Rev. 06/02

PATENTS

Modified PTO 1082
For A Small Entity

Attorney Docket No. <u>MES/001 Con</u>
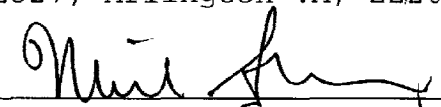
Applicant :   Michael E. Shanahan

For   :   METHODS AND APPARATUSES FOR PROGRAMMING
                USER-DEFINED INFORMATION INTO ELECTRONIC
                DEVICES

<u>EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATION</u>

"Express Mail" mailing label number <u>EV133107427US</u>

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MICHAEL SHANAHAN

Hon. Assistant Commissioner
  for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR
<u>CONTINUATION PATENT APPLICATION</u>

Sir:

  Transmitted herewith for filing are the
[X] specification; [X] claims; [X] abstract; [X] declaration;
[X] a verified statement claiming small entity status; [X] an
information disclosure statement; for the above-identified
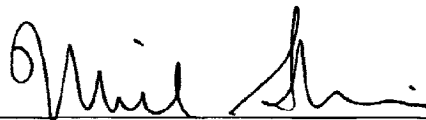patent application.

Also transmitted herewith are:

[X]   <u>13</u> sheets of:

     [X]   Formal drawings.

     [ ]   Informal drawings. Formal drawings will be
          filed during the pendency of this application.

[ ]   An assignment of the invention to:

     [ ]   A check in the amount of $40.00 to cover the
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     [ ]   An associate power of attorney.

[ ]   A certified copy of the priority document, _____
      application, No. _____ , filed _____

The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

FOR	NUMBER FILED		NUMBER EXTRA		RATE		FEE
BASIC FEE							$370.00
TOTAL CLAIMS	15	- 20 =	12	x	$ 9	= $	0.00
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[ ] A MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM				+	$ 130	= $	0.00

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APPLICATION INFORMATION

Title Line One:: METHODS AND APPARATUSES FOR PROGRAMMING
Title Line Two:: USER-DEFINED INFORMATION INTO ELECTRONIC
Title Line Three::   DEVICES
Total Drawing Sheets:: 13
Formal Drawings?:: Yes
Application Type:: Utility
Docket Number:: MES/001CON
Secrecy Order in Parent Appl.?:: No

CONTINUITY INFORMATION

This application is a::   CONTINUATION IN PART OF
>   Application One::   09/518712
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Source::   PrintEFS Version 1.0.1

MES/001 Con.

METHODS AND APPARATUSES FOR PROGRAMMING
5   USER-DEFINED INFORMATION INTO ELECTRONIC DEVICES

This application is a continuation of United States Patent Application 09/518,712 filed March 3, 2000 which claims priority from United States Provisional Application 60/169,158 filed December 6, 1999.

10

Background of the Invention

This application relates to electronic devices, and more particularly to a programming apparatus that allows users to program user-defined information into 15   their electronic device.

There are many types of electronic devices available to consumers today that have the ability to produce both audio sounds and video displays. Many of these devices provide users with the ability to select 20   and play a particular piece of audio or video. A television viewer, for example, may tune to a TV channel and watch a particular program, or connect a VCR or DVD player to the television in order to view a specific program not currently being broadcast. Similarly, an

audio system user may tune a receiver to a particular radio station to hear a certain genre of music, or connect a CD or tape player to the system in order to hear specific pieces of music. In both cases, the audio

5   and video is user-selectable.

Currently, however, there are many electronic products that offer an audio/video playing capability that are not fully user-programmable. Users of such devices (*e.g.*, wireless or cordless telephones, pagers,

10   personal digital assistants (PDAs), hand-held computers and the like) have to choose from a limited selection of pre-programmed information (*e.g.*, audio clips, video clips or frames, *etc.*) placed there by the manufacturer. This severely limits the user's ability to customize the

15   device to suit his or her particular taste. Furthermore, most pre-programmed audio tends to be rather generic and can be confusing when a device of a nearby user generates a sound similar to or the same as that of another user's device. Although a programmable memory within many such

20   electronic devices could support user-defined audio, currently, no system exists for programming such information into an electronic device.

The same is true for user-defined video. For example, certain types of user-defined video information,

25   such as video clips, frames, and other digital or analog images could be programmed into an electronic device (*e.g.*, PDA, wireless phone, or any portable display device) and displayed at a time of the user choosing. Although a programmable memory within such a device could

30   support user-defined video, currently, no system exists for programming such information into the device.

Summary Of The Invention

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide an apparatus that allows a user to

2

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