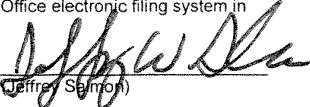


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Dated: December 30, 2008 Signature: 

Jeffrey Samson

Docket No.: 31436/43994
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Michael Tasler

Application No.: 11/467,073

Confirmation No.: 3012

Filed: August 24, 2006

Art Unit: 2181

For: ANALOG DATA GENERATING AND
PROCESSING DEVICE FOR USE WITH A
PERSONAL COMPUTER

Examiner: C. K. Lee

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Please enter this preliminary amendment in connection with the Request for Continued Examination that is being filed herewith. As a response to the Office Action dated October 2, 2008 that contains a final rejection, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

WE CLAIM:

Please cancel claims 1-179 and add new claims 180-236 as noted hereinafter:

1-179. (cancelled).

180. (new) An analog data generating and processing device (ADGPD) for use with a personal computer (PC) having a multi-purpose interface (MPI) and at least one software driver, the ADGPD comprising:

an i/o port designed to be operatively coupled to an MPI of a PC;

a program memory;

a data storage memory;

a sensor designed to generate analog data from one or more analog waves to which the sensor is exposed;

an ADGPD processor operatively coupled to the i/o port, the program memory, the data storage memory and the sensor;

wherein the ADGPD is adapted to undergo a data generation process when the i/o port is not coupled to the MPI of the PC by which the sensor generates analog data, the analog data is processed, and the processed analog data is stored in the data storage memory as one or more files of digitized analog data; and

wherein the ADGPD processor is adapted to initiate the data generation process and be involved in an automatic recognition process in which, after the i/o port has been operatively coupled to the MPI of the PC, the ADGPD processor executes at least one instruction

set stored in the program memory and thereby causes at least one parameter regarding the ADGPD, which signifies that the ADGPD has the ability to transfer files of digital data in response to commands issued from the at least one software driver, to be automatically sent through the i/o port and to the MPI of the PC (a) without any type of user intervention at any time by means of the PC and (b) before a time when the PC is able to receive data files that are transferred to it from the ADGPD.

181. (new) The ADGPD of claim 180, wherein the ADGPD is adapted to, after the at least one parameter has been sent to the PC, transfer one or more user-selected files of digitized analog data to the PC without requiring a user to have previously loaded file transfer enabling software on the PC.

182. (new) The ADGPD of claim 181, wherein the ADGPD processor is adapted to execute one or more instructions sets stored in the program memory in response to commands from the at least one software driver and thereby transfer one or more user-selected files of digitized analog data from the data storage memory without requiring any user intervention by means of the PC after the commands are sent.

183. (new) The ADGPD of claim 182, wherein the ADGPD processor is adapted to execute one or more instructions sets stored in the program memory and thereby cause ADGPD file system information to be automatically sent to the PC (a) without any type of user intervention at any time by means of the PC and (b) at a point in time before a time when the PC is able to receive data files that are transferred to it from the ADGPD.

184. (new) The ADGPD of claim 183, wherein the at least one parameter is consistent

with the ADGPD being a mass storage device.

185. (new) The ADGPD of claim 184,

wherein the ADGPD processor and the program memory are configured to cause, after the at least one parameter has been sent to the i/o port, file allocation table information to be sent to the i/o port,

wherein the ADGPD processor and the program memory are configured to cause a virtual boot sequence to be sent to the i/o port which includes at least information that is representative of a number of sectors of a storage disk, and

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

186. (new) The ADGPD of claim 185, wherein the at least one parameter is consistent with the ADGPD being adapted to operate in a manner consistent with a hard disk drive.

187. (new) The ADGPD of claim 186, wherein the ADGPD processor is formed in a single chip.

188. (new) The ADGPD of claim 187, wherein the ADGPD processor includes a single central processing unit.

189. (new) The ADGPD of claim 186, wherein the program memory is formed in a single chip.

190. (new) The ADGPD of claim 189, wherein the program memory comprises a single memory device.

191. (new) The ADGPD of claim 186, wherein the data storage memory comprises a

single memory device.

192. (new) The ADGPD of claim 183, wherein the ADGPD file system information comprises at least an indication of the type of a file system that is used to store each one of the one or more files of digitized analog data in the data storage memory.

193. (new) The ADGPD of claim 180, further comprising an output device that is operatively coupled to 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 sensor.

194. (new) The ADGPD of claim 180, wherein the ADGPD processor and the program memory are configured to initiate a process by which one or more files of digitized analog data stored in the data storage memory are directly transferred to an input/output device by means of the i/o port.

195. (new) The ADGPD of claim 194, wherein the ADGPD processor and the program memory are adapted to allow an aspect of operation of the ADGPD other than the transfer of at least some of the one or more files of digitized analog data from the data storage memory to the i/o port to be controlled by means of the PC.

196. (new) The ADGPD of claim 180, wherein the at least one parameter is consistent with the ADGPD being a mass storage device.

197. (new) The ADGPD of claim 180, wherein the at least one parameter is consistent with the ADGPD being responsive to a SCSI command set.

198. (new) The ADGPD of claim 180, wherein the at least one parameter is not

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