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 30, further comprising an automobile, wherein the automobile sound system is installed within the automobile.

32. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 31, further comprising the portable audio file player, wherein the portable audio file player is an MP3 player.

33. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 31, further comprising a button operably associated with the in dash component, the button operable to direct a mounted portable audio file player to begin playing a first playlist of locally stored audio content.

34. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 33, wherein the ~~interface cable is routed such that the mounted portable audio file player is located apart from the in dash component~~ button is a virtual button presented within a graphical user interface.

35. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34, wherein the ~~interface cable communicates a digital audio signal output from the mounted portable audio file player to the~~

~~auxiliary connection port to allow outputting of a sound via the speaker~~ graphical user interface is displayed on a touch screen of the portable audio file player.

Remarks

Claims 1-35 are pending in this application. The examiner has rejected claims 1-10, 12-19, 21-28, and 30-35 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,232,539 to Looney. The examiner has rejected claims 12-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,807,292 to Sorscher. The examiner has rejected claims 11, 20, and 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Looney in view of certain Official Notice taken by the examiner.

A. Section 102 Rejections over Looney

The examiner has rejected each of the pending independent claims (claims 1, 12, 17, 24, and 30) on the basis of Looney. Applicants respectfully submit that Looney does not disclose each element of these independent claims.

1. Claim 1

Claim 1 is an independent claim. Because claim 1 includes limitations that are not disclosed or suggested by Looney, Looney does not anticipate claim 1. In particular, Looney does not disclose the limitation of claim 1 of an "in dash sound system component comprising a selector operable to allow a user to select the first playlist for outputting via the speaker." (emphasis added). As claimed, the selector of claim 1 is a part of the "in dash sound system component," such as a button or dial on a car's in dash sound system.

In contrast, Looney does not disclose any technique, let alone a selector, for controlling a "music organizer and entertainment center" from an automobile's in dash sound system component. Thus, there is no disclosure in Looney for an in dash sound system that includes a selector for allowing a user to select a playlist. This disclosure is simply absent from Looney. When Looney does in fact discuss using a music organizer in a car, Looney mentions

only two techniques for controlling the organizer and both techniques require the user to interact with the organizer itself — not the car's in dash sound system:

> [The organizer] is located on the sun visor 768 where the driver 770 can easily access it. It is contemplated that the display unit can be located at any acceptable location. Alternatively, the unit can be entirely operated by voice commands, with no display unit, and instead, a voice response system implementing conventional voice-generating software.

(Col. 13, lines 16-22) (emphasis added). Thus, the user must manipulate music selection in Looney from the organizer or display unit of Looney; whereas the user of the invention of claim 1 can manipulate a playlist through a selector of the in dash sound system.

In addition, Looney does not disclose the cable of claim 1. The cable of claim 1 is "communicatively coupled between the portable electronic device and the in dash sound system." The cable of claim 1 "is coupled to each of the portable electronic device and in dash sound system at a single interconnection point," and the cable of claim 1 includes "a conductive element for providing power to the portable electronic device." In sum, claim 1 provides for a single cable between the portable electronic device and in dash sound system that provides both data communication and the delivery of power. This feature is not shown in Looney.

Instead, Looney discloses an organizer that involves the use of "various cords." According to Looney, "the automotive interior 760 is provided with a main audio system 762. Various cords 764 interconnect the main system to a contact display unit 766." (Col. 13, lines 13-16) (emphasis added). Looney goes on to explain that some of the "wires 764 interconnect the display with a power source" and some of the "wires also connect the display 780 with the main audio system 784." (Col. 13, lines 24-26). It is apparent that Looney does not teach a single cable that provides for the communication of data and power between the portable

electronic device and the in dash sound system. Instead, Looney teaches the use of "various cords" that separately provide for power and communications connections between the display unit and main system of Looney.

Because Looney does not disclose each element of claim 1, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 1 on anticipation grounds be withdrawn and that this claim be passed to issuance.

2. Claim 12

Claim 12 is an independent claim. Because claim 12 includes limitations that are not disclosed or suggested by Looney, Looney does not anticipate claim 12. In particular, Looney does not disclose the limitation of claim 12 of a "sound system connector operable to communicatively couple the device interface system to a sound system at a single interconnection point in the sound system" (emphasis added). Claim 12 provides for a communications link between the interface system and the sound system in which only a single interconnection point is used in the sound system.

In contrast, Looney discloses an organizer that is coupled to a main system through the use of "various cords." According to Looney, "the automotive interior 760 is provided with a main audio system 762. Various cords 764 interconnect the main system to a contact display unit 766." (Col. 13, lines 13-16) (emphasis added). Looney goes on to explain that some of the "wires 764 interconnect the display with a power source" and some of the "wires also connect the display 780 with the main audio system 784." (Col. 13, lines 24-26). Thus, it is apparent from Looney that multiple "wires" are used and required to connect the organizer of Looney with the main system of Looney. As such, the multiple "wires" of Looney cannot couple the organizer of Looney to "a single interconnection point" in the main system of Looney, as

provided by claim 12. Because Looney does not disclose each element of claim 12, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 12 on anticipation grounds be withdrawn and that this claim be passed to issuance.

3. Claim 17

Claim 17 is an independent claim. Because claim 17 includes limitations that are not disclosed or suggested by Looney, Looney does not anticipate claim 17. In particular, Looney does not disclose the step of installing the cable of claim 17 "at a single interconnection point of the automobile sound system component" to "communicatively couple the automobile sound system component to a portable electronic device" and "to couple a power source of the automobile to supply power to the portable electronic device." In sum, claim 17 provides for a single cable between the portable electronic device and the automobile sound system that provides both data communication and the delivery of power to the portable electronic device. This feature and method step is not shown in Looney.

Instead, Looney discloses an organizer that involves the use of "various cords." According to Looney, "the automotive interior 760 is provided with a main audio system 762. Various cords 764 interconnect the main system to a contact display unit 766." (Col. 13, lines 13-16) (emphasis added). Looney goes on to explain that some of the "wires 764 interconnect the display with a power source" and some of the "wires also connect the display 780 with the main audio system 784." (Col. 13, lines 24-26). It is apparent that Looney does not teach a single cable that provides for the communication of data and the delivery of power to the portable electronic device. Instead, Looney teaches the use of "various cords" that separately provide for power and communications connections between the display unit and main system of Looney.

Because Looney does not disclose each element of claim 17, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 17 on anticipation grounds be withdrawn and that this claim be passed to issuance.

4. Claim 24

Claim 24 is an independent claim. Because claim 24 includes limitations that are not disclosed or suggested by Looney, Looney does not anticipate claim 24. In particular, Looney does not disclose the step of "allowing selection of a first audio content file via a button selector operably coupled to the automobile sound system". Claim 24 provides that the "button selector" is coupled to the automobile sound system and that the "first audio content file" is stored in the memory of a claimed portable electronic device. Thus, claim 24 specifies that the "button selector," such as a button on an in dash automobile sound system, must be manipulated to select an audio content filed that is stored in the memory of a portable electronic device.

In contrast, Looney does not disclose any technique or selector, let alone a "button selector" coupled to the automobile sound system, for selecting an audio content file that is stored in a portable electronic device. This disclosure is simply absent from Looney. When Looney does in fact discuss using a music organizer in a car, Looney mentions only two techniques for controlling the organizer (which the examiner equates to the claimed portable electronic device) and both techniques require the user to interact with the organizer itself — not the car's automobile sound system:

> [The organizer] is located on the sun visor 768 where the driver 770 can easily access it. It is contemplated that the display unit can be located at any acceptable location. Alternatively, the unit can be entirely operated by voice commands, with no display unit, and instead, a voice response system implementing conventional voice-generating software.

(Col. 13, lines 16-22) (emphasis added). Thus, the user must manipulate music selection in Looney from the organizer or display unit of Looney; whereas the user of the invention of claim 24 can manipulate a playlist through a button selector of the automobile sound system.

In addition, Looney does not disclose the adapter cable of claim 24. The adapter cable of claim 24 "communicatively couples the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system via the single interconnection point"; and the adapter cable of claim 24 "conductively couples the portable electronic device to a power supply associated with an automobile via the single interconnection point." In sum, claim 24 provides for a single cable between the portable electronic device and the automobile sound system that provides both data communication and the delivery of power to the portable electronic device. This feature is not shown in Looney.

Instead, Looney discloses an organizer that involves the use of "various cords." According to Looney, "the automotive interior 760 is provided with a main audio system 762. Various cords 764 interconnect the main system to a contact display unit 766." (Col. 13, lines 13-16) (emphasis added). Looney goes on to explain that some of the "wires 764 interconnect the display with a power source" and some of the "wires also connect the display 780 with the main audio system 784." (Col. 13, lines 24-26). It is apparent that Looney does not teach a single cable that provides for the communication of data and the delivery of power between the portable electronic device and the automobile sound system. Instead, Looney teaches the use of "various cords" that separately provide for power and communications connections between the display unit and main system of Looney.

Because Looney does not disclose each element of claim 24, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 24 on anticipation grounds be withdrawn and that this claim be passed to issuance.

5. Claim 30

Claim 30 is an independent claim. Because claim 30 includes limitations that are not disclosed or suggested by Looney, Looney does not anticipate claim 30. In particular, Looney does not disclose the limitation of claim 30 of "an interface cable interconnecting the auxiliary connection port and the portable electronic device mount." The interface cable of claim 30 delivers "power from the auxiliary connection point to the portable audio file player" and "communicatively couple[s] the portable audio file player to the in dash component via the auxiliary connection port." In sum, claim 30 provides for an interface cable that provides for both data communication between the portable audio file player and the automobile sound system, and the delivery of power to the portable audio file player. An interface cable having these attributes is not disclosed in Looney.

In contrast, Looney discloses an organizer that is coupled to a main system through the use of "various cords." According to Looney, "the automotive interior 760 is provided with a main audio system 762. Various cords 764 interconnect the main system to a contact display unit 766." (Col. 13, lines 13-16) (emphasis added). Looney goes on to explain that some of the "wires 764 interconnect the display with a power source" and some of the "wires also connect the display 780 with the main audio system 784." (Col. 13, lines 24-26). Thus, it is apparent from Looney that multiple "wires" are used and required to connect the organizer of Looney with the main system of Looney. As such, the multiple "wires" of Looney do not comprise an interface cable that can deliver both data communications and power between an

automobile sound system and a portable audio file player. Because Looney does not disclose each element of claim 30, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 30 on anticipation grounds be withdrawn and that this claim be passed to issuance.

B. Section 102 Rejections over Sorscher

The examiner has rejected independent claim 12 on the basis of Sorscher. Applicants respectfully submit that Sorscher does not disclose each element of claim 12. Sorscher discloses "an apparatus for converting a motor vehicle plug-in audio unit into a remote playable unit." (Abstract). It is well know that, in the past, after-market car radio manufacturers made in-dash components that were completely removable from the dash of a car. The Sorscher apparatus 21 provides a unit into which one of these removable in-dash components may be placed. *See, e.g.,* Sorscher, Figure 1. The car radio of Sorscher can be used in either the car's dash or the "apparatus" disclosed in Sorscher. The car radio of Sorscher must be installed in one of these two places to operate.

Sorscher, however, does not disclose the "portable electronic device" of claim 12. As set out in claim 12, the portable electronic device is operable to be used "independent of the audio system." Thus, the portable electronic device of claim 12 can be used away from the car and any Sorscher-like receiving apparatus, such as the apparatus 21 of Sorscher. There is simply no teaching in Sorscher that the audio unit 10 of Sorscher can be used "independent of the audio system."

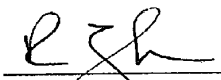
C. Dependent Claims 1-11, 13-16, 18-23, 25-29, and 31-35

Because dependent claims 1-11, 13-16, 18-23, 25-29, and 31-35 depend either directly, or indirectly, from an otherwise allowable base claim, these claims will not be discussed individually herein.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-35 be withdrawn and that these claims be passed to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPLICATION NUMBER	PATENT NUMBER	GROUP ART UNIT	FILE WRAPPER LOCATION
10/947,755		2617	26M1

Correspondence Address / Fee Address Change

The following fields have been set to Customer Number 65550 on 10/04/2006

- Correspondence Address
- Maintenance Fee Address

The address of record for Customer Number 65550 is:
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/947,755	09/23/2004	Russell W. White	111111.1111-2C	1751

7590 06/26/2006

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EXAMINER	
GARY, ERIKA A	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2617	

DATE MAILED: 06/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/947,755	WHITE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Erika A. Gary	2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *28 March 2006*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-35* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-35* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-10, 12-19, 21-28, and 30-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Looney et al., US Patent Number 6,232,539 (hereinafter Looney).

Regarding claims 1, 12, 13, 15, 17, 24, 30, and 31, Looney discloses an audio system comprising: a portable electronic device having a display, a memory, an audio file player, and a housing component a least partially defining a cavity in which the memory and the audio file player are secured, the portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system; a playlist engine operable to maintain a first playlist and a second playlist, wherein the first playlist is operable to include a selection of audio content having a corresponding audio file saved in the memory; an automobile having an automobile sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash sound system component operable to be coupled to the portable electronic device via a cable; the in dash sound system component comprising a selector operable to allow a user to select the first playlist for outputting via the speaker; and the cable having at least one conductive element operable to provide power and charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device, the cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system [col. 2: lines 6-61; col. 4:

lines 35-44; col. 5: lines 12-41; col. 6: lines 42-45; col. 9: lines 16-17; col. 13: lines 7-46].

Regarding claims 2, 4, 14, 16, 19, 32, and 35, Looney discloses the portable electronic device is an MP3 player and the cable communicates a processed digital representation of the selection of audio content to the in dash sound system component [col. 6: lines 42-46].

Regarding claims 3, 25, 28, and 33, Looney discloses the initiating playing of playlist in response to detecting the selection of a button selector [col. 9: lines 57-63].

Regarding clams 5, 6, and 26, Looney discloses a second selector operable to allow the user to select the second playlist for outputting via the speaker, wherein the second selector is a second button [col. 10: lines 19-28].

Regarding claims 7 and 21, Looney discloses a playlist generator to generate the first playlist to be presented by the in dash sound system component [col. 9: lines 57-63].

Regarding claims 8 and 34, Looney discloses the in dash sound system component is fixed in a first location and the cable is routed to allow the portable electronic device to be located in a different location [col. 13: lines 15-19].

Regarding claims 9 and 10, Looney disclose the cable plugs into the in dash sound system component at a port [col. 13: lines 7-29].

Regarding claim 18, Looney discloses the cable operable to conductively couple the portable electronic device to a power supply associated with the automobile [col. 5: lines 28-29].

Regarding claim 22, Looney discloses the information is selected from a group consisting of a playlist name, a playlist number, a song title, a song genre, and a performing artist [col. 2: lines 18-20].

Regarding claim 23, Looney discloses a graphical representation of the information to the user [col. 2: lines 21-22].

3. Claims 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sorscher, US Patent Number 4,807,292 (hereinafter Sorscher).

Regarding claims 12-16, Sorscher discloses an audio system comprising: a portable 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, the portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system; a device interface system that comprises a sound system connector and a device connector; the sound system connector operable to communicatively couple the device interface system to a sound system; and the device connector operable to releasably engage the portable electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the portable electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the portable electronic device, the device connector further operable to connect a power source to recharge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device [col. 1: lines 23-26; col. 2: lines 10-36]. Sorscher also discloses an automobile sound system comprising a speaker and an in dash sound

system, wherein the sound system comprises a portable radio. Sorscher further discloses a cable operable to provide power to the portable electronic device. Sorscher also discloses the audio content is a streaming audio format [col. 1: lines 23-26; col. 2: lines 10-36].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 11, 20, and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Looney.

Regarding claims 11 and 20, Looney does not specifically disclose that the port is a compact disk player interconnect point. However, the Examiner takes Official Notice that it is well known in the art to connect accessory devices to this port. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Looney to include this feature. The motivation would have been to specifically point out the type of port used. The specific port type, however, lacks criticality to the overall function of the invention.

Regarding claim 29, Looney does not specifically disclose pausing the playing of audio content and outputting audio information represented by a received wireless signal. However, the Examiner takes Official Notice that this feature is well known in

the art. The motivation for this modification would have been to discontinue music output to inform a user of an incoming call through the automobile sound system.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-35 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

DeLine et al., US Patent Number 6,420,975, disclose an interior rearview mirror sound processing system.

Kite, US Patent Number 6,792,263, discloses a remote operational screener.

Quarendon et al., US Patent Application Publication Number 2002/0023028, disclose retailing audio files in a fuel dispensing environment.

Grady, US Patent Number 6,591,085, discloses an FM transmitter and power supply/charging assembly for MP3 player.

Enners et al., US Patent Number 6,788,528, disclose a portable computer vehicle docking station/holder.

Lee, US Patent Number 6,292,440, discloses an MP3 car player.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Erika A. Gary whose telephone number is 571-272-7841. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday and alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marsha Banks-Harold can be reached on 571-272-7905. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ERIKA A. GARY
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EAG
June 21, 2006

Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 10/947,755	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination WHITE ET AL.	
	Examiner Erika A. Gary	Art Unit 2617	Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
*	A	US-6,232,539	05-2001	Looney et al.	84/609
*	B	US-4,807,292	02-1989	Sorscher, Bernard	381/86
*	C	US-6,420,975	07-2002	DeLine et al.	340/815.4
*	D	US-6,792,263	09-2004	Kite, Karen Jeanne	455/412.1
*	E	US-2002/0023028	02-2002	Quarendon et al.	705/26
*	F	US-6,591,085	07-2003	Grady, Jeff	455/42
*	G	US-6,788,528	09-2004	Enners et al.	361/683
*	H	US-6,292,440	09-2001	Lee, Sang-Hun	369/7
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

Search Notes	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent under Reexamination	
	10/947,755	WHITE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Erika A. Gary	2617	

SEARCHED			
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner

INTERFERENCE SEARCHED			
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner

SEARCH NOTES (INCLUDING SEARCH STRATEGY)		
	DATE	EXMR
see attached	6/21/2006	EAG

EAST Search History

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	Time Stamp
S1	2	(("6722212") or ("6061306")).PN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:00
S2	2	(("6772212") or ("6061306")).PN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:01
S3	84	(audio or stereo or music) with (car or vehicle or automobile) with (portable or mp3) with cable	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:08
S4	26	S3 and cable with power	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:09
S5	12	S3 and cable with power with (charg$3 or recharg$4)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:09
S6	12	S5 and button	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:05
S7	12	(audio or stereo or music) with (car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3) with cable	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:11
S8	2	S7 and cable with power	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:18
S9	0	S8 and cable with power with (charg$3 or recharg$4)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:09

EAST Search History

S10	10	S7 not S8	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:10
S11	16	(car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3) with cable	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:13
S12	4	S11 not S7	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:12
S13	20	(car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music) with cable	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:37
S14	4	S13 not S11	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:13
S15	2	(("6123309") or ("6042414")).PN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:18
S16	893	(car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:20
S17	306	S16 and (car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3).ab.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:33
S18	30	S17 and cable	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:30

EAST Search History

S19	3	S18 and cable with power	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:21
S20	27	S18 not S19	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:21
S21	24	S17 and (wired or wire)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:30
S22	3	S17 and ((wired or wire) with power)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:31
S23	21	S21 not S22	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:31
S24	10	S23 not S20	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:31
S25	69	S17 and power	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:33
S26	12	S25 and port	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:33

EAST Search History

S27	40	(car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file) with (cable or cord or wire or wired or wires)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:47
S28	6	S27 and (cable or cord or wire or wired or wires) with power	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:39
S29	34	S27 not S28	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:39
S30	471	((car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file)) and (cable or cord or wire or wired or wires)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 14:52
S31	83	S30 and (cable or cord or wire or wired or wires) with power	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:48
S32	219	S30 and (recharg$4 or charg$3)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:48
S33	64	S31 and (recharg$4 or charg$3)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 14:54
S34	3	S33 and ((car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file)).ab.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:49

EAST Search History

S35	61	S33 not S34	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:49
S36	58	S35 not (S4 or S21)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 10:49
S37	327	((car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file or music or cd adj player or compact adj2 player)) and ((cable or cord or wire or wired or wires) with power)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:15
S38	113	S37 and (recharg$4 or charg$3) with (power or battery)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:16
S39	47	S38 and (cable or cord or wire or wired or wires) with (recharg$4 or charg$3) with (power or battery)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:16
S40	3	S39 and ((car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file or music or cd adj player or compact adj2 player)).ab.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:17
S41	44	S39 not S40	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 14:56
S42	6	S41 and playlist$	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:14

EAST Search History

S43	38	S41 not S42	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 14:58
S44	66	S38 not S39	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:14
S45	2	S44 and playlist$	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:17
S46	64	S44 not S45	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:15
S47	1290	((car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file or music or cd adj player or compact adj2 player or audio)) and ((cable or cord or wire or wired or wires) with power)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:15
S48	95	S47 and (cable or cord or wire or wired or wires) with (recharg$4 or charg$3) with (power or battery)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:16
S49	48	S48 not S39	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:16
S50	112	S46 or S49	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:18

EAST Search History

S51	0	S49 and playlist$	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:17
S52	0	S49 and ((car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file or music or cd adj player or compact adj2 player)).ab.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:40
S53	2	S50 and ((car or vehicle or automobile) with (mp3 or mpeg or portable adj music or audio adj file or music or cd adj player or compact adj2 player)).ab.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2006/06/21 15:41

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
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www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/947,755	09/23/2004	Russell W. White	111111.1111-2C	1751

7590 03/29/2006

Russell W. White
10904 Doswell Cove
Austin, TX 78739

EXAMINER	
DANIEL JR, WILLIE J	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2617	

DATE MAILED: 03/29/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

10/941,755

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
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ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

Failure to Acceptably Respond to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)

No New Time Period for Reply is Provided

The amendment document filed on 3-2-06 fails to provide the corrective action required by the **prior Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)** mailed on 3-3-06. The amendment, including both the originally filed amendment and the amendment filed in response to the prior notice, is still considered to be non-compliant under 37 CFR 1.121. In order for the amendment document to be compliant, correction of the item(s) listed below is required. **Only the corrected section of the non-compliant amendment document must be resubmitted (in its entirety), e.g., the entire "Amendments to the claims" section of applicant's amendment document must be re-submitted.** 37 CFR 1.121(h).

The period for reply continues to run from the mailing date of the prior Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment. The corrections listed below must be timely filed to avoid abandonment of the application. No new time period for reply is provided in this communication. See the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) § 714.03.

If the period for reply set forth in the prior Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment has expired, this application will become abandoned unless applicant: (1) corrects the deficiency, **and** (2) obtains an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no case may an applicant reply outside the SIX (6) MONTH statutory period or obtain an extension for more than FIVE (5) MONTHS beyond the date for reply set forth in the prior Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121).

THE FOLLOWING CHECKED (X) ITEM(S) CAUSE THE AMENDMENT DOCUMENT TO BE NON-COMPLIANT:

- [X] 1. Amendments to the specification:
  - [X] A. Amended paragraph(s) do not include markings. (Para. 67)
  - [ ] B. New paragraph(s) should not be underlined.
  - [ ] C. Other _____
- [ ] 2. Abstract:
  - [ ] A. Not presented on a separate sheet. 37 CFR 1.72.
  - [ ] B. Other _____
- [ ] 3. Amendments to the drawings: _____
- [ ] 4. Amendments to the claims:
  - [ ] A. A complete listing of all of the claims is not present.
  - [ ] B. The listing of claims does not include the text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims)
  - [ ] C. Each claim has not been provided with the proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim cannot be identified. Note: the status of every claim must be indicated after its claim number by using one of the following 7 status identifiers: (Original), (Currently amended), (Canceled), (Withdrawn), (Previously presented), (New) and (Not entered).
  - [ ] D. The claims of this amendment paper have not been presented in ascending numerical order.
  - [ ] E. Other: _____

For further explanation of the amendment format required by 37 CFR 1.121, see MPEP § 714 and the USPTO website at http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/officeflyer.pdf .

Supervisory Legal Instruments Examiner (SLIE) — (571) 272-3006 Telephone No.

Rev. 7/04

LARSON ▸ NEWMAN
An Intellectual Property Firm

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

DATE: 03/28/2006

TO: Examiner
DANIEL JR., Willie J.
USPTO GPAU 2686
FAX NO.: 571-273-8300

FROM: Adam D. Sheehan for Russell W. White
Reg. No. 42,146

RE: REPLY TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT

U.S. APP NO.:	10/947,755
FILING DATE:	09/23/2004
APPLICANT(S):	Russell W. White et al.
ATTY DKT NO.:	111111.1111-2C
TITLE:	System and Method for Connecting a Portable MP3 Player to an Automobile Sound System **(as amended)**
NO. OF PAGES (INCL. COVER SHEET):	**5**

Pursuant to a telephone conversation of March 28, 2006, with Ms. Markita McGee of the USPTO's Group Art Unit 2686, attached is a supplemental Reply to Notice of Non-compliant Amendment, which includes replacement paragraph [0067] of the specification of the above-identified patent application.

Attached documents are summarized as follows:

☒ **PTO/SB/21 Transmittal Form (1 pg.)**

☒ **Reply to Notice of Non-compliant Amendment with Replacement Paragraph [0067] (3 pgs.)**

LARSON NEWMAN ABEL POLANSKY & WHITE, LLP
5914 WEST COURTYARD DRIVE, STE. 200 • AUSTIN, TX • 78730 • PHONE: 512-439-7100 • FAX: 512-327-5452

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission	4

Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2686
Examiner Name	DANIEL JR., Willie J.
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
  - ☐ Fee Attached
- ☒ Amendment/Reply
  - ☒ Notice of Non-compliant Amendment Reply
  - ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
  - ☐ Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53
- ☐ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer
- ☐ Request for Refund
- ☐ CD, Number of CD(s) _____
  - ☐ Landscape Table on CD
- ☐ After Allowance Communication to TC
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
- ☐ Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
- ☐ Proprietary Information
- ☐ Status Letter
- ☐ Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):

Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	LARSON NEWMAN ABEL POLANSKY & WHITE, LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	Adam D. Sheehan		
Date	3/28/06	Reg. No.	42,146

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature	Laura H. Andre		
Typed or printed name		Date	03/28/2006

CUSTOMER NO.
34456

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Russell W. White et al.		
Title:	System and Method for Connecting a Portable MP3 Player to an Automobile Sound System **(As amended)**		
App. No.:	10/947,755	Filed:	09/23/2004
Examiner:	DANIEL JR., Willie J.	Group Art Unit:	2686
Atty. Dkt No.:	111111.111-2C	Confirmation No.:	1751

M/S AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.121

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice of Non-compliant Amendment mailed January 26, 2006, Applicants submit replacement paragraph [0067] of the "Specification Replacement Paragraphs" section of the Reply to Non-Final Office Action filed November 1, 2005.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows under 37 CFR § 1.121:

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING
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Laura H. Andre
Typed or Printed Name

Signature

CUSTOMER NO.
34456

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Specification with the following replacement paragraph:

[0067] In one embodiment, the automobile may include memory ~~operable~~ operably associated with the automobile for storing[[-]] information. The memory may be used in association with mount 511 and electronic device 512 to store the selected audio information. In this manner, voluminous audio information can be stored within the memory allowing electronic device 512 to receive additional information. In one embodiment, a mount may be provided for a home audio system (not shown) for downloading selected audio information for use with a home audio system. For example, a mount device may be coupled to a home stereo system such that [[the]]upon placing an electronic device such as electronic device 500 within the mount, selected audio information may be communicated to the home audio system thereby allowing a home audio system to be used in association with an electronic device.

CUSTOMER NO.
34456

CONCLUSION

Applicants have amended the specification in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment of November 1, 2005 is now in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121.

Applicants have made an earnest effort to place this case in condition for allowance in light of the amendments and remarks set forth above. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of claims 1-35. Applicants believe no additional fee is due.

Any changes to the claims in this amendment, which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below if such a call would in any way facilitate allowance of this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-2469.

Respectfully submitted,

3/28/06
Date

Adam D. Sheehan; Reg. No. 42,146
Attorney for Applicant(s)
LARSON NEWMAN ABEL
POLANSKY & WHITE, LLP
5914 West Courtyard Drive, Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78730
(512) 439-7100 (phone)
(512) 439-7199 (fax)

PTO/SB/06 (12-04)
Approved for use through 7/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD
Substitute for Form PTO-875

Application or Docket Number: 10/947755

APPLICATION AS FILED – PART I

FOR	(Column 1) NUMBER FILED	(Column 2) NUMBER EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE ($)	SMALL ENTITY FEE ($)	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE ($)	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY FEE ($)
BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))							
SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (i), or (m))							
EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))							
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(i))	minus 20 =	*					
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	minus 3 =	*					
APPLICATION SIZE FEE (37 CFR 1.16(s))	If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is $250 ($125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).						
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))							
			TOTAL			TOTAL	

* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.

APPLICATION AS AMENDED – PART II

2-24-06

AMENDMENT A

	(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE ($)	SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE ($)	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE ($)	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	* 35	Minus	** 35	= 0	X =		OR	X =	
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	* 5	Minus	*** 5	= 0	X =		OR	X =	
Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))									
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							OR		
					TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

AMENDMENT B

	(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)	OR	RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
2. 28/06 Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	* 35	Minus	** 35	=	X =		OR	X =	
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	* 5	Minus	*** 5	=	X =		OR	X =	
Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))									
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							OR		
					TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.
** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".
*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".
The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.16. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

DATE: 03/21/2006

TO: Examiner
DANIEL JR., Willie J.
USPTO GPAU 2686

FAX NO.: 571-273-8300

FROM: Russell W. White /RWAndre/
Reg. No. 45,691

RE: *REPLY TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT*

U.S. APP NO.:	10/947,755
FILING DATE:	09/23/2004
APPLICANT(S):	Russell W. White et al.
ATTY DKT NO.:	111111.1111-2C
TITLE:	System and Method for Connecting a Portable MP3 Player to an Automobile Sound System (AS AMENDED)

NO. OF PAGES (INCL. COVER SHEET): **28**

Attached please find:

☒ PTO/SB/21 Transmittal Form (1 pg.)
☒ Reply to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment(24 pgs.)
☒ Copy of Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (2 pgs.)

LARSON NEWMAN ABEL POLANSKY & WHITE, LLP
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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)
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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission: 27

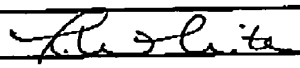
Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2686
Examiner Name	DANIEL JR., Willie J.
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

ENCLOSURES *(Check all that apply)*

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
  - ☐ Fee Attached
- ☒ Amendment/Reply
  - ☒ Notice of Non-compliant Amendment Reply
  - ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
  - ☐ Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53
- ☐ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation
- ☐ Change of Correspondence Address
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer
- ☐ Request for Refund
- ☐ CD, Number of CD(s) _____
  - ☐ Landscape Table on CD
- ☐ After Allowance Communication to TC
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
- ☐ Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
- ☐ Proprietary Information
- ☐ Status Letter
- ☐ Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):

Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name			
Signature			
Printed name	Russell W. White		
Date	3/21/06	Reg. No.	45,691

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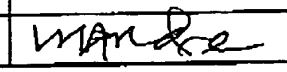
Signature	Laura H. Andre		
Typed or printed name		Date	03/21/2006

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CUSTOMER NO.
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Russell W. White et al.		
Title:	System and Method for Connecting a Portable MP3 Player to an Automobile Sound System (AS AMENDED)		
App. No.:	10/947,755	Filed:	09/23/2004
Examiner:	DANIEL JR., Willie J.	Group Art Unit:	2686
Atty. Dkt No.:	111111.111-2C	Confirmation No.:	1751

M/S AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.121

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice of Non-compliant Amendment mailed March 3, 2006, Applicants submit amended paragraphs of the Specification, and amended claims of the Reply to Non-Final Office Action filed November 1, 2005 and Reply to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed January 26, 2006.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows under 37 CFR § 1.121:

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING
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Laura H. Andre
Typed or Printed Name

/LHAndre/
Signature

CUSTOMER NO.
34456

IN THE TITLE

Please amend the Title to read as follows:

"SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE AUDIO PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM"

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Specification with the following replacement paragraphs:

[0015] FIG. 5B illustrates an automobile console having a mount for coupling an electronic device according to one aspect of the present invention;

[0020] The conceptual groundwork for the present invention includes wirelessly communicating selective information to an electronic device. According to one aspect, a user may interact with the Internet to select information, such as audio information, and wirelessly communicate the selected information to an electronic device. The electronic device receives the information via a wireless communications network and processes the information accordingly. In a particularized form, a user may select information from an Internet website operable to allow selectivity of audio information such as songs, on-line radio stations, on-line broadcasts, streaming audio, or other selectable information. Upon selecting the audio information, information or data associated with the selected audio information is wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. The electronic device may then be used to process the selected audio information. In this manner, a user may receive selective audio information via a wireless electronic device.

[0021] In one form, the electronic device may be operable to communicate with an individual's automobile audio system. A user may select audio information utilizing a personal computer with access to a website operable to display selectable audio information. The selected audio information may then be wirelessly communicated to the electronic device associated with an automobile's audio system. Therefore, upon receiving the selected audio information, a user

may access and play the received audio information utilizing the electronic device in association with the automobile's audio system.

[0024] Communications engine 102 is communicatively coupled to digital engine 101 and operable to wirelessly communicate the selected information to electronic device 103. During operation, audio information may be selected by a user utilizing a personal computer or other devices operable to communicate with an information network. Digital engine 101 ~~102~~ is operable to maintain information associated with the selected audio information. For example, the information could be several songs or titles configured as an audio file and formatted in a digital format such as an MP3 file, wave file, etc. The maintained information may also be a reference to a network location where an audio file may be stored, a network location where a network broadcast of audio information may be located, etc. or other network locations having information associated with the selected audio information. Therefore, digital engine 101 may maintain a plurality of different types of information or data associated with the selected audio information.

[0025] System 100, utilizing communication engine 102, may wirelessly communicate data or information associated with the selected audio information to electronic device 103 ~~105~~thereby providing wireless communication of selected information to an electronic device operable to receive wireless communications. In one embodiment, digital engine 101 may be used in association with an Internet website configured to provide access to selectable information. The Internet website operably associated with digital engine 101 allows a user to select information to be wirelessly communicated to electronic device 101 ~~105~~ utilizing a network environment. The Internet website may include several different types of information related to audio information.

[0030] In one embodiment, the selective information may be communicated using a digital broadcast signal. Digital broadcast includes providing information via a signal such as AM, FM, and the like. Digital information may be included or encoded as a sub-carrier within the broadcast signal and received by electronic device 103. A digital sub-carrier may include a selective bandwidth of frequencies for a specific radio station (i.e., 6 MHz for FM). The selective information may be wirelessly communicated to electronic device 103 utilizing a

communication engine 102 operable to communicate the selective information via a digital FM signal. In this manner, selective information may be communicated within digital FM sub-carriers to an electronic device operable to receive the information. For example, a user may subscribe to communicate the information via an FM sub-carrier and receive the selective data through wireless communication via a specified FM sub-carrier.

[0031] In one embodiment, the selected information may be formatted and transmitted to achieve a desirable transmission rate. For example, conventional systems may transmit information at a speed of 10 kilobits per second. Therefore, for 1 megabyte of information to be communicated to an electronic device, a transmission time of approximately 800 seconds may be required. The present invention may allow for a relative increase in transmission speed by removing the requirement that information be communicated asynchronously to an electronic device. For example, conventional wireless communication utilizes a specified frequency to communicate information in two directions (i.e., cellular phones). As such, information is communicated across a channel in an asynchronous manner to provide a continuous audio signal to the recipient.

[0040] Upon maintaining information or data associated with the selected information, the method proceeds to step 204 where the method wirelessly communicates information associated with the selected information to an electronic device. For example, if an audio file associated with the selected audio information was ~~were~~ maintained, the method would communicate the audio file to the electronic device. In another embodiment, a link or network address broadcasting the selected audio information may be accessed and, at step 204, wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. In another embodiment, a combination of different types of audio information may be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. Upon transmitting the selected audio information, the method proceeds to step 205 where the method ends.

[0042] In some embodiments, the wireless communication to an electronic device may occur in an off-line environment. For example, a user may go "on-line" to access a website and select information and then go "off-line" or end the browsing session. The wireless communication may then occur while the user is off-line thereby removing the confines of using

an active or on-line browsing environment (i.e., Internet radio broadcast, streaming audio, etc.) for accessing selected information. Therefore, the method of FIG. 2 allows for information, such as audio information, to be communicated from a network location such as a web site, to an electronic device "via" wireless communication. The present invention advantageously allows users to access and download information accessible by a network location to an electronic device operable to receive wireless communications thereby reducing the need for land lines, terrestrial communication networks, etc. for communicating selective information.

[0043] In one embodiment, the method of FIG. 2 may be deployed in association with an Internet website operable to display selectable links for downloading information. The information may include audio information such as MP3s, streaming audio, streaming Internet broadcasts, etc. are selectable by a user and operable to be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. By providing a user with a website of selectable audio information operable to be wireless communicated to an electronic device, a user may customize information communicated to an electronic device. In one embodiment, a user may communicate information to an electronic device that may not be owned by the user. For example the method of FIG. 2 could be modified to allow a user to wirelessly communicate audio information to a plurality of electronic devices that may or may not be owned by the user.

[0044] FIG. 3 illustrates an electronic device operable to receive selected audio information in accordance with the teachings of the present invention. Electronic device 300 includes a communication module 301 such as a transceiver coupled to storage medium 303 ~~302~~ such as a high speed buffer, programmable memory, or other devices operable to store information. Electronic device 300 may also include processor 302 operably associated with communication module 301 and storage medium 303 ~~302~~. Processor 302 may be operable to process wirelessly communicated selected information and in one embodiment may be integrated as part of communication module 301 of storage medium 303 ~~302~~. In the same manner, as larger scale integration of electronic devices proliferate, communication module 301, processor 302, and storage medium 303 may be integrated into one communication component or device operable as electronic device 300.

[0045] Processor 302 may be operable using software that may be stored within storage medium 303 ~~302~~. In one embodiment, software upgrades may be communicated to electronic device 300 via wireless communication allowing for efficient system upgrades for electronic device 300. Storage medium 303 ~~302~~ may include one or several different types of storage devices. For example, storage medium 303 ~~302~~ may include programmable gate arrays, ROM devices, RAM devices, EEPROMs, minidisks or other memory devices operable to store information.

[0046] During use, electronic device 300 receives wireless communications of selective information. The information may be transmitted via a wireless communications network and received by electronic device 300 via transceiver 301. Transceiver 301 may be operable to convert the received wireless communication signal into a desirable format and store the received information within storage medium 303 ~~302~~. The received information may then be processed by electronic device 300.

[0051] For example, a specific frequency may be selected (i.e., 93.7 MHz) for communicating the wireless received selected information from electronic device 300 to a localized audio system. Electronic device 300 communication of the wirelessly received information allows a conventional receiver to receive the selected audio information. In one embodiment, the conventional receiver may be configured to receive a digital sub-carrier, on-carrier, or other within a specified frequency. Therefore, electronic device 300 may be operable to locally transmit the signal at a specific frequency thereby allowing the conventional receiver to receive the information. In another embodiment, electronic device 300 may be operable to scan plural bandwidths to receive the selective information. For example, transceiver 301 may be operable to receive selective information across several frequencies and process the received information accordingly.

[0056] FIG. 4 illustrates a graphical user interface (GUI) for displaying selectable audio information according to one aspect of the present invention. The GUI may be operable with a computer system, cellular device, PDA, or other electronic devices or systems operable to display the GUI of FIG. 4. The GUI, shown generally at 400, may be displayed using a conventional web browser 402 such as Microsoft® Internet Explorer, a WAP browser, or other

browsers operable to display the audio information. Browser 402 includes browser functions, shown collectively at 403, for navigating a network such as the Internet or an intranet. Homepage 401 may be displayed using browser 402 and may include several functions, features, information, etc. related to audio information. Home page 401~~2~~ may be developed using several different types of programming (i.e., HTML, XML, Java, etc.) used to developing a network location or website.

[0059] Radio tab 406 may also be provided for displaying audio information. For example, radio tab 406 may display a collective menu 411 of selectable functions or features associated with audio information. Top ten lists may be provided to a user based on several different billboard polls or genres. A search engine may be provided allowing a user to search for a specific type of audio information such as an artist, song title, and genre, Internet radio station, etc. In one embodiment, a user may input the lyrics to a song within the search engine. As such, the search engine may locate several different songs having the desirable lyrics and allow a user to select the search results. A user may also use a select a device feature that allows a user to select a destination device for communicating selected audio information. For example, a user may want to communicate a playlist to several different devices such as a PDA, a home computer system, a work computer system, etc.

[0061] In one embodiment, a user's radio dial 412 may be provided when a registered user logs into homepage 401. As such, radio dial 412 may include several functional buttons similar to conventional systems such as a volume control and a station control. However, radio dial 412 surpasses the limitations of conventional systems through providing a programmable radio dial of user customized audio information. Radio dial 412 includes several stations that may be programmed using program interface 413. The preset stations may include several different types of user customized preset information such as user selected playlists, Internet broadcast stations, top lists, group playlists, artist-selected lists, on-line radio station, conventional radio stations, Internet phone, cellular phone, etc. and other functions, features, or information associated with audio information.

[0062] Radio dial 412 may also be displayed as a separate user interface and in some embodiments, does not require a "browsing" environment to view radio dial 412. For example,

an electronic device, such as a PDA, having a display may graphically present radio dial 412 to a user. One example may be using electronic device in association with an automobile audio system. Electronic device may display radio dial 412 and may allow a user to navigate, modify, select, adjust volume, access daytimer, access phone lists, etc. or perform other functions while the electronic device is used in association with an automobile sound system. Therefore, radio dial 412 may be operable as an application for use with several different types of electronic devices (i.e., computer systems, portable computing devices, cellular phones, etc.) operable to display radio dial 412 and in come embodiments may be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device.

[0067] In one embodiment, the automobile may include memory operable associated with the automobile for storing information. The memory may be used in association with mount 511 and electronic device 512 to store the selected audio information. In this manner, voluminous audio information can be stored within the memory allowing electronic device 512 to receive additional information. In one embodiment, a mount may be provided for a home audio system (not shown) for downloading selected audio information for use with a home audio system. For example, a mount device may be coupled to a home stereo system such that the upon placing an electronic device such as electronic device 500 within the mount, selected audio information may be communicated to the home audio system thereby allowing a home audio system to be used in association with an electronic device.

[0069] During operation, system 600 communicates voice mail messages to a user utilizing email server 601. For example, if a user receives a voice mail message, email server 601 would be notified and a voice mail message would be sent to the user's email account in the form of an email message. For example, a voice mail message ~~5~~ would be sent to a user's email account within intranet 604 in the form of an audio file as an attachment to the email. Upon receiving the email, a user may click on the audio file representing the voice mail message to hear the message left by a caller.

[0083] Upon communicating the selected information, the method may proceed to step 810 where the playlist may be executed ~~at step 812~~. For example, a user may select a continuous communication of selected audio information (e.g., several hours of music, Internet broadcast,

etc.). As such, the method may continuously play or execute the received audio information. In another embodiment, the method may proceed to step 811 where the method may store or buffer the received information until it is desirable to execute the received selected audio information at step 812. As such, upon executing the selected audio information, the method may proceed to step 809 where the method may repeat. In one embodiment, a user may elect to download a broadcast of an on-line radio station. For example, a user may want to listen to a radio station located in a remote location wherein conventional radio receivers could not receive the desired broadcast. For example, a person living in Houston, Texas may not be able to receive a radio broadcast signal from a radio station in Seattle, Washington utilizing a conventional radio receiver.

[0092] During operation, electronic device 907 may be mounted within interface 904. Electronic device 907 may also be powered or recharged via power line 910 and communicate with the systems audio system via interface cable or bus line 911. Audio information communicated to electronic device 907 may be transferred to audio system 901 such that a user may listen to selected audio information. For example, a user may have previously selected a plurality of audio files to be transmitted to electronic device 907. Electronic device 907~~905~~ may communicate the selected audio information to the automobiles audio system that utilizes interface 901 thereby allowing the user to listen to selected audio information. In one embodiment, cable 908 may be custom-installed to audio system 901. For example, the cable may be coupled to an auxiliary line for the system's radio or may be coupled to CD player line 912.

CUSTOMER NO.
34456

CLAIM LISTING

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An audio system, comprising:

~~an~~ a portable 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, the portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system;

a playlist engine operable to maintain a first playlist and a second playlist, wherein the first playlist is operable to include a selection of audio content having a corresponding audio file saved in the memory;

an automobile having an automobile sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash sound system component operable to be coupled to the portable electronic device via a cable;

the in dash sound system component comprising a selector operable to allow a user to select the first playlist for outputting via the speaker; and

the cable having at least one conductive element operable to provide power ~~to the~~ and charge ~~to~~ a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device, the cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system.

2. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the portable electronic device is a portable MP3 player and the cable communicates a processed digital representation of the selection of audio content to the in dash sound system component.

3. (Original) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the selector comprises a button.

4. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the audio file player is an MP3 player.

5. (Original) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the in dash sound system component further comprises a second selector operable to allow the user to select the second playlist for outputting via the speaker.

6. (~~Original~~Currently amdnede) The audio system of claim 5, wherein the ~~first~~ selector is a first button and the second selector is a second button.

7. (Original) The audio system of claim 1, further comprising a playlist generator to generate the first playlist to be presented by the in dash sound system component.

8. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the in dash sound system component is fixed in a first location and the cable is routed to allow the portable electronic device to be located in a different location.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the cable plugs into the in dash sound system component at a port.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the port is located behind an automobile dashboard.

11. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the port is a compact disk player interconnect point of the in dash sound system component.

12. (Currently Amended) An audio system, comprising:

~~an~~ a portable 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 the portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system;

a device interface system that comprises a sound system connector and a device connector;

the sound system connector operable to communicatively couple the device interface system to a sound system; and

the device connector operable to releasably engage the portable electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the portable electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the portable electronic device, the device connector further operable to connect a power source to recharge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, further comprising an automobile having an automobile sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash sound system component, wherein the automobile sound system is the ~~installed~~ sound system.

14. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the sound system comprises a portable radio.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein the contact portion of the device interface system is provided at an end portion of a cable having at least one conductive element, the cable operable to provide power to the portable electronic device.

16. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the audio file player is operable to process audio content having a format selected from a group consisting of an MP3 file format, a WAV file format, and a streaming audio format.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating the outputting of audio content comprising:

accessing an automobile sound system component having at least a first button for controlling an operational feature of ~~an~~ the automobile sound system; and

installing a cable at the automobile sound system component that allows a user to output via the automobile sound system a playing of an audio content file stored in a memory of a portable electronic device that comprises the 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, the cable operable to couple a power source of the automobile to supply power to the portable electronic device and to recharge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising installing the cable to the automobile sound system component, the cable operable to conductively couple the portable electronic device to a power supply associated with the automobile.

19. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the cable is further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system component to output the playing of ~~the~~ an audio content file via a speaker assembly of the automobile sound system.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the cable enables communication between the portable electronic device and the automobile sound system component via a compact disk player port of the automobile sound system component.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the audio content file is included within a playlist, further wherein the ~~interface system~~ cable allows the portable electronic device to communicate information about the playlist to the automobile sound system component.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the information is selected from a group consisting of a playlist name, a playlist number, a song title, a song genre, and a performing artist.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the automobile sound system component is operable to present a graphical representation of the information to the user.

24. (Currently Amended) A method of outputting audio content, comprising:

communicatively coupling an automobile sound system to ~~an~~ a portable electronic device via an adapter cable, the portable electronic device having an audio file player, a local rechargeable power supply, and a memory operable to store a plurality of selected audio content files, the adapter cable operable to conductively couple the portable electronic device to a power supply associated with an automobile to

recharge the local rechargeable power supply, the portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the automobile sound system;

allowing selection of a first audio content file via a button selector operably coupled to the automobile sound system;

detecting a selection of the button selector;

playing the first audio content file with the audio file player in response to the detection; and

outputting a representation of the first audio content file via a speaker assembly of the automobile sound system.

25. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The method of claim 24, further comprising initiating playing of a first playlist comprising the first audio content file in response to ~~the detection~~detecting the selection of the button selector.

26. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The method of claim 25, further comprising initiating playing of a second playlist comprising the second audio content file in response to detecting selection of a second button selector.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising receiving an input to randomly play the first playlist.

28. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The method of claim 24, further comprising:

accessing ~~a~~ the memory of the portable electronic device to identify ~~a~~ the playlist to be output by an automobile sound system; and

linking the button selector with the playlist.

29. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The method of claim 24, ~~wherein the automobile sound system comprises a receiver,~~ further comprising:
receiving a wireless signal with ~~the~~ a receiver of the automobile sound system;
pausing the playing of the first audio content file; and
outputting audio information represented by the wireless signal.

30. (Currently Amended) An audio system, comprising:
~~a vehicle~~an automobile sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash component that includes an auxiliary connection port;
~~an~~a portable electronic device mount formed to releasably engage a portable audio file player operable to be used independent of the ~~vehicle~~ automobile sound system that includes a rechargeable power supply and a processor operable to play a locally stored audio file; and
an interface cable interconnecting the auxiliary connection port and the portable electronic device mount, the interface cable having at least one conductive element operable to deliver power to recharge the rechargeable power supply, the interface cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable audio file player to the in dash component.

31. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The system of claim 30, further comprising an automobile, wherein the ~~vehicle~~ automobile sound system is installed within the automobile.

32. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The system of claim 31, further comprising the portable audio file player, wherein the portable audio file player is an MP3 player.

33. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The system of claim 31, further comprising a button operably associated with the in dash component, the button operable to direct a mounted portable audio file player to begin playing a first playlist of locally stored audio content.

34. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The system of claim 33, wherein the interface cable is routed such that the mounted portable audio file player is located apart from the in dash component.

35. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The system of claim 34, wherein the interface cable communicates a digital audio signal output from the mounted-portable audio file player to the auxiliary connection port to allow outputting of a sound via the speaker.~~.~~

REMARKS

In a non-final Office action mailed August 25, 2005, claims 1-13 and 15-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of U.S Pat. No. 6,772,212 ("Lau"), claims 12 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,061,306 ("Buchheim"). These rejections are addressed in the paragraphs below.

Applicants appreciate the time taken by the Examiner to carefully review Applicant's present application. Applicants have carefully reviewed the Non-Final Office Action mailed August 25, 2005.

Claims 1-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,772,212 B1 ("Lau"). Lau discloses music servers 102 and 102A that utilize external media cartridges 120 or external hard disk drives to store and supply audio files for playing by music servers 102 and 102A (See Figures 1 and 21). Servers 102 and 102A utilize an automobile's 12-Volt power supply as a source for powering controllers 320 and 320a and other components within music servers 102 and 102A (See Figures 6 and 22). In an advanced form, Lau's server 102A is integrated into a head unit that is permanently installed in the dash of an automobile (instead of the trunk) for controlling a radio, CD player, tape deck and outputting digital audio files (See col. 5, lines 11-13 and col. 18, lines 24-26).

Claims 12 and 14 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No 6,061,306 ("Buchheim"). As taught in juxtaposition to Lau (Lau criticizes utilization of tape player modules or portable music players that store music, (See Lau col. 2, lines 9 - 36), Buchheim discloses a portable audio device 10 for outputting a playing of a digital music file to speakers provided within the device (See Figure 2). The portable device of Buchheim also provides for mechanical and magnetic coupling when inserted into a cassette player to output an analog audio playing of a music file via a playing head 101 of a tape deck utilizing a magnetic emulator 22 (See Figure 1). Buchheim does not allow for an electrical connection between portable audio device 10 and a tape deck and as a result only low fidelity audio outputs are provided (See col. 8, lines 25-27).

Rejection of Claims 1-11

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Lau fails to disclose all of the limitation of amended claim 1. For example, claim 1 as amended, includes, in addition to other limitations, a "portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system." The servers of Lau are not portable but are at best removable or transferable. Lau teaches away from using portable electronic devices by stating "...using the portable solid state music player with an automobile is not satisfactory" (col. 2, lines 21-23). Lau's lack of portability is further evidenced by use of music servers 102 and 102A which rely on an external power source or a 12-Volt power supply provided by an automobile and portable music cartridges 120 that lack the capability of playing music independent of server 102. In one form, Lau provides a server 102A mounted as an in dash head unit for an automobile that includes a radio tuner and controls operation of a CD changer (see col. 18, lines 24-38). The current rejection mischaracterizes "remove ability" as "portability." Portable electronic devices are well known in the art of electronics as devices or systems that may allow a user to operate a device, for example, in a mobile environment independent or untethered to another system. Servers 102 and 102A disclosed by Lau do not provide or suggest use that is independent of an automobile or disclose or suggest providing power to servers 102 and 102A independent of an automobile's power supply. As such, it is unclear how servers 102 and 102A would have utility outside of an automobile as Lau fails to disclose, or suggest, the limitation of "portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system" as recited in claim 1.

Claim 1 also provides further limitations not found in Lau. For example, claim 1 includes the limitation of a "cable having at least one conductive element operable to provide power and recharge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device" and "the cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system" as recited in claim 1 (Emphasis Added).

Lau fails to provide such limitations. For example, Lau fails to disclose a cable to "provide power and recharge a rechargeable power supply." The connector provided by Lau connects power 330 having glue logic 330 to power servers 102 and 102A (See Figures 6 and 22). Lau does not have a power supply but depends solely on receiving and distributing power from an automobile only to power servers 102 and 102A. Lau states:

"...connector 322 provides the auto accessory signal and a 12 volt power source from the car battery or other power source. This 12-volt power is communicated to power module 330. Power module 330 then creates a 5 volt DC power source, which is communicated to the components shown in FIG. 6"

(See col. 7, lines 46-51)

The present invention of claim 1 extends beyond what Lau teaches through enabling powering a portable electronic device, communicatively coupling the portable electronic device to the automobile's sound system, and recharging a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device. As such, Lau fails to teach or suggest the limitations of providing a "cable having at least one conductive element operable to provide power and charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device" and "the cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system" as recited in claim 1.

Lacking such limitations, Lau cannot anticipate amended claim 1. As such, Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 1. Additionally, claims 2-11, which depend from claim 1, provide additional limitations not present in Lau. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 1-11.

Rejection of Claims 12-16

Claims 12-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Further, claims 12 and 14 stand rejected over Buchheim. Lau and Buchheim fail to disclose all the limitations of amended claim 12.

For example, claim 12 as amended includes, in addition to other limitations, a "device connector operable to releasably engage the portable electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the portable electronic device, the device connector further operable to connect a power source to charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device." (Emphasis Added)

As described above, Lau is not a portable electronic device but is at best removable and depends on an automobile's power supply to power servers 102 and 102A. Further, the limitations of claim 12 are not present in Lau as Lau does not provide or suggest a device connector to form a communication path to interconnect the sound system to a portable electronic device or connect a power source to charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device. As such, based on the limitations clearly not present in Lau, Lau cannot anticipate amended claim 12.

Amended claim 12 includes limitations not present in Buchheim. Claim 12 includes, in addition to other limitations, a "device connector operable to releasably engage the portable electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the portable electronic device, the device connector further operable to connect a power source to charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device." (Emphasis Added). There are no such elements within Buchheim.

Buchheim does not disclose a device connector and to provide any connection to a power supply of an automobile or cassette player to recharge device 10 and only includes a mechanical interface for translating operational commands of a cassette player (See col. 7, lines 41-44). Additionally, it would not be possible to modify the device of Buchheim to interface a portion of cassette deck using an electrical connection when mounted within a cassette holder. For example, when Buchheim is placed within a tape deck of an automobile, the internal configuration of the automobile's audio system (e.g., a magnetic interface) would not be able to provide a connector to connect the portable electronic device to form both a communication path to sound system and connect a power source to recharge a rechargeable supply of the portable electronic device.

As such, Buchheim fails to provide a "device connector operable to releasably engage the portable electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the portable electronic device, the device

connector further operable to connect a power source to charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device" as recited by claim 12.

The limitations of amended claim 12 are absent from both Lau and Buchheim and therefore cannot be anticipated. Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 12. Additionally, claims 13-16, which depend from claim 12, provide additional limitations not present in Lau or Buchheim. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 12-16.

Rejection of Claims 17-23

Claims 17-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Claim 17 as amended, is distinguishable over Lau. For example, claim 17 includes, in addition to other limitations, "installing a cable at the automobile sound system component to output via the automobile sound system a playing of an audio content file stored in a memory of a portable electronic device" wherein "the cable [is] operable to couple a power source of the automobile to supply power to the portable electronic device and to charge a rechargeable power source of the portable electronic device."

As discussed above, Lau discloses only non-portable servers 102 and 102A. Lau is not portable but is at best removable. Lau's lack of portability is evidenced by servers 102 and 102A that rely on an external power source from an automobile for power 330. Lau's server 102A is mounted as an in dash head unit for an automobile that includes a radio tuner and controls operation of a CD changer (see col. 18, lines 24-38). Lau's servers 102 and 102A do not provide or suggest use of servers 102 and 102A independent of an automobile's power supply and fails to provide "installing a cable at the automobile sound system component a user to output via the automobile sound system a playing of an audio content file stored in a memory of a portable electronic device" wherein "the cable [is] operable to couple a power source of the automobile to supply power to the portable electronic device and to charge a rechargeable power source of the portable electronic device" as recited in amended claim 17.

As such, Lau cannot anticipate claim 17. As such, Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 17. Additionally, claims 18-23, which depend from

claim 17, provide additional limitations not present in Lau. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 17-23.

Rejection of Claims 24-29

Claims 24-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Claim 24 is distinct from Lau. For example, claim 24 as amended, includes, in addition to other limitations, "communicatively coupling an automobile sound system to a portable electronic device via an adapter cable" wherein the "the portable electronic device [is] operable to be used independent of the automobile sound system." Lau fails to provide these limitations. For example, Lau only discloses servers 102 and 102A that rely on external power sources. Further, as stated above, Lau is not portable but is at best removable. Lau's lack of portability is evidenced by servers 102 and 102A, which rely on external power from an automobile for power 330. Additionally, Lau's server 102A is provided as an in dash head unit for an automobile that includes a radio tuner and controls operation of a CD changer (see col. 18, lines 24-38). Portable electronic devices are well known in the art as systems or devices that may operate independent of another system. Servers 102 and 102A disclosed by Lau do not provide or suggest use that is independent of an automobile or disclose or suggest providing power to servers 102 and 102A independent of an automobile's power supply.

Further, Lau's servers lack power supplies and moreover does not rechargeable power supplies. Lau only provides a power block 330 that includes glue logic 330 for converting and distributing power within server 102. There is no power storage capacity provided by Lau's servers 102 and 102A and it is unclear how servers 102 and/or 102A would have utility outside of an automobile. As such, Lau fails to disclose, or suggest, the limitations of "communicatively coupling an automobile sound system to an a-portable electronic device via an adapter cable" wherein the "the portable electronic device [is] operable to be used independent of the automobile sound system" as recited in claim 24.

Absent the above limitations, Lau cannot anticipate amended claim 24. As such, Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 24. Additionally, claims 24-29, which depend from claim 24, provide additional limitations not present in Lau. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 24-29.

Rejection of Claims 30-35

Claims 30-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Claim 30 as amended, is distinct from Lau. Claim 30 includes, in addition to other limitations, "a portable electronic device mount formed to releasably engage a portion of a portable audio file player operable to be used independent of the vehicle sound system that includes a rechargeable power supply and a processor operable to play a locally stored audio file" and "an interface cable interconnecting the auxiliary connection port and the electronic device mount, the interface cable having at least one conductive element operable to deliver power to recharge the rechargeable power supply." (Emphasis Added)

As described above Lau fails to disclose a portable electronic device but at best provides a removable server 102 and 102A that rely on an automobile's power supply for power. As such, Lau fails to provide or suggest "a portable electronic device mount formed to releasably engage a portion of a portable audio file player operable to be used independent of the vehicle sound system that includes a rechargeable power supply and a processor operable to play a locally stored audio file" and "an interface cable interconnecting the auxiliary connection port and the electronic device mount, the interface cable having at least one conductive element operable to deliver power to recharge the rechargeable power supply" as recited in amended claim 30.

As such, Lau cannot anticipate amended claim 30. As such, Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 30. Additionally, claims 31-35, which depend from claim 30, provide additional limitations not present in Lau. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 30-35.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have amended the specification in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121. Applicants have provided a clean set of replacement paragraphs that correspond with their respective numbered paragraphs of the present specification. Applicants respectfully request entry of the replacement paragraphs as shown in the Specification section of this amendment.

Claims 1-2, 4, 6, 8, 12-13, 15, 17-19, 21, 24-26, and 28-35 have been amended accordingly. Applicants provide revised claims that adequately indicate proper mark-ups of the amended claim limitations. Applicants also submit that claims 1-35 are labeled with the appropriate claim status identifier in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment of November 1, 2005 is now in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121.

Applicants have made an earnest effort to place this case in condition for allowance in light of the amendments and remarks set forth above. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of claims 1-35. Applicants believe no additional fee is due.

Any changes to the claims in this amendment, which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below if such a call would in any way facilitate allowance of this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account **50-3797** of LARSON NEWMAN ABEL POLANSKY & WHITE, LLP.

Respectfully submitted,

3/21/06
Date

Russell W. White; Reg. No. 45,691
Attorney for Applicant
LARSON NEWMAN ABEL
POLANSKY & WHITE, L.L.P.
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(512) 439-7100 (phone)
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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/947,755	09/23/2004	Russell W. White	111111.1111-2C	1751

7590 03/03/2006

Russell W. White
10904 Doswell Cove
Austin, TX 78739

EXAMINER	
DANIEL JR, WILLIE J	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2686	

DATE MAILED: 03/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)	Application No. 10/947,755	Applicant(s) WHITE ET AL.	
	Examiner Linda W. Badie	Art Unit 2681	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

The amendment document filed on _____ is considered non-compliant because it has failed to meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121 or 1.4. In order for the amendment document to be compliant, correction of the following item(s) is required.

THE FOLLOWING MARKED (X) ITEM(S) CAUSE THE AMENDMENT DOCUMENT TO BE NON-COMPLIANT:

- ☒ 1. Amendments to the specification:
  - ☒ A. Amended paragraph(s) do not include markings.
  - ☐ B. New paragraph(s) should not be underlined.
  - ☐ C. Other _____.
- ☐ 2. Abstract:
  - ☐ A. Not presented on a separate sheet. 37 CFR 1.72.
  - ☐ B. Other _____.
- ☐ 3. Amendments to the drawings:
  - ☐ A. The drawings are not properly identified in the top margin as "Replacement Sheet," "New Sheet," or "Annotated Sheet" as required by 37 CFR 1.121(d).
  - ☐ B. The practice of submitting proposed drawing correction has been eliminated. Replacement drawings showing amended figures, without markings, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 are required.
  - ☐ C. Other _____.
- ☐ 4. Amendments to the claims:
  - ☐ A. A complete listing of all of the claims is not present.
  - ☐ B. The listing of claims does not include the text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims)
  - ☐ C. Each claim has not been provided with the proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim cannot be identified. Note: the status of every claim must be indicated after its claim number by using one of the following status identifiers: (Original), (Currently amended), (Canceled), (Previously presented), (New), (Not entered), (Withdrawn) and (Withdrawn-currently amended).
  - ☐ D. The claims of this amendment paper have not been presented in ascending numerical order.
  - ☐ E. Other: _____.
- ☐ 5. Other (e.g., the amendment is unsigned or not signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.4):

_____

For further explanation of the amendment format required by 37 CFR 1.121, see MPEP § 714.

TIME PERIODS FOR FILING A REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

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2. Applicant is given **one month**, or thirty (30) days, whichever is longer, from the mail date of this notice to supply the correction, if the non-compliant amendment is one of the following: a preliminary amendment, a non-final amendment (including a submission for a request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114), a supplemental amendment filed within a suspension period under 37 CFR 1.103(a) or (c), and an amendment filed in response to a *Quayle* action. If any of above boxes 1. to 4. are checked, the correction required is only the **corrected section** of the non-compliant amendment in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121.

   Extensions of time are available under 37 CFR 1.136(a) only if the non-compliant amendment is a non-final amendment or an amendment filed in response to a *Quayle* action.

   Failure to timely respond to this notice will result in:
   Abandonment of the application if the non-compliant amendment is a non-final amendment or an amendment filed in response to a *Quayle* action; or
   Non-entry of the amendment if the non-compliant amendment is a preliminary amendment or supplemental amendment.

Linda Badie — Legal Instruments Examiner (LIE), if applicable

571-272-7019 — Telephone No.

Part of Paper No. 022406

PTO/SB/06 (12-04)
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PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD

Substitute for Form PTO-875

Application or Docket Number 10/949,755

APPLICATION AS FILED – PART I

FOR	(Column 1) NUMBER FILED	(Column 2) NUMBER EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE ($)	SMALL ENTITY FEE ($)	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE ($)	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY FEE ($)
BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))							
SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (i), or (m))							
EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))							
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(i))	minus 20 =	*	X =		OR	X =	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	minus 3 =	*	X =			X =	
APPLICATION SIZE FEE (37 CFR 1.16(s))	If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is $250 ($125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).						
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))							
* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.			TOTAL			TOTAL	

APPLICATION AS AMENDED – PART II

AMENDMENT A	(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE ($)	SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE ($)	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE ($)	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	* 35	Minus	** 35	=	X =		OR	X =	
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	* 5	Minus	*** 5	=	X =		OR	X =	
Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))									
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							OR		
					TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

AMENDMENT B	(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE ($)	SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE ($)	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE ($)	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=	X =		OR	X =	
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=	X =		OR	X =	
Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))									
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							OR		
					TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.
** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/947,755	09/23/2004	Russell W. White	111111.1111-2C	1751

7590 03/03/2006

Russell W. White
10904 Doswell Cove
Austin, TX 78739

EXAMINER	
DANIEL JR, WILLIE J	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2686	

DATE MAILED: 03/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/947,755	WHITE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Linda W. Badie	2681	

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The amendment document filed on _____ is considered non-compliant because it has failed to meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121 or 1.4. In order for the amendment document to be compliant, correction of the following item(s) is required.

THE FOLLOWING MARKED (X) ITEM(S) CAUSE THE AMENDMENT DOCUMENT TO BE NON-COMPLIANT:

- ☒ 1. Amendments to the specification:
  - ☒ A. Amended paragraph(s) do not include markings.
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  - ☐ C. Other _____.
- ☐ 2. Abstract:
  - ☐ A. Not presented on a separate sheet. 37 CFR 1.72.
  - ☐ B. Other _____.
- ☐ 3. Amendments to the drawings:
  - ☐ A. The drawings are not properly identified in the top margin as "Replacement Sheet," "New Sheet," or "Annotated Sheet" as required by 37 CFR 1.121(d).
  - ☐ B. The practice of submitting proposed drawing correction has been eliminated. Replacement drawings showing amended figures, without markings, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 are required.
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- ☐ 4. Amendments to the claims:
  - ☐ A. A complete listing of all of the claims is not present.
  - ☐ B. The listing of claims does not include the text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims)
  - ☐ C. Each claim has not been provided with the proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim cannot be identified. Note: the status of every claim must be indicated after its claim number by using one of the following status identifiers: (Original), (Currently amended), (Canceled), (Previously presented), (New), (Not entered), (Withdrawn) and (Withdrawn-currently amended).
  - ☐ D. The claims of this amendment paper have not been presented in ascending numerical order.
  - ☐ E. Other: _____.
- ☐ 5. Other (e.g., the amendment is unsigned or not signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.4):

_____

For further explanation of the amendment format required by 37 CFR 1.121, see MPEP § 714.

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2. Applicant is given **one month**, or thirty (30) days, whichever is longer, from the mail date of this notice to supply the correction, if the non-compliant amendment is one of the following: a preliminary amendment, a non-final amendment (including a submission for a request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114), a supplemental amendment filed within a suspension period under 37 CFR 1.103(a) or (c), and an amendment filed in response to a *Quayle* action. If any of above boxes 1. to 4. are checked, the correction required is only the **corrected section** of the non-compliant amendment in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121.

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   Abandonment of the application if the non-compliant amendment is a non-final amendment or an amendment filed in response to a *Quayle* action; or
   Non-entry of the amendment if the non-compliant amendment is a preliminary amendment or supplemental amendment.

Linda Badie — Legal Instruments Examiner (LIE), if applicable

571-272-7019 — Telephone No.

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DATE: February 24, 2006

TO: Examiner
DANIEL JR., Willie J.
USPTO GPAU 2686
FAX NO.: 571-273-8300

FROM: Russell W. White / [signature]
Reg. No. 45,691

RE: REPLY TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT

U.S. APP NO.:	10/947,755
FILING DATE:	09/23/2004
APPLICANT(S):	Russell W. White et al.
ATTY DKT NO.:	111111.1111-2C
TITLE:	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE MP3 PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM (AS AMENDED)
NO. OF PAGES (INCL. COVER SHEET):	**26**

MESSAGE:

Attached please find:

☒ PTO/SB/21 Transmittal Form (1 pg.)

☒ Reply to Notice of Non-compliant Amendment (24 pgs.)

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Suite 265
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Fax: (512) 327-5452

PAGE 1/26 * RCVD AT 2/24/2006 4:45:23 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-3/12 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:512 327 5452 * DURATION (mm-ss):07-58

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission: 25

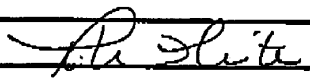
Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2686
Examiner Name	PEREZ-GUTIERREZ, Rafael
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

ENCLOSURES *(Check all that apply)*

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
  - ☐ Fee Attached
- ■ Amendment/Reply
  - ■ Notice of Non-compliant Amendment Reply
  - ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
  - ☐ Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53
- ☐ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer
- ☐ Request for Refund
- ☐ CD, Number of CD(s) _____
  - ☐ Landscape Table on CD
- ☐ After Allowance Communication to TC
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
- ☐ Appeal Communication to TC **(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)**
- ☐ Proprietary Information
- ☐ Status Letter
- ☐ Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):

Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name			
Signature			
Printed name	Russell W. White		
Date	2/24/06	Reg. No.	45,691

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Signature	Laura H. Andre		
Typed or printed name	LHAndre	Date	02/24/2006

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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CUSTOMER NO.
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Russell W. White et al.		
Title:	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE MP3 PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM (AS AMENDED)		
App. No.:	10/947,755	Filed:	09/23/2004
Examiner:	DANIEL JR., Willie J.	Group Art Unit:	2686
Atty. Dkt No.:	111111.111-2C	Confirmation No.:	1751

M/S AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.121

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice of Non-compliant Amendment mailed January 26, 2006, Applicants submit a replacement of the "Specification Replacement Paragraphs" and "Claim Amendments" section of the Reply to Non-Final Office Action filed November 1, 2005.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows under 37 CFR § 1.121:

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents on 02/24/2006

Laura H. Andre
Typed or Printed Name

Signature

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IN THE TITLE

Please amend the Title to read as follows:

"SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE AUDIO PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM"

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Specification with the following replacement paragraphs:

[0015] **FIG. 5B** illustrates an automobile console having a mount for coupling an electronic device according to one aspect of the present invention;

[0020] The conceptual groundwork for the present invention includes wirelessly communicating selective information to an electronic device. According to one aspect, a user may interact with the Internet to select information, such as audio information, and wirelessly communicate the selected information to an electronic device. The electronic device receives the information via a wireless communications network and processes the information accordingly. In a particularized form, a user may select information from an Internet website operable to allow selectivity of audio information such as songs, on-line radio stations, on-line broadcasts, streaming audio, or other selectable information. Upon selecting the audio information, information or data associated with the selected audio information is wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. The electronic device may then be used to process the selected audio information. In this manner, a user may receive selective audio information via a wireless electronic device.

[0021] In one form, the electronic device may be operable to communicate with an individual's automobile audio system. A user may select audio information utilizing a personal computer with access to a website operable to display selectable audio information. The selected audio information may then be wirelessly communicated to the electronic device associated with an automobile's audio system. Therefore, upon receiving the selected audio information, a user

may access and play the received audio information utilizing the electronic device in association with the automobile's audio system.

[0024] Communications engine 102 is communicatively coupled to digital engine 101 and operable to wirelessly communicate the selected information to electronic device 103. During operation, audio information may be selected by a user utilizing a personal computer or other devices operable to communicate with an information network. Digital engine 101 is operable to maintain information associated with the selected audio information. For example, the information could be several songs or titles configured as an audio file and formatted in a digital format such as an MP3 file, wave file, etc. The maintained information may also be a reference to a network location where an audio file may be stored, a network location where a network broadcast of audio information may be located, etc. or other network locations having information associated with the selected audio information. Therefore, digital engine 101 may maintain a plurality of different types of information or data associated with the selected audio information.

[0025] System 100, utilizing communication engine 102, may wirelessly communicate data or information associated with the selected audio information to electronic device 103 thereby providing wireless communication of selected information to an electronic device 103 operable to receive wireless communications. In one embodiment, digital engine 101 may be used in association with an Internet website configured to provide access to selectable information. The Internet website operably associated with digital engine 101 allows a user to select information to be wirelessly communicated to electronic device 103 utilizing a network environment. The Internet website may include several different types of information related to audio information.

[0030] In one embodiment, the selective information may be communicated using a digital broadcast signal. Digital broadcast includes providing information via a signal such as AM, FM, and the like. Digital information may be included or encoded as a sub-carrier within the broadcast signal and received by electronic device 103. A digital sub-carrier may include a selective bandwidth of frequencies for a specific radio station (i.e., 6 MHz for FM). The selective information may be wirelessly communicated to electronic device 103 utilizing a

communication engine 102 operable to communicate the selective information via a digital FM signal. In this manner, selective information may be communicated within digital FM sub-carriers to an electronic device operable to receive the information. For example, a user may subscribe to communicate the information via an FM sub-carrier and receive the selective data through wireless communication via a specified FM sub-carrier.

[0031] In one embodiment, the selected information may be formatted and transmitted to achieve a desirable transmission rate. For example, conventional systems may transmit information at a speed of 10 kilobits per second. Therefore, for 1 megabyte of information to be communicated to an electronic device, a transmission time of approximately 800 seconds may be required. The present invention may allow for a relative increase in transmission speed by removing the requirement that information be communicated asynchronously to an electronic device. For example, conventional wireless communication utilizes a specified frequency to communicate information in two directions (i.e., cellular phones). As such, information is communicated across a channel in an asynchronous manner to provide a continuous audio signal to the recipient.

[0040] Upon maintaining information or data associated with the selected information, the method proceeds to step 204 where the method wirelessly communicates information associated with the selected information to an electronic device. For example, if an audio file associated with the selected audio information was maintained, the method would communicate the audio file to the electronic device. In another embodiment, a link or network address broadcasting the selected audio information may be accessed and, at step 204, wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. In another embodiment, a combination of different types of audio information may be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. Upon transmitting the selected audio information, the method proceeds to step 205 where the method ends.

[0042] In some embodiments, the wireless communication to an electronic device may occur in an off-line environment. For example, a user may go "on-line" to access a website and select information and then go "off-line" or end the browsing session. The wireless communication may then occur while the user is off-line thereby removing the confines of using

an active or on-line browsing environment (i.e., Internet radio broadcast, streaming audio, etc.) for accessing selected information. Therefore, the method of FIG. 2 allows for information, such as audio information, to be communicated from a network location such as a web site, to an electronic device "via" wireless communication. The present invention advantageously allows users to access and download information accessible by a network location to an electronic device operable to receive wireless communications thereby reducing the need for land lines, terrestrial communication networks, etc. for communicating selective information.

[0043] In one embodiment, the method of FIG. 2 may be deployed in association with an Internet website operable to display selectable links for downloading information. The information may include audio information such as MP3s, streaming audio, streaming, Internet broadcasts, etc. are selectable by a user and operable to be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. By providing a user with a website of selectable audio information operable to be wireless communicated to an electronic device, a user may customize information communicated to an electronic device. In one embodiment, a user may communicate information to an electronic device that may not be owned by the user. For example the method of FIG. 2 could be modified to allow a user to wirelessly communicate audio information to a plurality of electronic devices that may or may not be owned by the user.

[0044] FIG. 3 illustrates an electronic device operable to receive selected audio information in accordance with the teachings of the present invention. Electronic device 300 includes a communication module 301 such as a transceiver coupled to storage medium 303 such as a high speed buffer, programmable memory, or other devices operable to store information. Electronic device 300 may also include processor 302 operably associated with communication module 301 and storage medium 303. Processor 302 may be operable to process wirelessly communicated selected information and in one embodiment may be integrated as part of communication module 301 of storage medium 303. In the same manner, as larger scale integration of electronic devices proliferate, communication module 301, processor 302, and storage medium 303 may be integrated into one communication component or device operable as electronic device 300.

[0045] Processor 302 may be operable using software that may be stored within storage medium 303. In one embodiment, software upgrades may be communicated to electronic device 300 via wireless communication allowing for efficient system upgrades for electronic device 300. Storage medium 303 may include one or several different types of storage devices. For example, storage medium 303 may include programmable gate arrays, ROM devices, RAM devices, EEPROMs, minidisks or other memory devices operable to store information.

[0046] During use, electronic device 300 receives wireless communications of selective information. The information may be transmitted via a wireless communications network and received by electronic device 300 via transceiver 301. Transceiver 301 may be operable to convert the received wireless communication signal into a desirable format and store the received information within storage medium 303. The received information may then be processed by electronic device 300.

[0051] For example, a specific frequency may be selected (i.e., 93.7 MHz) for communicating the wireless received selected information from electronic device 300 to a localized audio system. Electronic device 300 communication of the wirelessly received information allows a conventional receiver to receive the selected audio information. In one embodiment, the conventional receiver may be configured to receive a digital sub-carrier, on-carrier, or other within a specified frequency. Therefore, electronic device 300 may be operable to locally transmit the signal at a specific frequency thereby allowing the conventional receiver to receive the information. In another embodiment, electronic device 300 may be operable to scan plural bandwidths to receive the selective information. For example, transceiver 301 may be operable to receive selective information across several frequencies and process the received information accordingly.

[0056] FIG. 4 illustrates a graphical user interface (GUI) for displaying selectable audio information according to one aspect of the present invention. The GUI may be operable with a computer system, cellular device, PDA, or other electronic devices or systems operable to display the GUI of FIG. 4. The GUI, shown generally at 400, may be displayed using a conventional web browser 402 such as Microsoft® Internet Explorer, a WAP browser, or other browsers operable to display the audio information. Browser 402 includes browser functions,

shown collectively at 403, for navigating a network such as the Internet or an intranet. Homepage 401 may be displayed using browser 402 and may include several functions, features, information, etc. related to audio information. Home page 401 may be developed using several different types of programming (i.e., HTML, XML, Java, etc.) used to developing a network location or website.

[0059] Radio tab 406 may also be provided for displaying audio information. For example, radio tab 406 may display a collective menu 411 of selectable functions or features associated with audio information. Top ten lists may be provided to a user based on several different billboard polls or genres. A search engine may be provided allowing a user to search for a specific type of audio information such as an artist, song title, genre, and Internet radio stations, etc. In one embodiment, a user may input the lyrics to a song within the search engine. As such, the search engine may locate several different songs having the desirable lyrics and allow a user to select the search results. A user may also use a select a device feature that allows a user to select a destination device for communicating selected audio information. For example, a user may want to communicate a playlist to several different devices such as a PDA, a home computer system, a work computer system, etc.

[0061] In one embodiment, a user's radio dial 412 may be provided when a registered user logs into homepage 401. As such, radio dial 412 may include several functional buttons similar to conventional systems such as a volume control and a station control. However, radio dial 412 surpasses the limitations of conventional systems through providing a programmable radio dial of user customized audio information. Radio dial 412 includes several stations that may be programmed using program interface 413. The preset stations may include several different types of user customized preset information such as user selected playlists, Internet broadcast stations, top lists, group playlists, artist-selected lists, Internet radio station, conventional radio stations, Internet phone, cellular phone, etc. and other functions, features, or information associated with audio information.

[0062] Radio dial 412 may also be displayed as a separate user interface and in some embodiments, does not require a "browsing" environment to view radio dial 412. For example, an electronic device, such as a PDA, having a display may graphically present radio dial 412 to a

user. One example may be using electronic device in association with an automobile audio system. Electronic device may display radio dial 412 and may allow a user to navigate, modify, select, adjust volume, access daytimer, access phone lists, etc. or perform other functions while the electronic device is used in association with an automobile sound system. Therefore, radio dial 412 may be operable as an application for use with several different types of electronic devices (i.e., computer systems, portable computing devices, cellular phones, etc.) operable to display radio dial 412 and in come embodiments may be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device.

[0067] In one embodiment, the automobile may include memory operable associated with the automobile for storing information. The memory may be used in association with mount 511 and electronic device 512 to store the selected audio information. In this manner, voluminous audio information can be stored within the memory allowing electronic device 512 to receive additional information. In one embodiment, a mount may be provided for a home audio system (not shown) for downloading selected audio information for use with a home audio system. For example, a mount device may be coupled to a home stereo system such that the upon placing an electronic device such as electronic device 500 within the mount, selected audio information may be communicated to the home audio system thereby allowing a home audio system to be used in association with an electronic device.

[0069] During operation, system 600 communicates voice mail messages to a user utilizing email server 601. For example, if a user receives a voice mail message, email server 601 would be notified and a voice mail message would be sent to the user's email account in the form of an email message. For example, a voice mail message would be sent to a user's email account within intranet 604 in the form of an audio file as an attachment to the email. Upon receiving the email, a user may click on the audio file representing the voice mail message to hear the message left by a caller.

[0083] Upon communicating the selected information, the method may proceed to step 810 where the playlist may be executed. For example, a user may select a continuous communication of selected audio information (e.g., several hours of music, Internet broadcast, etc.). As such, the method may continuously play or execute the received audio information. In

another embodiment, the method may proceed to step 811 where the method may store or buffer the received information until it is desirable to execute the received selected audio information at step 812. As such, upon executing the selected audio information, the method may proceed to step 809 where the method may repeat. In one embodiment, a user may elect to download a broadcast of an on-line radio station. For example, a user may want to listen to a radio station located in a remote location wherein conventional radio receivers could not receive the desired broadcast. For example, a person living in Houston, Texas may not be able to receive a radio broadcast signal from a radio station in Seattle, Washington utilizing a conventional radio receiver.

[0092] During operation, electronic device 907 may be mounted within interface 904. Electronic device 907 may also be powered or recharged via power line 910 and communicate with the systems audio system via interface cable or bus line 911. Audio information communicated to electronic device 907 may be transferred to audio system 901 such that a user may listen to selected audio information. For example, a user may have previously selected a plurality of audio files to be transmitted to electronic device 907. Electronic device 907 may communicate the selected audio information to the automobiles audio system that utilizes interface 901 thereby allowing the user to listen to selected audio information. In one embodiment, cable 908 may be custom-installed to audio system 901. For example, the cable may be coupled to an auxiliary line for the system's radio or may be coupled to CD player line 912.

CUSTOMER NO.
34456

CLAIM LISTING

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An audio system, comprising:

~~an~~ portable 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, the portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system;

a playlist engine operable to maintain a first playlist and a second playlist, wherein the first playlist is operable to include a selection of audio content having a corresponding audio file saved in the memory;

an automobile having an automobile sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash sound system component operable to be coupled to the portable electronic device via a cable;

the in dash sound system component comprising a selector operable to allow a user to select the first playlist for outputting via the speaker; and

the cable having at least one conductive element operable to provide power ~~to the~~ and charge ~~to~~ a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device, the cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system.

2. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the portable electronic device is a portable MP3 player and the cable communicates a processed digital representation of the selection of audio content to the in dash sound system component.

3. (Original) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the selector comprises a button.

4. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the audio file player is an MP3 player.

5. (Original) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the in dash sound system component further comprises a second selector operable to allow the user to select the second playlist for outputting via the speaker.

6. (~~Original~~Currently amdnede) The audio system of claim 5, wherein the ~~first~~ selector is a first button and the second selector is a second button.

7. (Original) The audio system of claim 1, further comprising a playlist generator to generate the first playlist to be presented by the in dash sound system component.

8. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the in dash sound system component is fixed in a first location and the cable is routed to allow the portable electronic device to be located in a different location.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the cable plugs into the in dash sound system component at a port.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the port is located behind an automobile dashboard.

11. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the port is a compact disk player interconnect point of the in dash sound system component.

12. (Currently Amended) An audio system, comprising:

~~an~~ a portable 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 the portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system;

a device interface system that comprises a sound system connector and a device connector;

the sound system connector operable to communicatively couple the device interface system to a sound system; and

the device connector operable to releasably engage the portable electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the portable electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the portable electronic device, the device connector further operable to connect a power source to recharge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, further comprising an automobile having an automobile sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash sound system component, wherein the automobile sound system is the ~~installed~~ sound system.

14. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the sound system comprises a portable radio.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein the contact portion of the device interface system is provided at an end portion of a cable having at least one conductive element, the cable operable to provide power to the portable electronic device.

16. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the audio file player is operable to process audio content having a format selected from a group consisting of an MP3 file format, a WAV file format, and a streaming audio format.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating the outputting of audio content comprising:

accessing an automobile sound system component having at least a first button for controlling an operational feature of ~~an~~ the automobile sound system; and

installing a cable at the automobile sound system component that allows a user to output via the automobile sound system a playing of an audio content file stored in a memory of a portable electronic device that comprises the 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, the cable operable to couple a power source of the automobile to supply power to the portable electronic device and to recharge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising installing the cable to the automobile sound system component, the cable operable to conductively couple the portable electronic device to a power supply associated with the automobile.

19. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the cable is further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system component to output the playing of ~~the~~ an audio content file via a speaker assembly of the automobile sound system.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the cable enables communication between the portable electronic device and the automobile sound system component via a compact disk player port of the automobile sound system component.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the audio content file is included within a playlist, further wherein the ~~interface system~~ cable allows the portable electronic device to communicate information about the playlist to the automobile sound system component.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the information is selected from a group consisting of a playlist name, a playlist number, a song title, a song genre, and a performing artist.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the automobile sound system component is operable to present a graphical representation of the information to the user.

24. (Currently Amended) A method of outputting audio content, comprising:

communicatively coupling an automobile sound system to ~~an~~ a portable electronic device via an adapter cable, the portable electronic device having an audio file player, a local rechargeable power supply, and a memory operable to store a plurality of selected audio content files, the adapter cable operable to conductively couple the portable electronic device to a power supply associated with an automobile to

recharge the local rechargeable power supply, the portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the automobile sound system;

allowing selection of a first audio content file via a button selector operably coupled to the automobile sound system;

detecting a selection of the button selector;

playing the first audio content file with the audio file player in response to the detection; and

outputting a representation of the first audio content file via a speaker assembly of the automobile sound system.

25. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The method of claim 24, further comprising initiating playing of a first playlist comprising the first audio content file in response to ~~the detection~~detecting the selection of the button selector.

26. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The method of claim 25, further comprising initiating playing of a second playlist comprising the second audio content file in response to detecting selection of a second button selector.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising receiving an input to randomly play the first playlist.

28. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The method of claim 24, further comprising:

accessing ~~a~~the memory of the portable electronic device to identify ~~a~~the playlist to be output by an automobile sound system; and

linking the button selector with the playlist.

CUSTOMER NO.
34456

29. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The method of claim 24, ~~wherein the automobile sound system comprises a receiver,~~ further comprising:
receiving a wireless signal with ~~the~~ a receiver of the automobile sound system;
pausing the playing of the first audio content file; and
outputting audio information represented by the wireless signal.

30. (Currently Amended) An audio system, comprising:
~~a vehicle~~an automobile sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash component that includes an auxiliary connection port;
~~an~~a portable electronic device mount formed to releasably engage a portion of a portable audio file player operable to be used independent of the ~~vehicle~~ automobile sound system that includes a rechargeable power supply and a processor operable to play a locally stored audio file; and
an interface cable interconnecting the auxiliary connection port and the portable electronic device mount, the interface cable having at least one conductive element operable to deliver power to recharge the rechargeable power supply, the interface cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable audio file player to the in dash component.

31. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The system of claim 30, further comprising an automobile, wherein the ~~vehicle~~ automobile sound system is installed within the automobile.

32. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The system of claim 31, further comprising the portable audio file player, wherein the portable audio file player is an MP3 player.

33. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The system of claim 31, further comprising a button operably associated with the in dash component, the button operable to direct a mounted portable audio file player to begin playing a first playlist of locally stored audio content.

34. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The system of claim 33, wherein the interface cable is routed such that the mounted portable audio file player is located apart from the in dash component.

CUSTOMER NO.
34456

35. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The system of claim 34, wherein the interface cable communicates a digital audio signal output from the mounted-portable audio file player to the auxiliary connection port to allow outputting of a sound via the speaker.

CUSTOMER NO.
34456

REMARKS

In a non-final Office action mailed August 25, 2005, claims 1-13 and 15-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of U.S Pat. No. 6,772,212 ("Lau"), claims 12 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,061,306 ("Buchheim"). These rejections are addressed in the paragraphs below.

Applicants appreciate the time taken by the Examiner to carefully review Applicant's present application. Applicants have carefully reviewed the Non-Final Office Action mailed August 25, 2005.

Claims 1-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,772,212 B1 ("Lau"). Lau discloses music servers 102 and 102A that utilize external media cartridges 120 or external hard disk drives to store and supply audio files for playing by music servers 102 and 102A (See Figures 1 and 21). Servers 102 and 102A utilize an automobile's 12-Volt power supply as a source for powering controllers 320 and 320a and other components within music servers 102 and 102A (See Figures 6 and 22). In an advanced form, Lau's server 102A is integrated into a head unit that is permanently installed in the dash of an automobile (instead of the trunk) for controlling a radio, CD player, tape deck and outputting digital audio files (See col. 5, lines 11-13 and col. 18, lines 24-26).

Claims 12 and 14 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No 6,061,306 ("Buchheim"). As taught in juxtaposition to Lau (Lau criticizes utilization of tape player modules or portable music players that store music, (See Lau col. 2, lines 9 - 36), Buchheim discloses a portable audio device 10 for outputting a playing of a digital music file to speakers provided within the device (See Figure 2). The portable device of Buchheim also provides for mechanical and magnetic coupling when inserted into a cassette player to output an analog audio playing of a music file via a playing head 101 of a tape deck utilizing a magnetic emulator 22 (See Figure 1). Buchheim does not allow for an electrical connection between portable audio device 10 and a tape deck and as a result only low fidelity audio outputs are provided (See col. 8, lines 25-27).

Rejection of Claims 1-11

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Lau fails to disclose all of the limitation of amended claim 1. For example, claim 1 as amended, includes, in addition to other limitations, a "portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system." The servers of Lau are not portable but are at best removable or transferable. Lau teaches away from using portable electronic devices by stating "...using the portable solid state music player with an automobile is not satisfactory" (col. 2, lines 21-23). Lau's lack of portability is further evidenced by use of music servers 102 and 102A which rely on an external power source or a 12-Volt power supply provided by an automobile and portable music cartridges 120 that lack the capability of playing music independent of server 102. In one form, Lau provides a server 102A mounted as an in dash head unit for an automobile that includes a radio tuner and controls operation of a CD changer (see col. 18, lines 24-38). The current rejection mischaracterizes "remove ability" as "portability." Portable electronic devices are well known in the art of electronics as devices or systems that may allow a user to operate a device, for example, in a mobile environment independent or untethered to another system. Servers 102 and 102A disclosed by Lau do not provide or suggest use that is independent of an automobile or disclose or suggest providing power to servers 102 and 102A independent of an automobile's power supply. As such, it is unclear how servers 102 and 102A would have utility outside of an automobile as Lau fails to disclose, or suggest, the limitation of "portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system" as recited in claim 1.

Claim 1 also provides further limitations not found in Lau. For example, claim 1 includes the limitation of a "cable having at least one conductive element operable to provide power and recharge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device" and "the cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system" as recited in claim 1 (Emphasis Added).

Lau fails to provide such limitations. For example, Lau fails to disclose a cable to "provide power and recharge a rechargeable power supply." The connector provided by Lau connects power 330 having glue logic 330 to power servers 102 and 102A (See Figures 6 and 22). Lau does not have a power supply but depends solely on receiving and distributing power from an automobile only to power servers 102 and 102A. Lau states:

"...connector 322 provides the auto accessory signal and a 12 volt power source from the car battery or other power source. This 12-volt power is communicated to power module 330. Power module 330 then creates a 5 volt DC power source, which is communicated to the components shown in FIG. 6"

(See col. 7, lines 46-51)

The present invention of claim 1 extends beyond what Lau teaches through enabling powering a portable electronic device, communicatively coupling the portable electronic device to the automobile's sound system, and recharging a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device. As such, Lau fails to teach or suggest the limitations of providing a "cable having at least one conductive element operable to provide power and charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device" and "the cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system" as recited in claim 1.

Lacking such limitations, Lau cannot anticipate amended claim 1. As such, Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 1. Additionally, claims 2-11, which depend from claim 1, provide additional limitations not present in Lau. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 1-11.

Rejection of Claims 12-16

Claims 12-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Further, claims 12 and 14 stand rejected over Buchheim. Lau and Buchheim fail to disclose all the limitations of amended claim 12.

For example, claim 12 as amended includes, in addition to other limitations, a "device connector operable to releasably engage the portable electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the portable electronic device, the device connector further operable to connect a power source to charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device." (Emphasis Added)

As described above, Lau is not a portable electronic device but is at best removable and depends on an automobile's power supply to power servers 102 and 102A. Further, the limitations of claim 12 are not present in Lau as Lau does not provide or suggest a device connector to form a communication path to interconnect the sound system to a portable electronic device or connect a power source to charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device. As such, based on the limitations clearly not present in Lau, Lau cannot anticipate amended claim 12.

Amended claim 12 includes limitations not present in Buchheim. Claim 12 includes, in addition to other limitations, a "device connector operable to releasably engage the portable electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the portable electronic device, the device connector further operable to connect a power source to charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device." (Emphasis Added). There are no such elements within Buchheim.

Buchheim does not disclose a device connector and to provide any connection to a power supply of an automobile or cassette player to recharge device 10 and only includes a mechanical interface for translating operational commands of a cassette player (See col. 7, lines 41-44). Additionally, it would not be possible to modify the device of Buchheim to interface a portion of cassette deck using an electrical connection when mounted within a cassette holder. For example, when Buchheim is placed within a tape deck of an automobile, the internal configuration of the automobile's audio system (e.g., a magnetic interface) would not be able to provide a connector to connect the portable electronic device to form both a communication path to sound system and connect a power source to recharge a rechargeable supply of the portable electronic device.

As such, Buchheim fails to provide a "device connector operable to releasably engage the portable electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the portable electronic device, the device

connector further operable to connect a power source to charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device" as recited by claim 12.

The limitations of amended claim 12 are absent from both Lau and Buchheim and therefore cannot be anticipated. Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 12. Additionally, claims 13-16, which depend from claim 12, provide additional limitations not present in Lau or Buchheim. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 12-16.

Rejection of Claims 17-23

Claims 17-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Claim 17 as amended, is distinguishable over Lau. For example, claim 17 includes, in addition to other limitations, "installing a cable at the automobile sound system component to output via the automobile sound system a playing of an audio content file stored in a memory of a portable electronic device" wherein "the cable [is] operable to couple a power source of the automobile to supply power to the portable electronic device and to charge a rechargeable power source of the portable electronic device."

As discussed above, Lau discloses only non-portable servers 102 and 102A. Lau is not portable but is at best removable. Lau's lack of portability is evidenced by servers 102 and 102A that rely on an external power source from an automobile for power 330. Lau's server 102A is mounted as an in dash head unit for an automobile that includes a radio tuner and controls operation of a CD changer (see col. 18, lines 24-38). Lau's servers 102 and 102A do not provide or suggest use of servers 102 and 102A independent of an automobile's power supply and fails to provide "installing a cable at the automobile sound system component a user to output via the automobile sound system a playing of an audio content file stored in a memory of a portable electronic device" wherein "the cable [is] operable to couple a power source of the automobile to supply power to the portable electronic device and to charge a rechargeable power source of the portable electronic device" as recited in amended claim 17.

As such, Lau cannot anticipate claim 17. As such, Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 17. Additionally, claims 18-23, which depend from

claim 17, provide additional limitations not present in Lau. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 17-23.

Rejection of Claims 24-29

Claims 24-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Claim 24 is distinct from Lau. For example, claim 24 as amended, includes, in addition to other limitations, "communicatively coupling an automobile sound system to a portable electronic device via an adapter cable" wherein the "the portable electronic device [is] operable to be used independent of the automobile sound system." Lau fails to provide these limitations. For example, Lau only discloses servers 102 and 102A that rely on external power sources. Further, as stated above, Lau is not portable but is at best removable. Lau's lack of portability is evidenced by servers 102 and 102A, which rely on external power from an automobile for power 330. Additionally, Lau's server 102A is provided as an in dash head unit for an automobile that includes a radio tuner and controls operation of a CD changer (see col. 18, lines 24-38). Portable electronic devices are well known in the art as systems or devices that may operate independent of another system. Servers 102 and 102A disclosed by Lau do not provide or suggest use that is independent of an automobile or disclose or suggest providing power to servers 102 and 102A independent of an automobile's power supply.

Further, Lau's servers lack power supplies and moreover does not rechargeable power supplies. Lau only provides a power block 330 that includes glue logic 330 for converting and distributing power within server 102. There is no power storage capacity provided by Lau's servers 102 and 102A and it is unclear how servers 102 and/or 102A would have utility outside of an automobile. As such, Lau fails to disclose, or suggest, the limitations of "communicatively coupling an automobile sound system to an a-portable electronic device via an adapter cable" wherein the "the portable electronic device [is] operable to be used independent of the automobile sound system" as recited in claim 24.

Absent the above limitations, Lau cannot anticipate amended claim 24. As such, Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 24. Additionally, claims 24-29, which depend from claim 24, provide additional limitations not present in Lau. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 24-29.

Rejection of Claims 30-35

Claims 30-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Claim 30 as amended, is distinct from Lau. Claim 30 includes, in addition to other limitations, "a portable electronic device mount formed to releasably engage a portion of a portable audio file player operable to be used independent of the vehicle sound system that includes a rechargeable power supply and a processor operable to play a locally stored audio file" and "an interface cable interconnecting the auxiliary connection port and the electronic device mount, the interface cable having at least one conductive element operable to deliver power to recharge the rechargeable power supply." (Emphasis Added)

As described above Lau fails to disclose a portable electronic device but at best provides a removable server 102 and 102A that rely on an automobile's power supply for power. As such, Lau fails to provide or suggest "a portable electronic device mount formed to releasably engage a portion of a portable audio file player operable to be used independent of the vehicle sound system that includes a rechargeable power supply and a processor operable to play a locally stored audio file" and "an interface cable interconnecting the auxiliary connection port and the electronic device mount, the interface cable having at least one conductive element operable to deliver power to recharge the rechargeable power supply" as recited in amended claim 30.

As such, Lau cannot anticipate amended claim 30. As such, Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 30. Additionally, claims 31-35, which depend from claim 30, provide additional limitations not present in Lau. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 30-35.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have amended the specification in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121. Applicants have provided a clean set of replacement paragraphs that correspond with their respective numbered paragraphs of the present specification. Applicants respectfully request entry of the replacement paragraphs as shown in the Specification section of this amendment.

CUSTOMER NO.
34456

Claims 1-2, 4, 6, 8, 12-13, 15, 17-19, 21, 24-26, and 28-35 have been amended accordingly. Applicants provide revised claims that adequately indicate proper mark-ups of the amended claim limitations. Applicants also submit that claims 1-35 are labeled with the appropriate claim status identifier in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment of November 1, 2005 is now in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121.

Applicants have made an earnest effort to place this case in condition for allowance in light of the amendments and remarks set forth above. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of claims 1-35. Applicants believe no additional fee is due.

Any changes to the claims in this amendment, which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below if such a call would in any way facilitate allowance of this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-2469.

Respectfully submitted,

2/24/06
Date

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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

DATE: February 24, 2006

TO: Examiner
DANIEL JR., Willie J.
USPTO GPAU 2686

FAX NO.: 571-273-8300

FROM: Russell W. White / [signature]
Reg. No. 45,691

RE: REPLY TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT

U.S. APP NO.:	10/947,755
FILING DATE:	09/23/2004
APPLICANT(S):	Russell W. White et al.
ATTY DKT NO.:	111111.1111-2C
TITLE:	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE MP3 PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM (AS AMENDED)

NO. OF PAGES (INCL. COVER SHEET): **26**

MESSAGE:

Attached please find:

☒ PTO/SB/21 Transmittal Form (1 pg.)

☒ Reply to Notice of Non-compliant Amendment (24 pgs.)

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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission: 25

Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2686
Examiner Name	PEREZ-GUTIERREZ, Rafael
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

ENCLOSURES *(Check all that apply)*

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
  - ☐ Fee Attached
- ■ Amendment/Reply
  - ■ Notice of Non-compliant Amendment Reply
  - ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
  - ☐ Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53
- ☐ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
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- ☐ CD, Number of CD(s) _____
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Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name			
Signature	*Russell White*		
Printed name	Russell W. White		
Date	2/24/06	Reg. No.	45,691

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Russell W. White et al.		
Title:	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE MP3 PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM (AS AMENDED)		
App. No.:	10/947,755	Filed:	09/23/2004
Examiner:	DANIEL JR., Willie J.	Group Art Unit:	2686
Atty. Dkt No.:	111111.111-2C	Confirmation No.:	1751

M/S AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.121

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice of Non-compliant Amendment mailed January 26, 2006, Applicants submit a replacement of the "Specification Replacement Paragraphs" and "Claim Amendments" section of the Reply to Non-Final Office Action filed November 1, 2005.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows under 37 CFR § 1.121:

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING
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Laura H. Andre
Typed or Printed Name

Signature

CUSTOMER NO.
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IN THE TITLE

Please amend the Title to read as follows:

"SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE AUDIO PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM"

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Specification with the following replacement paragraphs:

[0015] **FIG. 5B** illustrates an automobile console having a mount for coupling an electronic device according to one aspect of the present invention;

[0020] The conceptual groundwork for the present invention includes wirelessly communicating selective information to an electronic device. According to one aspect, a user may interact with the Internet to select information, such as audio information, and wirelessly communicate the selected information to an electronic device. The electronic device receives the information via a wireless communications network and processes the information accordingly. In a particularized form, a user may select information from an Internet website operable to allow selectivity of audio information such as songs, on-line radio stations, on-line broadcasts, streaming audio, or other selectable information. Upon selecting the audio information, information or data associated with the selected audio information is wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. The electronic device may then be used to process the selected audio information. In this manner, a user may receive selective audio information via a wireless electronic device.

[0021] In one form, the electronic device may be operable to communicate with an individual's automobile audio system. A user may select audio information utilizing a personal computer with access to a website operable to display selectable audio information. The selected audio information may then be wirelessly communicated to the electronic device associated with an automobile's audio system. Therefore, upon receiving the selected audio information, a user

may access and play the received audio information utilizing the electronic device in association with the automobile's audio system.

[0024] Communications engine 102 is communicatively coupled to digital engine 101 and operable to wirelessly communicate the selected information to electronic device 103. During operation, audio information may be selected by a user utilizing a personal computer or other devices operable to communicate with an information network. Digital engine 101 is operable to maintain information associated with the selected audio information. For example, the information could be several songs or titles configured as an audio file and formatted in a digital format such as an MP3 file, wave file, etc. The maintained information may also be a reference to a network location where an audio file may be stored, a network location where a network broadcast of audio information may be located, etc. or other network locations having information associated with the selected audio information. Therefore, digital engine 101 may maintain a plurality of different types of information or data associated with the selected audio information.

[0025] System 100, utilizing communication engine 102, may wirelessly communicate data or information associated with the selected audio information to electronic device 103 thereby providing wireless communication of selected information to an electronic device 103 operable to receive wireless communications. In one embodiment, digital engine 101 may be used in association with an Internet website configured to provide access to selectable information. The Internet website operably associated with digital engine 101 allows a user to select information to be wirelessly communicated to electronic device 103 utilizing a network environment. The Internet website may include several different types of information related to audio information.

[0030] In one embodiment, the selective information may be communicated using a digital broadcast signal. Digital broadcast includes providing information via a signal such as AM, FM, and the like. Digital information may be included or encoded as a sub-carrier within the broadcast signal and received by electronic device 103. A digital sub-carrier may include a selective bandwidth of frequencies for a specific radio station (i.e., 6 MHz for FM). The selective information may be wirelessly communicated to electronic device 103 utilizing a

communication engine 102 operable to communicate the selective information via a digital FM signal. In this manner, selective information may be communicated within digital FM sub-carriers to an electronic device operable to receive the information. For example, a user may subscribe to communicate the information via an FM sub-carrier and receive the selective data through wireless communication via a specified FM sub-carrier.

[0031] In one embodiment, the selected information may be formatted and transmitted to achieve a desirable transmission rate. For example, conventional systems may transmit information at a speed of 10 kilobits per second. Therefore, for 1 megabyte of information to be communicated to an electronic device, a transmission time of approximately 800 seconds may be required. The present invention may allow for a relative increase in transmission speed by removing the requirement that information be communicated asynchronously to an electronic device. For example, conventional wireless communication utilizes a specified frequency to communicate information in two directions (i.e., cellular phones). As such, information is communicated across a channel in an asynchronous manner to provide a continuous audio signal to the recipient.

[0040] Upon maintaining information or data associated with the selected information, the method proceeds to step 204 where the method wirelessly communicates information associated with the selected information to an electronic device. For example, if an audio file associated with the selected audio information was maintained, the method would communicate the audio file to the electronic device. In another embodiment, a link or network address broadcasting the selected audio information may be accessed and, at step 204, wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. In another embodiment, a combination of different types of audio information may be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. Upon transmitting the selected audio information, the method proceeds to step 205 where the method ends.

[0042] In some embodiments, the wireless communication to an electronic device may occur in an off-line environment. For example, a user may go "on-line" to access a website and select information and then go "off-line" or end the browsing session. The wireless communication may then occur while the user is off-line thereby removing the confines of using

an active or on-line browsing environment (i.e., Internet radio broadcast, streaming audio, etc.) for accessing selected information. Therefore, the method of FIG. 2 allows for information, such as audio information, to be communicated from a network location such as a web site, to an electronic device "via" wireless communication. The present invention advantageously allows users to access and download information accessible by a network location to an electronic device operable to receive wireless communications thereby reducing the need for land lines, terrestrial communication networks, etc. for communicating selective information.

[0043] In one embodiment, the method of FIG. 2 may be deployed in association with an Internet website operable to display selectable links for downloading information. The information may include audio information such as MP3s, streaming audio, streaming, Internet broadcasts, etc. are selectable by a user and operable to be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. By providing a user with a website of selectable audio information operable to be wireless communicated to an electronic device, a user may customize information communicated to an electronic device. In one embodiment, a user may communicate information to an electronic device that may not be owned by the user. For example the method of FIG. 2 could be modified to allow a user to wirelessly communicate audio information to a plurality of electronic devices that may or may not be owned by the user.

[0044] FIG. 3 illustrates an electronic device operable to receive selected audio information in accordance with the teachings of the present invention. Electronic device 300 includes a communication module 301 such as a transceiver coupled to storage medium 303 such as a high speed buffer, programmable memory, or other devices operable to store information. Electronic device 300 may also include processor 302 operably associated with communication module 301 and storage medium 303. Processor 302 may be operable to process wirelessly communicated selected information and in one embodiment may be integrated as part of communication module 301 of storage medium 303. In the same manner, as larger scale integration of electronic devices proliferate, communication module 301, processor 302, and storage medium 303 may be integrated into one communication component or device operable as electronic device 300.

[0045] Processor 302 may be operable using software that may be stored within storage medium 303. In one embodiment, software upgrades may be communicated to electronic device 300 via wireless communication allowing for efficient system upgrades for electronic device 300. Storage medium 303 may include one or several different types of storage devices. For example, storage medium 303 may include programmable gate arrays, ROM devices, RAM devices, EEPROMs, minidisks or other memory devices operable to store information.

[0046] During use, electronic device 300 receives wireless communications of selective information. The information may be transmitted via a wireless communications network and received by electronic device 300 via transceiver 301. Transceiver 301 may be operable to convert the received wireless communication signal into a desirable format and store the received information within storage medium 303. The received information may then be processed by electronic device 300.

[0051] For example, a specific frequency may be selected (i.e., 93.7 MHz) for communicating the wireless received selected information from electronic device 300 to a localized audio system. Electronic device 300 communication of the wirelessly received information allows a conventional receiver to receive the selected audio information. In one embodiment, the conventional receiver may be configured to receive a digital sub-carrier, on-carrier, or other within a specified frequency. Therefore, electronic device 300 may be operable to locally transmit the signal at a specific frequency thereby allowing the conventional receiver to receive the information. In another embodiment, electronic device 300 may be operable to scan plural bandwidths to receive the selective information. For example, transceiver 301 may be operable to receive selective information across several frequencies and process the received information accordingly.

[0056] FIG. 4 illustrates a graphical user interface (GUI) for displaying selectable audio information according to one aspect of the present invention. The GUI may be operable with a computer system, cellular device, PDA, or other electronic devices or systems operable to display the GUI of FIG. 4. The GUI, shown generally at 400, may be displayed using a conventional web browser 402 such as Microsoft® Internet Explorer, a WAP browser, or other browsers operable to display the audio information. Browser 402 includes browser functions,

shown collectively at 403, for navigating a network such as the Internet or an intranet. Homepage 401 may be displayed using browser 402 and may include several functions, features, information, etc. related to audio information. Home page 401 may be developed using several different types of programming (i.e., HTML, XML, Java, etc.) used to developing a network location or website.

[0059] Radio tab 406 may also be provided for displaying audio information. For example, radio tab 406 may display a collective menu 411 of selectable functions or features associated with audio information. Top ten lists may be provided to a user based on several different billboard polls or genres. A search engine may be provided allowing a user to search for a specific type of audio information such as an artist, song title, genre, and Internet radio stations, etc. In one embodiment, a user may input the lyrics to a song within the search engine. As such, the search engine may locate several different songs having the desirable lyrics and allow a user to select the search results. A user may also use a select a device feature that allows a user to select a destination device for communicating selected audio information. For example, a user may want to communicate a playlist to several different devices such as a PDA, a home computer system, a work computer system, etc.

[0061] In one embodiment, a user's radio dial 412 may be provided when a registered user logs into homepage 401. As such, radio dial 412 may include several functional buttons similar to conventional systems such as a volume control and a station control. However, radio dial 412 surpasses the limitations of conventional systems through providing a programmable radio dial of user customized audio information. Radio dial 412 includes several stations that may be programmed using program interface 413. The preset stations may include several different types of user customized preset information such as user selected playlists, Internet broadcast stations, top lists, group playlists, artist-selected lists, Internet radio station, conventional radio stations, Internet phone, cellular phone, etc. and other functions, features, or information associated with audio information.

[0062] Radio dial 412 may also be displayed as a separate user interface and in some embodiments, does not require a "browsing" environment to view radio dial 412. For example, an electronic device, such as a PDA, having a display may graphically present radio dial 412 to a

user. One example may be using electronic device in association with an automobile audio system. Electronic device may display radio dial 412 and may allow a user to navigate, modify, select, adjust volume, access daytimer, access phone lists, etc. or perform other functions while the electronic device is used in association with an automobile sound system. Therefore, radio dial 412 may be operable as an application for use with several different types of electronic devices (i.e., computer systems, portable computing devices, cellular phones, etc.) operable to display radio dial 412 and in come embodiments may be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device.

[0067] In one embodiment, the automobile may include memory operable associated with the automobile for storing information. The memory may be used in association with mount 511 and electronic device 512 to store the selected audio information. In this manner, voluminous audio information can be stored within the memory allowing electronic device 512 to receive additional information. In one embodiment, a mount may be provided for a home audio system (not shown) for downloading selected audio information for use with a home audio system. For example, a mount device may be coupled to a home stereo system such that the upon placing an electronic device such as electronic device 500 within the mount, selected audio information may be communicated to the home audio system thereby allowing a home audio system to be used in association with an electronic device.

[0069] During operation, system 600 communicates voice mail messages to a user utilizing email server 601. For example, if a user receives a voice mail message, email server 601 would be notified and a voice mail message would be sent to the user's email account in the form of an email message. For example, a voice mail message would be sent to a user's email account within intranet 604 in the form of an audio file as an attachment to the email. Upon receiving the email, a user may click on the audio file representing the voice mail message to hear the message left by a caller.

[0083] Upon communicating the selected information, the method may proceed to step 810 where the playlist may be executed. For example, a user may select a continuous communication of selected audio information (e.g., several hours of music, Internet broadcast, etc.). As such, the method may continuously play or execute the received audio information. In

another embodiment, the method may proceed to step 811 where the method may store or buffer the received information until it is desirable to execute the received selected audio information at step 812. As such, upon executing the selected audio information, the method may proceed to step 809 where the method may repeat. In one embodiment, a user may elect to download a broadcast of an on-line radio station. For example, a user may want to listen to a radio station located in a remote location wherein conventional radio receivers could not receive the desired broadcast. For example, a person living in Houston, Texas may not be able to receive a radio broadcast signal from a radio station in Seattle, Washington utilizing a conventional radio receiver.

[0092] During operation, electronic device 907 may be mounted within interface 904. Electronic device 907 may also be powered or recharged via power line 910 and communicate with the systems audio system via interface cable or bus line 911. Audio information communicated to electronic device 907 may be transferred to audio system 901 such that a user may listen to selected audio information. For example, a user may have previously selected a plurality of audio files to be transmitted to electronic device 907. Electronic device 907 may communicate the selected audio information to the automobiles audio system that utilizes interface 901 thereby allowing the user to listen to selected audio information. In one embodiment, cable 908 may be custom-installed to audio system 901. For example, the cable may be coupled to an auxiliary line for the system's radio or may be coupled to CD player line 912.

CUSTOMER NO.
34456

CLAIM LISTING

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An audio system, comprising:

~~an~~ a portable 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, the portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system;

a playlist engine operable to maintain a first playlist and a second playlist, wherein the first playlist is operable to include a selection of audio content having a corresponding audio file saved in the memory;

an automobile having an automobile sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash sound system component operable to be coupled to the portable electronic device via a cable;

the in dash sound system component comprising a selector operable to allow a user to select the first playlist for outputting via the speaker; and

the cable having at least one conductive element operable to provide power ~~to the~~ and charge ~~to~~ a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device, the cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system.

2. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the portable electronic device is a portable MP3 player and the cable communicates a processed digital representation of the selection of audio content to the in dash sound system component.

3. (Original) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the selector comprises a button.

4. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the audio file player is an MP3 player.

5. (Original) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the in dash sound system component further comprises a second selector operable to allow the user to select the second playlist for outputting via the speaker.

6. (~~Original~~Currently amdnede) The audio system of claim 5, wherein the ~~first~~ selector is a first button and the second selector is a second button.

7. (Original) The audio system of claim 1, further comprising a playlist generator to generate the first playlist to be presented by the in dash sound system component.

8. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the in dash sound system component is fixed in a first location and the cable is routed to allow the portable electronic device to be located in a different location.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the cable plugs into the in dash sound system component at a port.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the port is located behind an automobile dashboard.

11. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the port is a compact disk player interconnect point of the in dash sound system component.

12. (Currently Amended) An audio system, comprising:

~~an~~a portable 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 the portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system;

a device interface system that comprises a sound system connector and a device connector;

the sound system connector operable to communicatively couple the device interface system to a sound system; and

the device connector operable to releasably engage the portable electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the portable electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the portable electronic device, the device connector further operable to connect a power source to recharge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, further comprising an automobile having an automobile sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash sound system component, wherein the automobile sound system is the ~~installed~~ sound system.

14. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the sound system comprises a portable radio.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein the contact portion of the device interface system is provided at an end portion of a cable having at least one conductive element, the cable operable to provide power to the portable electronic device.

16. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the audio file player is operable to process audio content having a format selected from a group consisting of an MP3 file format, a WAV file format, and a streaming audio format.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating the outputting of audio content comprising:

accessing an automobile sound system component having at least a first button for controlling an operational feature of ~~an~~ the automobile sound system; and

installing a cable at the automobile sound system component that allows a user to output via the automobile sound system a playing of an audio content file stored in a memory of a portable electronic device that comprises the 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, the cable operable to couple a power source of the automobile to supply power to the portable electronic device and to recharge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising installing the cable to the automobile sound system component, the cable operable to conductively couple the portable electronic device to a power supply associated with the automobile.

19. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the cable is further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system component to output the playing of ~~the~~ an audio content file via a speaker assembly of the automobile sound system.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the cable enables communication between the portable electronic device and the automobile sound system component via a compact disk player port of the automobile sound system component.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the audio content file is included within a playlist, further wherein the ~~interface system~~ cable allows the portable electronic device to communicate information about the playlist to the automobile sound system component.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the information is selected from a group consisting of a playlist name, a playlist number, a song title, a song genre, and a performing artist.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the automobile sound system component is operable to present a graphical representation of the information to the user.

24. (Currently Amended) A method of outputting audio content, comprising:
communicatively coupling an automobile sound system to ~~an~~ a portable electronic device via an adapter cable, the portable electronic device having an audio file player, a local rechargeable power supply, and a memory operable to store a plurality of selected audio content files, the adapter cable operable to conductively couple the portable electronic device to a power supply associated with an automobile to

recharge the local rechargeable power supply, the portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the automobile sound system;

allowing selection of a first audio content file via a button selector operably coupled to the automobile sound system;

detecting a selection of the button selector;

playing the first audio content file with the audio file player in response to the detection; and

outputting a representation of the first audio content file via a speaker assembly of the automobile sound system.

25. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The method of claim 24, further comprising initiating playing of a first playlist comprising the first audio content file in response to ~~the detection~~detecting the selection of the button selector.

26. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The method of claim 25, further comprising initiating playing of a second playlist comprising the second audio content file in response to detecting selection of a second button selector.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising receiving an input to randomly play the first playlist.

28. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The method of claim 24, further comprising:

accessing ~~a~~ the memory of the portable electronic device to identify ~~a~~ the playlist to be output by an automobile sound system; and

linking the button selector with the playlist.

29. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The method of claim 24, ~~wherein the automobile sound system comprises a receiver,~~ further comprising:
receiving a wireless signal with ~~the~~ a receiver of the automobile sound system;
pausing the playing of the first audio content file; and
outputting audio information represented by the wireless signal.

30. (Currently Amended) An audio system, comprising:
~~a vehicle~~an automobile sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash component that includes an auxiliary connection port;
~~an~~a portable electronic device mount formed to releasably engage a portion of a portable audio file player operable to be used independent of the ~~vehicle~~ automobile sound system that includes a rechargeable power supply and a processor operable to play a locally stored audio file; and
an interface cable interconnecting the auxiliary connection port and the portable electronic device mount, the interface cable having at least one conductive element operable to deliver power to recharge the rechargeable power supply, the interface cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable audio file player to the in dash component.

31. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The system of claim 30, further comprising an automobile, wherein the ~~vehicle~~ automobile sound system is installed within the automobile.

32. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The system of claim 31, further comprising the portable audio file player, wherein the portable audio file player is an MP3 player.

33. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The system of claim 31, further comprising a button operably associated with the in dash component, the button operable to direct a mounted portable audio file player to begin playing a first playlist of locally stored audio content.

34. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The system of claim 33, wherein the interface cable is routed such that the mounted portable audio file player is located apart from the in dash component.

CUSTOMER NO. 34456

35. (~~Original~~Currently amended) The system of claim 34, wherein the interface cable communicates a digital audio signal output from the mounted-portable audio file player to the auxiliary connection port to allow outputting of a sound via the speaker.

CUSTOMER NO.
34456

REMARKS

In a non-final Office action mailed August 25, 2005, claims 1-13 and 15-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of U.S Pat. No. 6,772,212 ("Lau"), claims 12 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,061,306 ("Buchheim"). These rejections are addressed in the paragraphs below.

Applicants appreciate the time taken by the Examiner to carefully review Applicant's present application. Applicants have carefully reviewed the Non-Final Office Action mailed August 25, 2005.

Claims 1-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,772,212 B1 ("Lau"). Lau discloses music servers 102 and 102A that utilize external media cartridges 120 or external hard disk drives to store and supply audio files for playing by music servers 102 and 102A (See Figures 1 and 21). Servers 102 and 102A utilize an automobile's 12-Volt power supply as a source for powering controllers 320 and 320a and other components within music servers 102 and 102A (See Figures 6 and 22). In an advanced form, Lau's server 102A is integrated into a head unit that is permanently installed in the dash of an automobile (instead of the trunk) for controlling a radio, CD player, tape deck and outputting digital audio files (See col. 5, lines 11-13 and col. 18, lines 24-26).

Claims 12 and 14 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No 6,061,306 ("Buchheim"). As taught in juxtaposition to Lau (Lau criticizes utilization of tape player modules or portable music players that store music, (See Lau col. 2, lines 9 - 36), Buchheim discloses a portable audio device 10 for outputting a playing of a digital music file to speakers provided within the device (See Figure 2). The portable device of Buchheim also provides for mechanical and magnetic coupling when inserted into a cassette player to output an analog audio playing of a music file via a playing head 101 of a tape deck utilizing a magnetic emulator 22 (See Figure 1). Buchheim does not allow for an electrical connection between portable audio device 10 and a tape deck and as a result only low fidelity audio outputs are provided (See col. 8, lines 25-27).

Rejection of Claims 1-11

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Lau fails to disclose all of the limitation of amended claim 1. For example, claim 1 as amended, includes, in addition to other limitations, a "portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system." The servers of Lau are not portable but are at best removable or transferable. Lau teaches away from using portable electronic devices by stating "...using the portable solid state music player with an automobile is not satisfactory" (col. 2, lines 21-23). Lau's lack of portability is further evidenced by use of music servers 102 and 102A which rely on an external power source or a 12-Volt power supply provided by an automobile and portable music cartridges 120 that lack the capability of playing music independent of server 102. In one form, Lau provides a server 102A mounted as an in dash head unit for an automobile that includes a radio tuner and controls operation of a CD changer (see col. 18, lines 24-38). The current rejection mischaracterizes "remove ability" as "portability." Portable electronic devices are well known in the art of electronics as devices or systems that may allow a user to operate a device, for example, in a mobile environment independent or untethered to another system. Servers 102 and 102A disclosed by Lau do not provide or suggest use that is independent of an automobile or disclose or suggest providing power to servers 102 and 102A independent of an automobile's power supply. As such, it is unclear how servers 102 and 102A would have utility outside of an automobile as Lau fails to disclose, or suggest, the limitation of "portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system" as recited in claim 1.

Claim 1 also provides further limitations not found in Lau. For example, claim 1 includes the limitation of a "cable having at least one conductive element operable to provide power and recharge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device" and "the cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system" as recited in claim 1 (Emphasis Added).

Lau fails to provide such limitations. For example, Lau fails to disclose a cable to "provide power and recharge a rechargeable power supply." The connector provided by Lau connects power 330 having glue logic 330 to power servers 102 and 102A (See Figures 6 and 22). Lau does not have a power supply but depends solely on receiving and distributing power from an automobile only to power servers 102 and 102A. Lau states:

"...connector 322 provides the auto accessory signal and a 12 volt power source from the car battery or other power source. This 12-volt power is communicated to power module 330. Power module 330 then creates a 5 volt DC power source, which is communicated to the components shown in FIG. 6"

(See col. 7, lines 46-51)

The present invention of claim 1 extends beyond what Lau teaches through enabling powering a portable electronic device, communicatively coupling the portable electronic device to the automobile's sound system, and recharging a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device. As such, Lau fails to teach or suggest the limitations of providing a "cable having at least one conductive element operable to provide power and charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device" and "the cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system" as recited in claim 1.

Lacking such limitations, Lau cannot anticipate amended claim 1. As such, Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 1. Additionally, claims 2-11, which depend from claim 1, provide additional limitations not present in Lau. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 1-11.

Rejection of Claims 12-16

Claims 12-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Further, claims 12 and 14 stand rejected over Buchheim. Lau and Buchheim fail to disclose all the limitations of amended claim 12.

For example, claim 12 as amended includes, in addition to other limitations, a "device connector operable to releasably engage the portable electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the portable electronic device, the device connector further operable to connect a power source to charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device." (Emphasis Added)

As described above, Lau is not a portable electronic device but is at best removable and depends on an automobile's power supply to power servers 102 and 102A. Further, the limitations of claim 12 are not present in Lau as Lau does not provide or suggest a device connector to form a communication path to interconnect the sound system to a portable electronic device or connect a power source to charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device. As such, based on the limitations clearly not present in Lau, Lau cannot anticipate amended claim 12.

Amended claim 12 includes limitations not present in Buchheim. Claim 12 includes, in addition to other limitations, a "device connector operable to releasably engage the portable electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the portable electronic device, the device connector further operable to connect a power source to charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device." (Emphasis Added). There are no such elements within Buchheim.

Buchheim does not disclose a device connector and to provide any connection to a power supply of an automobile or cassette player to recharge device 10 and only includes a mechanical interface for translating operational commands of a cassette player (See col. 7, lines 41-44). Additionally, it would not be possible to modify the device of Buchheim to interface a portion of cassette deck using an electrical connection when mounted within a cassette holder. For example, when Buchheim is placed within a tape deck of an automobile, the internal configuration of the automobile's audio system (e.g., a magnetic interface) would not be able to provide a connector to connect the portable electronic device to form both a communication path to sound system and connect a power source to recharge a rechargeable supply of the portable electronic device.

As such, Buchheim fails to provide a "device connector operable to releasably engage the portable electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the portable electronic device, the device

connector further operable to connect a power source to charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device" as recited by claim 12.

The limitations of amended claim 12 are absent from both Lau and Buchheim and therefore cannot be anticipated. Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 12. Additionally, claims 13-16, which depend from claim 12, provide additional limitations not present in Lau or Buchheim. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 12-16.

Rejection of Claims 17-23

Claims 17-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Claim 17 as amended, is distinguishable over Lau. For example, claim 17 includes, in addition to other limitations, "installing a cable at the automobile sound system component to output via the automobile sound system a playing of an audio content file stored in a memory of a portable electronic device" wherein "the cable [is] operable to couple a power source of the automobile to supply power to the portable electronic device and to charge a rechargeable power source of the portable electronic device."

As discussed above, Lau discloses only non-portable servers 102 and 102A. Lau is not portable but is at best removable. Lau's lack of portability is evidenced by servers 102 and 102A that rely on an external power source from an automobile for power 330. Lau's server 102A is mounted as an in dash head unit for an automobile that includes a radio tuner and controls operation of a CD changer (see col. 18, lines 24-38). Lau's servers 102 and 102A do not provide or suggest use of servers 102 and 102A independent of an automobile's power supply and fails to provide "installing a cable at the automobile sound system component a user to output via the automobile sound system a playing of an audio content file stored in a memory of a portable electronic device" wherein "the cable [is] operable to couple a power source of the automobile to supply power to the portable electronic device and to charge a rechargeable power source of the portable electronic device" as recited in amended claim 17.

As such, Lau cannot anticipate claim 17. As such, Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 17. Additionally, claims 18-23, which depend from

claim 17, provide additional limitations not present in Lau. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 17-23.

Rejection of Claims 24-29

Claims 24-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Claim 24 is distinct from Lau. For example, claim 24 as amended, includes, in addition to other limitations, "communicatively coupling an automobile sound system to a portable electronic device via an adapter cable" wherein the "the portable electronic device [is] operable to be used independent of the automobile sound system." Lau fails to provide these limitations. For example, Lau only discloses servers 102 and 102A that rely on external power sources. Further, as stated above, Lau is not portable but is at best removable. Lau's lack of portability is evidenced by servers 102 and 102A, which rely on external power from an automobile for power 330. Additionally, Lau's server 102A is provided as an in dash head unit for an automobile that includes a radio tuner and controls operation of a CD changer (see col. 18, lines 24-38). Portable electronic devices are well known in the art as systems or devices that may operate independent of another system. Servers 102 and 102A disclosed by Lau do not provide or suggest use that is independent of an automobile or disclose or suggest providing power to servers 102 and 102A independent of an automobile's power supply.

Further, Lau's servers lack power supplies and moreover does not rechargeable power supplies. Lau only provides a power block 330 that includes glue logic 330 for converting and distributing power within server 102. There is no power storage capacity provided by Lau's servers 102 and 102A and it is unclear how servers 102 and/or 102A would have utility outside of an automobile. As such, Lau fails to disclose, or suggest, the limitations of "communicatively coupling an automobile sound system to an a-portable electronic device via an adapter cable" wherein the "the portable electronic device [is] operable to be used independent of the automobile sound system" as recited in claim 24.

Absent the above limitations, Lau cannot anticipate amended claim 24. As such, Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 24. Additionally, claims 24-29, which depend from claim 24, provide additional limitations not present in Lau. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 24-29.

Rejection of Claims 30-35

Claims 30-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Claim 30 as amended, is distinct from Lau. Claim 30 includes, in addition to other limitations, "a portable electronic device mount formed to releasably engage a portion of a portable audio file player operable to be used independent of the vehicle sound system that includes a rechargeable power supply and a processor operable to play a locally stored audio file" and "an interface cable interconnecting the auxiliary connection port and the electronic device mount, the interface cable having at least one conductive element operable to deliver power to recharge the rechargeable power supply." (Emphasis Added)

As described above Lau fails to disclose a portable electronic device but at best provides a removable server 102 and 102A that rely on an automobile's power supply for power. As such, Lau fails to provide or suggest "a portable electronic device mount formed to releasably engage a portion of a portable audio file player operable to be used independent of the vehicle sound system that includes a rechargeable power supply and a processor operable to play a locally stored audio file" and "an interface cable interconnecting the auxiliary connection port and the electronic device mount, the interface cable having at least one conductive element operable to deliver power to recharge the rechargeable power supply" as recited in amended claim 30.

As such, Lau cannot anticipate amended claim 30. As such, Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 30. Additionally, claims 31-35, which depend from claim 30, provide additional limitations not present in Lau. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 30-35.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have amended the specification in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121. Applicants have provided a clean set of replacement paragraphs that correspond with their respective numbered paragraphs of the present specification. Applicants respectfully request entry of the replacement paragraphs as shown in the Specification section of this amendment.

CUSTOMER NO.
34456

Claims 1-2, 4, 6, 8, 12-13, 15, 17-19, 21, 24-26, and 28-35 have been amended accordingly. Applicants provide revised claims that adequately indicate proper mark-ups of the amended claim limitations. Applicants also submit that claims 1-35 are labeled with the appropriate claim status identifier in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment of November 1, 2005 is now in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121.

Applicants have made an earnest effort to place this case in condition for allowance in light of the amendments and remarks set forth above. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of claims 1-35. Applicants believe no additional fee is due.

Any changes to the claims in this amendment, which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below if such a call would in any way facilitate allowance of this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-2469.

Respectfully submitted,

2/24/06
Date

Russell W. White; Reg. No. 45,691
Attorney for Applicant(s)
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PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD

Substitute for Form PTO-875

Application or Docket Number: 10/947755

APPLICATION AS FILED – PART I

FOR	(Column 1) NUMBER FILED	(Column 2) NUMBER EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE ($)	SMALL ENTITY FEE ($)	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE ($)	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY FEE ($)
BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))							
SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (i), or (m))							
EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))							
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(i))	minus 20 =	*	X =		OR	X =	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	minus 3 =	*	X =			X =	
APPLICATION SIZE FEE (37 CFR 1.16(s))	If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is $250 ($125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).						
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))							
			TOTAL			TOTAL	

* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.

APPLICATION AS AMENDED – PART II

2-24-06

AMENDMENT A	(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE ($)	SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE ($)	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE ($)	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	* 35	Minus	** 35	= 0	X =		OR	X =	
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	* 5	Minus	*** 5	= 0	X =		OR	X =	
Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))									
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							OR		
					TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

AMENDMENT B	(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)	OR	RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=	X =		OR	X =	
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=	X =		OR	X =	
Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))									
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							OR		
					TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.
** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".
*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".
The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.16. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/947,755	09/23/2004	Russell W. White	111111.1111-2C	1751

7590 01/26/2006

Russell W. White
10904 Doswell Cove
Austin, TX 78739

EXAMINER	
DANIEL JR, WILLIE J	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2686	

DATE MAILED: 01/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/947,755	WHITE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Willie J. Daniel, Jr.	2686	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

The amendment document filed on *01 November 2005* is considered non-compliant because it has failed to meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121. In order for the amendment document to be compliant, correction of the following item(s) is required.

THE FOLLOWING MARKED (X) ITEM(S) CAUSE THE AMENDMENT DOCUMENT TO BE NON-COMPLIANT:

- ☐ 1. Amendments to the specification:
  - ☐ A. Amended paragraph(s) do not include markings.
  - ☐ B. New paragraph(s) should not be underlined.
  - ☐ C. Other _____.
- ☐ 2. Abstract:
  - ☐ A. Not presented on a separate sheet. 37 CFR 1.72.
  - ☐ B. Other _____.
- ☐ 3. Amendments to the drawings:
  - ☐ A. The drawings are not properly identified in the top margin as "Replacement Sheet," "New Sheet," or "Annotated Sheet" as required by 37 CFR 1.121(d).
  - ☐ B. The practice of submitting proposed drawing correction has been eliminated. Replacement drawings showing amended figures, without markings, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 are required.
  - ☐ C. Other _____.
- ☒ 4. Amendments to the claims:
  - ☐ A. A complete listing of all of the claims is not present.
  - ☐ B. The listing of claims does not include the text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims)
  - ☐ C. Each claim has not been provided with the proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim cannot be identified. Note: the status of every claim must be indicated after its claim number by using one of the following status identifiers: (Original), (Currently amended), (Canceled), (Previously presented), (New), (Not entered), (Withdrawn) and (Withdrawn-currently amended).
  - ☐ D. The claims of this amendment paper have not been presented in ascending numerical order.
  - ☒ E. Other: *See Continuation Sheet*.

For further explanation of the amendment format required by 37 CFR 1.121, see MPEP § 714 and the USPTO website at http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/officeflyer.pdf .

TIME PERIODS FOR FILING A REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

1. Applicant is given **no new time period** if the non-compliant amendment is an after-final amendment or an amendment filed after allowance. If applicant wishes to resubmit the non-compliant after-final amendment with corrections, the **entire corrected amendment** must be resubmitted within the time period set forth in the final Office action.

2. Applicant is given **one month**, or thirty (30) days, whichever is longer, from the mail date of this notice to supply the **corrected section** of the non-compliant amendment in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121, if the non-compliant amendment is one of the following: a preliminary amendment, a non-final amendment (including a submission for a request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114), a supplemental amendment filed within a suspension period under 37 CFR 1.103(a) or (c), and an amendment filed in response to a *Quayle* action.

   Extensions of time are available under 37 CFR 1.136(a) only if the non-compliant amendment is a non-final amendment or an amendment filed in response to a *Quayle* action.

   Failure to timely respond to this notice will result in:
   Abandonment of the application if the non-compliant amendment is a non-final amendment or an amendment filed in response to a *Quayle* action; or
   Non-entry of the amendment if the non-compliant amendment is a preliminary amendment or supplemental amendment.

CHARLES APPIAH
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Continuation of 4(e) Other: Claims 1 and 24 are labeled as "Currently Amended" in which the applicant provided mark-up (e.g., underlining and strike-through) to the amended limitation(s) of the claim. Applicant failed to properly mark-up all new limitations in the amended claims 1 and 24. See MPEP § 714 and 37 CFR 1.121(c).

This list of examples is not intended to be exhaustive. The Examiner respectfully requests the applicant to review all claims and clarify the issues as listed above as well as any other issue(s) that are not listed.

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DATE: **January 17, 2006**

TO: **Examiner**
DANIEL, JR., Willie J.
USPTO GPAU 2686

FAX NO.: **571-273-8300**

FROM: **Russell W. White** /RWW/
Reg. No. 45,691

RE: CHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

U.S. APP NO.:	**10/947,755**
FILING DATE:	**09/23/2004**
APPLICANT(S):	**Russell W. White et al.**
ATTY DKT NO.:	**111111.1111-2C**
TITLE:	**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE MP3 PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM (AS AMENDED)**
NO. OF PAGES (INCL. COVER SHEET):	**3**

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Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2686
Examiner Name	DANIEL JR., Willie J.
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

ENCLOSURES *(Check all that apply)*

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
  - ☐ Fee Attached
- ☐ Amendment/Reply
  - ☐ After Final
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- ☐ Appeal Communication to TC **(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)**
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- ☐ Status Letter
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name			
Signature	Russell W. White		
Printed name	Russell W. White		
Date	1/17/06	Reg. No.	45,691

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Signature	Laura H. Andre		
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: **Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2686
Examiner Name	DANIEL JR., Willie J.
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

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NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below*.

☑ *Total of 2 forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.33. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: **Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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TOLER
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& ABEL LLP

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

DATE: **January 17, 2006**

TO: **Examiner** FAX NO.: **571-273-8300**
DANIEL, JR., Willie J.
USPTO GPAU 2686

FROM: **Russell W. White** /RWW/
Reg. No. 45,691

RE: CHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

U.S. APP NO.:	**10/947,755**
FILING DATE:	**09/23/2004**
APPLICANT(S):	**Russell W. White et al.**
ATTY DKT NO.:	**111111.1111-2C**
TITLE:	**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE MP3 PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM (AS AMENDED)**
NO. OF PAGES (INCL. COVER SHEET):	**3**

MESSAGE:

Attached please find:

☒ PTO/SB/21 Transmittal Form (1 pg.)

☒ PTO/SB/122 Change of Correspondence (1 pg.)

5000 Plaza On The Lake
Suite 265
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78746

Tel: (512) 327-5515
Fax: (512) 327-5452

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)
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Total Number of Pages In This Submission: 2

Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2686
Examiner Name	DANIEL JR., Willie J.
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
  - ☐ Fee Attached
- ☐ Amendment/Reply
  - ☐ After Final
  - ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
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Firm Name			
Signature	Rwhite		
Printed name	Russell W. White		
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CHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS
Application

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Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2686
Examiner Name	DANIEL JR., Willie J.
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

Please change the Correspondence Address for the above-identified patent application to:

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☑ Firm or Individual Name	Russell W. White				
Address	10904 Doswell Cove				
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I am the:

☐ Applicant/Inventor

☐ Assignee of record of the entire interest.
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).

☑ Attorney or Agent of record. Registration Number 45,691

☐ Registered practitioner named in the application transmittal letter in an application without an executed oath or declaration. See 37 CFR 1.33(a)(1). Registration Number_____.

Typed or Printed Name Russell W. White

Signature

Date 1/17/06 Telephone (512) 301-5518

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below*.

☑ *Total of 2 forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.33. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/947,755	09/23/2004	Russell W. White	111111.1111-2C	1751

34456 7590 11/01/2005

TOLER & LARSON & ABEL L.L.P.
5000 PLAZA ON THE LAKE STE 265
AUSTIN, TX 78746

EXAMINER	
PEREZ GUTIERREZ, RAFAEL	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2686	

DATE MAILED: 11/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

Interview Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/947,755	White et al.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Rafael Perez-Gutierrez	2686	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) *Rafael Perez-Gutierrez*. (3)_____.

(2) *Kevin R. Imes*. (4)_____.

Date of Interview: *25 October 2005*.

Type: a)☒ Telephonic b)☐ Video Conference
c)☐ Personal [copy given to: 1)☐ applicant 2)☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d)☐ Yes e)☒ No.
If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: *1, 12, 24, and 30*.

Identification of prior art discussed: *Lau et al. (U.S. Patent # 6,772,212 B1)*.

Agreement with respect to the claims f)☐ was reached. g)☒ was not reached. h)☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: *The Examiner and Mr. Imes discussed proposed amendments to the above-mentioned claims in view of the prior art of record. No agreement was reached and Mr. Imes advised the Examiner that an amendment will be filed in due course*.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

Examiner's signature, if required

RAFAEL PEREZ-GUTIERREZ
PRIMARY EXAMINER
10/25/05

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record
A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews
Paragraph (b)
In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.
All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:
- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:
1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
2) an identification of the claims discussed,
3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
   (The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

DATE: **November 1, 2005**

TO: **Examiner** FAX NO.: **571-273-8300**
PEREZ-GUTIERREZ, Rafael
USPTO GPAU 2686

FROM: **Russell W. White** /mAndre
Reg. No. 45,691

RE: ***REPLY TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION***

U.S. APP NO.:	**10/947,755**
FILING DATE:	**09/23/2004**
APPLICANT(S):	**Russell W. White et al.**
ATTY DKT NO.:	**111111.1111-2C**
TITLE:	**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE MP3 PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM (AS AMENDED)**
NO. OF PAGES (INCL. COVER SHEET):	**25**

MESSAGE:

Attached please find:

☒ PTO/SB/21 Transmittal Form (1 pg.)

☒ Reply to Non-Final Office Action (23 pgs.)

5000 Plaza On The Lake
Suite 265
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PAGE 1/25 * RCVD AT 11/1/2005 4:01:53 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-6/29 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:512 327 5452 * DURATION (mm-ss):07-10

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission	24

Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2686
Examiner Name	PEREZ-GUTIERREZ, Rafael
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

ENCLOSURES *(Check all that apply)*

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
  - ☐ Fee Attached
- ☑ Amendment/Reply
  - ☐ After Final
  - ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
  - ☐ Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53
- ☐ Drawing(s)
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- ☐ Proprietary Information
- ☐ Status Letter
- ☐ Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):

Remarks

Customer Number 34456

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	TOLER, LARSON & ABEL, LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	Russell W. White		
Date	11/1/05	Reg. No.	45,691

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Russell W. White et al.		
Title:	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE MP3 PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM (AS AMENDED)		
App. No.:	10/947,755	Filed:	09/23/2004
Examiner:	PEREZ-GUTIERREZ, Rafael	Group Art Unit:	2686
Atty. Dkt No.:	111111.111-2C	Confirmation No.:	1751

M/S AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

In response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed August 28, 2005, Applicants request the Examiner to reconsider the application in view of the following amendments and remarks:

Specification amendments begin on page 2.

Claim amendments begin on page 10.

Remarks begin on page 16.

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Laura H. Andre
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Signature

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Title to read as follows:

"SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE AUDIO PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM"

Please amend the specification as indicated below:

[0015] **FIG. 5B** illustrates an automobile console having a mount for coupling an electronic device according to one aspect of the present invention;

[0020] The conceptual groundwork for the present invention includes wirelessly communicating selective information to an electronic device. According to one aspect, a user may interact with the Internet to select information, such as audio information, and wirelessly communicate the selected information to an electronic device. The electronic device receives the information via a wireless communications network and processes the information accordingly. In a particularized form, a user may select information from an Internet website operable to allow selectivity of audio information such as songs, on-line radio stations, on-line broadcasts, streaming audio, or other selectable information. Upon selecting the audio information, information or data associated with the selected audio information is wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. The electronic device may then be used to process the selected audio information. In this manner, a user may receive selective audio information via a wireless electronic device.

[0021] In one form, the electronic device may be operable to communicate with an individual's automobile audio system. A user may select audio information utilizing a personal computer with access to a website operable to display selectable audio information. The selected audio information may then be wirelessly communicated to the electronic device associated with an automobile's audio system. Therefore, upon receiving the selected audio information, a user may access and play the received audio information utilizing the electronic device in association with the automobile's audio system.

[0024] Communications engine 102 is communicatively coupled to digital engine 101 and operable to wirelessly communicate the selected information to electronic device 103. During operation, audio information may be selected by a user utilizing a personal computer or other devices operable to communicate with an information network. Digital engine 101 ~~102~~ is operable to maintain information associated with the selected audio information. For example, the information could be several songs or titles configured as an audio file and formatted in a digital format such as an MP3 file, wave file, etc. The maintained information may also be a reference to a network location where an audio file may be stored, a network location where a network broadcast of audio information may be located, etc. or other network locations having information associated with the selected audio information. Therefore, digital engine 101 may maintain a plurality of different types of information or data associated with the selected audio information.

[0025] System 100, utilizing communication engine 102, may wirelessly communicate data or information associated with the selected audio information to electronic device 103 ~~105~~thereby providing wireless communication of selected information to an electronic device operable to receive wireless communications. In one embodiment, digital engine 101 may be used in association with an Internet website configured to provide access to selectable information. The Internet website operably associated with digital engine 101 allows a user to select information to be wirelessly communicated to electronic device 101 ~~105~~ utilizing a network environment. The Internet website may include several different types of information related to audio information.

[0030] In one embodiment, the selective information may be communicated using a digital broadcast signal. Digital broadcast includes providing information via a signal such as AM, FM, and the like. Digital information may be included or encoded as a sub-carrier within the broadcast signal and received by electronic device 103. A digital sub-carrier may include a selective bandwidth of frequencies for a specific radio station (i.e., 6 MHz for FM). The selective information may be wirelessly communicated to electronic device 103 utilizing a communication engine 102 operable to communicate the selective information via a digital FM signal. In this manner, selective information may be communicated within digital FM sub-carriers to an electronic device operable to receive the information. For example, a user may

subscribe to communicate the information via an FM sub-carrier and receive the selective data through wireless communication via a specified FM sub-carrier.

[0031] In one embodiment, the selected information may be formatted and transmitted to achieve a desirable transmission rate. For example, conventional systems may transmit information at a speed of 10 kilobits per second. Therefore, for 1 megabyte of information to be communicated to an electronic device, a transmission time of approximately 800 seconds may be required. The present invention may allow for a relative increase in transmission speed by removing the requirement that information be communicated asynchronously to an electronic device. For example, conventional wireless communication utilizes a specified frequency to communicate information in two directions (i.e., cellular phones). As such, information is communicated across a channel in an asynchronous manner to provide a continuous audio signal to the recipient.

[0040] Upon maintaining information or data associated with the selected information, the method proceeds to step 204 where the method wirelessly communicates information associated with the selected information to an electronic device. For example, if an audio file associated with the selected audio information was ~~were~~ maintained, the method would communicate the audio file to the electronic device. In another embodiment, a link or network address broadcasting the selected audio information may be accessed and, at step 204, wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. In another embodiment, a combination of different types of audio information may be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. Upon transmitting the selected audio information, the method proceeds to step 205 where the method ends.

[0042] In some embodiments, the wireless communication to an electronic device may occur in an off-line environment. For example, a user may go "on-line" to access a website and select information and then go "off-line" or end the browsing session. The wireless communication may then occur while the user is off-line thereby removing the confines of using an active or on-line browsing environment (i.e., Internet radio broadcast, streaming audio, etc.) for accessing selected information. Therefore, the method of FIG. 2 allows for information, such as audio information, to be communicated from a network location such as a web site, to an

electronic device "via" wireless communication. The present invention advantageously allows users to access and download information accessible by a network location to an electronic device operable to receive wireless communications thereby reducing the need for land lines, terrestrial communication networks, etc. for communicating selective information.

[0043] In one embodiment, the method of FIG. 2 may be deployed in association with an Internet website operable to display selectable links for downloading information. The information may include audio information such as MP3s, streaming audio, streaming, Internet broadcasts, etc. are selectable by a user and operable to be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. By providing a user with a website of selectable audio information operable to be wireless communicated to an electronic device, a user may customize information communicated to an electronic device. In one embodiment, a user may communicate information to an electronic device that may not be owned by the user. For example the method of FIG. 2 could be modified to allow a user to wirelessly communicate audio information to a plurality of electronic devices that may or may not be owned by the user.

[0044] FIG. 3 illustrates an electronic device operable to receive selected audio information in accordance with the teachings of the present invention. Electronic device 300 includes a communication module 301 such as a transceiver coupled to storage medium 303~~-302~~ such as a high speed buffer, programmable memory, or other devices operable to store information. Electronic device 300 may also include processor 302 operably associated with communication module 301 and storage medium 303~~-302~~. Processor 302 may be operable to process wirelessly communicated selected information and in one embodiment may be integrated as part of communication module 301 of storage medium 303~~-302~~. In the same manner, as larger scale integration of electronic devices proliferate, communication module 301, processor 302, and storage medium 303 may be integrated into one communication component or device operable as electronic device 300.

[0045] Processor 302 may be operable using software that may be stored within storage medium 303~~-302~~. In one embodiment, software upgrades may be communicated to electronic device 300 via wireless communication allowing for efficient system upgrades for electronic device 300. Storage medium 303~~-302~~ may include one or several different types of storage

devices. For example, storage medium 303 ~~302~~ may include programmable gate arrays, ROM devices, RAM devices, EEPROMs, minidisks or other memory devices operable to store information.

[0046] During use, electronic device 300 receives wireless communications of selective information. The information may be transmitted via a wireless communications network and received by electronic device 300 via transceiver 301. Transceiver 301 may be operable to convert the received wireless communication signal into a desirable format and store the received information within storage medium 303 ~~302~~. The received information may then be processed by electronic device 300.

[0051] For example, a specific frequency may be selected (i.e., 93.7 MHz) for communicating the wireless received selected information from electronic device 300 to a localized audio system. Electronic device 300 communication of the wirelessly received information allows a conventional receiver to receive the selected audio information. In one embodiment, the conventional receiver may be configured to receive a digital sub-carrier, on-carrier, or other within a specified frequency. Therefore, electronic device 300 may be operable to locally transmit the signal at a specific frequency thereby allowing the conventional receiver to receive the information. In another embodiment, electronic device 300 may be operable to scan plural bandwidths to receive the selective information. For example, transceiver 301 may be operable to receive selective information across several frequencies and process the received information accordingly.

[0056] FIG. 4 illustrates a graphical user interface (GUI) for displaying selectable audio information according to one aspect of the present invention. The GUI may be operable with a computer system, cellular device, PDA, or other electronic devices or systems operable to display the GUI of FIG. 4. The GUI, shown generally at 400, may be displayed using a conventional web browser 402 such as Microsoft® Internet Explorer, a WAP browser, or other browsers operable to display the audio information. Browser 402 includes browser functions, shown collectively at 403, for navigating a network such as the Internet or an intranet. Homepage 401 may be displayed using browser 402 and may include several functions, features, information, etc. related to audio information. Home page 401 ~~2~~ may be developed using several

different types of programming (i.e., HTML, XML, Java, etc.) used to developing a network location or website.

[0059] Radio tab 406 may also be provided for displaying audio information. For example, radio tab 406 may display a collective menu 411 of selectable functions or features associated with audio information. Top ten lists may be provided to a user based on several different billboard polls or genres. A search engine may be provided allowing a user to search for a specific type of audio information such as an artist, song title, and genre, Internet radio station, etc. In one embodiment, a user may input the lyrics to a song within the search engine. As such, the search engine may locate several different songs having the desirable lyrics and allow a user to select the search results. A user may also use a select a device feature that allows a user to select a destination device for communicating selected audio information. For example, a user may want to communicate a playlist to several different devices such as a PDA, a home computer system, a work computer system, etc.

[0061] In one embodiment, a user's radio dial 412 may be provided when a registered user logs into homepage 401. As such, radio dial 412 may include several functional buttons similar to conventional systems such as a volume control and a station control. However, radio dial 412 surpasses the limitations of conventional systems through providing a programmable radio dial of user customized audio information. Radio dial 412 includes several stations that may be programmed using program interface 413. The preset stations may include several different types of user customized preset information such as user selected playlists, Internet broadcast stations, top lists, group playlists, artist-selected lists, on-line radio station, conventional radio stations, Internet phone, cellular phone, etc. and other functions, features, or information associated with audio information.

[0062] Radio dial 412 may also be displayed as a separate user interface and in some embodiments, does not require a "browsing" environment to view radio dial 412. For example, an electronic device, such as a PDA, having a display may graphically present radio dial 412 to a user. One example may be using electronic device in association with an automobile audio system. Electronic device may display radio dial 412 and may allow a user to navigate, modify, select, adjust volume, access daytimer, access phone lists, etc. or perform other functions while

the electronic device is used in association with an automobile sound system. Therefore, radio dial 412 may be operable as an application for use with several different types of electronic devices (i.e., computer systems, portable computing devices, cellular phones, etc.) operable to display radio dial 412 and in come embodiments may be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device.

[0067] In one embodiment, the automobile may include memory operable associated with the automobile for storing information. The memory may be used in association with mount 511 and electronic device 512 to store the selected audio information. In this manner, voluminous audio information can be stored within the memory allowing electronic device 512 to receive additional information. In one embodiment, a mount may be provided for a home audio system (not shown) for downloading selected audio information for use with a home audio system. For example, a mount device may be coupled to a home stereo system such that the upon placing an electronic device such as electronic device 500 within the mount, selected audio information may be communicated to the home audio system thereby allowing a home audio system to be used in association with an electronic device.

[0069] During operation, system 600 communicates voice mail messages to a user utilizing email server 601. For example, if a user receives a voice mail message, email server 601 would be notified and a voice mail message would be sent to the user's email account in the form of an email message. For example, a voice mail message ~~5~~ would be sent to a user's email account within intranet 604 in the form of an audio file as an attachment to the email. Upon receiving the email, a user may click on the audio file representing the voice mail message to hear the message left by a caller.

[0083] Upon communicating the selected information, the method may proceed to step 810 where the playlist may be executed ~~at step 812~~. For example, a user may select a continuous communication of selected audio information (e.g., several hours of music, Internet broadcast, etc.). As such, the method may continuously play or execute the received audio information. In another embodiment, the method may proceed to step 811 where the method may store or buffer the received information until it is desirable to execute the received selected audio information at step 812. As such, upon executing the selected audio information, the method may proceed to

step 809 where the method may repeat. In one embodiment, a user may elect to download a broadcast of an on-line radio station. For example, a user may want to listen to a radio station located in a remote location wherein conventional radio receivers could not receive the desired broadcast. For example, a person living in Houston, Texas may not be able to receive a radio broadcast signal from a radio station in Seattle, Washington utilizing a conventional radio receiver.

[0092] During operation, electronic device 907 may be mounted within interface 904. Electronic device 907 may also be powered or recharged via power line 910 and communicate with the systems audio system via interface cable or bus line 911. Audio information communicated to electronic device 907 may be transferred to audio system 901 such that a user may listen to selected audio information. For example, a user may have previously selected a plurality of audio files to be transmitted to electronic device 907. Electronic device 907~~905~~ may communicate the selected audio information to the automobiles audio system that utilizes interface 901 thereby allowing the user to listen to selected audio information. In one embodiment, cable 908 may be custom-installed to audio system 901. For example, the cable may be coupled to an auxiliary line for the system's radio or may be coupled to CD player line 912.

CUSTOMER NO.
34456

CLAIM LISTING

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An audio system, comprising:

an ~~a~~ portable 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, the portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system;

a playlist engine operable to maintain a first playlist and a second playlist, wherein the first playlist is operable to include a selection of audio content having a corresponding audio file saved in the memory;

an automobile having an automobile sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash sound system component operable to be coupled to the portable electronic device via a cable;

the in dash sound system component comprising a selector operable to allow a user to select the first playlist for outputting via the speaker; and

the cable having at least one conductive element operable to provide power and charge ~~to~~ a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device, the cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system.

2. (Original) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the portable electronic device is a portable MP3 player and the cable communicates a processed digital representation of the selection of audio content to the in dash sound system component.

3. (Original) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the selector comprises a button.

4. (Original) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the audio file player is an MP3 player.

5. (Original) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the in dash sound system component further comprises a second selector operable to allow the user to select the second playlist for outputting via the speaker.

6. (Original) The audio system of claim 5, wherein the first selector is a first button and the second selector is a second button.

7. (Original) The audio system of claim 1, further comprising a playlist generator to generate the first playlist to be presented by the in dash sound system component.

8. (Original) The audio system of claim 1, wherein the in dash sound system component is fixed in a first location and the cable is routed to allow the electronic device to be located in a different location.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the cable plugs into the in dash sound system component at a port.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the port is located behind an automobile dashboard.

11. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the port is a compact disk player interconnect point of the in dash sound system component.

12. (Currently Amended) An audio system, comprising:

an portable 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;

a device interface system that comprises a sound system connector and a device connector;

the sound system connector operable to communicatively couple the device interface system to a sound system; and

the device connector operable to releasably engage the portable electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the portable electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the portable electronic device, the device connector further operable to connect a power source to recharge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, further comprising an automobile having an automobile sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash sound system component, wherein the automobile sound system is the ~~installed~~ sound system.

14. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the sound system comprises a portable radio.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein the contact portion of the device interface system is provided at an end portion of a cable having at least one conductive element, the cable operable to provide power to the portable electronic device.

16. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the audio file player is operable to process audio content having a format selected from a group consisting of an MP3 file format, a WAV file format, and a streaming audio format.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating the outputting of audio content comprising:

accessing an automobile sound system component having at least a first button for controlling an operational feature of an automobile sound system; and

installing a cable at the automobile sound system component that allows a user to output via the automobile sound system a playing of an audio content file stored in a memory of a portable electronic device that comprises the 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, the cable operable to couple a power source of the automobile to supply power to the portable electronic device and to recharge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising installing the cable to the automobile sound system component, the cable operable to conductively couple the portable electronic device to a power supply associated with the automobile.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the cable is further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system component to output the playing of the audio content file via a speaker assembly of the automobile sound system.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the cable enables communication between the portable electronic device and the automobile sound system component via a compact disk player port of the automobile sound system component.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the audio content file is included within a playlist, further wherein the ~~interface system~~ cable allows the portable electronic device to communicate information about the playlist to the automobile sound system component.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the information is selected from a group consisting of a playlist name, a playlist number, a song title, a song genre, and a performing artist.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the automobile sound system component is operable to present a graphical representation of the information to the user.

24. (Currently Amended) A method of outputting audio content, comprising:

communicatively coupling an automobile sound system to ~~an~~ a portable electronic device via an adapter cable, the portable electronic device having an audio file player, a local rechargeable power supply, and a memory operable to store a plurality of selected audio content files, the adapter cable operable to conductively couple the portable electronic device to a power supply associated with an automobile to

recharge the local rechargeable power supply, the portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the automobile sound system;

allowing selection of a first audio content file via a button selector operably coupled to the automobile sound system;

detecting a selection of the button selector;

playing the first audio content file with the audio file player in response to the detection; and

outputting a representation of the first audio content file via a speaker assembly of the automobile sound system.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24, further comprising initiating playing of a first playlist comprising the first audio content file in response to the detection.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising initiating playing of a second playlist in response to detecting selection of a second button selector.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising receiving an input to randomly play the first playlist.

28. (Original) The method of claim 24, further comprising:

accessing a memory of the electronic device to identify a playlist to be output by an automobile sound system; and

linking the button selector with the playlist.

29. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the automobile sound system comprises a receiver further comprising:

receiving a wireless signal with the receiver;

pausing the playing of the first audio content file; and

outputting audio information represented by the wireless signal.

30. (Currently Amended) An audio system, comprising:

a vehicle sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash component that includes an auxiliary connection port;

an portable electronic device mount formed to releasably engage a portion of a portable audio file player operable to be used independent of the vehicle sound system that includes a rechargeable power supply and a processor operable to play a locally stored audio file; and

an interface cable interconnecting the auxiliary connection port and the electronic device mount, the interface cable having at least one conductive element operable to deliver power to recharge the rechargeable power supply, the cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable audio file player to the in dash component.

31. (Original) The system of claim 30, further comprising an automobile, wherein the vehicle sound system is installed within the automobile.

32. (Original) The system of claim 31, further comprising the portable audio file player, wherein the portable audio file player is an MP3 player.

33. (Original) The system of claim 31, further comprising a button operably associated with the in dash component, the button operable to direct a mounted audio file player to begin playing a first playlist of locally stored audio content.

34. (Original) The system of claim 33, wherein the interface cable is routed such that the mounted audio file player is located apart from the in dash component.

35. (Original) The system of claim 34, wherein the interface cable communicates a digital audio signal output from the portable audio file player to the auxiliary connection port to allow outputting of a sound via the speaker..

REMARKS

In a non-final Office action mailed August 285, 2005, claims 1-13 and 15-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of U.S Pat. No. 6,772,212 ("Lau"), claims 12 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,061,306 ("Buchheim"). These rejections are addressed in the paragraphs below.

Applicants appreciate the time taken by the Examiner to carefully review Applicant's present application. Applicants have carefully reviewed the Non-Final Office Action mailed August 25, 2005.

Claims 1-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent # 6,772,212 B1 issued to Lau ("Lau"). Lau discloses music servers 102 and 102A that utilize external media cartridges 120 or external hard disk drives to store and supply audio files for playing by music servers 102 and 102A (See Figures 1 and 21). Servers 102 and 102A utilize an automobile's 12-Volt power supply as a source for powering controllers 320 and 320a and other components within music servers 102 and 102A (See Figures 6 and 22). In an advanced form, Lau's server 102A is integrated into a head unit that is permanently installed in the dash of an automobile (instead of the trunk) for controlling a radio, CD player, tape deck and outputting digital audio files (See col. 5, lines 11-13 and col. 18, lines 24-26).

Claims 12 and 14 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent # 6,061,306 issued to Buchheim ("Buchheim"). As taught in juxtaposition to Lau (Lau criticizes utilization of tape player modules or portable music players that store music, (See Lau col. 2, lines 9 - 36), Buchheim discloses a portable audio device 10 for outputting a playing of a digital music file to speakers provided within the device (See Figure 2). The portable device of Buchheim also provides for mechanical and magnetic coupling when inserted into a cassette player to output an analog audio playing of a music file via a playing head 101 of a tape deck utilizing a magnetic emulator 22 (See Figure 1). Buchheim does not allow for an electrical connection between portable audio device 10 and a tape deck and as a result only low fidelity audio outputs are provided (See col. 8, lines 25-27).

Rejection of Claims 1-11

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Lau fails to disclose all of the limitation of amended claim 1. For example, claim 1 as amended, includes, in addition to other limitations, a "portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system." The servers of Lau are not portable but are at best removable or transferable. Lau teaches away from using portable electronic devices by stating "...using the portable solid state music player with an automobile is not satisfactory" (col. 2, lines 21-23). Lau's lack of portability is further evidenced by use of music servers 102 and 102A which rely on an external power source or a 12-Volt power supply provided by an automobile and portable music cartridges 120 that lack the capability of playing music independent of server 102. In one form, Lau provides a server 102A mounted as an in dash head unit for an automobile that includes a radio tuner and controls operation of a CD changer (see col. 18, lines 24-38). The current rejection mischaracterizes "remove ability" as "portability." Portable electronic devices are well known in the art of electronics as devices or systems that may allow a user to operate a device, for example, in a mobile environment independent or untethered to another system. Servers 102 and 102A disclosed by Lau do not provide or suggest use that is independent of an automobile or disclose or suggest providing power to servers 102 and 102A independent of an automobile's power supply. As such, it is unclear how servers 102 and 102A would have utility outside of an automobile as Lau fails to disclose, or suggest, the limitation of "portable electronic device operable to be used independent of the audio system" as recited in claim 1.

Claim 1 also provides further limitations not found in Lau. For example, claim 1 includes the limitation of a "cable having at least one conductive element operable to provide power and recharge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device" and "the cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system" as recited in claim 1 (Emphasis Added).

Lau fails to provide such limitations. For example, Lau fails to disclose a cable to "provide power and recharge a rechargeable power supply." The connector provided by Lau connects power 330 having glue logic 330 to power servers 102 and 102A (See Figures 6 and 22). Lau does not have a power supply but depends solely on receiving and distributing power from an automobile only to power servers 102 and 102A. Lau states:

"...connector 322 provides the auto accessory signal and a 12 volt power source from the car battery or other power source. This 12-volt power is communicated to power module 330. Power module 330 then creates a 5 volt DC power source, which is communicated to the components shown in FIG. 6"

(See col. 7, lines 46-51)

The present invention of claim 1 extends beyond what Lau teaches through enabling powering a portable electronic device, communicatively coupling the portable electronic device to the automobile's sound system, and recharging a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device. As such, Lau fails to teach or suggest the limitations of providing a "cable having at least one conductive element operable to provide power and charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device" and "the cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system" as recited in claim 1.

Lacking such limitations, Lau cannot anticipate amended claim 1. As such, Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 1. Additionally, claims 2-11, which depend from claim 1, provide additional limitations not present in Lau. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 1-11.

Rejection of Claims 12-16

Claims 12-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Further, claims 12 and 14 stand rejected over Buchheim. Lau and Buchheim fail to disclose all the limitations of amended claim 12.

For example, claim 12 as amended includes, in addition to other limitations, a "device connector operable to releasably engage the portable electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the portable electronic device, the device connector further operable to connect a power source to charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device." (Emphasis Added)

As described above, Lau is not a portable electronic device but is at best removable and depends on an automobile's power supply to power servers 102 and 102A. Further, the limitations of claim 12 are not present in Lau as Lau does not provide or suggest a device connector to form a communication path to interconnect the sound system to a portable electronic device or connect a power source to charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device. As such, based on the limitations clearly not present in Lau, Lau cannot anticipate amended claim 12.

Amended claim 12 includes limitations not present in Buchheim. Claim 12 includes, in addition to other limitations, a "device connector operable to releasably engage the portable electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the portable electronic device, the device connector further operable to connect a power source to charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device." (Emphasis Added). There are no such elements within Buchheim.

Buchheim does not disclose a device connector and to provide any connection to a power supply of an automobile or cassette player to recharge device 10 and only includes a mechanical interface for translating operational commands of a cassette player (See col. 7, lines 41-44). Additionally, it would not be possible to modify the device of Buchheim to interface a portion of cassette deck using an electrical connection when mounted within a cassette holder. For example, when Buchheim is placed within a tape deck of an automobile, the internal configuration of the automobile's audio system (e.g., a magnetic interface) would not be able to provide a connector to connect the portable electronic device to form both a communication path to sound system and connect a power source to recharge a rechargeable supply of the portable electronic device.

As such, Buchheim fails to provide a "device connector operable to releasably engage the portable electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the portable electronic device, the device

connector further operable to connect a power source to charge a rechargeable power supply of the portable electronic device" as recited by claim 12.

The limitations of amended claim 12 are absent from both Lau and Buchheim and therefore cannot be anticipated. Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 12. Additionally, claims 13-16, which depend from claim 12, provide additional limitations not present in Lau or Buchheim. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 12-16.

Rejection of Claims 17-23

Claims 17-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Claim 17 as amended, is distinguishable over Lau. For example, claim 17 includes, in addition to other limitations, "installing a cable at the automobile sound system component to output via the automobile sound system a playing of an audio content file stored in a memory of a portable electronic device" wherein "the cable [is] operable to couple a power source of the automobile to supply power to the portable electronic device and to charge a rechargeable power source of the portable electronic device."

As discussed above, Lau discloses only non-portable servers 102 and 102A. Lau is not portable but is at best removable. Lau's lack of portability is evidenced by servers 102 and 102A that rely on an external power source from an automobile for power 330. Lau's server 102A is mounted as an in dash head unit for an automobile that includes a radio tuner and controls operation of a CD changer (see col. 18, lines 24-38). Lau's servers 102 and 102A do not provide or suggest use of servers 102 and 102A independent of an automobile's power supply and fails to provide "installing a cable at the automobile sound system component a user to output via the automobile sound system a playing of an audio content file stored in a memory of a portable electronic device" wherein "the cable [is] operable to couple a power source of the automobile to supply power to the portable electronic device and to charge a rechargeable power source of the portable electronic device" as recited in amended claim 17.

As such, Lau cannot anticipate claim 17. As such, Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 17. Additionally, claims 18-23, which depend from

claim 17, provide additional limitations not present in Lau. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 17-23.

Rejection of Claims 24-29

Claims 24-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Claim 24 is distinct from Lau. For example, claim 24 as amended, includes, in addition to other limitations, "communicatively coupling an automobile sound system to a portable electronic device via an adapter cable" wherein the "the portable electronic device [is] operable to be used independent of the automobile sound system." Lau fails to provide these limitations. For example, Lau only discloses servers 102 and 102A that rely on external power sources. Further, as stated above, Lau is not portable but is at best removable. Lau's lack of portability is evidenced by servers 102 and 102A, which rely on external power from an automobile for power 330. Additionally, Lau's server 102A is provided as an in dash head unit for an automobile that includes a radio tuner and controls operation of a CD changer (see col. 18, lines 24-38). Portable electronic devices are well known in the art as systems or devices that may operate independent of another system. Servers 102 and 102A disclosed by Lau do not provide or suggest use that is independent of an automobile or disclose or suggest providing power to servers 102 and 102A independent of an automobile's power supply.

Further, Lau's servers lack power supplies and moreover does not rechargeable power supplies. Lau only provides a power block 330 that includes glue logic 330 for converting and distributing power within server 102. There is no power storage capacity provided by Lau's servers 102 and 102A and it is unclear how servers 102 and/or 102A would have utility outside of an automobile. As such, Lau fails to disclose, or suggest, the limitations of "communicatively coupling an automobile sound system to an a-portable electronic device via an adapter cable" wherein the "the portable electronic device [is] operable to be used independent of the automobile sound system" as recited in claim 24.

Absent the above limitations, Lau cannot anticipate amended claim 24. As such, Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 24. Additionally, claims 24-29, which depend from claim 24, provide additional limitations not present in Lau. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 24-29.

Rejection of Claims 30-35

Claims 30-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lau. Claim 30 as amended, is distinct from Lau. Claim 30 includes, in addition to other limitations, "a portable electronic device mount formed to releasably engage a portion of a portable audio file player operable to be used independent of the vehicle sound system that includes a rechargeable power supply and a processor operable to play a locally stored audio file" and "an interface cable interconnecting the auxiliary connection port and the electronic device mount, the interface cable having at least one conductive element operable to deliver power to recharge the rechargeable power supply." (Emphasis Added)

As described above Lau fails to disclose a portable electronic device but at best provides a removable server 102 and 102A that rely on an automobile's power supply for power. As such, Lau fails to provide or suggest "a portable electronic device mount formed to releasably engage a portion of a portable audio file player operable to be used independent of the vehicle sound system that includes a rechargeable power supply and a processor operable to play a locally stored audio file" and "an interface cable interconnecting the auxiliary connection port and the electronic device mount, the interface cable having at least one conductive element operable to deliver power to recharge the rechargeable power supply" as recited in amended claim 30.

As such, Lau cannot anticipate amended claim 30. As such, Applicants respectfully request favorable allowance of independent claim 30. Additionally, claims 31-35, which depend from claim 30, provide additional limitations not present in Lau. As such, Applicants requests favorable allowance of claims 30-35.

CUSTOMER NO.
34456

CONCLUSION

Applicants have made an earnest effort to place this case in condition for allowance in light of the amendments and remarks set forth above. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of claims 1-35. Applicants believe no additional fee is due.

Any changes to the claims in this amendment, which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below if such a call would in any way facilitate allowance of this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-2469.

Respectfully submitted,

11/1/05
Date

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EXAMINER	
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2686	

DATE MAILED: 08/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/947,755	White et al.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Rafael Perez-Gutierrez	2686	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *23 September 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-35* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-35* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *23 September 2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Applicant has complied with the conditions for receiving the benefit of an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement submitted on May 3, 2005 has been considered by the Examiner and made of record in the application file.

Specification

3. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. The following title is suggested: --**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING A PORTABLE MP3 PLAYER TO AN AUTOMOBILE SOUND SYSTEM**--.

4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

a) On **line 1** of **paragraph 0015**, insert --an-- after "illustrates";

b) On **line 7** of **paragraph 0020**, replace "a" with --as-- after "such";

c) On **line 7** of **paragraph 0021**, replace "automobiles" with --automobile's-- before

"audio";

d) On **line 5** of **paragraph 0024**, replace "102" with --101-- before "is";

e) On **lines 3 and 8** of **paragraph 0025** and on **lines 1 and 3** of **paragraph 0027**, replace "105" with --103--;

f) On **line 5** of **paragraph 0030**, replace "(i.e. 6" with --(i.e., 6--;

g) On **line 9** of **paragraph 0031**, replace "(i.e. cellular" with --(i.e., cellular--;

h) On **line 4** of **paragraph 0040**, replace "were" with --was-- after "information";

i) On **line 5** of **paragraph 0042**, replace "(i.e. Internet" with --(i.e., Internet--;

j) On **line 3** of **paragraph 0043**, replace "streaming." with --streaming,--;

k) On **lines 4, 6, and 9** of **paragraph 0044**, on **lines 2, 4, and 5** of **paragraph 0045**, and on **line 5** of **paragraph 0046**, replace "302" with --303--;

l) On **line 1** of **paragraph 0051**, replace "(i.e. 93.7" with --(i.e., 93.7--;

m) On **line 10** of **paragraph 0056**, replace "402" with --401--;

n) On **line 6** of **paragraph 0059**, replace "genre." with --genre,--;

o) On **line 9** of **paragraph 0061**, replace "stations." with --stations,--;

p) On **line 9** of **paragraph 0062**, replace "(i.e. computer" with --(i.e., computer--;

q) On **line 9** of **paragraph 0067**, replace "500" with --512--;

r) On **line 4** of **paragraph 0069**, delete "5" after "message";

s) On **line 2** of **paragraph 0083**, delete "at step 812";

t) On **line 3** of **paragraph 0083**, replace "(e.g. several" with --(e.g., several--;

u) On **line 7** of **paragraph 0083**, insert --at step 812-- after "(information"; and

v) On **line 7** of **paragraph 0092**, replace "905" with --907--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

5. **Claims 13, 21, and 30** are objected to because of the following informalities:

a) On **line 3** of **claim 13**, delete "installed" in order to provide proper antecedent basis;

b) On **line 2** of **claim 21**, replace "interface system" with --cable-- in order to provide proper antecedent basis; and

c) On **line 6** of **claim 30**, insert --and-- after "file;".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office Action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -- (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-13 and 15-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by **Lau et al. (U.S. Patent # 6,772,212 B1)**.

Consider **claims 1 and 3**, Lau et al. clearly show and disclose an audio system (figure 1) comprising:

a music server 102 (electronic device) (figures 1 and 5) having a graphical user interface (GUI) 1200 (display) (figure 12) (i.e., music server 102 (electronic device) by itself is capable of creating and updating playlists (column 18 lines 12-18), therefore, it includes the GUI 1200 (display)), a disk cartridge 120 (memory) (figures 1 and 4), a processor 302 (audio file player) (figure 6), and a housing component (figure 5) at least partially defining a cavity in which the disk cartridge memory) (figures 1 and 4) and the processor 302 (audio file player) (figure 6) are secured (column 6 lines 57-65);

a hard disk drive 178 (playlist engine) (figure 4) operable to maintain a first playlist and a second playlist, wherein the first playlist is operable to include a selection of audio content having a corresponding audio file saved in the disk cartridge 120 (memory) (column 6 lines 4-21);

an automobile (not shown) having an automobile sound system that comprises speakers 106, 108, 110, 112 and a head unit 104 (in dash sound system component) (figure 1) operable to be coupled to the music server 102 (electronic device) via a cable (figures 1 and 6, column 4 lines 27-41, column 5 lines 9-16, and column 7 lines 28-37);

the head unit 104 (in dash sound system component) (figure 1) comprising a button (selector) (reads on **claim 3**) operable to allow a user to select the first playlist for outputting via the speakers 106, 108, 110, and 112 (figure 4 steps 410 and 412, column 2 line 66 - column 3 line 9, column 5 lines 9-16, column 8 lines 49-52, and column 11 lines 33-59); and

the cable having at least one conductive element operable to provide power to the music server 102 (electronic device) (figure 1), the cable further operable to communicatively coupled the music server 102 (electronic device) (figure 1) to the automobile sound system (column 7 lines 28-37 and 45-57).

Consider **claim 2**, and **as applied to claim 1 above**, Lau et al. further disclose that the music server 102 (electronic device) is a portable MP3 player (i.e., the music server 102 (electronic device) can be carried by the user and used in different automobiles thereby making the music server 102 (electronic device) both mobile and portable (column 8 lines 22-27 and column 16 line 60 - column 17 line 5)) and the cable communicates a processed digital representation of the selection of audio content to the head unit 104 (in dash sound system component) (figure 12, column 11 lines 35-59, and column 12 lines 12-58).

Consider **claim 4**, and **as applied to claim 1 above**, Lau et al. also disclose that the processor 302 (audio file player) (figure 6) is an MP3 player (column 12 lines 12-30).

Consider **claims 5 and 6**, and **as applied to claim 1 above**, Lau et al. further disclose that the head unit 104 (in dash sound system component) (figure 1) further comprises multiple buttons (first and second selectors) (reads on **claim 6**) operable to allow a user to select different playlists (e.g., a second playlist) for outputting via the speakers 106, 108, 110, 112 (column 11 lines 33-59).

Consider **claim 7**, and **as applied to claim 1 above**, Lau et al. also disclose a controller 320 (playlist generator) (figure 6) to generate the first playlist to be presented by the head unit 104 (in dash sound system component) (column 9 lines 17-33 and column 11 lines 6-59).

Consider **claim 8**, and **as applied to claim 1 above**, Lau et al. further disclose that the head unit 104 (in dash sound system component) (figure 1) is fixed in a first location (i.e., the automobile's dashboard) and the cable is routed to allow the music server 102 (electronic device) to be located in a different location (i.e., trunk of the automobile) (figure 1, column 5 lines 9-16, and column 7 lines 28-37).

Consider **claims 9-11**, and **as applied to claim 1 above**, Lau et al. also disclose that the cable plugs into the head unit 104 (in dash sound system component) (figure 1) at a disc changer port (compact disk player interconnect point) (reads on **claim 11**) located in the back of the head unit 104 (in dash sound system component) which is located behind the automobile dashboard (reads on **claim 10**) (column 5 lines 9-16 and column 7 lines 28-37).

Consider **claim 12**, Lau et al. clearly show and disclose an audio system (figure 1) comprising:

a music server 102 (electronic device) (figures 1 and 5) having a graphical user interface (GUI) 1200 (display) (figure 12) (i.e., music server 102 (electronic device) by itself is capable of creating and updating playlists (column 18 lines 12-18), therefore, it includes the GUI 1200 (display)), a disk cartridge 120 (memory) (figures 1 and 4), a processor 302 (audio file player) (figure 6), and a housing component (figure 5) at least partially defining a cavity in which the disk cartridge 120 (memory) (figures 1 and 4) and the processor 302 (audio file player) (figure 6) are secured (column 6 lines 57-65);

a device interface system that comprises a disc changer port (sound system connector) and a connector 322 (device connector) (figures 1 and 6 and column 7 lines 28-37);

the disc changer port (sound system connector) operable to communicatively coupled the device interface system to a sound system (column 7 lines 28-37); and

the connector 322 (device connector) (figure 6) operable to releasably engage the music server 102 (electronic device) (figures 1 and 6) such as that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the music server 102 (electronic device) to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the music server 102 (electronic device) (column 7 lines 9-57).

Consider **claim 13**, and **as applied to claim 12 above**, Lau et al. further disclose an automobile (not shown) having an automobile sound system that comprises speakers 106, 108, 110, 112 and a head unit 104 (in dash sound system component) (figure 1), wherein the automobile sound system is the sound system (figures 1 and 6, column 4 lines 27-41, column 5 lines 9-16, and column 7 lines 28-37).

Consider **claim 15**, and **as applied to claim 12 above**, Lau et al. also disclose that the contact portion of the device interface system is provided at an end portion of a cable having at least one conductive element, the cable operable to provide power to the music server 102 (electronic device) (figures 1 and 6 and column 7 lines 28-57).

Consider **claim 16**, and **as applied to claim 12 above**, Lau et al. further disclose that the processor 302 (audio file player) is operable to process audio content having a format selected from the group consisting of an MP3 file format, a WAV file format, and a real audio (i.e., streaming) file format (column 12 lines 12-30).

Consider **claim 17**, Lau et al. clearly show and disclose a method for facilitating the

outputting of audio content (figures 7, 11, 12, 17, and 20) comprising:

accessing a head unit 104 (automobile sound system component) (figure 1) having at least a first button for controlling an operation feature of an automobile sound system (figures 7 and 11 and column 11 lines 6-59); and

installing a cable at the head unit 104 (automobile sound system component) (figure 1) that allows a user to output via the automobile sound system a playing of an audio file content stored in a disk cartridge 120 (memory) of a music server 102 (portable electronic device, i.e., the music server 102 (electronic device) can be carried by the user and used in different automobiles thereby making the music server 102 (electronic device) both mobile and portable (column 8 lines 22-27 and column 16 line 60 - column 17 line 5)) that comprises the disk cartridge 120 (memory), a processor 302 (audio file player), and a housing component (figure 5) at least partially defining a cavity in which the disk cartridge 120 (memory) (figures 1 and 4) and the processor 302 (audio file player) (figure 6) are secured (column 6 lines 57-65 and column 7 lines 28-57).

Consider **claim 18**, and **as applied to claim 17 above**, Lau et al. further disclose installing the cable to the head unit 104 (automobile sound system component) (figure 1), the cable operable to conductively couple the music server 102 (portable electronic device) (figures 1 and 6) to a power supply associated with the automobile (column 7 lines 28-57).

Consider **claim 19**, and **as applied to claim 18 above**, Lau et al. also disclose that the cable is further operable to communicatively coupled the music server 102 (portable electronic device) (figure 1) to the automobile sound system to output the playing of the audio content file

via a speaker assembly 106, 108, 110, 112 of the automobile sound system (figure 12, column 7 lines 28-37 and 45-57, column 11 lines 35-59, and column 12 lines 12-58).

Consider **claim 20**, and **as applied to claim 17 above**, Lau et al. further disclose that the cable enables communication between the music server 102 (portable electronic device) (figures 1 and 6) and the automobile audio system via a disc changer port (compact disk player port) of the head unit 104 (automobile sound system component) (figure 1 and column 7 lines 28-37).

Consider **claims 21-23**, and **as applied to claim 17 above**, Lau et al. also disclose that the audio content file is included within a playlist (column 6 lines 4-21), wherein the cable allows the music server 102 (electronic device) (figures 1 and 6) to communicate information about the playlist such as, for example, playlist number, title, artist, genre, album, year (reads on **claim 22**) to the head unit 104 (automobile sound system component) which in turn presents audio/visual (graphical representation) of the information to the user in a display (reads on claim **23**) (figures 1, 6, and 16, column 2 line 67 - column 3 line 9, column 4 lines 13-25, and column 11 lines 45-51).

Consider **claim 24**, Lau et al. clearly show and disclose a method of outputting audio content (figures 7, 11, 12, 17, and 20), comprising:

communicatively coupling an automobile sound system to a music server 102 (electronic device) (figures 1 and 6) via an adapter cable, the music server 102 (electronic device) (figures 1 and 6) having a processor 302 (audio file player) (figure 6), a power module 330 (local rechargeable power supply), and a disc cartridge 120 (memory) (figure 1) operable to store a plurality of selected audio content files (column 6 lines 4-21 and 57-65), the adapter cable

operable to conductively couple the music server 102 (electronic device) (figures 1 and 6) to a car battery (power supply) associated with an automobile to provide power to power module 330 (recharge the local rechargeable power supply) (column 7 lines 28-37 and 45-57);

allowing selection of a first audio content file via a button selector operably coupled to the automobile sound system (column 11 lines 31-41);

detecting a selection of the button selector (column 11 lines 31-41);

playing the first audio content file with the processor 302 (audio file player) in response to the detection (column 11 lines 31-41 and column 12 lines 12-58); and

outputting a representation of the first audio content file via a speaker assembly 106, 108, 110, 112 of the automobile sound system (figure 7 and column 8 lines 49-55).

Consider **claims 25 and 26**, and **as applied to claim 24 above**, Lau et al. further disclose initiating playing of a first playlist comprising the first audio content file in response to the detection (column 11 lines 31-41) and initiating playing of a second playlist in response to detecting selection of a second button selector (column 11 lines 31-41) (reads on **claim 26**).

Consider **claim 27**, and **as applied to claim 25 above**, Lau et al. also disclose receiving an input to randomly play the first playlist (column 9 lines 17-33 and column 11 lines 31-41).

Consider **claim 28**, and **as applied to claim 24 above**, Lau et al. further disclose accessing a disc cartridge 120 (memory) of the music server 102 (electronic device) (figures 1 and 6) to identify a playlist to be output by an automobile sound system and linking the button selector with the playlist (column 11 lines 31-41).

Consider **claim 29**, and **as applied to claim 24 above**, Lau et al. also disclose that the

automobile sound system comprises a receiver (i.e., conventional radio receiver and tuner) (column 11 lines 54-56) and that the method further comprising:

receiving a wireless signal with the receiver (i.e., when the user chooses the radio output a wireless signal is received by the radio receiver and tuner) (column 11 lines 51-59);

pausing the playing of the first audio content file (column 11 lines 51-59); and

outputting audio information represented by the wireless signal (column 11 lines 51-59).

Consider **claim 30**, Lau et al. clearly show and disclose an audio system, comprising:

a vehicle sound system that comprises a speaker 106, 108, 110, 112 and a head unit 104 (in dash component) that includes a disc changer (auxiliary connection) port (figure 1 and column 7 lines 28-37);

a housing (electronic device mount) (figure 5) formed to releasably engage a portion of a music server 102 (portable audio file player) (i.e., the music server 102 can be carried by the user and used in different automobiles thereby making the music server 102 both mobile and portable (column 8 lines 22-27 and column 16 line 60 - column 17 line 5)) that includes a power module 330 (rechargeable power supply) (figure 6) and a processor 302 (figure 6) operable to play a locally stored audio file (column 12 lines 12-57); and

an interface cable interconnecting the disc changer (auxiliary connection) port and the housing (electronic device mount) (figure 1), the interface cable having at least one conductive element operable to deliver power to the power module 303 (rechargeable power supply) (column 7 lines 28-37 and 45-57), the cable further operable to communicatively couple the music server 102 (portable audio file player) to the head unit 104 (in dash component) (column 7

lines 28-37 and 45-57).

Consider **claim 31**, and **as applied to claim 30 above**, Lau et al. further disclose an automobile (not shown), wherein the vehicle sound system is installed within the automobile (figures 1 and 6, column 4 lines 27-41, column 5 lines 9-16, and column 7 lines 28-37).

Consider **claim 32**, and **as applied to claim 31 above**, Lau et al. also disclose that the music server 102 (portable audio file player) is an MP3 player (column 12 lines 12-30).

Consider **claim 33**, and **as applied to claim 31 above**, Lau et al. further disclose a button operably associated with the head unit 104 (in dash component), the button operable to direct a mounted music server 102 (audio file player) to begin playing a first playlist of locally stored audio content (column 11 lines 31-41).

Consider **claim 34**, and **as applied to claim 33 above**, Lau et al. also disclose that the interface cable is routed such that the mounted music server 102 (audio file player) is located apart from the head unit 104 (in dash component) (column 5 lines 9-16 and column 7 lines 28-37).

Consider **claim 35**, and **as applied to claim 34 above**, Lau et al. further disclose that the interface cable communicates a digital audio signal output from the music server 102 (portable audio file player) to the disc changer (auxiliary connection) port to allow outputting of a sound via the speaker 106, 108, 110, 112 (figure 12, column 11 lines 35-59, and column 12 lines 12-58).

7. **Claims 12 and 14** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

Buchheim (U.S. Patent # 6,061,306).

Consider **claim 12**, Buchheim clearly show and disclose an audio system (figures 1 and 2) comprising:

a portable audio device 10 (electronic device) (figures 1 and 2) having a display 58 (figure 2), a memory 16 (figure 1), a audio file player 14 (figure 1), and a housing component 12 (figures 3-6) at least partially defining a cavity in which the memory 16 (figure 1) and the audio file player 14 (figure 1) are secured (column 5 lines 41-56);

a device interface system that comprises a sound system connector and a device connector (figure 1-3, column 5 lines 60-67 and column 7 lines 36-57);

the sound system connector (figures 1-3) operable to communicatively coupled the device interface system to a sound system 100 (figures 1 and 3, column 5 lines 60-67 and column 7 lines 36-57); and

the device connector (figures 1-3) operable to releasably engage the portable audio device 10 (electronic device) (figures 1 and 2) such as that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the device 10 (electronic device) to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system 100 and the device 10 (electronic device) (abstract, figures 1-3, and column 2 line 39 - column 4 line 35, column 5 lines 60-67, and column 7 lines 36-57).

Consider **claim 14**, and **as applied to claim 12 above**, Buchheim further disclose that the sound system 100 comprises a portable radio (column 1 lines 35-40 and column 5 lines 26-33).

Conclusion

8. Any response to this Office Action should be **faxed to** (571) 273-8300 **or mailed to**:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to

Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Rafael Perez-Gutierrez whose telephone number is (571) 272-7915. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 6:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Marsha D. Banks-Harold can be reached on (571) 272-7905. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free) or 703-305-3028.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist/customer service whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

Rafael Perez-Gutierrez
R.P.G./rpg RAFAEL PEREZ-GUTIERREZ
PATENT EXAMINER
August 20, 2005

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2686
Examiner Name	Perez-Gutierrez, R.
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Document Number Number-Kind Code[2] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear CLASS	SUBCLASS	
R.A.G.		US- US-2003/0008646	12-2002	Shanahan	455	418	
R.A.G.		US- US-2005/0010633	01-2003	~~Baughan~~ Shanahan	455	418	
R.A.G.		US- 6,587,835	07-2003	Treyz et al.	705	14	
R.A.G.		US- 6,496,692	01-2003	Shanahan	455	418	
R.A.G.		US- 6,510,210	01-2003	Shanahan	455	412	
R.A.G.		US- 6,396,769	05-2002	Polany	367	131	
R.A.G.		US- 6,240,297	05-2001	Jadoul	455	557	
R.A.G.		US- 6,061,306	05-2000	Buchheim	369	2	
R.A.G.		US- 5,953,657	09-1999	Ghisler	455	414.1	
R.A.G.		US- 5,940,767	08-1999	Bourgeois et al.	455	349	
R.A.G.		US- 5,870,680	02-1999	Guerlin et al.	455	557	
R.A.G.		US- 5,774,793	02-1998	Cooper et al.	455	418	
R.A.G.		US- 5,587,560	12-1996	Crooks et al.	235	379	
R.A.G.		US- 5,586,090	12-1996	Otte	369	2	
R.A.G.		US- 5,450,471	09-1995	Hanawa et al.	455	550.1	
R.A.G.		US- 5,307,326	04-1994	Osawa	369	2	
R.A.G.		US- 4,905,272	02-1990	Van de Mortel et al.	455	410	
		US-					
		US-					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Foreign Patent Document Country Code[3]-Number[4]-Kind Code[5] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T[6]

Examiner Signature	R.A.G.	Date Considered	9/20/05

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. [1] Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). [2] See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. [3] Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). [4] For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. [5] Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. [6] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

PTO/SB/08B (08-03)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2 of 2

Complete If Known	
Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2686
Examiner Name	Perez-Gutierrez, R.
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T[2]
R.P.G	D1	U.S. Application No. 10/947,754, filed 09/23/2004 (111111.1111-1C)	—
	D2		
	D3		
	D4		
	D5		
	D6		
	D7		
	D8		
	D9		
	D10		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	9/20/05

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 10/947,755	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination White et al.	
	Examiner Rafael Perez-Gutierrez	Art Unit 2686	Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
	A	US-6,061,306	05-2000	Buchheim	369/2
	B	US-6,772,212 B1	08-2004	Lau et al.	709/228
	C	US-2005/0049002 A1	03-2005	White et al.	455/556.1
	D	US-2005/0096018 A1	05-2005	White et al.	455/414.1
	E	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
	H	US-			
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
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	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

Index of Claims

Application No.	Applicant(s)	
10/947,755	White et al.	
Examiner	**Art Unit**	
Rafael Perez-Gutierrez	2686	

√	Rejected	–	(Through numeral) Cancelled	N	Non-Elected	A	Appeal
=	Allowed	+	Restricted	I	Interference	O	Objected

Claim		Date								
Final	Original	8/20/05								
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Search Notes

Application No.	Applicant(s)	
10/947,755	White et al.	
Examiner	**Art Unit**	
Rafael Perez-Gutierrez	2686	

SEARCHED			
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner

INTERFERENCE SEARCHED			
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner

SEARCH NOTES (INCLUDING SEARCH STRATEGY)		
	DATE	EXMR
EAST Image and keyword search in USPAT, US-PGPUB, DERWENT, EPO, JPO, and IBM_TDB (see attached search history printout)	8/20/2005	RPG
Inventor name and Assignee search in PALM ExPO and EAST	8/20/2005	RPG
WIPO Database (http://pctgazette.wipo.int)	8/20/2005	RPG
EPO Database (http://ep.espacenet.com)	8/20/2005	RPG
IEEE Xplore (http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/Xplore/DynWel.jsp)	8/20/2005	RPG
EIC search yielded no relevant prior art.	8/20/2005	RPG

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	Time Stamp
L2	2	white.in. and russell.in. and audio.ti.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/20 14:58
L6	32	(("20030008646") or ("20050010633") or ("6,587,835") or ("6,496,692") or ("6,510,210") or ("6,396,769") or ("6,240,297") or ("6,061,306") or ("5,953,657") or ("5,940,767") or ("5,870,680") or ("5,774,793") or ("5,587,560") or ("5,586,090") or ("5,450,471") or ("5,307,326") or ("4,905,272")).PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2005/08/20 15:01
S1	19	455/345.ccls. and 455/351.ccls.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/04 13:56
S2	12	S1 and (@rlad<"20000328" or @ad<"20000328")	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/20 09:43
S3	10	("5161251" | "5181107" | "5491838" | "Re34340").PN. OR ("5742893").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2005/08/04 13:54
S4	1406	455/345.ccls. or 455/351.ccls.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/04 13:56
S5	35	S4 and (((audio or music) near3 play$3) same (car or auto or automobile or vehicle))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/04 16:22

S6	15	S5 and (@rlad<"20000328" or @ad<"20000328")	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/04 14:37
S7	2	("20020060701").PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2005/08/04 14:14
S8	2434	(((audio or music) near3 play$3) same (car or auto or automobile or vehicle))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/04 14:37
S9	975	S8 and (@rlad<"20000328" or @ad<"20000328")	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/04 16:22
S10	65	S9 and MP3	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/04 14:37
S11	42	("4833554" | "4982303" | "5173888" | "5253133" | "5319519" | "5390027" | "5408449" | "5454080" | "5541738" | "5557541" | "5612927" | "5620244" | "5726373" | "5734119" | "5816861" | "5841424" | "5860068" | "5865651" | "5914941" | "5926624" | "6016522" | "6023290" | "6055478" | "6061232" | "6078112" | "6132243" | "6142796" | "6155853" | "6163817" | "6176734" | "6212555" | "6233226" | "6233623" | "6236997" | "6317141" | "6330337" | "6344801" | "6378010" | "6385596" | "6457640" | "6487145" | "6721489").PN. OR ("6772212").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2005/08/04 15:47
S12	8	S4 and ((MP3 near3 play$3) same (car or auto or automobile or vehicle))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/04 16:22

S13	0	S12 and (@rlad<"20000328" or @ad<"20000328")	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/04 16:23
S14	10	S4 and (MP3 same (car or auto or automobile or vehicle))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/04 16:22
S15	563	((MP3 near3 play$3) same (car or auto or automobile or vehicle))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/04 16:22
S16	88	S15 and (@rlad<"20000328" or @ad<"20000328")	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/04 16:23
S17	2	("6606506").PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2005/08/15 11:43
S18	4	(("6185163") or ("6694200")).PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2005/08/15 12:13
S19	16	(((display$3 or LCD) near4 (CD adj3 change$3)) same (car or auto or automobile or vehicle))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/20 09:42

S20	9	S19 and (@rlad<"20000328" or @ad<"20000328")	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/15 13:24
S21	2	("6292440").PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2005/08/15 13:24
S22	14	("6061306").PN. OR ("6292440").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2005/08/15 13:29
S23	23	("5307326" | "5586090").PN. OR ("6061306").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2005/08/15 13:54
S24	1	"0286600".pn.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/15 14:44
S25	6	"286600".pn.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/15 14:45
S26	2	"286600".fref.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/15 14:45
S27	14	("5537673" | "5554966" | "5637928" | "5705975" | "5705976" | "5706353" | "5794164" | "5880673" | "6131051" | "6144114" | "6201540" | "6427115" | "6483428" | "6563421").PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2005/08/15 14:46

S28	21	(((display$3 or LCD) near4 ((CD or disc or disk) adj3 change$3)) with (car or auto or automobile or vehicle))	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/20 09:43
S29	17	S28 and (@rlad<"20000328" or @ad<"20000328")	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2005/08/20 09:43
S30	2	("6721489").PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2005/08/20 12:21

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

MAIL

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DIRECTOR OFFICE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

TOLER, LARSON & ABEL, L.L.P.
5000 PLAZA ON THE LAKE, SUITE 265
AUSTIN, TX 78746

In re Application of :
Russell W. WHITE, et al. :
Application No. 10/947,755 : DECISION ON PETITION
Filed: September 23, 2004 : TO MAKE SPECIAL
For: AUDIO SYSTEM AND METHOD :

This is a decision on the petition filed May 6, 2005 under 37 CFR §1.102(d) to make the application special.

A grantable petition under 37 CFR §1.102(d) and MPEP §708.02, section II (Infringement), must be accompanied by the required fee and a statement alleging:

(1) that there is an infringing device or product actually on the market or method in use;
(2) that a rigid comparison of the alleged infringing device, product, or method with the claims of the application has been made, and that, in his or her opinion, some of the claims are unquestionably infringed; and
(3) that he or she has made or caused to be made a careful and thorough search of the prior art or has a good knowledge of the pertinent prior art. Further, Applicant must provide a copy of each of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims if the references are not already of record.

The petitioner meets all the above-listed requirements. Accordingly, the petition is **GRANTED**.

The application will retain its special status throughout its entire prosecution, including any appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, subject only to diligent prosecution by the applicant.

The application is being forwarded to the examiner for expedited prosecution.

Doris To
Special Program Examiner
Technology Center 2600
Communications

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Russell W. White et a		
Title:	AUDIO SYSTEM AND METHOD		
Application No.:	10/947,755	Filed:	09/23/2004
Examiner:	Perez-Gutierrez, R.	Group Art Unit:	2686
Atty. Docket No.:	111111.1111-2C	Confirmation No.:	1751

M/S PETITIONS
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, DC 20231

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.102

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that examination of the above-identified patent application be expedited based on current and actual infringement of the pending claims.

In support of the present Petition, the undersigned alleges:

There is an infringing product currently offered for sale on the open market and practiced in the United States;

A rigid comparison of the alleged infringing product with the claims of the application has been made, and that it is the undersigned's opinion that some of the currently pending claims are unquestionably infringed; and

A careful and thorough search of the prior art has been made.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents on 05/03/2005.

Laura H. Andre
Typed or Printed Name

Signature

Each reference deemed most closely related to the claimed subject matter was identified in an Information Disclosure Statement dated April 29, 2005 (a copy of PTO/SB/08A is attached).

Any office personnel are encouraged to contact the undersigned with any question regarding this Petition or the application in general.

A fee in the amount of $130.00 is due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) upon filing this Petition. The Office is authorized to charge the fee of $130.00 to Deposit Account 50-2469.

Respectfully submitted,

5/3/05

Date

Russell W. White; Reg. No. 45,691
Attorney for Applicants
TOLER, LARSON & ABEL, L.L.P.
5000 Plaza on the Lake, Suite 265
Austin, Texas 78746
(512) 327-5515 (phone)
(512) 327-5452 (fax)

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission: 5

Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2686
Examiner Name	Perez-Gutierrez, R.
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

ENCLOSURES *(Check all that apply)*

- [x] Fee Transmittal Form
- [ ] Fee Attached
- [ ] Amendment/Reply
- [ ] After Final
- [ ] Affidavits/declaration(s)
- [ ] Extension of Time Request
- [ ] Express Abandonment Request
- [ ] Information Disclosure Statement
- [ ] Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- [ ] Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
- [ ] Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53
- [ ] Drawing(s) Replacement Sheets 1, 6
- [ ] Licensing-related Papers
- [x] Petition to make special
- [ ] Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- [ ] Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address
- [ ] Terminal Disclaimer
- [ ] Request for Refund
- [ ] CD, Number of CD(s) _____
- [ ] Landscape Table on CD
- [ ] After Allowance Communication to TC
- [ ] Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
- [ ] Appeal Communication to TC **(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)**
- [ ] Proprietary Information
- [ ] Status Letter
- [x] Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below):

Copy of IDS filed 04/29/2005

Remarks

CUSTOMER NO.: 34456

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	TOLER, LARSON & ABEL, LLP		
Signature	/Russell White/		
Printed name	Russell W. White		
Date	5/3/05	Reg. No.	45,691

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature	/Laura H. Andre/		
Typed or printed name	Laura H. Andre	Date	05/03/2005

PTO/SB/17 (12-04)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Effective on 12/08/2004.
Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).

FEE TRANSMITTAL
For FY 2005

☑ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT ($) 130.00

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Examiner Name	Perez-Gutierrez, R.
Art Unit	2686
Attorney Docket No.	111111.1111-2C

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

☐ Check ☐ Credit Card ☐ Money Order ☐ None ☐ Other (please identify): _____

☑ Deposit Account Deposit Account Number: 50-2469 Deposit Account Name: TOLER, LARSON & ABEL, LLP

For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

☑ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, **except for the filing fee**

☑ Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayments of fee(s) under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 ☑ Credit any overpayments

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES

	FILING FEES		SEARCH FEES		EXAMINATION FEES		
		Small Entity		Small Entity		Small Entity	
Application Type	Fee ($)	Fee ($)	Fee ($)	Fee ($)	Fee ($)	Fee ($)	Fees Paid ($)
Utility	300	150	500	250	200	100	
Design	200	100	100	50	130	65	
Plant	200	100	300	150	160	80	
Reissue	300	150	500	250	600	300	
Provisional	200	100	0	0	0	0	

2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES

Fee Description	Fee ($)	Small Entity Fee ($)
Each claim over 20 or, for Reissues, each claim over 20 and more than in the original patent	50	25
Each independent claim over 3 or, for Reissues, each independent claim more than in the original patent	200	100
Multiple dependent claims	360	180

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee ($)	Fee Paid ($)
5 - 20 or HP =	5 x	50 =	0

HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20

Indep. Claims	Extra Claims	Fee ($)	Fee Paid ($)
0 - 3 or HP =	0 x	200 =	0

HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3

Multiple Dependent Claims	
Fee ($)	Fee Paid ($)

3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is $250 ($125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof	Fee ($)	Fee Paid ($)
- 100 =	/ 50 =	(round **up** to a whole number)	x	=

4. OTHER FEE(S) **Fees Paid ($)**

Non-English Specification, $130 fee (no small entity discount)

Other: Petition to Make Special Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.102 — 130.00

SUBMITTED BY

Signature	R. White	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 45,691	Telephone 512-327-5515
Name (Print/Type)	Russell W. White		Date 5/3/05

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2686
Examiner Name	Perez-Gutierrez, R.
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Document Number Number-Kind Code[2] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- US-2003/0008646	12-2002	Shanahan	
		US- US-2005/0010633	01-2003	Baughan	
		US- 6,587,835	07-2003	Treyz et al.	
		US- 6,496,692	01-2003	Shanahan	
		US- 6,510,210	01-2003	Shanahan	
		US- 6,396,769	05-2002	Polany	
		US- 6,240,297	05-2001	Jadoul	
		US- 6,061,306	05-2000	Buchheim	
		US- 5,953,657	09-1999	Ghisler	
		US- 5,940,767	08-1999	Bourgeois et al.	
		US- 5,870,680	02-1999	Guerlin et al.	
		US- 5,774,793	02-1998	Cooper et al.	
		US- 5,587,560	12-1996	Crooks et al.	
		US- 5,586,090	12-1996	Otte	
		US- 5,450,471	09-1995	Hanawa et al.	
		US- 5,307,326	04-1994	Osawa	
		US- 4,905,272	02-1990	Van de Mortel et al.	
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Foreign Patent Document Country Code[3]-Number[4]-Kind Code[5] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T[6]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. [1] Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). [2] See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. [3] Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). [4] For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. [5] Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. [6] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

TOLER
LARSON
& ABEL LLP

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

DATE: May 3, 2005

TO: USPTO – GAU 2686 FAX NO.: 703-872-9306

EXAMINER: Perez-Gutierrez, R.

FROM: Russell W. White/
Reg. No. 45,691

RE: INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. APP NO.:	10/947,755
FILING DATE:	09/23/2004
APPLICANT(S):	Russell W. White et al.
ATTY DKT NO.:	111111.1111-2C
TITLE:	AUDIO SYSTEM AND METHOD
NO. OF PAGES (INCL. COVER SHEET):	6

MESSAGE:

Attached please find:

- ☒ PTO/SB/21 Transmittal Form (1 pg.)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement Transmittal (2 pgs.)
- ☒ PTO/SB/08A Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (2 pgs.)

5000 Plaza On The Lake
Suite 265
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78746

Tel: (512) 327-5515
Fax: (512) 327-5452
www.tla-law.com

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission: 5

Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2686
Examiner Name	Perez-Gutierrez, R.
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

ENCLOSURES *(Check all that apply)*

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
  - ☐ Fee Attached
- ☐ Amendment/Reply
  - ☐ After Final
  - ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☑ Information Disclosure Statement
  (2 pgs. of SB08A IDS form)
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
  - ☐ Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53
- ☐ Drawing(s) Replacement Sheets 1, 6
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer
- ☐ Request for Refund
- ☐ CD, Number of CD(s) _____
  - ☐ Landscape Table on CD
- ☐ After Allowance Communication to TC
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
- ☐ Appeal Communication to TC **(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)**
- ☐ Proprietary Information
- ☐ Status Letter
- ☐ Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):

Remarks

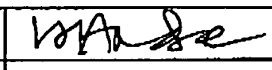
CUSTOMER NO.: 34456

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	TOLER, LARSON & ABEL, LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	Russell W. White		
Date	5/2/05	Reg. No.	45,691

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature			
Typed or printed name	Laura H. Andre	Date	05/03/2005

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Russell White et al.		
Title:	AUDIO SYSTEM AND METHOD		
Application No.:	10/947,754	Filed:	09/23/2004
Examiner:	Unknown	Group Art Unit:	2631
Atty. Docket No.:	111111.1111-1C	Confirmation No.:	1729

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, § 1.97 and § 1.98, the undersigned is providing the patents, publications, applications or other information identified in the attached:

☒ Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B or PTO/1449
☐ Other: n/a

to the Examiner's attention in the above-identified application. Citation of such information shall not be construed as:

1. an admission that the information necessarily is, or corresponds to, prior art with respect to the instant invention;
2. a representation that a search has been made, other than as described below; or
3. an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents on 05/03/2005.

Laura H. Andre
Typed or Printed Name

Signature

Applicants believe no fee is due at this time. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees due, or refund any credit to Deposit Account 50-2469 of Toler, Larson & Abel, LLP.

Respectfully submitted,

5/3/05
Date

Russell W. White; Reg. No. 45,691
Attorney for Applicants
TOLER, LARSON & ABEL, L.L.P.
5000 Plaza on the Lake, Suite 265
Austin, Texas 78746
(512) 327-5515 (phone)
(512) 327-5452 (fax)

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)
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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2686
Examiner Name	Perez-Gutierrez, R.
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Document Number Number-Kind Code[2] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- US-2003/0008646	12-2002	Shanahan	
		US- US-2005/0010633	01-2003	Baughan	
		US- 6,587,835	07-2003	Treyz et al.	
		US- 6,496,692	01-2003	Shanahan	
		US- 6,510,210	01-2003	Shanahan	
		US- 6,396,769	05-2002	Polany	
		US- 6,240,297	05-2001	Jadoul	
		US- 6,061,306	05-2000	Buchheim	
		US- 5,953,657	09-1999	Ghisler	
		US- 5,940,767	08-1999	Bourgeois et al.	
		US- 5,870,680	02-1999	Guerlin et al.	
		US- 5,774,793	02-1998	Cooper et al.	
		US- 5,587,560	12-1996	Crooks et al.	
		US- 5,586,090	12-1996	Otte	
		US- 5,450,471	09-1995	Hanawa et al.	
		US- 5,307,326	04-1994	Osawa	
		US- 4,905,272	02-1990	Van de Mortel et al.	
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Foreign Patent Document Country Code[3]-Number[4]-Kind Code[5] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T[6]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2 of 2

Complete If Known	
Application Number	10/947,755
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White
Art Unit	2686
Examiner Name	Perez-Gutierrez, R.
Attorney Docket Number	111111.1111-2C

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T[2]
	D1	U.S. Application No. 10/947,754, filed 09/23/2004 (111111.1111-1C)	
	D2		
	D3		
	D4		
	D5		
	D6		
	D7		
	D8		
	D9		
	D10		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

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1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

PTO/SB/05 (05-03)
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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

Attorney Docket No.	111111.1111-2C
First Inventor	Russell W. White
Title	Audio System and Method
Express Mail Label No.	EV 506 562 731 US

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

ADDRESS TO: **Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450**

1. ☑ Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17) *(Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)*
2. ☑ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.
3. ☑ Specification [*Total Pages* 40] *(preferred arrangement set forth below)*
   - Descriptive title of the invention
   - Cross Reference to Related Applications
   - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
   - Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix
   - Background of the Invention
   - Brief Summary of the Invention
   - Brief Description of the Drawings *(if filed)*
   - Detailed Description
   - Claim(s)
   - Abstract of the Disclosure
4. ☑ Drawing(s) (*35 U.S.C. 113*) [*Total Sheets* 9]
5. Oath or Declaration [*Total Sheets* 2]
   a. ☑ Newly executed (original or copy)
   b. ☐ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) *(for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)*
      i. ☐ DELETION OF INVENTOR(S) Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) name in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
6. ☑ Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76
7. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program *(Appendix)*
8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission *(if applicable, all necessary)*
   a. ☐ Computer Reader Form (CRF)
   b. Specification Sequence Listing on:
      i. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or
      ii. ☐ Paper
   c. ☐ Statements verifying identity of above copies

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

9. ☐ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
10. ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement *(when there is an assignee)* ☐ Power of Attorney
11. ☐ English Translation Document *(if applicable)*
12. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1499 ☐ Copies of IDS Citations
13. ☐ Preliminary Amendment
14. ☑ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) *(Should be specifically itemized)*
15. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) *(if foreign priority is claimed)*
16. ☐ Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122 (b)(2)(B)(i). Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent.
17. ☐ Other: .....

18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, *check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in the first sentence of the specification following the title, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:*

☑ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.: 09/537,812

Prior application information: *Examiner* Perez-Gutierrez, R. *Art Unit:* 2686

For CONTINUATION OF DIVISIONAL APPS only; The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

☑ *Customer Number* 34456 OR ☐ *Correspondence address below*

Name	TOLER, LARSON & ABEL, LLP				
Address	5000 Plaza On The Lake				
	Suite 265				
City	Austin	*State*	TX	*Zip Code*	78746
Country	USA	*Telephone*	(512) 327-5515	*Fax*	(512) 327-5452

Name (Print/Type)	Russell W. White	*Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)*	45,691
Signature		*Date*	9/23/04

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.53(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

PTO/SB/17 (10-03)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

☑ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT ($) 606.00

Complete if Known	
Application Number	Unknown
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White, et al.
Examiner Name	Unknown
Art Unit	Unknown
Attorney Docket No.	111111.1111-2C

METHOD OF PAYMENT *(check all that apply)*

☐ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other ☐ None

☑ Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number: 50-2469

Deposit Account Name: TOLER LARSON & ABEL LLP

The Director is authorized to: *(check all that apply)*

☑ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☑ Credit any overpayments

☑ Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s) during the entire pendancy of the application

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, **except for the filing fee** to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Fee Code	Large Entity Fee ($)	Small Entity Fee Code	Small Entity Fee ($)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001	770	2001	385	Utility filing fee	385.00
1002	340	2002	170	Design filing fee	
1003	530	2003	265	Plant filing fee	
1004	770	2004	385	Reissue filing fee	
1005	160	2005	80	Provisional filing fee	

SUBTOTAL (1) ($) 385.00

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

			Extra Claims		Fee from below	Fee Paid
Total Claims	35	-20** =	15	X	9.00	= 135.00
Independent Claims	5	- 3** =	2	X	43.00	= 86.00
Multiple Dependent					43.00	= 0.00

Large Entity Fee Code	Large Entity Fee ($)	Small Entity Fee Code	Small Entity Fee ($)	Fee Description
1202	18	2202	9	Claims in excess of 20
1201	86	2201	43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203	290	2203	145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204	86	2204	43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205	18	2205	9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) ($) 221.00

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Fee Code	Large Entity Fee ($)	Small Entity Fee Code	Small Entity Fee ($)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for *ex parte* reexamination	
1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	420	2252	210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	950	2253	475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1,480	2254	740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	2,010	2255	1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	330	2401	165	Notice of Appeal	
1402	330	2402	165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403	290	2403	145	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453	1,330	2453	665	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501	1,330	2501	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	480	2502	240	Design issue fee	
1503	640	2503	320	Plant issue fee	
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	770	2809	385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810	770	2810	385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
1801	770	2801	385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify) _____

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid **SUBTOTAL (3)** ($)

SUBMITTED BY				(Complete *(if applicable)*)	
Name (Print/Type)	Russell W. White	*Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)*	45,691	*Telephone*	512-327-5515
Signature				*Date*	9/23/04

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

PTO/SB/05 (05-03)
Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

Attorney Docket No.	111111.1111-2C
First Inventor	Russell W. White
Title	Audio System and Method
Express Mail Label No.	EV 506 562 731 US

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

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3. ☑ Specification [*Total Pages* 40] *(preferred arrangement set forth below)*
   - Descriptive title of the invention
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4. ☑ Drawing(s) (*35 U.S.C. 113*) [*Total Sheets* 9]
5. Oath or Declaration [*Total Sheets* 2]
   a. ☑ Newly executed (original or copy)
   b. ☐ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) *(for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)*
      i. ☐ DELETION OF INVENTOR(S) Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) name in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
6. ☑ Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76
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   a. ☐ Computer Reader Form (CRF)
   b. Specification Sequence Listing on:
      i. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or
      ii. ☐ Paper
   c. ☐ Statements verifying identity of above copies

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

9. ☐ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
10. ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement *(when there is an assignee)* ☐ Power of Attorney
11. ☐ English Translation Document *(if applicable)*
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15. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) *(if foreign priority is claimed)*
16. ☐ Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122 (b)(2)(B)(i). Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent.
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18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, *check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in the first sentence of the specification following the title, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:*

☑ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.: 09/537,812

Prior application information: *Examiner* Perez-Gutierrez, R. *Art Unit:* 2686

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19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

☑ *Customer Number* 34456 *OR* ☐ *Correspondence address below*

Name	TOLER, LARSON & ABEL, LLP				
Address	5000 Plaza On The Lake				
	Suite 265				
City	Austin	*State*	TX	*Zip Code*	78746
Country	USA	*Telephone*	(512) 327-5515	*Fax*	(512) 327-5452

Name (Print/Type)	Russell W. White	*Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)*	45,691
Signature		*Date*	9/23/04

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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

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☑ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

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Complete if Known	
Application Number	Unknown
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Russell W. White, et al.
Examiner Name	Unknown
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METHOD OF PAYMENT *(check all that apply)*

☐ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other ☐ None

☑ Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number: 50-2469

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The Director is authorized to: *(check all that apply)*

☑ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☑ Credit any overpayments

☑ Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s) during the entire pendancy of the application

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FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Fee Code	Large Entity Fee ($)	Small Entity Fee Code	Small Entity Fee ($)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001	770	2001	385	Utility filing fee	385.00
1002	340	2002	170	Design filing fee	
1003	530	2003	265	Plant filing fee	
1004	770	2004	385	Reissue filing fee	
1005	160	2005	80	Provisional filing fee	

SUBTOTAL (1) ($) 385.00

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

			Extra Claims		Fee from below	Fee Paid
Total Claims	35	-20** =	15	X	9.00	= 135.00
Independent Claims	5	- 3** =	2	X	43.00	= 86.00
Multiple Dependent					43.00	= 0.00

Large Entity Fee Code	Large Entity Fee ($)	Small Entity Fee Code	Small Entity Fee ($)	Fee Description
1202	18	2202	9	Claims in excess of 20
1201	86	2201	43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203	290	2203	145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204	86	2204	43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205	18	2205	9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) ($) 221.00

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Fee Code	Large Entity Fee ($)	Small Entity Fee Code	Small Entity Fee ($)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for *ex parte* reexamination	
1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	420	2252	210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	950	2253	475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1,480	2254	740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	2,010	2255	1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	330	2401	165	Notice of Appeal	
1402	330	2402	165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403	290	2403	145	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453	1,330	2453	665	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501	1,330	2501	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	480	2502	240	Design issue fee	
1503	640	2503	320	Plant issue fee	
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	770	2809	385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810	770	2810	385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
1801	770	2801	385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify) _____

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid **SUBTOTAL (3)** ($)

SUBMITTED BY				(Complete *(if applicable)*)	
Name (Print/Type)	Russell W. White	*Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)*	45,691	*Telephone*	512-327-5515
Signature				*Date*	9/23/04

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AUDIO SYSTEM AND METHOD

Russell W. White
Kevin R. Imes

Field of the Disclosure

[0001] The present invention relates to an audio system and method.

Related Applications

[0002] This is a continuation application of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/537,812 filed on March 28, 2000, the entirety of which is incorporated herein by reference.

Background

[0003] The first commercial radio stations in the United States began operation around 1920. Today, there may be as many as 12,000 radio stations in the United States programming in several distinct formats. When broadcasting their respective signals, these radio stations often use an analog signal, which may be modulated based on frequency or amplitude. Frequency modulated (FM) radio appears to be the dominant entertainment medium while amplitude modulated (AM) radio seems to be a popular outlet for news and information.

[0004] Unfortunately, analog radio may be unable to provide the sound quality and consistency that radio listeners desire. As such, several broadcasting related companies have begun to consider a movement to digital radio. Unlike analog radio reception, digital radio reception may be able to provide compact disk (CD) quality sound while remaining virtually immune to interference. Being immune to interference may result in reducing static growls or "multipath" echoes, echoes caused by signal reflections off buildings or topographical features.

[0005] Some countries, like Canada and many European countries, may choose to have digital radio operate in a single digital radio band such as the L-band between 1452-1492 megahertz (MHz). This band would allow the reception of both terrestrially and satellite-originated signals. By comparison, FM radio typically operates between 88 and 108 MHz while AM radio typically operates between 0.525 and 1.705 MHz. Neither of these bands allows for easy transmission via satellite.

[0006] Canada proposed using the L-Band for digital radio as early as 1992. Several countries throughout the world have since agreed to use the L-Band for digital radio with one notable exception. It appears the United States has chosen not to operate its digital radio within the L-Band. In the United States, the L-Band may already be committed for military uses. Apparently, the United States plans to adopt a system called in-band on-channel, or IBOC, which fits within the AM and FM frequencies.

[0007] IBOC technology may offer some advantages over L-Band transmissions. For example, there may be no need for new spectrum allocations. There may be backward and forward compatibility with existing AM and FM systems on both the transmitter and receiver sides, and there may be a low-investment upgrade to digital systems. Unfortunately, a workable IBOC solution is yet to be seen though technology may someday make IBOC digital radio commercially possible.

[0008] Even if an IBOC solution becomes commercially available in the United States, IBOC digital radio may suffer from several shortcomings. For example, there may global standardization problems. Though the United States favors IBOC, the European and Canadian communities seem to favor L-Band making the establishment of a global standard difficult.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0009] A more complete understanding of the present embodiments and advantages thereof may be acquired by referring to the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which like reference numbers indicate like features, and wherein:

[0010] **FIG. 1** depicts a general system for wirelessly communicating selective information to an electronic device in accordance with one aspect of the present invention;

[0011] **FIG. 2** illustrates a block diagram of a method of wirelessly communicating selected information to an electronic device;

[0012] **FIG. 3** illustrates an electronic device operable to receive selected audio information in accordance with the teachings of the present invention;

[0013] **FIG. 4** illustrates a graphical user interface (GUI) for displaying selectable audio information according to one aspect of the present invention;

[0014] **FIG. 5A** illustrates a portable radio system having a mount for an electronic device according to one embodiment of the present invention;

[0015] **FIG. 5B** illustrates automobile console having a mount for coupling an electronic device according to one aspect of the present invention;

[0016] **FIG. 6** illustrates a block diagram of a system for communicating voice mail messages using email according to one embodiment of the present invention;

[0017] **FIG. 7** illustrates a flow chart for providing voice email messages according to one embodiment of the present invention;

[0018] **FIG. 8** illustrates a flow diagram of a method for providing selected audio information to an electronic device according to one embodiment of the present invention; and

[0019] FIG. 9 illustrates an automobile console having a mount for an electronic device according to one embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0020] The conceptual groundwork for the present invention includes wirelessly communicating selective information to an electronic device. According to one aspect, a user may interact with the Internet to select information, such as audio information, and wirelessly communicate the selected information to an electronic device. The electronic device receives the information via a wireless communications network and processes the information accordingly. In a particularized form, a user may select information from an Internet website operable to allow selectivity of audio information such a songs, on-line radio stations, on-line broadcasts, streaming audio, or other selectable information. Upon selecting the audio information, information or data associated with the selected audio information is wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. The electronic device may then be used to process the selected audio information. In this manner, a user may receive selective audio information via a wireless electronic device.

[0021] In one form, the electronic device may be operable to communicate with an individual's automobile audio system. A user may select audio information utilizing a personal computer with access to a website operable to display selectable audio information. The selected audio information may then be wirelessly communicated to the electronic device associated with an automobile's audio system. Therefore, upon receiving the selected audio information, a user may access and play the received audio information utilizing the electronic device in association with the automobiles audio system.

[0022] The present invention is not limited to communicating only audio information. One skilled in the art can appreciate that other types of information, such as video, textual, etc. may be communicated utilizing the systems and methods disclosed herein without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention. Additionally, it will be understood that information may be formatted in a plurality of ways at different phases of communication without loosing the underlying content of the selected information. For example, an audio file may be formatted, segmented, compressed, modified, etc. for the purpose of providing or communicating the audio invention. Therefore, the term

"audio information" or "information" is used in a general sense to relate to audio information in all phases of communication.

[0023] FIG. 1 depicts a general system for wirelessly communicating selective information to an electronic device in accordance with one aspect of the present invention. The system, illustrated generally at 100, includes a digital engine 101 coupled to a communications engine 102. Communications engine 102 is remotely coupled to an electronic device 103. Digital engine 101 may be directly or indirectly coupled to storage device 105 operable to store information. Digital engine 101 maintains information or data associated with selected information in a digital format. The information may be stored within storage device 105 or other storage devices operable to maintain data or information associated with the selected information.

[0024] Communications engine 102 is communicatively coupled to digital engine 101 and operable to wirelessly communicate the selected information to electronic device 103. During operation, audio information may be selected by a user utilizing a personal computer or other devices operable to communicate with an information network. Digital engine 102 is operable to maintain information associated with the selected audio information. For example, the information could be several songs or titles configured as an audio file and formatted in a digital format such as an MP3 file, wave file, etc. The maintained information may also be a reference to a network location where an audio file may be stored, a network location where a network broadcast of audio information may be located, etc. or other network locations having information associated with the selected audio information. Therefore, digital engine 101 may maintain a plurality of different types of information or data associated with the selected audio information.

[0025] System 100, utilizing communication engine 102, may wirelessly communicate data or information associated with the selected audio information to electronic device 105 thereby providing wireless communication of selected information to an electronic device operable to receive wireless communications. In one embodiment, digital engine 101 may be used in association with an Internet website configured to provide access to selectable information. The Internet website operably associated with digital engine 101

allows a user to select information to be wirelessly communicated to electronic device 105 utilizing a network environment. The Internet website may include several different types of information related to audio information.

[0026] FIG. 4, described in greater detail below, illustrates one embodiment of providing an Internet website for displaying selectable audio information. For example, the Internet website may include music and/or artist search engines, playlists, top 10 charts, artists by genre, and other information associated with audio information. A user may select information associated with the audio information and digital engine 101 can maintain the information or data associated with the selected information in a digital format. Communications engine 102 coupled to digital engine 101 may wirelessly communicate data associated with the selected audio information to electronic device 103. Therefore, a user may access and select audio information via an Internet website and wirelessly communicate the data to an electronic device. As such, system 100 advantageously allows for wireless communication of selected audio information to electronic devices that may be remotely located from a conventional terrestrial communication network.

[0027] Electronic device 105 may be configured in a plurality of ways for receiving wireless communication of selected audio information. In one embodiment, electronic device 105 may be operable as a component configured to receive a cellular signal comprising the selected information communicated by the communication engine. For example, a device having a cellular modem may be operable to receive the information at specified intervals. Upon receiving the information the electronic device may process the received information. Electronic devices are described in more detail below and may include a network radio, a modular device, an audio system, a personal digital assistant (PDA), a cellular phone, or other electronic devices operable to receive information wirelessly communicated by communication engine 102.

[0028] Communications engine 102 may be operable to wirelessly communicate selected information to electronic device 103 in a plurality of ways. The present invention advantageously allows for several different embodiments of wirelessly communicating selected audio information to electronic device 103 and is not limited to any specific

configuration described below. Several different types or combinations of wireless communication may be realized by the present invention. Communications engine 102 may be operable to wirelessly communicate the selected information from an information network, such as the Internet, to an electronic device operable to receive wireless communications. In one embodiment, communications engine 102 may comprise a conduit to interface information with a wireless communication network. The conduit may configure the information located within the information network into a format operable to be transmitted via wireless communication.

[0029] For example, a wireless device may be operable to receive packets of information having a specific size and in a specific format. In such an embodiment, communications engine 102 could format the information into a desirable format for wirelessly communicating the information to electronic device 103. Several types of wireless communication may be used by communications engine 102 to communicate the selected information to an electronic device. Communications networks such as GSM, Digital Satellite communication, SB, Radio bands, DRC, SuperDRC or other systems or types of transmission such as TDMA, CDMA, spread spectrum, etc. or frequencies such as between about 1.7 GHz and 2.0 GHz may be realized by the present invention for communicating information or data representing the selected audio information to electronic device 103.

[0030] In one embodiment, the selective information may be communicated using a digital broadcast signal. Digital broadcast includes providing information via a signal such as AM, FM, and the like. Digital information may be included or encoded as a sub-carrier within the broadcast signal and received by electronic device 103. A digital sub-carrier may include a selective bandwidth of frequencies for a specific radio station (i.e. 6 MHz for FM). The selective information may be wirelessly communicated to electronic device 103 utilizing a communication engine 102 operable to communicate the selective information via a digital FM signal. In this manner, selective information may be communicated within digital FM sub-carriers to an electronic device operable to receive the information. For example, a user may subscribe to communicate the information via

an FM sub-carrier and receive the selective data through wireless communication via a specified FM sub-carrier.

[0031] In one embodiment, the selected information may be formatted and transmitted to achieve a desirable transmission rate. For example, conventional systems may transmit information at a speed of 10 kilobits per second. Therefore, for 1 megabyte of information to be communicated to an electronic device, a transmission time of approximately 800 seconds may be required. The present invention may allow for a relative increase in transmission speed by removing the requirement that information be communicated asynchronously to an electronic device. For example, conventional wireless communication utilizes a specified frequency to communicate information in two directions (i.e. cellular phones). As such, information is communicated across a channel in an asynchronous manner to provide a continuous audio signal to the recipient.

[0032] The present invention advantageously allows for signals to be transmitted to an electronic device in a less than asynchronous manner. For example, if a user selected a song to be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device, system 100 could communicate the information in a less than asynchronous manner allowing the selected information to be transmitted efficiently thereby decreasing the overall download time for the selected audio information. In one embodiment, the selected information may be compressed and transmitted across the same frequency but at different phases thereby allowing plural signals having different phases to be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. Therefore, the electronic device may be operable to receive multiple phased signals and process the selective information accordingly.

[0033] In one embodiment, the information may be wirelessly communicated at a relatively slow transmission rate. For example, a user may schedule when the selected audio information may be used by electronic device 103. The user may select several different audio tracks or songs to be transmitted to an electronic device associated with the user's vehicle such that the user can listen to the user selected audio information during the drive home at the end of a workday. Therefore, it may be desirable to utilize a slower transfer speed due to the extended amount of time available prior to actual use of

the selected audio information. In this manner, communications networks having less or slower transfer rates may be used to wirelessly communicate the selected audio information to the electronic device.

[0034] In another embodiment, high-speed wireless communication networks may be used to communicate the selected audio information. For example, a user may want to listen to an Internet broadcast of an Internet radio station. Therefore, high-speed communication may be required to wirelessly communicate or stream the selected audio information to an electronic device. In another embodiment, a hybrid of wireless communication rates may be deployed depending on the requirements of the selected audio information and/or the electronic device. For example, the selected audio information may first be transmitted to the electronic device via high-speed communication until enough information has been wirelessly communicated and buffered into a memory device operably associated with the electronic device. Upon communication of a certain percentage of the selected audio information, slower communication speeds may then be used to communicate additional selected audio information.

[0035] Therefore, system 100 may be configured in a plurality of ways to communicate selected information to electronic device 103. Digital engine 101 may be used to maintain data or information associated with the selected information and communication engine 102, communicatively coupled to digital engine 101, may wirelessly communicate selected information to electronic device 103.

[0036] FIG. 2 illustrates a block diagram of a method of wirelessly communicating selected information to an electronic device. The method may be used in association with the system illustrated in FIG. 1 or other systems operable to utilize the method of FIG. 2.

[0037] The method begins generally at step 200. At step 201, selectable audio information may be accessed utilizing a network communications device. For example, selectable audio information may be displayed at an Internet website accessible by a personal computer. In another embodiment, the selectable information may be accessed

utilizing a wireless communications device such as, a cellular phone, a PDA device, or other devices operable to provide access to the selectable audio information.

[0038] Upon accessing the selectable information, the method proceeds to step 202 where a user can identify or select audio information to be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. For example, a user may select an entire album to be wirelessly communicated to a PDA device.

[0039] Upon the user selecting the audio information, the method proceeds to step 203 where the method maintains information associated with the selected information. In one embodiment, the information may be an audio file, such as a wave file, and MP3 file, etc. representative of the selected audio information. In another embodiment, a network location that comprises a file representing the selected information may be maintained. Another example may include a network location of a network broadcast of audio information. Therefore, the method at step 203 may maintain several different types of information associated with the selected audio information.

[0040] Upon maintaining information or data associated with the selected information, the method proceeds to step 204 where the method wirelessly communicates information associated with the selected information to an electronic device. For example, if an audio file associated with the selected audio information were maintained, the method would communicate the audio file to the electronic device. In another embodiment, a link or network address broadcasting the selected audio information may be accessed and, at step 204, wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. In another embodiment, a combination of different types of audio information may be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. Upon transmitting the selected audio information, the method proceeds to step 205 where the method ends.

[0041] Selected audio information may be communicated in a plurality of ways as described above including communicating via a cellular communications network to an electronic device operable to receive cellularly-communicated signals. For example, the information may be selected from a website operable to display selectable information. Upon selecting the audio information, a data file representing the selected audio

information may be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device thereby allowing a user to select audio information via the Internet and wirelessly communicate the information to an electronic device.

[0042] In some embodiments, the wireless communication to an electronic device may occur in an off-line environment. For example, a user may go "on-line" to access a website and select information and then go "off-line" or end the browsing session. The wireless communication may then occur while the user is off-line thereby removing the confines of using an active or on-line browsing environment (i.e. Internet radio broadcast, streaming audio, etc.) for accessing selected information. Therefore, the method of FIG. 2 allows for information, such as audio information, to be communicated from a network location such as a web site, to an electronic device "via" wireless communication. The present invention advantageously allows users to access and download information accessible by a network location to an electronic device operable to receive wireless communications thereby reducing the need for land lines, terrestrial communication networks, etc. for communicating selective information.

[0043] In one embodiment, the method of FIG. 2 may be deployed in association with an Internet website operable to display selectable links for downloading information. The information may include audio information such as MP3s, streaming audio, streaming. Internet broadcasts, etc. are selectable by a user and operable to be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device. By providing a user with a website of selectable audio information operable to be wireless communicated to an electronic device, a user may customize information communicated to an electronic device. In one embodiment, a user may communicate information to an electronic device that may not be owned by the user. For example the method of FIG. 2 could be modified to allow a user to wirelessly communicate audio information to a plurality of electronic devices that may or may not be owned by the user.

[0044] FIG. 3 illustrates an electronic device operable to receive selected audio information in accordance with the teachings of the present invention. Electronic device 300 includes a communication module 301 such as a transceiver coupled to storage

medium 302 such as a high speed buffer, programmable memory, or other devices operable to store information. Electronic device 300 may also include processor 302 operably associated with communication module 301 and storage medium 302. Processor 302 may be operable to process wirelessly communicated selected information and in one embodiment may be integrated as part of communication module 301 of storage medium 302. In the same manner, as larger scale integration of electronic devices proliferate, communication module 301, processor 302, and storage medium 303 may be integrated into one communication component or device operable as electronic device 300.

[0045] Processor 302 may be operable using software that may be stored within storage medium 302. In one embodiment, software upgrades may be communicated to electronic device 300 via wireless communication allowing for efficient system upgrades for electronic device 300. Storage medium 302 may include one or several different types of storage devices. For example, storage medium 302 may include programmable gate arrays, ROM devices, RAM devices, EEPROMs, minidisks or other memory devices operable to store information.

[0046] During use, electronic device 300 receives wireless communications of selective information. The information may be transmitted via a wireless communications network and received by electronic device 300 via transceiver 301. Transceiver 301 may be operable to convert the received wireless communication signal into a desirable format and store the received information within storage medium 302. The received information may then be processed by electronic device 300.

[0047] In one embodiment, electronic device 300 may be operable as an audio player configured to play digital representations of music. For example, electronic device 300 may also include an MP3 player operable to process the received information into an audio signal. Therefore, electronic device 300 may be used to receive wirelessly communicated MP3 audio files and play these files using an MP3 player when desired. In another embodiment, electronic device 300 may be configured as a PDA wherein the PDA includes a web browser operable to wirelessly communicate with the Internet. The

PDA device may include a user interface allowing a user to select information to be wirelessly communicated to electronic device 300.

[0048] By providing a website of selectable information, the PDA devices may provide an efficient embodiment for electronic device 300 in that is allows a user to access and select information using a wireless communication network and receive the selected information using the same or different wireless communication network. In yet another embodiment, electronic device 300 may be configured as a component operable to receive selective information via wireless communication and communicate the information to a second electronic device such as an automobile sound system, home stereo, etc.

[0049] For example, electronic device 300 may utilize transceiver 301 to receive wirelessly communicated information. Electronic device 300 may then be coupled to an automobile sound system using an interface and communicate the received information to the automobile sound system. In this manner, electronic device 300 may be used to provide the automobile sound system with audio files received via wireless communication.

[0050] In another embodiment, electronic device 300 may be operable to communicate the received audio information to an audio system via a localized communications-signaling network. One such network may include utilizing "Bluetooth" communication standard, used to provide communication between electronic devices in a proximal setting. In one embodiment, electronic device 300 may be integrated into an audio component such as a radio receiver. Electronic device 300 integrated into an audio component may be configured to process digital audio files wirelessly communicated to an audio component. In another embodiment, electronic device 300 may be operable to communicate with an analog receiver at a predetermined frequency.

[0051] For example, a specific frequency may be selected (i.e. 93.7 MHz) for communicating the wireless received selected information from electronic device 300 to a localized audio system. Electronic device 300 communication of the wirelessly received information allows a conventional receiver to receive the selected audio information. In

one embodiment, the conventional receiver may be configured to receive a digital sub-carrier, on-carrier, or other within a specified frequency. Therefore, electronic device 300 may be operable to locally transmit the signal at a specific frequency thereby allowing the conventional receiver to receive the information. In another embodiment, electronic device 300 may be operable to scan plural bandwidths to receive the selective information. For example, transceiver 301 may be operable to receive selective information across several frequencies and process the received information accordingly.

[0052] In another embodiment, electronic device 300 may be operable to scan several frequencies to obtain the desirable information. For example, a user may select several Internet broadcasts comprised of streaming audio information. Therefore, the information may be transmitted across several wireless frequencies receivable by electronic device 300. Electronic device 300 may then be operable to allow a user to scan wirelessly communicated Internet broadcast signals thereby providing a user selected virtual broadcast radio network. In another embodiment, electronic device 300 may include a user interface operable to communicate with an Internet website operable to display selectable audio information. The Internet website may be configured as a user-preferred environment displaying a users selected audio information. Internet broadcast selections, streaming audio selections, etc.

[0053] With a display device for displaying a Website having selectable information, electronic device 300 may allow a user to select audio information via a user interface and receive the selected information via wireless communication thereby providing a customizable WebRadio device for the user. In another embodiment, electronic device 300 may be a modular device configured to be coupled to, for example, a portion of a cars interior. For example, electronic device 300 may be mounted to a portion of a car's console thereby providing a removably coupled electronic device operable to wirelessly receive selected audio information. As a removable device, electronic device 300 may also be coupled to a home audio system, a portable radio system or other systems thereby providing a versatile electronic device operable to receive wirelessly communicated selected audio information.

[0054] In another embodiment, electronic device 300 may be operable as a PDA and/or a cellular phone that may be mounted to an automobile's console. Electronic device 300 may then integrate with a user's automobile to provide an all-encompassing communications device. For example, electronic device 300 configured as a PDA and cellular phone may allow for communication with a user's email account, voice mail account, the Internet, as well as allowing for the receipt of selected audio information via wireless communication. Electronic device 300 may be operable in a hands-free mode allowing a user to maintain safe driving fundamentals. During use, electronic device 300 may be processing selective audio information for communicating with an automobile audio system and may further be operating to receive incoming cellular calls.

[0055] Electronic device 300 may be set-up by the user to pause the music being played and allow the received cellular call to be communicated either via an independent speaker or utilizing the automobiles "audio system." Additionally, electronic device 300 may be operable to adjust the listening level of an automobile's audio system, it may play received voice mail messages, allow a user to view the Internet, etc. In one embodiment, electronic device 300 may be operable as a dual mode electronic device capable of receiving both digital and analog wireless communication signals. In this manner, electronic devices may efficiently utilize available bandwidth for receiving selected information from a communications engine. For example, transceiver 301 may be a wireless communications modem operable to receive digital or analog signals.

[0056] FIG. 4 illustrates a graphical user interface (GUI) for displaying selectable audio information according to one aspect of the present invention. The GUI may be operable with a computer system, cellular device, PDA, or other electronic devices or systems operable to display the GUI of FIG. 4. The GUI, shown generally at 400, may be displayed using a conventional web browser 402 such as Microsoft® Internet Explorer, a WAP browser, or other browsers operable to display the audio information. Browser 402 includes browser functions, shown collectively at 403, for navigating a network such as the Internet or an intranet. Homepage 401 may be displayed using browser 402 and may include several functions, features, information, etc. related to audio information. Home

page 402 may be developed using several different types of programming (i.e. HTML, XML, Java, etc.) used to developing a network location or website.

[0057] The present invention is not limited to any one specific type of software and may be realized in plurality of ways as can be appreciated by those skilled in the art. Homepage 401 may also include login region 410 allowing a user to log into homepage 401 and display a user-preferred environment. For example, a user may want Radio Dial 412 to appear when a user logs into homepage 401. In another embodiment, a user may want to view a current playlist selected by the user or the status of wirelessly communicated playlist. A user may also provide demographic information allowing advertisers to access the demographic information and provide advertisements based upon the demographic information. For example, an advertiser may want to target Hispanic females in the 21-25 year old age group.

[0058] Through providing demographic information to advertisers, when a user logs into homepage 401 selective advertising can be "targeted" for a group of users. Homepage 401 may also include several tabs for efficiently navigating homepage 401. Library tab 405 may be provided to allow a user to browse available audio information that may be presented by title, genre, artist, decade, culture, etc. Store tab 407 may also be provided for locating items available for purchase such as CDs, PDA devices, MP3 players, wireless communication hardware, interfaces, software or other types of products that may be purchased while on-line. Chat tab 408 may also be provided allowing a user to chat with other users of home page 401. For example, a guest musical artist may be available to chat with visitors of home page 401 via a chat page associated with chat tab 408. Home page 401 may also include contest tab 409 for displaying current contests, prizes, and/or winners.

[0059] Radio tab 406 may also be provided for displaying audio information. For example, radio tab 406 may display a collective menu 411 of selectable functions or features associated with audio information. Top ten lists may be provided to a user based on several different billboard polls or genres. A search engine may be provided allowing a user to search for a specific type of audio information such as an artist, song title, and

genre. Internet radio station, etc. In one embodiment, a user may input the lyrics to a song within the search engine. As such, the search engine may locate several different songs having the desirable lyrics and allow a user to select the search results. A user may also use a select a device feature that allows a user to select a destination device for communicating selected audio information. For example, a user may want to communicate a playlist to several different devices such as a PDA, a home computer system, a work computer system, etc.

[0060] As such, a user can communicate selective information to several devices without having to download the information separately for each device. A send a friend link may also be provided allowing a user to send selective audio information to a friend's electronic device. A user may also join a group comprised of individuals that select a certain genre of music to be communicated to the user's electronic device. For example, a user may want to join a group that plays only 50s swing music. As such, the user could communicate the group's selected songs to the user's electronic device. A user may also utilize an email account provided by homepage 401 allowing a user to correspond with others via email. A user may also access a list of guest DJs that may provide playlists of songs chosen by the guest DJ and selectable by a user.

[0061] In one embodiment, a user's radio dial 412 may be provided when a registered user logs into homepage 401. As such, radio dial 412 may include several functional buttons similar to conventional systems such as a volume control and a station control. However, radio dial 412 surpasses the limitations of conventional systems through providing a programmable radio dial of user customized audio information. Radio dial 412 includes several stations that may be programmed using program interface 413. The preset stations may include several different types of user customized preset information such as user selected playlists, Internet broadcast stations, top lists, group playlists, artist-selected lists, on-line radio station, conventional radio stations. Internet phone, cellular phone, etc. and other functions, features, or information associated with audio information.

[0062] Radio dial 412 may also be displayed as a separate user interface and in some embodiments, does not require a "browsing" environment to view radio dial 412. For example, an electronic device, such as a PDA, having a display may graphically present radio dial 412 to a user. One example may be using electronic device in association with an automobile audio system. Electronic device may display radio dial 412 and may allow a user to navigate, modify, select, adjust volume, access daytimer, access phone lists, etc. or perform other functions while the electronic device is used in association with an automobile sound system. Therefore, radio dial 412 may be operable as an application for use with several different types of electronic devices (i.e. computer systems, portable computing devices, cellular phones, etc.) operable to display radio dial 412 and in come embodiments may be wirelessly communicated to an electronic device.

[0063] In another embodiment, homepage 401 may allow a user to select when to download the information to an electronic device. For example, a user may want to listen to a certain genre of music at a specific time of day thereby allowing a user to select the information. As such, a user may select a different playlist for every day of the week thereby allowing a user to listen to different songs on different days of the week. The user can further identify when the selected playlist should be available for listening. For example, if a user wanted to listen to "playlist #1" on Monday morning during the drive into work between 8:00 am and 9:00 am, the user would enter the time and the day "playlist #1" would be available for listening. In this manner, the playlist may be communicated to the electronic device thereby allowing a user to listen to selective audio information at a desirable time.

[0064] FIG. 5A illustrates a portable radio system having a mount for an electronic device according to one embodiment of the present invention. Portable radio 500 includes a mount 501 operable to receive electronic device 502. Mount 501 may include a connector operable to provide communications and power to electronic device 502. During use, electronic device 502 when mounted within portable radio 500 communicates with portable radio to provide remotely received selective audio information. In one embodiment, electronic device 502 may include a user interface allowing a user to access the Internet. Therefore, selective audio information located on

the Internet may be accessed by the user and remotely communicated to electronic device 502 coupled to portable radio 500.

[0065] In another embodiment, portable radio 500 may include memory operably located within for storing downloaded information. For example, portable radio 500 may include 32 MB of RAM allowing electronic device 502 to receive selective information and download the selective information to memory located within portable radio 500. In this manner, the downloaded music may be operable to be played within portable radio 500 while allowing electronic device to be removed from portable radio 500. Therefore, portable radio 500 including electronic device 502 allows a user to communicate selected audio information to portable radio 500.

[0066] FIG. 5B illustrates automobile console having a mount for coupling an electronic device according to one aspect of the present invention. Console 510 includes mount 511 operable to receive electronic device 512. Mount 511 may be located in many different locations within an automobile such as coupled to a sun visor, center console, dashboard, floorboard, etc. Mount 511 allows the user to couple electronic device 512 to the automobile and provide an interface for communication between electronic device 512 and the automobile audio system. Mount 511 may also include a power connection that allows electronic device 512 to use the automobiles power during use. The power connection may also be used in association with a recharging circuit operable to recharge a power supply within the electronic device. During operation, electronic device 512 coupled to mount 511 may receive selected audio information via wireless communication and communicate the selective information to the automobile audio system.

[0067] In one embodiment, the automobile may include memory operable associated with the automobile for storing information. The memory may be used in association with mount 511 and electronic device 512 to store the selected audio information. In this manner, voluminous audio information can be stored within the memory allowing electronic device 512 to receive additional information. In one embodiment, a mount may be provided for a home audio system (not shown) for downloading selected audio

information for use with a home audio system. For example, a mount device may be coupled to a home stereo system such that the upon placing an electronic device such as electronic device 500 within the mount, selected audio information may be communicated to the home audio system thereby allowing a home audio system to be used in association with an electronic device.

[0068] FIG. 6 illustrates a block diagram of a system for communicating voice mail messages using email according to one embodiment of the present invention. The system, indicated generally at 600, includes email server 601 coupled to a voice mail storage device 602. System 600 further includes a computer system or network terminal 603 such as a computer coupled to network 604. System 600 further includes mount 605 for mounting electronic device 606 for hardwire communication of information. Device 606 may also communicate with network 604 using a wirelessly communication network operably associated with network 604 and coupled, for example, via tower 607.

[0069] During operation, system 600 communicates voice mail messages to a user utilizing email server 601. For example, if a user receives a voice mail message, email server 601 would be notified and a voice mail message would be sent to the user's email account in the form of an email message. For example, a voice mail message 5 would be sent to a user's email account within intranet 604 in the form of an audio file as an attachment to the email. Upon receiving the email, a user may click on the audio file representing the voice mail message to hear the message left by a caller.

[0070] In one embodiment, a user may be accessing the Internet via a phone line and, as such, be unable to receive notification that a voice mail message has been received. System 600 would receive the voice mail message and send an email comprising the voice mail message to the user email account. In this manner, a user can remain connected to the network and receive voice mail without having to log off or disconnect from the Internet. In one embodiment, a user may receive the voice mail message via a portable electronic device. For example, a user may be using remote device 605 operable to receive wirelessly communicated information. System 600 would receive the voice

mail message and forward the voice mail message to a user's portable electronic device 606. In this manner, a user may be capable of receiving voice emails at remote locations.

[0071] In another embodiment, a user may subscribe to use an Internet email account that may be operably associated with system 600. Utilizing an Internet email account may allow a user the flexibility to check voice email messages from any location in the world. For example, a user may access a "Hotmail" email account while traveling on business in a foreign country. The user, upon gaining access to the "Hotmail" account, would be able to listen to voice mail messages sent to the user via the "Hotmail" email account. Through utilizing an email account to receive voice mail messages, a user may be afforded great flexibility in communicating voice mail messages. For example, a user may be able to forward a voice mail message received in the form of an email to one or a plurality of other email accounts. In this manner, a voice email message may be sent efficiently to other email users.

[0072] For example, a user may maintain a distribution list of individuals working on a particular project that may have a need to hear certain voice email messages. In this manner, a user may efficiently disseminate information to other individuals while adding additional textual information to the body of the email allowing a user to comment on the original voice email message. In another embodiment, a user may forward a received voice email message to another account operable to receive forwarded voice email messages. For example, system 600 may be operable to receive an email message having a voice mail message as an attachment. The system would then be operable to forward the voice mail message to specified phone number, separate email account, and/or voice mail account, etc. thereby providing a user flexibility in receiving voice email.

[0073] In one embodiment, a user may utilize an email account to establish an answering service for voice mails. For example, a user's telephone number may be operable with an email account to provide an answering service. A user may record a message for a specified phone number or extension and, upon receiving an incoming call; the recorded message may be played back to incoming the call's initiator. System 600 would then forward the received voicemail message via an email account to the user. For example, a

user may have an account set up at a residence for receiving voicemail messages via a user-defined email account. The user could then forward all received voice mails from the home account to an email account at a place of work. Therefore, the user may have complete access to received voicemail messages. In the same manner, a user could set up their work phone number to forward a voicemail message to the user's home email account thereby allowing a user to receive a voicemail at a home email account. Therefore, system 600 may be operable in a plurality of ways to provide email messages comprised of voicemail messages received via a voice mail or email account.

[0074] FIG. 7 illustrates a flow chart for providing voice email messages according to one embodiment of the present invention. The method begins at step 701 where a voice mail message is left for a user. The message could be at a residence, place of business, etc. The method then proceeds to step 702 where the message may be stored as an audio file within a database operable to store a file comprised of the voice mail message. Upon storing the file, the method proceeds to step 703 where an electronic mail message may be generated. The electronic mail message may be addressed to the recipient of the voice mail message. The method then proceeds to step 704 where the audio file representing the voice mail message is attached to the electronic message.

[0075] Upon attaching the audio file, the method then proceeds to step 705 where the email message may be sent to the email address. Upon sending the email message the method proceeds to step 706 where the method determines if the email message should be sent to a wireless electronic device. If the message is not to be sent to a wireless device, the method proceeds to step 720 where the method ends. If the message is to be sent to a wireless electronic device, the method proceeds to step 707 where a signal may be sent to the wireless electronic device and at step 708 an indication is provided to the electronic device indicating that a voicemail message has been received via a user's email account. The method may then proceed to step 709 where the user decides whether or not to listen to the voice email message. If the user decides not to listen to the voice email message, the method may proceed to step 710 where the method ends. If the user decides to listen to the voice email message, the method proceeds to step 711 where a

request may be sent by the electronic device requesting the voice email message be forwarded to the user's electronic device.

[0076] At step 712, the voicemail message may be sent to the user's electronic device. Upon forwarding the voicemail message to the user the method may proceed to step 720 where the method ends. As such, FIG. 7 depicts one method of providing an email message comprised of a voice mail message. Certainly, other methods may be deployed as advancements in technology and are made without departing for the spirit and scope of the present invention.

[0077] FIG. 8 illustrates a flow diagram of a method for providing selected audio information to an electronic device according to one embodiment of the present invention. The method begins at step 800 where a user accesses a webpage via the Internet. The webpage may be a home page illustrated in FIG. 4 or other web pages operable to display selectable references to audio information. The method proceeds to step 801 where a user selects desirable audio information. For example, a user may select a single song, a plurality different songs, an entire album, a broadcast station, streaming audio, etc. or other selectable audio information. Upon the user selecting a reference to audio information, the method may proceed to step 802 where a playlist may be created that represents the user's selected audio information.

[0078] The playlist may be variable in size and comprised of a plurality of different types of available audio information. Upon creating a playlist, the method may proceed to step 803 where information associated with the playlist is obtained. For example, a list of network or URL locations comprised of the desirable audio information may be obtained. In this manner, desirable audio information may be obtained from many different sources such as URLs, network addresses, hard drives, databases comprised of audio information, etc. The sources may be accessed to obtain the selected audio information.

[0079] Upon obtaining data associated with the customized playlist, the method may proceed to step 804 where the user is prompted for a destination for the playlist. For example, a user may want to communicate the selected audio information to a remote electronic device, an automobile audio system, a home stereo system, a home computer,

an electronic device coupled to a home network or computer system, etc. or other locations or devices operable to receive the selected audio information. In one embodiment, a user may select a device owned by a friend to accept the selected audio information. For example, a husband may want to send a romantic playlist to his wife on their anniversary. In this situation, the husband would select his wife's electronic device as the receiving device for the selected audio information.

[0080] Upon selecting a device, the method proceeds to step 805 where the method determines the destination of the selected audio information. If the information is to be sent to a device via a wire line connection, the method proceeds to step 813 where playlist data is sent to a user via a wire line connection. The method may then proceed to step 814 where the playlist is executed at the device. If the information is to be sent to a device requiring wireless communication, the method proceeds to step 806 where the information is formatted for communicating the information to a wireless electronic device. For example, a wireless PDA device may be selected as a destination device for the selected audio information. The PDA device may include an audio player, such as an MP3 player operable to play or execute MP3 audio files. In such an embodiment, the method could format the information such that the information may be wirelessly communicated and subsequently played by the MP3 player.

[0081] Upon formatting the information, the method may then proceed to step 807 where the audio information is wirelessly communicated to the selected device. In some embodiments, the device may be operable to receive a limited amount of information based upon storage capacity of the device (i.e., 16 MB). In such a case, the method may divide the information into component parts and periodically communicate the component parts, such as packets, to the electronic device. Upon communicating the audio information, the method may then proceed to step 808 where the signal may be received by the destination or electronic device.

[0082] The method may then proceed to step 809 where the method determines if all of the audio information has been received. For example, if 16 MB or 32 MB of selected audio information was initially transmitted due to capacity limitations of the selected

device, the method may query the selected device to determine if capacity is available. If available memory exists, the method may proceed to step 807 where the method may communicate additional audio information based upon the amount of available memory. The method repeats until all of the selected audio information has been transmitted.

[0083] Upon communicating the selected information, the method may proceed to step 810 where the playlist may be executed at step 812. For example, a user may select a continuous communication of selected audio information (e.g. several hours of music. Internet broadcast, etc.). As such, the method may continuously play or execute the received audio information. In another embodiment, the method may proceed to step 811 where the method may store or buffer the received information until it is desirable to execute the received selected audio information. As such, upon executing the selected audio information, the method may proceed to step 809 where the method may repeat. In one embodiment, a user may elect to download a broadcast of an on-line radio station. For example, a user may want to listen to a radio station located in a remote location wherein conventional radio receivers could not receive the desired broadcast. For example, a person living in Houston, Texas may not be able to receive a radio broadcast signal from a radio station in Seattle, Washington utilizing a conventional radio receiver.

[0084] In accordance with the teachings of the present invention, a user may select an on-line broadcast or radio station as all or a part of the selected audio information. The user may then receive radio broadcasts without having to use a home computer system or conventional radio receiver.

[0085] At step 804, a user may select a device that does not require remote communication of information. For example, a user may elect to communicate the selected audio information to device, such as a personal computer, PDA device, MP3 player, etc. coupled via a network connection to the Internet or an Intranet. The user may receive the selected playlist at the determined device for eventual playing. In one embodiment, a user may select a plurality of devices as destination devices for receiving downloads of the selected audio information. For example, the user may want to download the information to a home stereo system, a PDA device, and an automobile

stereo. As such, the selected information may be communicated to more than one destination device. In addition, the format of the download may match or conform to the selected destination device(s).

[0086] The present invention may be configured in a plurality of ways to communicate desirable audio information to users by allowing users to select desirable audio information and transmitting the desirable audio information to a specified destination thereby allowing a user to receive on-demand customized audio information. Moreover, the download may occur in an off-line environment, allowing a user to enjoy the selected audio information accessed on-line without having to be on-line or utilizing a browsing environment. In one embodiment of the present invention, the method of FIG. 8 may be modified to allow a user to select a "user group" for receiving customized audio information. For example, a "user group" may include users that prefer contemporary jazz wherein a user may request a certain song. Therefore, a virtual request line may be designed for a specific genre of music allowing "members" to transmit audio information to the "group".

[0087] In another embodiment of the present invention, the method may be modified to allow a user to select a specific genre to be transmitted to the users device. For example, a user may elect to have random country and western music transmitted to a destination device. The user could efficiently create a radio station format and have the format received at a destination device.

[0088] In a further embodiment, a user may select a group of genres to be downloaded to a desirable device. As such, the method may be modified to allow a user to select several different genres to download random music within the specified genres. In another embodiment, a user may elect to download the same music as another individual. For example, a user may want to download the same music as their best friend. Therefore the user could elect to download the same music as their friend or group of friends. In another example, a user may want to listen to the same music that an artist listens to on a specific weekday of evening. For example, a user may want to listen to the same music that Barry White listens to on a Saturday night.

[0089] Therefore, the user may select "Barry White's" Saturday night playlist and receive the same playlist Barry White receives on Saturday night. In another embodiment, the method of FIG. 8 may be modified to allow a user to manipulate song post download. For example, a user may want to store, delete, replay, copy, forward, etc. received audio information. Therefore, the method of FIG. 4 may be modified such that a user can manipulate or process the received audio information in a plurality of ways. In one embodiment of the present invention, an on-line radio station may be provided. For example, the radio station may be created for transmitting audio or on-line broadcasts. The on-line broadcasters or hosts may create their own format for broadcast. For example, an on-line radio station may be provided that transmits only children's songs.

[0090] Prior to conception of the present invention, conventional radio stations were monetarily limited to be capable of transmitting music such as children's songs to conventional radio receivers. The present invention, by providing a medium for transmitting selectable audio information, enables the existence of on-line broadcasting with little or no overhead cost for a host. A user may select an on-line broadcast for on-line or off-line delivery. In another embodiment, on-line broadcast of audio information representing books or novels may be provided to individuals such as the visually impaired. For example, an on-line broadcast station may provide several hours of audio information broadcast representing books or novels to be broadcast with very little overhead.

[0091] FIG. 9 illustrates an automobile console having a mount for an electronic device according to one embodiment of the present invention. Console 900 includes a conventional audio system 901 comprised of a receiver 902 and CD player 903. Interface 904 may be coupled to audio system 901 via plug 905 and cable 908, which may be coupled to an auxiliary line into audio system 901. Interface 904 may also include contact 906 for contacting electronic device 907. Cable 908 may be a multiple conductive cable for providing power from the automobiles power system via a protection circuit or fuse 909 for powering electronic device 907. In one embodiment, interface 904 may be operable to recharge electronic device 907 utilizing a power source associated with an automobile.

[0092] During operation, electronic device 907 may be mounted within interface 904. Electronic device 907 may also be powered or recharged via power line 910 and communicate with the systems audio system via interface cable or bus line 911. Audio information communicated to electronic device 907 may be transferred to audio system 901 such that a user may listen to selected audio information. For example, a user may have previously selected a plurality of audio files to be transmitted to electronic device 907. Electronic device 905 may communicate the selected audio information to the automobiles audio system that utilizes interface 901 thereby allowing the user to listen to selected audio information. In one embodiment, cable 908 may be custom-installed to audio system 901. For example, the cable may be coupled to an auxiliary line for the system's radio or may be coupled to CD player line 912.

[0093] In another embodiment, a radio manufacturer may provide interface 904 as a standard interface integrated into the audio system, thereby allowing communication between electronic device 907, audio system 901 and/or console 900. Electronic device 907 may include a plurality of different types of devices. For example, electronic device 907 may include a PDA device operable to store selected audio information. The information may be either remotely downloaded using an Internet web browser and wireless communication to the PDA device. In another embodiment, selected audio information may communicated to a PDA device via a hard wire coupled to a computer system interfacing with the Internet. In another embodiment, electronic device 907 may include an audio file player operable to play audio files such as MP3s, etc.

[0094] The audio files may be remotely or locally communicated to electronic device 907 and upon coupling to audio system 901, the audio files may be transmitted to audio system 901 in a form receivable by audio system 901. Although the disclosed embodiments have been described in detail, it should be understood that various changes, substitutions and alterations can be made to the embodiments without departing from their spirit and scope.

[0095] The benefits, advantages, solutions to problems, and any element(s) that may cause any benefit, advantage, or solution to occur or become more pronounced are not to

be construed as a critical, required, or essential feature or element of the present invention. Accordingly, the present invention is not intended to be limited to the specific form set forth herein, but on the contrary, it is intended to cover such alternatives, modifications, and equivalents, as can be reasonably included within the spirit and scope of the invention as provided by the claims below.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An audio system, comprising:

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;

a playlist engine operable to maintain a first playlist and a second playlist, wherein the first playlist is operable to include a selection of audio content having a corresponding audio file saved in the memory;

an automobile having an automobile sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash sound system component operable to be coupled to the electronic device via a cable;

the in dash sound system component comprising a selector operable to allow a user to select the first playlist for outputting via the speaker; and

the cable having at least one conductive element operable to provide power to the electronic device, the cable further operable to communicatively couple the electronic device to the automobile sound system.

2. The audio system of claim 1, wherein the electronic device is a portable MP3 player and the cable communicates a processed digital representation of the selection of audio content to the in dash sound system component.

3. The audio system of claim 1, wherein the selector comprises a button.

4. The audio system of claim 1, wherein the audio file player is an MP3 player.

5. The audio system of claim 1, wherein the in dash sound system component further comprises a second selector operable to allow the user to select the second playlist for outputting via the speaker.

6. The audio system of claim 5, wherein the first selector is a first button and the second selector is a second button.

7. The audio system of claim 1, further comprising a playlist generator to generate the first playlist to be presented by the in dash sound system component.

8. The audio system of claim 1, wherein the in dash sound system component is fixed in a first location and the cable is routed to allow the electronic device to be located in a different location.

9. The system of claim 1, wherein the cable plugs into the in dash sound system component at a port.

10. The system of claim 9, wherein the port is located behind an automobile dashboard.

11. The system of claim 9, wherein the port is a compact disk player interconnect point of the in dash sound system component.

12. An audio system, comprising:

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;

a device interface system that comprises a sound system connector and a device connector;

the sound system connector operable to communicatively couple the device interface system to a sound system; and

the device connector operable to releasably engage the electronic device such that a contact portion of the device interface system contacts a conductive element of the electronic device to form at least a portion of a communication path operable to interconnect the sound system and the electronic device.

13. The system of claim 12, further comprising an automobile having an automobile sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash sound system component, wherein the automobile sound system is the installed sound system.

14. The system of claim 12, wherein the sound system comprises a portable radio.

15. The system of claim 12, wherein the contact portion of the device interface system is provided at an end portion of a cable having at least one conductive element, the cable operable to provide power to the electronic device.

16. The system of claim 12, wherein the audio file player is operable to process audio content having a format selected from a group consisting of an MP3 file format, a WAV file format, and a streaming audio format.

17. A method for facilitating the outputting of audio content comprising:

accessing an automobile sound system component having at least a first button for controlling an operational feature of an automobile sound system; and

installing a cable at the automobile sound system component that allows a user to output via the automobile sound system a playing of an audio content file stored in a memory of a portable electronic device that comprises the 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.

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising installing the cable to the automobile sound system component, the cable operable to conductively couple the portable electronic device to a power supply associated with the automobile.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the cable is further operable to communicatively couple the portable electronic device to the automobile sound system component to output the playing of the audio content file via a speaker assembly of the automobile sound system.

20. The method of claim 17, wherein the cable enables communication between the portable electronic device and the automobile sound system component via a compact disk player port of the automobile sound system component.

21. The method of claim 17, wherein the audio content file is included within a playlist, further wherein the interface system allows the portable electronic device to communicate information about the playlist to the automobile sound system component.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the information is selected from a group consisting of a playlist name, a playlist number, a song title, a song genre, and a performing artist.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein the automobile sound system component is operable to present a graphical representation of the information to the user.

24. A method of outputting audio content, comprising:

communicatively coupling an automobile sound system to an electronic device via an adapter cable, the electronic device having an audio file player, a local rechargeable power supply, and a memory operable to store a plurality of selected audio content files, the adapter cable operable to conductively couple the electronic device to a power supply associated with an automobile to recharge the local rechargeable power supply;

allowing selection of a first audio content file via a button selector operably coupled to the automobile sound system;

detecting a selection of the button selector;

playing the first audio content file with the audio file player in response to the detection; and

outputting a representation of the first audio content file via a speaker assembly of the automobile sound system.

25. The method of claim 24, further comprising initiating playing of a first playlist comprising the first audio content file in response to the detection.

26. The method of claim 25, further comprising initiating playing of a second playlist in response to detecting selection of a second button selector.

27. The method of claim 25, further comprising receiving an input to randomly play the first playlist.

28. The method of claim 24, further comprising:

accessing a memory of the electronic device to identify a playlist to be output by an automobile sound system; and

linking the button selector with the playlist.

29. The method of claim 24, wherein the automobile sound system comprises a receiver; further comprising:

receiving a wireless signal with the receiver;

pausing the playing of the first audio content file; and

outputting audio information represented by the wireless signal.

30. An audio system, comprising:

a vehicle sound system that comprises a speaker and an in dash component that includes an auxiliary connection port;

an electronic device mount formed to releasably engage a portion of a portable audio file player that includes a rechargeable power supply and a processor operable to play a locally stored audio file;

an interface cable interconnecting the auxiliary connection port and the electronic device mount, the interface cable having at least one conductive element operable to deliver power to recharge the rechargeable power supply, the cable further operable to communicatively couple the portable audio file player to the in dash component.

31. The system of claim 30, further comprising an automobile, wherein the vehicle sound system is installed within the automobile.

32. The system of claim 31, further comprising the portable audio file player, wherein the portable audio file player is an MP3 player.

33. The system of claim 31, further comprising a button operably associated with the in dash component, the button operable to direct a mounted audio file player to begin playing a first playlist of locally stored audio content.

34. The system of claim 33, wherein the interface cable is routed such that the mounted audio file player is located apart from the in dash component.

35. The system of claim 34, wherein the interface cable communicates a digital audio signal output from the portable audio file player to the auxiliary connection port to allow outputting of a sound via the speaker.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0096] 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.

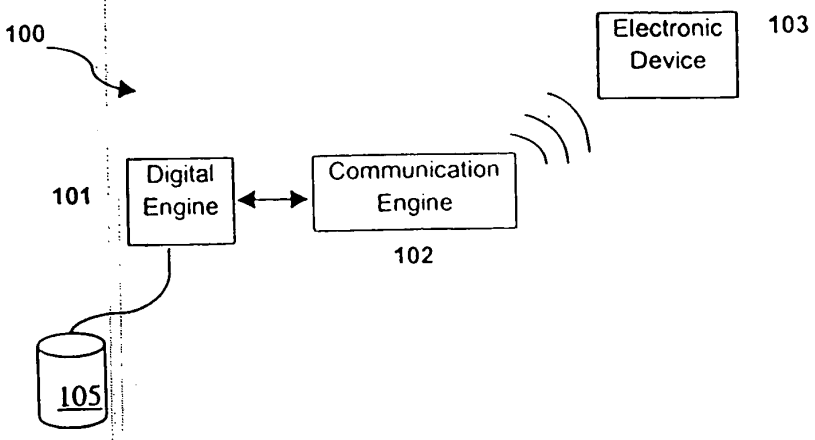
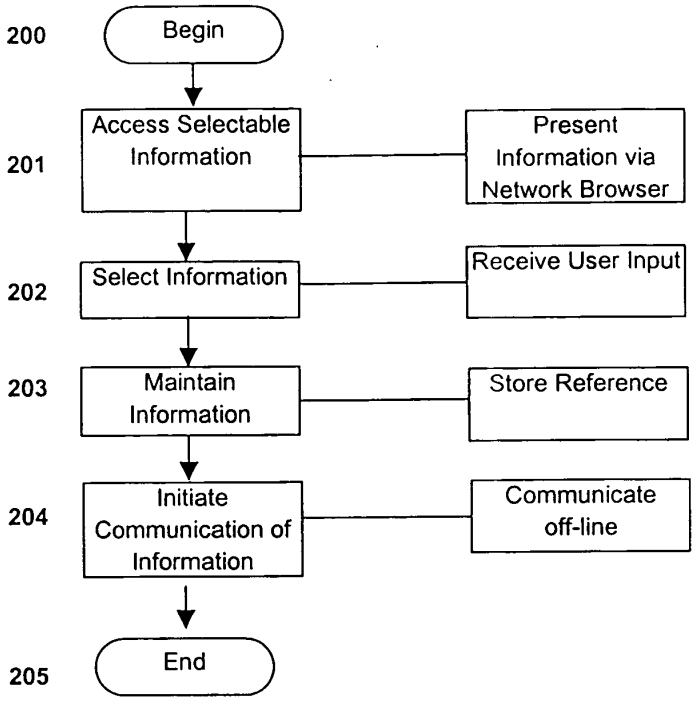

100
Electronic Device
103
101
Digital Engine
Communication Engine
102
105

FIG. 1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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

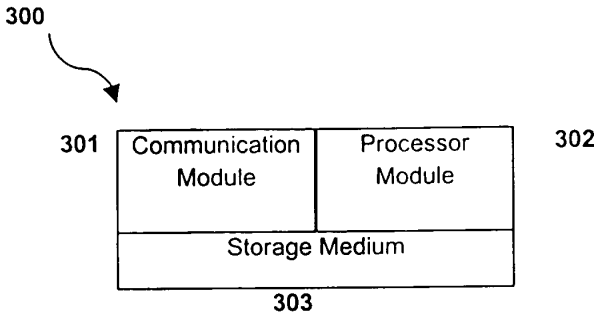
300
301
Communication Module
Processor Module
302
Storage Medium
303

FIG. 3

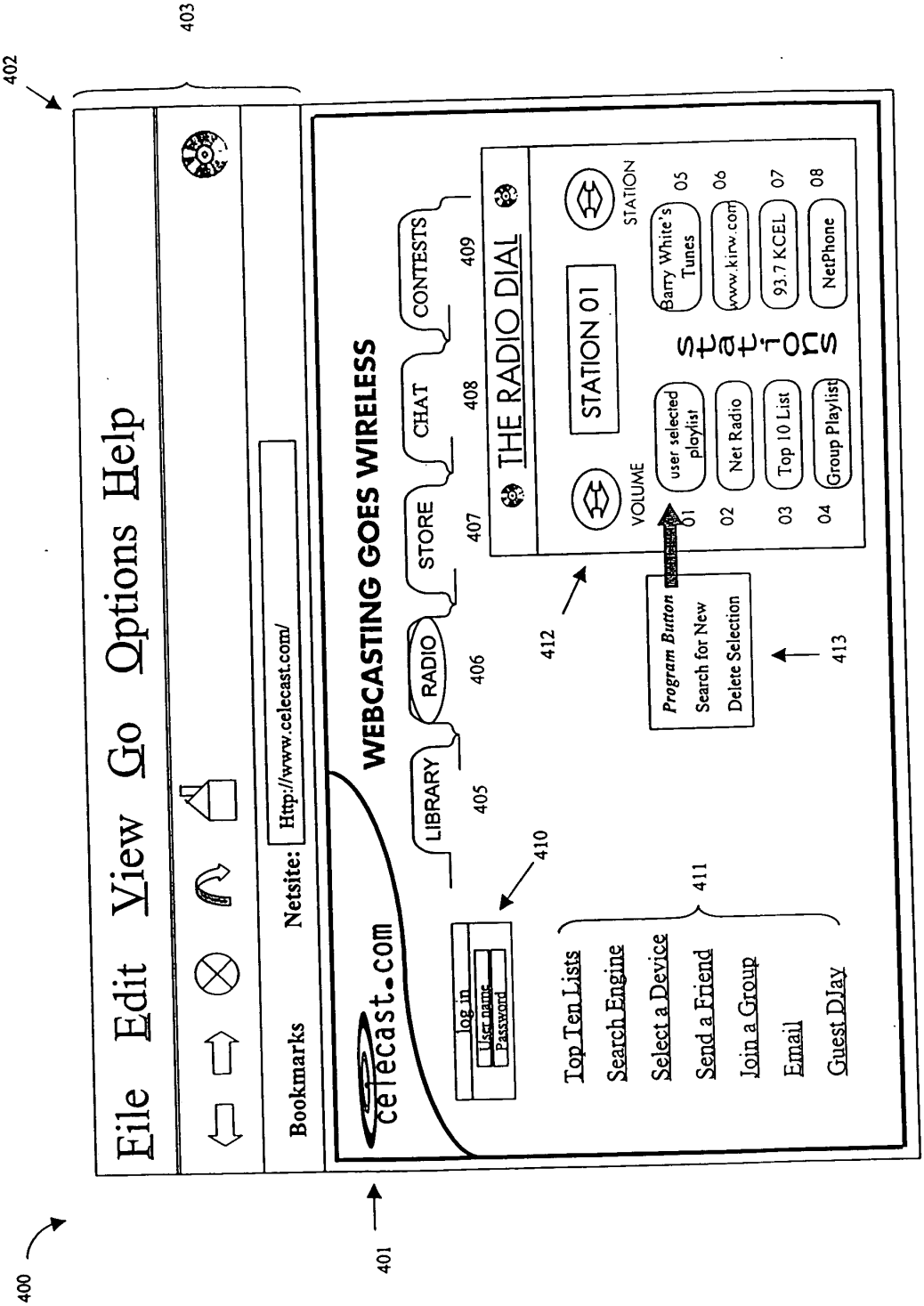
400
401
402
403
File Edit View Go Options Help
Bookmarks
Netsite: Http://www.celecast.com/
celecast.com
WEBCASTING GOES WIRELESS
LIBRARY
RADIO
STORE
CHAT
CONTESTS
405
406
407
408
409
410
411
412
413
log in
User name
Password
Top Ten Lists
Search Engine
Select a Device
Send a Friend
Join a Group
Email
Guest Diay
Program Button
Search for New
Delete Selection
THE RADIO DIAL
STATION 01
VOLUME
STATION
user selected playlist
Net Radio
Top 10 List
Group Playlist
Barry White's Tunes
www.kirw.com
93.7 KCEL
NetPhone
01
02
03
04
05
06
07
08

FIG. 4

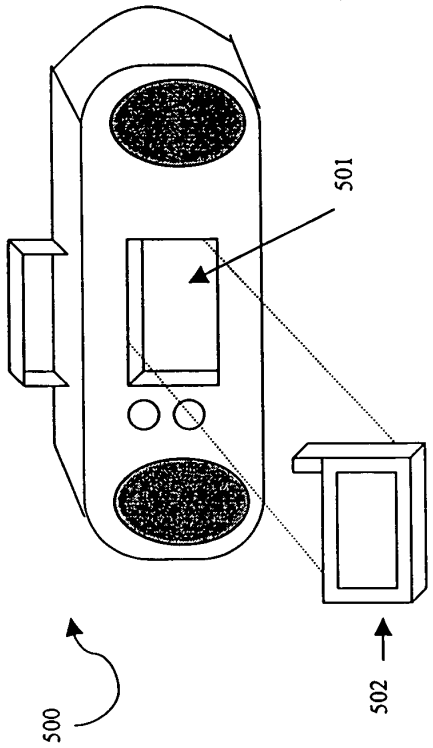

FIG. 5A

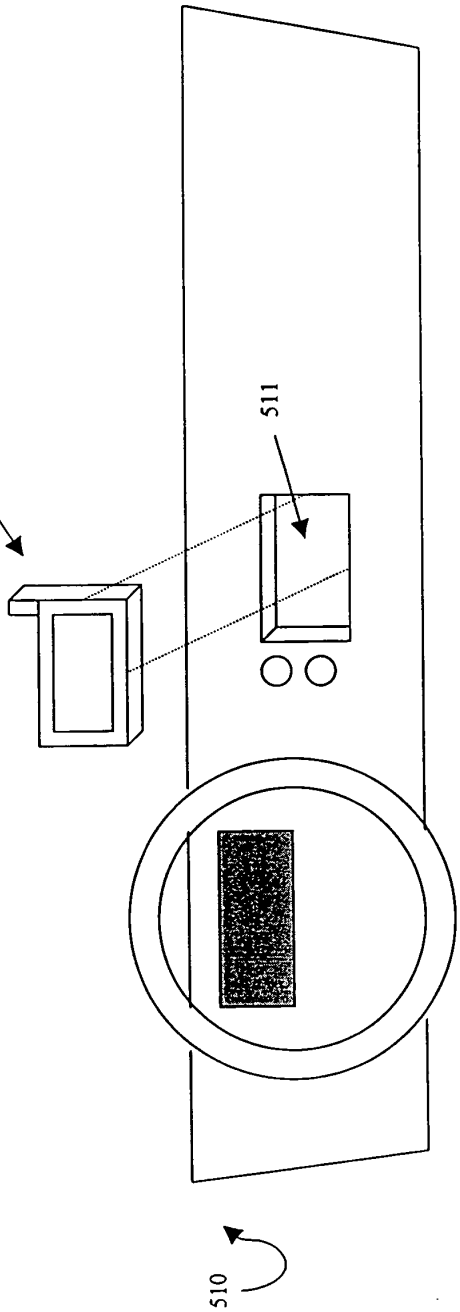

FIG. 5B

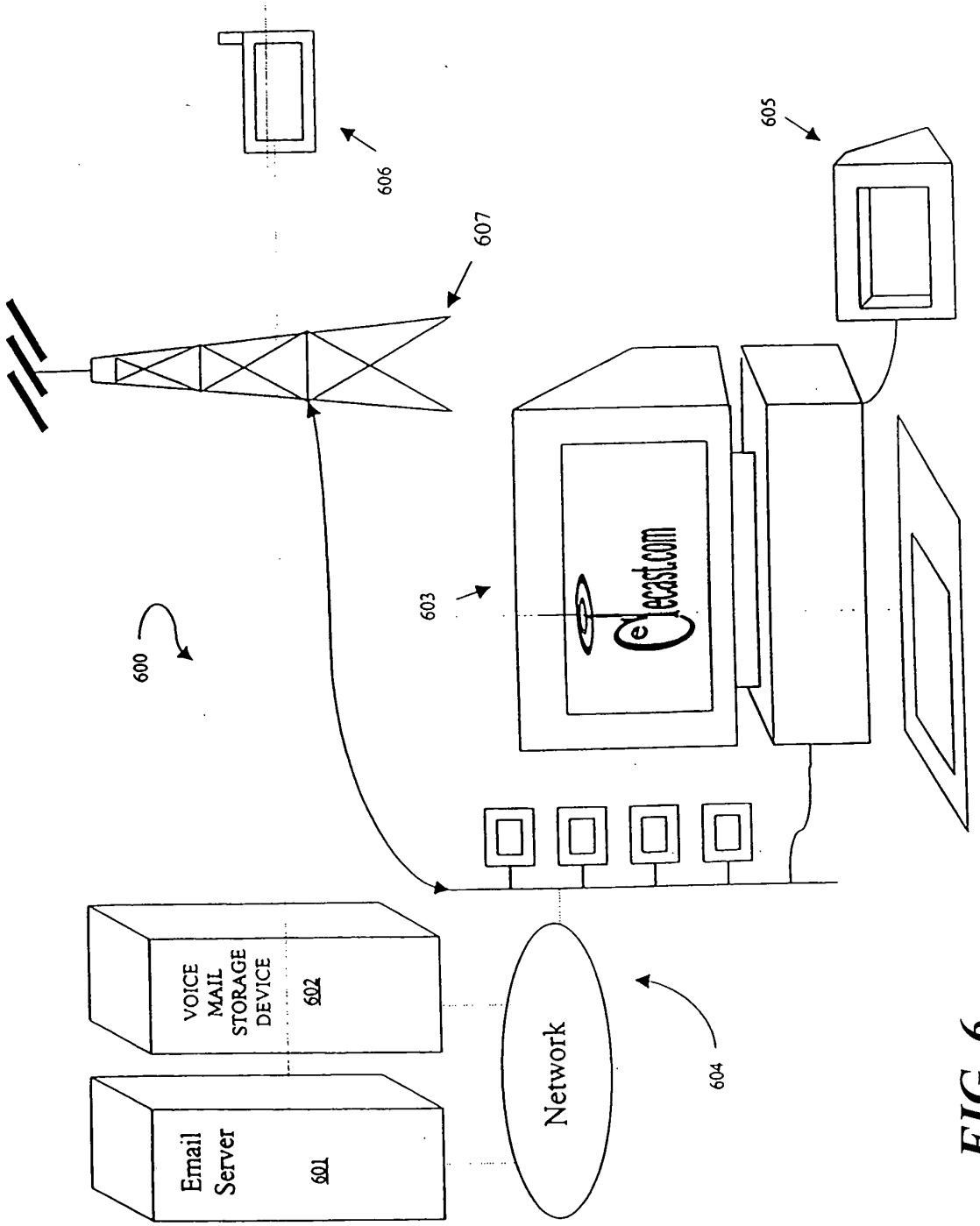
606
605
607
603
600
Comcast.com
VOICE MAIL STORAGE DEVICE
602
Email Server
601
Network
604

FIG. 6

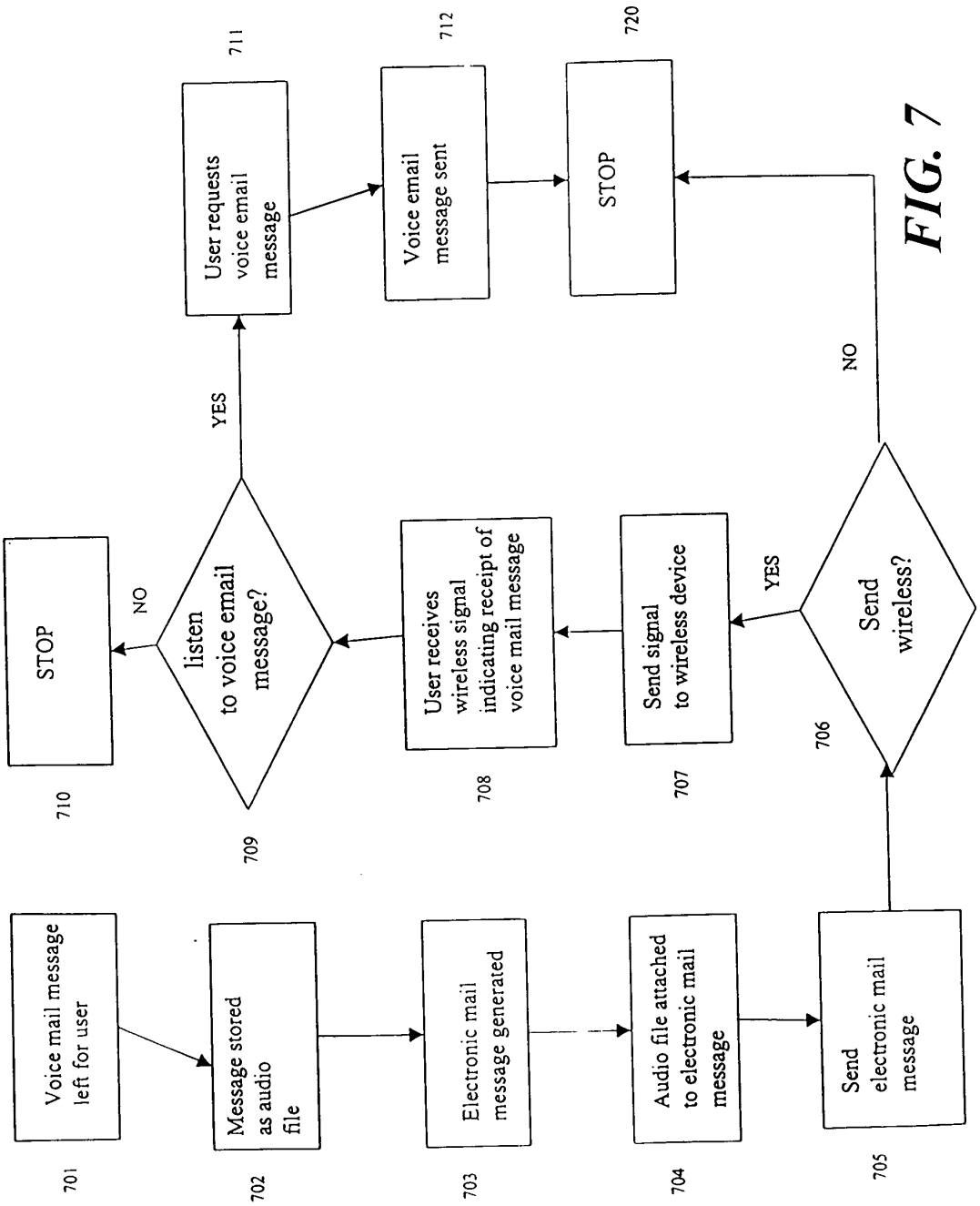
Voice mail message left for user
701
Message stored as audio file
702
Electronic mail message generated
703
Audio file attached to electronic mail message
704
Send electronic mail message
705
Send wireless?
706
YES
Send signal to wireless device
707
User receives wireless signal indicating receipt of voice mail message
708
listen to voice email message?
709
NO
STOP
710
YES
User requests voice email message
711
Voice email message sent
712
NO
STOP
720

FIG. 7

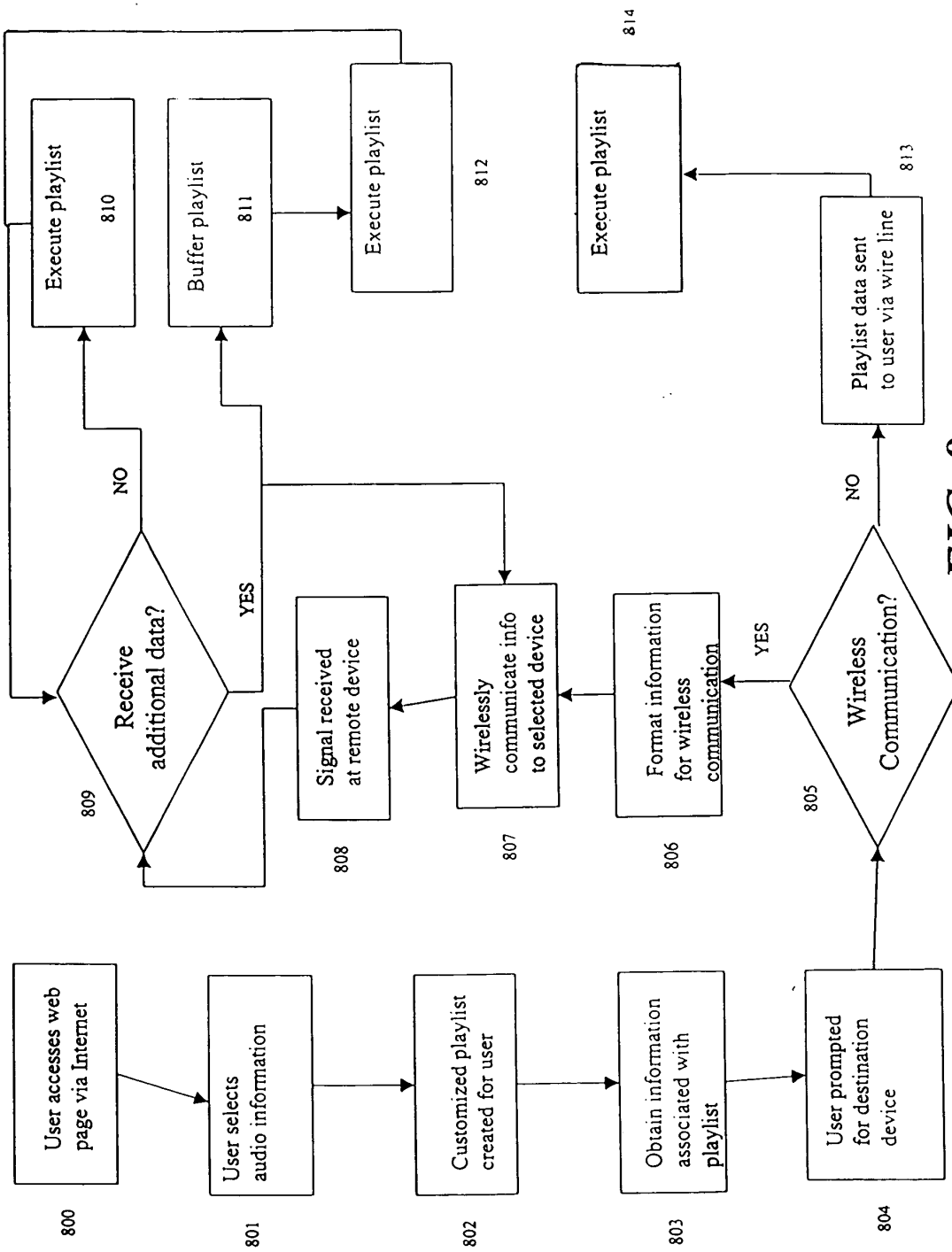
User accesses web page via Internet
800
User selects audio information
801
Customized playlist created for user
802
Obtain information associated with playlist
803
User prompted for destination device
804
Wireless Communication?
805
YES
NO
Format information for wireless communication
806
Wirelessly communicate info to selected device
807
Signal received at remote device
808
Receive additional data?
809
YES
NO
Execute playlist
810
Buffer playlist
811
Execute playlist
812
Playlist data sent to user via wire line
813
Execute playlist
814

FIG. 8

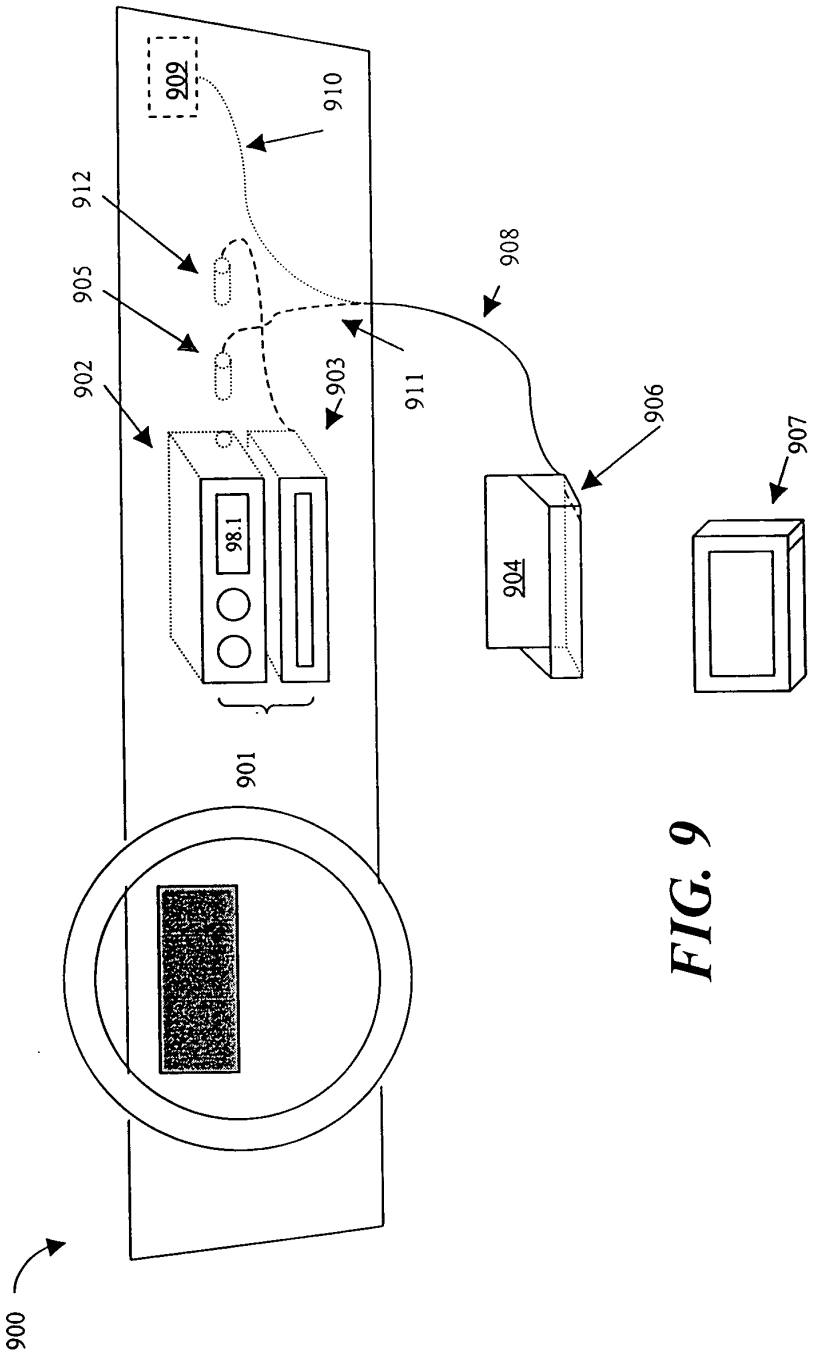

FIG. 9

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below adjacent to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter that is claimed and for which a patent is sought by way of the application entitled

AUDIO SYSTEM AND METHOD

which (check) ☒ is filed with this Declaration and Power of Attorney and marked with the above title and/or Attorney Docket Number, and which is the final application provided to me by TOLER, LARSON & ABEL, L.L.P.

- ☐ and is amended by the Preliminary Amendment attached hereto.
- ☐ was filed on _____ as Application Serial No.
- ☐ and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified application, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information, which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or under § 365(a) of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)			**Priority Claimed**	
Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed	Yes	No

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application Number(s)	**Filing Data (MM/DD/YYYY)**

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56 which became

available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U. S. Parent Application or PCT Parent Number	Parent Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Parent Patent Number (if applicable)
09/537,812	03/28/2000	

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) associated with Customer No. 34456 to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Russell W. White, Reg. No. 45,691

I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Title 18, United States Code, § 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Please direct all correspondence concerning this application to the USPTO Customer Number, if provided, or otherwise to the firm named below:

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Austin, Texas 78746

PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO. _____

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
FEE RECORD SHEET

09/27/2004 KBETEMA1 00000082 502469 10947755

01 FC:2001 385.00 DA
02 FC:2202 135.00 DA
03 FC:2201 86.00 DA

PTO-1556
(5/87)

*U.S. Government Printing Office: 2002 — 489-267/69033

PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD
Effective October 1, 2003

Application or Docket Number: 10947755

CLAIMS AS FILED - PART I

	(Column 1)	(Column 2)
TOTAL CLAIMS	35	
FOR	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA
TOTAL CHARGEABLE CLAIMS	35 minus 20=	* 15
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	5 minus 3 =	* 2
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT		☐

* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2

SMALL ENTITY TYPE ☐		OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
RATE	FEE		RATE	FEE
BASIC FEE	385.00	OR	BASIC FEE	770.00
XS 9=	135	OR	XS18=	
X43=	86	OR	X86=	
+145=		OR	+290=	
TOTAL	606	OR	TOTAL	

CLAIMS AS AMENDED - PART II

AMENDMENT A	(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA
Total	*	Minus	**	=
Independent	*	Minus	***	=
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM ☐				

SMALL ENTITY		OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE		RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
X$ 9=		OR	X$18=	
X43=		OR	X86=	
+145=		OR	+290=	
TOTAL ADDIT. FEE		OR	TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	

AMENDMENT B	(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA
Total	*	Minus	**	=
Independent	*	Minus	***	=
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM ☐				

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE		RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
X$ 9=		OR	X$18=	
X43=		OR	X86=	
+145=		OR	+290=	
TOTAL ADDIT. FEE		OR	TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	

AMENDMENT C	(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA
Total	*	Minus	**	=
Independent	*	Minus	***	=
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM ☐				

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE		RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
X$ 9=		OR	X$18=	
X43=		OR	X86=	
+145=		OR	+290=	
TOTAL ADDIT. FEE		OR	TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.
** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20."
*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3."
The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Application Type::	Regular
Subject Matter::	Utility
CD-ROM or CD-R?::	None
Title::	AUDIO SYSTEM AND METHOD
Attorney Docket Number::	111111.1111-2C
Request for Early Publication?::	No
Request for Non-Publication?::	No
Suggested Drawing Figure::	1
Total Drawing Sheets::	9
Small Entity?::	No
Secrecy Order in Parent Appl.?::	No

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Country::	US
Postal or ZIP Code::	78746

CORRESPONDENCE INFORMATION

Correspondence Customer Number:: 34456

DOMESTIC PRIORITY INFORMATION

Application::	Continuity Type::	Parent Application::	Parent Filing Date::
This Application	Continuation of	09/537,812	03/28/2000

FOREIGN PRIORITY INFORMATION

Country::	Application No::	Filing Date::

ASSIGNEE INFORMATION

Assignee name::