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(54) **WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS AND METHOD**

(75) Inventors: **Todd R. Witkowski**, Zeeland, MI (US); **Kurt A. Dykema**, Holland, MI (US); **Steven L. Geerlings**, Holland, MI (US); **Mark L. Zeinstra**, Holland, MI (US)

(73) Assignee: **Johnson Controls Technology Company**, Plymouth, MI (US)

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See application file for complete search history.

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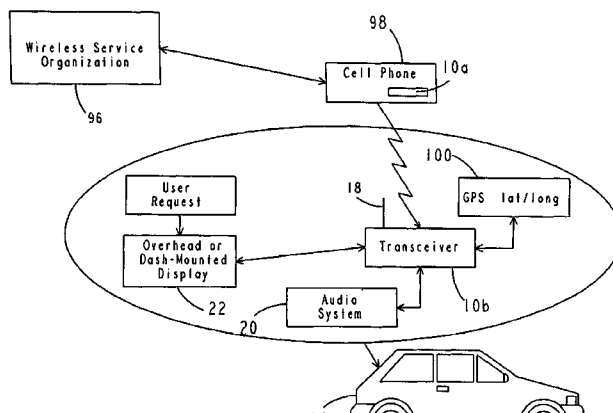
*Primary Examiner*—Lewis West

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Foley & Lardner LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A wireless communications system and method adapted for use in automotive applications for enabling automatic, high-speed, wireless voice and/or data communications link to be established between a wide variety of external devices and various electronic subsystems of a vehicle. The apparatus includes first and second RF transceivers which are operated in accordance with a communications specification to enable a seamless, automatic communications link to be created when the two RF transceivers come within a pre-determined proximity of one another, for example, within up to 100 meters of one another. Information from one device is then automatically transmitted over the wireless communications link to the other device. In various implementations the apparatus is used to obtain information from a home PC, a work PC, a notebook PC and various other electronic devices, as well as information from the Internet, which is displayed and/or played back for the user by various subsystems of the vehicle while traveling in the vehicle. Other applications involving retail and manufacturing applications are disclosed by which the apparatus is used to facilitate and/or expedite manufacturing processes or retail transactions via one or more high-speed, secure, wireless communications links which are created automatically and seamlessly between the RF transceivers of the apparatus of the invention.

**26 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets**



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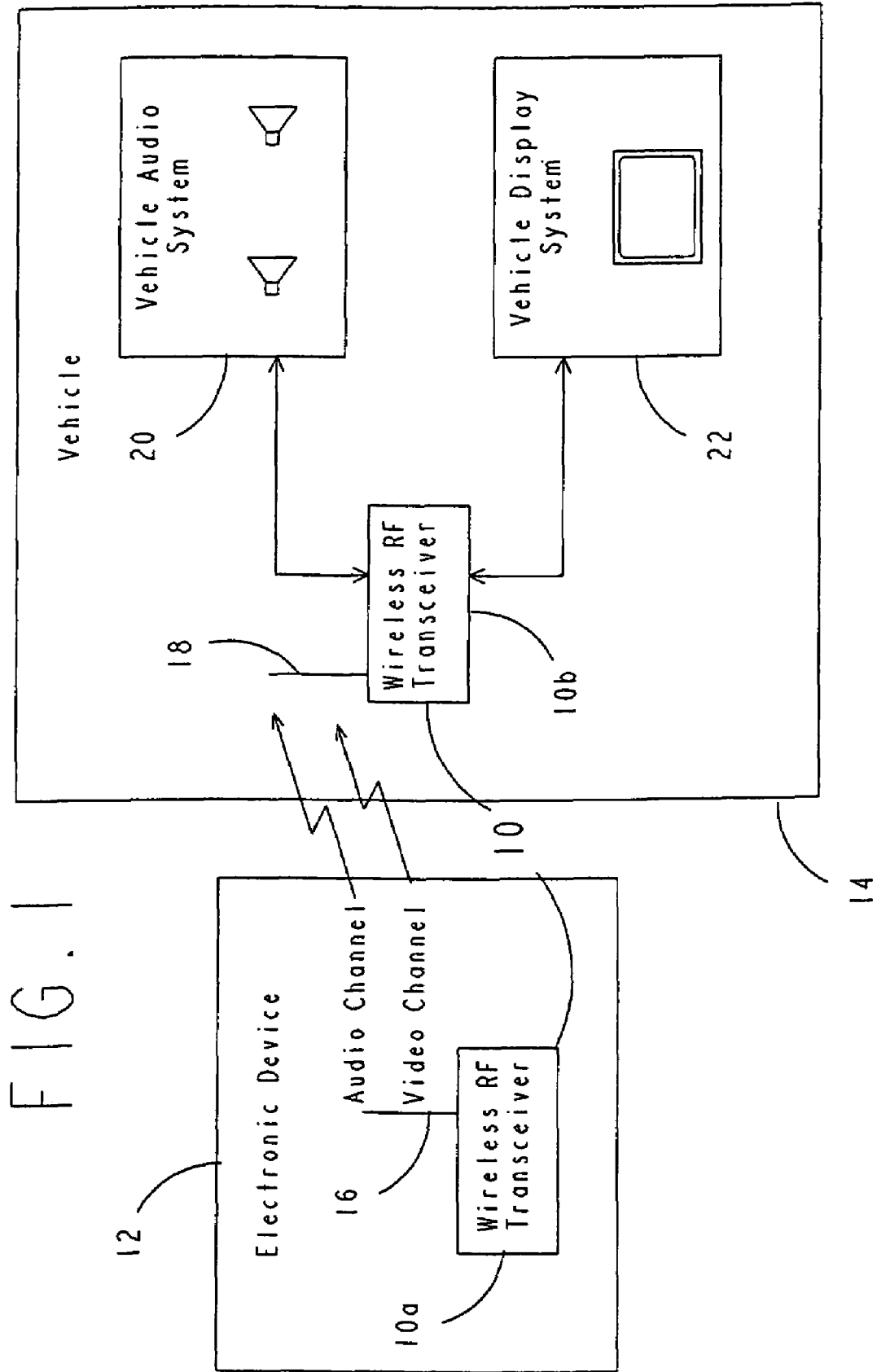
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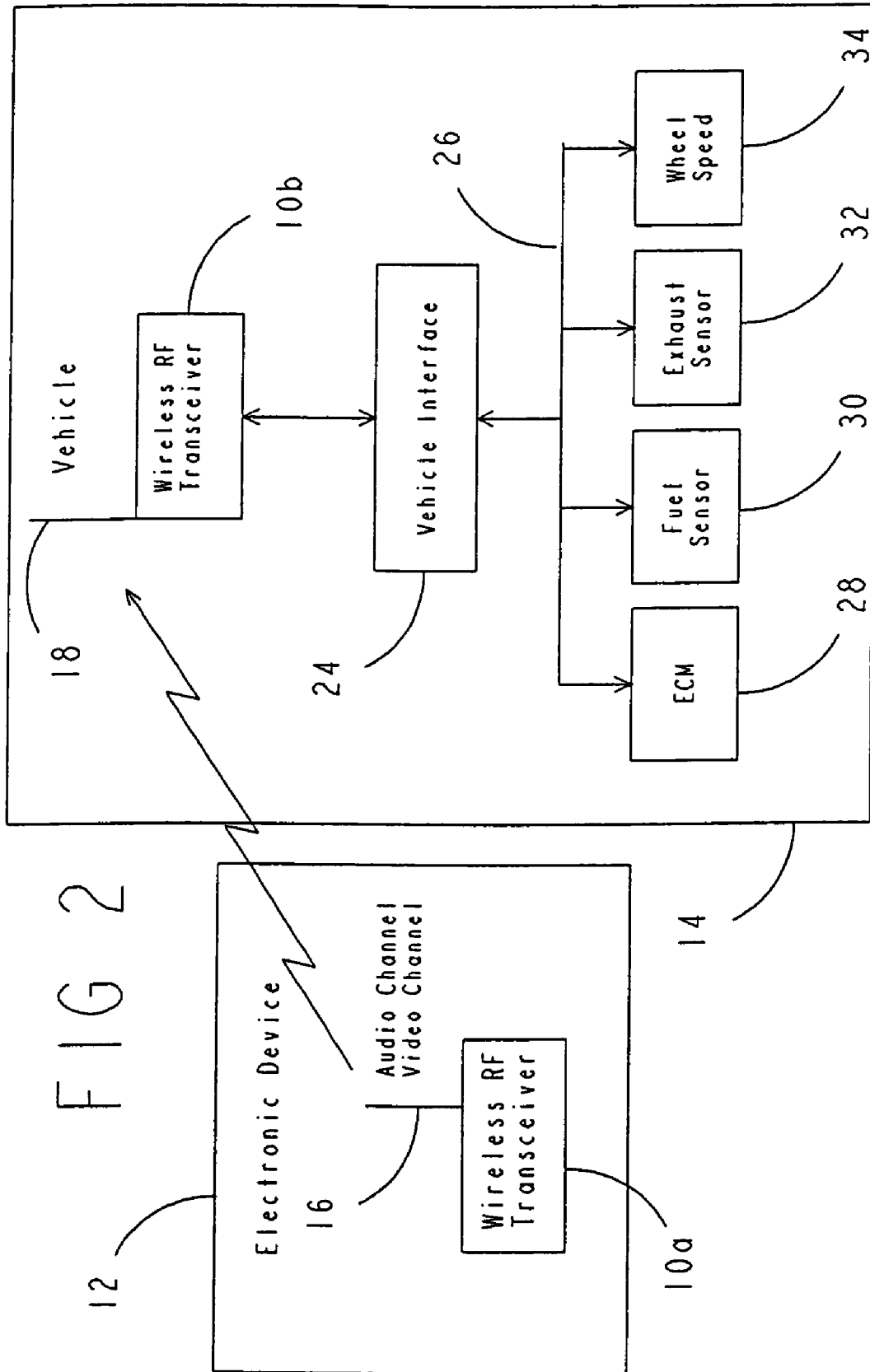
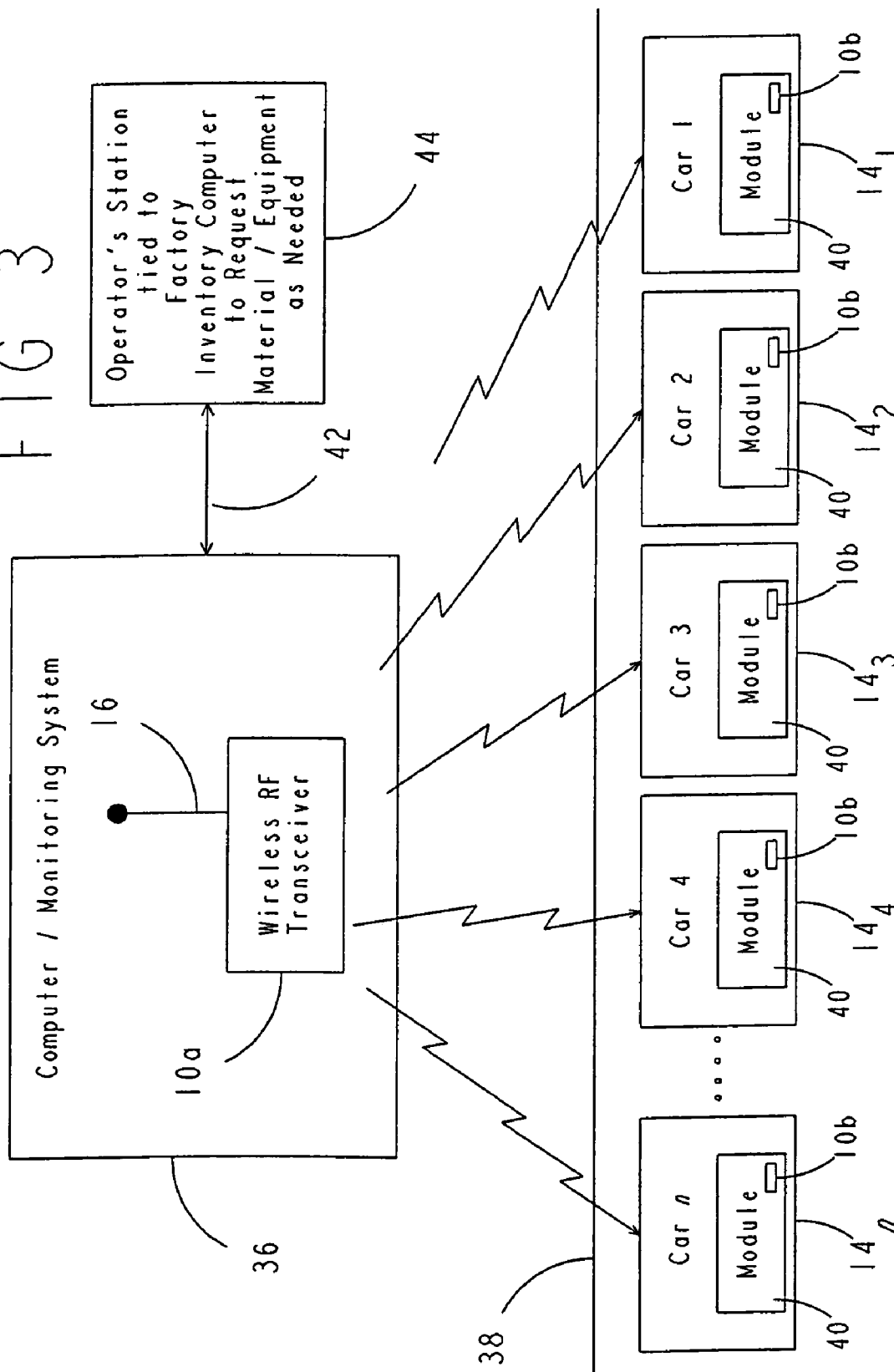


FIG 3



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