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This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT under 37 CFR 1.53 (c).

INVENTOR(S)

Given Name (first and middle [if any])	Family Name or Surname	Residence (City and either State or Foreign Country)
Michael E.	Shanahan	Nyack, New York

☐ *Additional inventors are being named on the ____ separately numbered sheets attached hereto*

TITLE OF THE INVENTION (280 characters max)

Methods And Apparatus For Programming User-Defined Information Into Electronic Devices

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

Direct all correspondence to:

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OR

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ENCLOSED APPLICATION PARTS *(check all that apply)*

- [✓] Specification *Number of Pages* 5
- [✓] Drawing(s) *Number of Sheets* 4
- [✓] Small Entity Statement
- [ ] Other (specify)

METHOD OF PAYMENT OF FILING FEES FOR THIS PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT *(check one)*

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The invention was made by an agency of the United States Government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.

- [X] No.
- [ ] Yes, the name of the U.S. Government agency and the Government contract number are: This invention may have been made under Govt. Contract No. F4164-94-D-1018, although a final determination has not yet been made.

Respectfully submitted,

SIGNATURE _____ Date 12/6/99

TYPED or PRINTED NAME Michael E. Shanahan

REGISTRATION NO. *(if appropriate)* [ ]

TELEPHONE 914-365-2321

Docket Number: MES/001 PROV.

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Attorney Docket No. MES/001PROV

Applicant(s) : Michael E. Shanahan

Title : METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR PROGRAMMING USER-DEFINED INFORMATION INTO ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Filed Date : December 6, 1999

Serial No. : NOT YET KNOWN

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Date of Deposit December 6, 1999

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JEANNE J. SAINTIL

Encl:

- Application, 4 sheets of drawings
- Check in the amount of $75.00
- Verified Statement claiming small Entity (independent inventor)

Practitioner's Docket No. MES/001 PROV. *PATENT*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Michael E. Shanahan

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed on: December 6, 1999

Title: Methods And Apparatus For Programming User-Defined Information Into Electronic Devices

STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b)--INDEPENDENT INVENTOR

As a below named inventor, I hereby state that I qualify as an independent inventor, as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c), for purposes of paying reduced fees to the United States Patent and Trademark Office under Sections 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office, with regard to the invention described in the specification filed herewith, with title as listed above.

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Michael E. Shanahan

Michael E. Shanahan

Signature of Inventor

Date 12/6/99

METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR PROGRAMMING USER-DEFINED INFORMATION INTO ELECTRONIC DEVICES

The purpose of this invention is to provide a way for electronic device users to program their own customized audio and video into their device. For the purposes of this disclosure, audio may be any acoustic signal generated by an electronic device that alerts a user to a certain event. Examples of audio may include the ringing of a telephone, a pager beeping, a personal digital assistant (PDA) generating an acoustic sound , *etc*. Examples of video may include video clips or digital pictures stored in a wireless telephone or a PDA, *etc*.

Currently, users of electronic devices have to choose from among a limited selection of pre-programmed audio or video available on their electronic device (*e.g.*, wireless telephone, regular telephone, pager, PDA, and he like) which are placed there by the manufacturer. Such audio may include "ring sequences" which tend to be rather clinical and can be confusing when a device of a nearby user rings with the same or similar ring to that of another user. It would therefore be desirable to provide a way to allow users to program their own customized audio or video such as music samples, video clips (sample/clip) or other sound or video effects into their device.

FIG. 1 shows a generalized block diagram of system 10 for programming user-defined audio or video into an electronic device in accordance with the principles of the present invention. As shown in FIG. 1, system 10 includes programmable electronic device 20, device programmer 30, and source 50. Programmer 30 is connected to source 50 via link 31, and to device 20 via link

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32. Source 50 may be any device or devices suitable for providing a desired audio or video sample to programmer 30 (*e.g.*, CD or DVD player, cassette player, programs or files from a personal computer, or any other suitable digital or analog device or audio/video source). In operation, a desired video clip or audio sample, such as a sample of a popular song and/or video clip, in a digital or analog format is supplied to programmer 30 from source 50. Programmer 30 may process (or simply route) the sample and/or clip, into a suitable format, and then program it into a programmable memory within device 20. Device 20 may then retrieve and play the audio or video when a certain event occurs (*e.g.*, when receiving an incoming telephone call).

Programmer 30 may also coordinate or perform certain functions related to the routing and storing the sample/clip within device 20. For example, programmer 30 may communicate with or simply search device 20 to find available memory locations to store the sample/clip. Programmer 30 may also communicate with device 20 to determine what format to covert the incoming sample/clip to (*e.g.*, from CD format to MP3 format, from analog to a simple digital format, *etc.*) so that they are compatible with device 20. If multiple sample/clips are being programmed into device 20, programmer 30 may "tag" the different samples/clips so device 20 and/or a user may distinguish among the different samples/clips stored therein. After the sample/clip has been provided, programmer 30 may communicate with device 20 to confirm that device 20 has correctly received the sample/clip.

It will be understood that the generalized system shown in FIG. 1 may be implemented in many ways. For example, as shown in FIG. 3, system 100

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