U.S. PTO 11/889941 08/17/2007

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U	UTILITY ENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL visional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))	Attorney Docket No.		HAROLD-1				
		First Inventor		Michael D. HAROLD				
\sim		Title		SYSTEM, METHOD AND APPARATU FOR DISTRIBUTED CONTENT DISSEMINATION				
APPLICATION ELEMENTS See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.		ADDRESS TO:		Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450				
	al Form (e.g. PTO/SB/17) ginal and a duplicate for fee processing)		ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS					
	Applicant claims small entity status See 37 CFR 1.27.		9. Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s)) Name of Assignee					
 Specification Total Pages 29 Both the claims and abstract must start on a new page 				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
(For information or	(For information on the preferred arrangement, see MPEP 608.01(a))			B(b) Statement Power of Attorney is an assignee)				
_			11. English Translation Document (if applicable)					
 5. Oath or Declaration Total Pages 2 a.		12. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449						
(for contin	uation/divisional with Box 18 completed)	13. Preliminary Amendment						
 i. DELETION OF INVENTOR(S) Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b). Application Data Shart, See 27 CFD 4 30 		14. Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized)						
		15. Certified copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed)						
 6. Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76 7. CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix) 		 16. Non-publication Request Under 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B) Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalen 						
				17. 🗌 Other				
(<i>if applicable, all ne</i>	ecessary) Readable Form (CRF)							
b. Specification S	Sequence Listing on:							
ii. 🔲 Paper	M or CD-R (2 copies); or							
c. Statemen	ts verifying identity of above copies. claims the benefit of co-pending U.S. Provisi	onal Pat	ent Application	n No. 60/838.438, filed on August 18, 20				
	ts of which is expressly incorporated herein	by refere	nce.	······································				
	19. CORRESPON	IDENCE	ADDRESS	}				
Customer Number or	Bar Code CUSTOME	R NO	. 28765					
Name (Print/Type)	Raymond Van Dyke (Reg. No. 34,746)	~~~						
Signature	Val and	$\int \mathcal{E}$	/	Date August 17, 2007				
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Attorney Docket No.: HAROLD-1

Sir:

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The following utility patent application is enclosed for filing:

Applicant(s): Michael D. HAROLD

Title of the Invention: SYSTEM, METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DISTRIBUTED CONTENT DISSEMINATION

FOR	NUMBER FILED NUMBER EXTE		RATE (\$)	FEE (\$)
BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))	N/A N/A		N/A	300.00
SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (i), or (m))	N/A	N/A	N/A	500.00
EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))	N/A	N/A	N/A	200.00
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(i))	31 minus 20 =	11	x 50.00 =	550.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	6 minus 3 =	3	x 200.00 =	600.00
APPLICATION SIZE FEE (37 CFR 1.16(s))	If the specification and drav of paper, the application siz each additional 50 sheets or 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 3		0.00	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))			360.00	0.00
50% REDUCTION FOR SMALL ENTITY N			N/A	-1,075.00
		TOTAL FILI	1,075.00	

PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION

- **DO NOT PUBLISH.** I hereby certify that the invention disclosed in the attached application has not and will not be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing. I hereby request that the attached application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 112(b).
- This application claims the benefit of co-pending U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/838,438, filed on August 18, 2006, entire contents of which is expressly incorporated herein by reference.
- Please charge the required fees to Winston & Strawn LLP Deposit Account No. 50-1814.

August 17, 2007 Date

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DOCKE

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond Van Dyke (Reg. No. 34,746)

WINSTON & STRAWN LLP Customer No. 28765

(202) 282-5904

SYSTEM, METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DISTRIBUTED CONTENT DISSEMINATION

CROSS-REFERENCE TO PRIOR APPLICATION

[0001] This application claims the benefit of co-pending U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/838,438, filed on August 18, 2006, the entire contents of which is expressly incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The present invention relates generally to methods for distributing content to devices substantially contiguous to a person or device.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] Changes in the electronic distribution of audio and visual content have created an environment in which end-users have increasing control over the means by which they may hear, view and interact with any given digital content. Through the use of various methods that incorporate wireless and Internet technologies, for example, Apple's iTunes system, music may be downloaded into handheld wireless devices and stored in a persistent manner so that it may be listened to at some future time. Audio, video and combined audio-video content may also be downloaded into handheld wireless devices at the stored in a persistent manner so that it may be listened to and viewed at

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the user's discretion. Additionally, once stored, such audio-visual content can readily be transferred to other devices via simple commands.

[0004] In all cases where wireless cell phone devices are used to send, receive and store audio-visual content, one of three scenarios occurs. The first scenario involves the transfer of audio and visual content to another wireless cell phone device from a server, service or other wireless cell phone device acting itself as a server in a client-server relationship. The second scenario involves the transfer of audio and visual content from a wireless cell phone device acting as a server to one or more servers, services or other wireless cell phone devices acting as clients in a client-server relationship. The third scenario involves the use of a cell phone to control media devices by using wireless protocols such as SMS or Internet services such as Web browsers to request that media be sent to a specific device based on user requests.

[0005] At this time, the ability of a wireless cell phone user to control the distribution and delivery of digital content to physically contiguous audio and video devices is limited to a request-response model that does not allow the user to continuously interact with contiguous audio and visual display devices in real time over the Internet.

[0006] Orange France has created a service that allows customers of bars, restaurants and other businesses to choose a song from an SMS music menu to be played at the customer location. This service does not, however, provide a means to have the music sent to a speaker system located in direct proximity to the user. Neither does it provide the means to make selections using a cell phone and to have music videos

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provided to a visual display device and speaker system located in direct proximity to the user.

[0007] AT&T, Inc. provides subscribers with the ability to control their digital video controllers through Web-enabled phones by scheduling or deleting recordings on their in-home set-top boxes. This service does not, however, provide users with the means to control the dissemination of content to contiguous audio and display devices that may be located in public venues, such as airports and malls. Furthermore, this control mechanism is dependent on the presence of an in-home set-top box to display the audio and visual content. In other words, it does not allow content dissemination over the Internet to contiguous devices in real time.

[0008] In U.S. Published Patent Application No. 20070136778, Birger, Joffe and Netchitailo generally describe a method to use an apparatus with a processor, memory, a display screen and an input device to accept user input from a user, the use of which is to control the operation of multiple devices for purposes of playback on the part of each device. There is, however, no reference to the use of a wireless cell phone device to accomplish the same or similar tasks. Furthermore, the invention set forth does not allow the user to use the apparatus to control the dissemination of content over the Internet in public venues. As with the prior cited references, this one, too, is deficient.

[0009] None of the presently-known methods of wireless cell phone content delivery addresses the complexity of a distributed audio-visual user experience, i.e., both individual and multiple persons experiencing the same or similar content simultaneously or substantially simultaneously through respective contiguously located devices.

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