

PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO. _____

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
FEE RECORD SHEET**

08/04/1997 GWASHING 00000105 08877488
01 FC:101 770.00 OP
02 FC:103 88.00 OP

PTO-1556
(5/87)



June 17, 1997

THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of **P97,1227**

Inventor: Heinz Mattes

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR RECORDING, COMMUNICATING AND
 ADMINISTERING DIGITAL IMAGES
 Applicant claims the benefit of the filing date of a corresponding German application No.
 19624128.6 filed in Germany on June 17, 1996 under the provision of 35 U.S.C. 119.

- 4 sheet(s) of drawings.
 ___ An assignment of the invention to _____
 A certified copy of a German application.
 ___ An Amendment "A" Accompanying filing of new application.
 ___ Information Disclosure Statement.
 Letter under Rule 37 CFR 1.41(c).
 Express Mail Letter. # EM103919387US

CLAIMS AS FILED				
(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) RATE	(5) BASIC FEE \$770.00
TOTAL CLAIMS	24-20	4	\$22.00	\$88.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	2-3			
	ANY MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS? ()YES (X)NO			
			TOTAL FILING FEE ->	\$858.00

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 08-2290. *A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.*

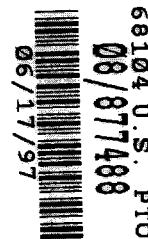
A check in the amount of \$858.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.

Very respectfully,
 HILL, STEADMAN & SIMPSON
 A Professional Corporation

By 

When phoning re this application,
 please call (312) 876-0200 Ext. 491/1044

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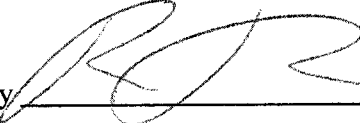
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1190

SPECIFICATION

TITLE APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR RECORDING, COMMUNICATING AND ADMINISTERING DIGITAL IMAGES

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

10 The present invention relates generally to an apparatus for recording of a digital image, communicating the digital image from the recording device to a storage device, and to administering the digital image in the storage device. The present invention also relates to a method for recording, communicating and administering the digital image.

Description of the Related Art

15 In the field of telecommunications, data of a wide variety of data types is transmitted from a sender to a receiver, either unidirectionally or bidirectionally. The data which is transmitted may be, for example, voice signals, image signals, or written characters which have been converted into digital signals. Video conferencing systems are used to transmit spoken data in combination with image data and/or written character data. These systems share the operation of various applications. Video conferencing systems require a high performance, expensive and bulky computer with an external video camera at both the sender end as well as at the receiver end.

20 Digital image cameras are currently available on the market, as known, for example,

from the publication "Market Over View: Low-Cost Digital Cameras, Canon: Powershot 600", MACup, pages 100-101, No. 4, 1996.

So called cellular telephones may be utilized for image transmission, as is known, for example, from the U.S. Patent No. 5,260,989, entitled "Method and System for Enhanced Data Transmission in a Cellular Telephone System".

An arrangement with a television camera and a telephone which provides for audio data and image data to be transmitted in common through a telephone line is known, for example, from the U.S. Patent No. 5,063,587 entitled "Transmission System for Still-Picture T.V. Telephone". The disclosed apparatus makes it possible to digitize, compress and transmit individual still pictures, such as photographs.

When a large number of digital images are recorded and are to be archived in a central computer unit, then the organization of the data base becomes a problem. In particular, the problems of locating the data of an image data file increase as the number of images to be archived increases.

A book by S. Naumann et al. entitled "Parsing", Teubner Verlag, Stuttgart, 1st Edition, ISBN 3-519-02139-0, pages 155-166, 1994 discloses devices referred to as parsers.

An image and audio communication system having a graphical annotation capability is disclosed in the European Patent document EP 0 64 968 A2 in which voice, data and image communications are used in telephone systems. The circuit arrangement provides that still pictures and/or moving pictures can be recorded during a voice and data communication on a picture screen of a PC (personal computer) in parallel to the data displayed on the screen.

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