

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Applicant:	§		
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DAVID A. MONROE	§		
	§		
Filed: January 3, 2003	§	Art Unit: 2625	
	§		
Serial No.: 10/336,470	§	Examiner: Houshang Safaipour	
	§		
For: APPARATUS FOR	§	Docket No.: 07-0197	
CAPTURING, CONVERTING	§		
AND TRANSMITTING A	§		
VISUAL IMAGE SIGNAL VIA	§		
A DIGITAL TRANSMISSION	§		
SYSTEM	§		

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 8, 2007

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Non-Final Office Action mailed March 8, 2007, please amend the application as indicated below. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.16, the amendment is believed to place the application in condition for allowance or in better form for appeal. A Request for three month Extension of Time and the Extension Fee (\$1020.00) are attached. Also submitted herewith are a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and the fee (\$180.00) under 1.17(p) for consideration of the IDS after the first Office Action was mailed.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 59 of this paper.

Amendments

Amendments to Specification:

Delete paragraph [0003] which reads:

Industry has developed and continues to develop and enhance techniques for scanning, compressing, transmitting, receiving, decompressing, viewing and printing documents. This technology, encompassing the full body of facsimile transmission and reception, is currently in widespread use. The current standards, CCITT Group III and Group IV, define methods to scan and transmit high quality, bi-level images with a high degree of success and has become commercially acceptable throughout the world. However, gray scale documents are not easily transmitted because the scanners and algorithms are not tailored to the function. Three dimensional objects will not fit into the flat document scanners and cannot be transmitted.

Delete paragraph [0004] which reads:

Examples of systems that have addressed some of these issues are shown in U.S. Patent No. 5,193,012 which shows a video to facsimile signal converter, and U.S. Patent No. 3,251,937 which discloses a system for transmitting still television pictures over a telephone line.

Delete paragraph [0005] which reads:

Wire photography, and its extension, radio photography, have long been used by the news media. The most common form involves an input device that converts photographs into encoded signals for communication over telecommunications facilities or radio. At the receiving end, reproducing equipment reconverts the encoded image signals by exposing photographic film or other sensitized paper. The term

facsimile is often used with these products.

Delete paragraph [0006] which reads:

Still video equipment has recently become available from vendors such as Kodak, Canon and Sony, and is again primarily used by television and print media, although applications are expanding rapidly in such areas as insurance investigations and real estate transactions. A still video camera captures a full color still video image that can be reproduced using a special video printer that converts the still video image data into hard copy form. For applications requiring communication of the still video image, transmit/receive units are available wherein the image begins and ends as a video image.

Delete paragraph [0007] which reads:

The Photophone from Image Data Corporation is an example of a specialty product that combines a video camera, display and storage facility in a terminal package. One terminal can send a real time or stored still video image to another for display or storage, or printing on special video printers. Again, the signal begins and ends as a video image.

Delete paragraph [0008] which reads:

Another example of a specialty product is peripheral equipment available for personal computers that enables the input/output, storage and processing of still video images in digitized formats. For instance, the Canon PV-540 is a floppy disk drive that uses

conventional still video disks, digitizing and a still video image using a conventional format, and communicates with the computer through a standard communications 110 port.

Delete paragraph [0009] which reads:

U.S. Patent No. 5,193,012 discloses a still-video to facsimile conversion system for converting the still-video image frame into a half-tone facsimile reproduction without having to store an entire intermediated gray scale image frame by repeatedly transmitting the still-video image frame from a still-video source to an input circuit with a virtual facsimile page synchronization module. This system permits image to facsimile conversion by utilizing a half tone conversion technique.

Delete paragraph [0010], which reads:

While the various prior art systems and techniques provide limited solutions to the problem of transmitting visual images via a facsimile transmission system, all fall short of providing a reliable and convenient method and apparatus for readily capturing, storing, transmitting and printing visual images in a practical manner.

Replace paragraph [0011] which reads:

The subject invention is an image capture, compression and transmission system that is specifically designed to permit reliable visual image transmission over land line or wireless communications using commercially available facsimile transmission techniques. The invention incorporates a camera and signal converter into an

integrated unit wherein the converted signal may be transmitted on a real time basis or may be stored in memory for later recall and transmission. The design of the invention permits maximum flexibility, with the camera/converter/telephone or other transmission device being designed in a modular configuration wherein any or all of the devices may exist as integrated or independent units.

with the following paragraph:

~~The subject invention is~~ Embodiments provide an image capture, compression and transmission system that is specifically designed to permit reliable visual image transmission over land line or wireless communications using commercially available facsimile transmission techniques. ~~The invention incorporates~~ Embodiments incorporate a camera and signal converter into an integrated unit wherein the converted signal [may] can be transmitted on a real time basis or may be stored in memory for later recall and transmission. ~~The design of the invention permits~~ Embodiments provide maximum flexibility, with the camera/converter/telephone or other transmission device being designed in a modular configuration wherein any or all of the devices [may] can exist as integrated or independent units.

Replace paragraph [0012] which reads:

The preferred embodiment permits capture of a video image using a digital camera, an analog camera, or a video camera such as a camcorder. The captured video image is then converted into still frame digitized format for transmission over any of a variety of transmission systems ranging from Group- III facsimile to computer, or to a like

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