

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Michael Tasler

Group No.: 2181

Serial No.: 11/467,073

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Filed: August 24, 2006

Examiner: Harold J. Kim

For: ANALOG DATA GENERATING AND
PROCESSING DEVICE FOR USE WITH
A PERSONAL COMPUTER
(As Amended)

Attorney

Docket No.: 0757/97866

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-0001

Dear Sir:

Please enter this supplemental preliminary amendment prior to examination of the above-captioned application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-96 and add new claims 97-108 as noted hereinafter:

1-96. (cancelled).

97. (new) An analog data generating and processing device (ADGPD) that is capable of being used with a personal computer (PC), the PC having a multi-purpose interface (MPI) to which device identification inquiry signals are periodically sent for a period of time, the PC being capable of sending one or more data transfer requests via the MPI of the PC, the PC including at least one software driver that is stored in the PC without any user intervention, the ADGPD comprising:

an ADGPD interface having an i/o port that is capable of being operatively coupled to the MPI of the PC, the ADGPD interface including circuitry that is capable of allowing, when the i/o port is operatively coupled to the MPI of the PC, digital data to be transferred to or received from the PC via the i/o port and the MPI of the PC;

an ADGPD processor having a central processing unit that is operatively coupled to the circuitry of the ADGPD interface;

a data storage memory that is operatively coupled to the ADGPD processor;

a program memory that is operatively coupled to the central processing unit of the ADGPD processor, the program memory containing a first and a second set of instructions stored therein;

a unidirectional sensor that is operatively coupled to the ADGPD processor, the unidirectional sensor being designed to process analog waves that, before being processed by the

unidirectional sensor, have propagated external to and not in substantial proximity to the ADGPD;

wherein the first set of instructions, when executed by the ADGPD processor, causes the unidirectional sensor to generate analog data from one or more analog waves that, before being processed by the unidirectional sensor, have propagated external to and not in substantial proximity to the ADGPD;

wherein the first set of instructions, when executed by the ADGPD processor, also causes digitized data that is representative of the analog data to be stored in the data storage memory without intervention at any time by the PC;

wherein the first set of instructions, when executed by the ADGPD processor, are capable of causing the digitized data to be stored in the data storage memory before the i/o port is connected to the MPI of the PC;

wherein the ADGPD is adapted to cause, after the i/o port has been operatively coupled to the MPI of the PC and after one of the device identification inquiry signals has been received by the i/o port, a response signal to be automatically sent to the PC without any user intervention by means of the PC, the response signal containing identification data that is sufficient to allow the PC to select the at least one software driver that may be subsequently used by the PC to retrieve files of digital data from the data storage memory of the ADGPD;

wherein the second set of instructions are adapted to be executed by the ADGPD processor after the i/o port has been operatively coupled to the MPI of the PC and after one of the data transfer requests has been received by the i/o port, the second set of instructions, when executed by the ADGPD processor, causing a transfer of at least some of the digitized data,

including at least some of the digitized data that is generated before the i/o port is coupled to the MPI of the PC, from the data storage memory to the PC by means of the at least one software driver;

wherein the second set of instructions, when executed by the ADGPD processor, causes a transfer of at least some of the digitized data from the data storage memory after a command has been issued by the at least one software driver and after the i/o port has been operatively coupled to the MPI of the PC; and

wherein the central processing unit of the ADGPD processor is operatively coupled to the program memory so that the central processing unit of the ADGPD processor is adapted to execute both the first and second sets of instructions.

98. (new) The ADGPD of claim 97, further comprising an output device that is operatively coupled to the central processing unit of the ADGPD processor, the output device being capable of generating one or more analog waves that are representative of at least some of the analog data that is generated by the unidirectional sensor.

99. (new) The ADGPD of claim 97, wherein the identification data of the response signal indicates to the PC that the ADGPD is a mass storage device.

100. (new) The ADGPD of claim 99,
wherein the ADGPD further comprises a third set of instructions stored in the program memory that are adapted to be executed by the central processing unit of the ADGPD processor after the i/o port has been connected to the MPI of the PC and after the response signal has been received by the PC, the third set of instructions, when executed by the central processing unit of the ADGPD processor, causing file allocation table information to be sent to

the PC to enable the PC to transfer information to and from the ADGPD as if the ADGPD were a mass storage device, and

wherein the second set of instructions, when executed by the central processing unit of the ADGPD processor, causes digitized data to be transferred to the PC in a mass storage device format.

101. (new) The ADGPD of claim 100,

wherein the identification data of the response signal indicates to the PC that the ADGPD is a mass storage device that operates in a manner consistent with a hard disk drive,

wherein the third set of instructions, when executed by the central processing unit of the ADGPD processor, cause a virtual boot sequence to be sent to the PC which includes at least information that is representative of a number of sectors associated with a mass storage device that operates in a manner consistent with a hard disk drive;

wherein the file allocation table information includes at least a start location of a file allocation table; and

wherein the mass storage device format is consistent with a data transfer format used in a hard disk drive.

102. (new) The ADGPD of claim 97, wherein the ADGPD processor and the program memory are adapted to cause files of digital data stored in the data storage memory to be directly transferred to an input/output device by means of the i/o port of the ADGPD.

103. (new) The ADGPD of claim 102, wherein the ADGPD processor and the program memory are adapted to allow an aspect of operation of the ADGPD other than the

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