



US007155163B2

(12) **United States Patent**  
**Cannon et al.**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 7,155,163 B2**

(45) **Date of Patent:** **Dec. 26, 2006**

(54) **UNIFIED PASSCODE PAIRING OF PICONET DEVICES**

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(\* ) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 744 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **09/756,106**

(22) Filed: **Jan. 9, 2001**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2002/0090912 A1 Jul. 11, 2002

(51) **Int. Cl.**  
**H04B 7/00** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **455/41.2; 455/420; 455/466; 455/456.6; 455/90.1**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... **455/426.1, 455/41.1-41.3, 426.2, 466, 518, 519, 520**  
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

The present invention relates to an application layer function outside the BLUETOOTH protocol which associates a BLUETOOTH unique address, i.e., the 48-bit unique BD\_ADDR address, with a short passcode or PIN which is associated with a particular type of BLUETOOTH device in a particular piconet. The passcode or PIN can be pre-determined by the manufacturer of the BLUETOOTH device, or can be input and defined by the user. Upon installation in a piconet, in one embodiment shown and described with reference to FIGS. 1 and 2, a user can be asked to manually input a particular passcode or PIN into a relevant piconet device, and an inquiry can be broadcast to all communicating piconet devices and only those other piconet devices having a matching passcode or PIN associated therewith can automatically forward their respective 48-bit unique BD\_ADDR addresses to the inquiring piconet device. Alternatively, a user can inquire and be provided with a list of available passcodes or PINs already established by other devices in the piconet, and select a particular passcode or PIN associated with one or more other piconet devices. The passcode or personal identification number (PIN) may be input upon electronic device setup (e.g., a four character code). The passcode or PIN may be numeric, text, or alphanumeric.

**14 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets**

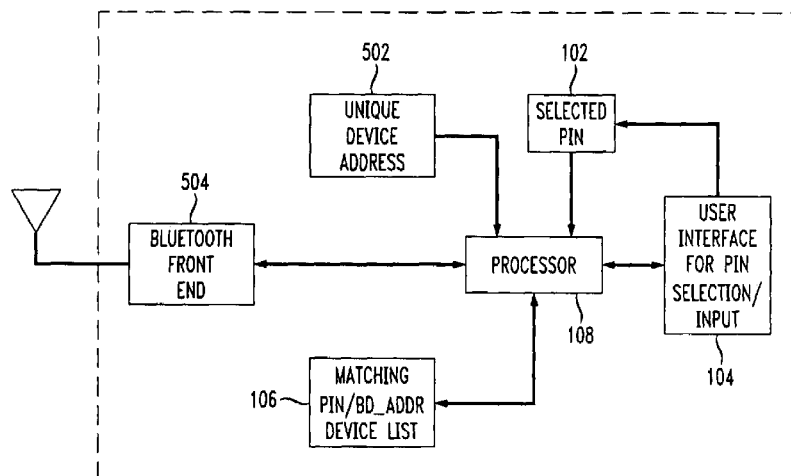


FIG. 1

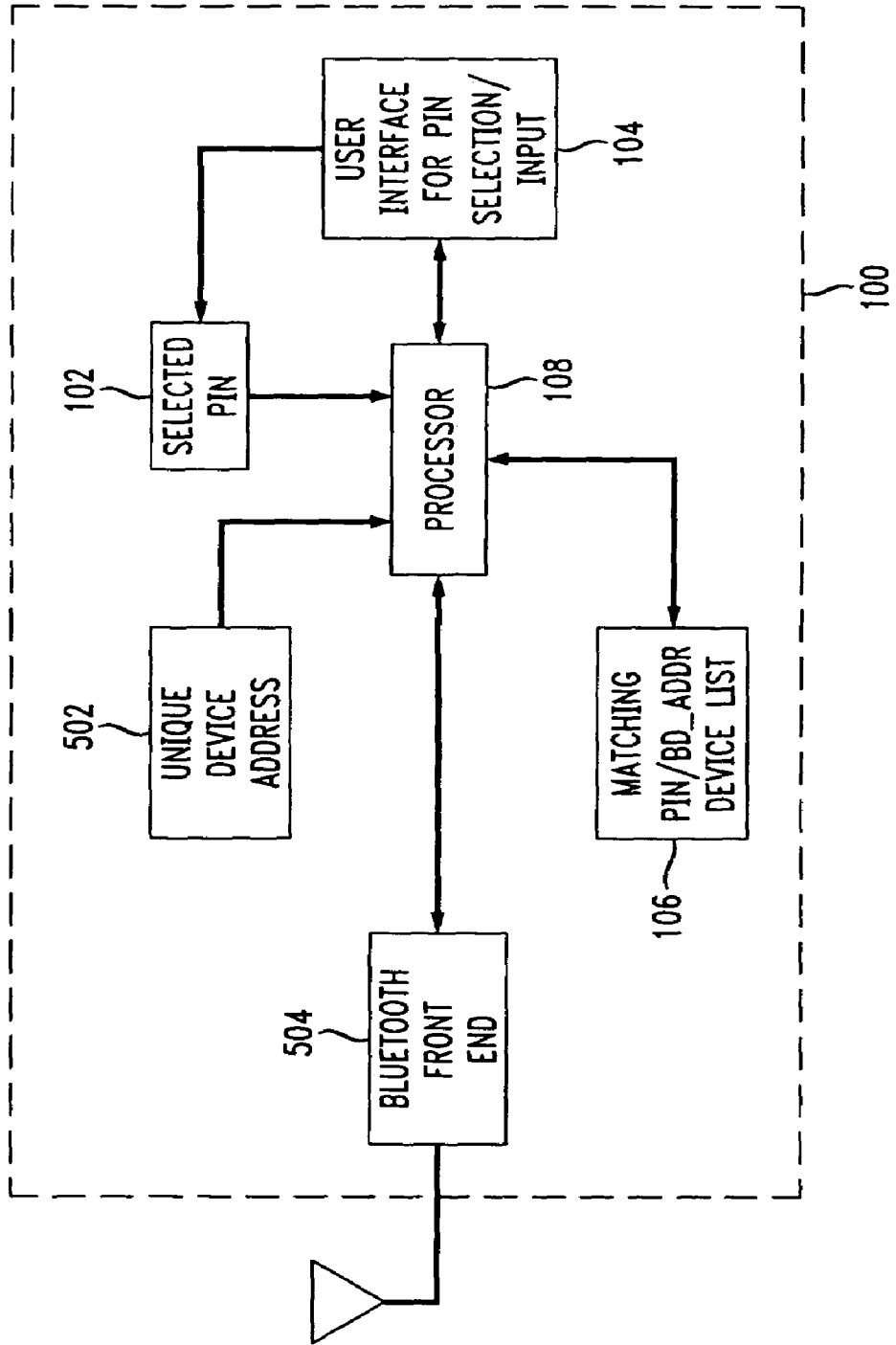


FIG. 2

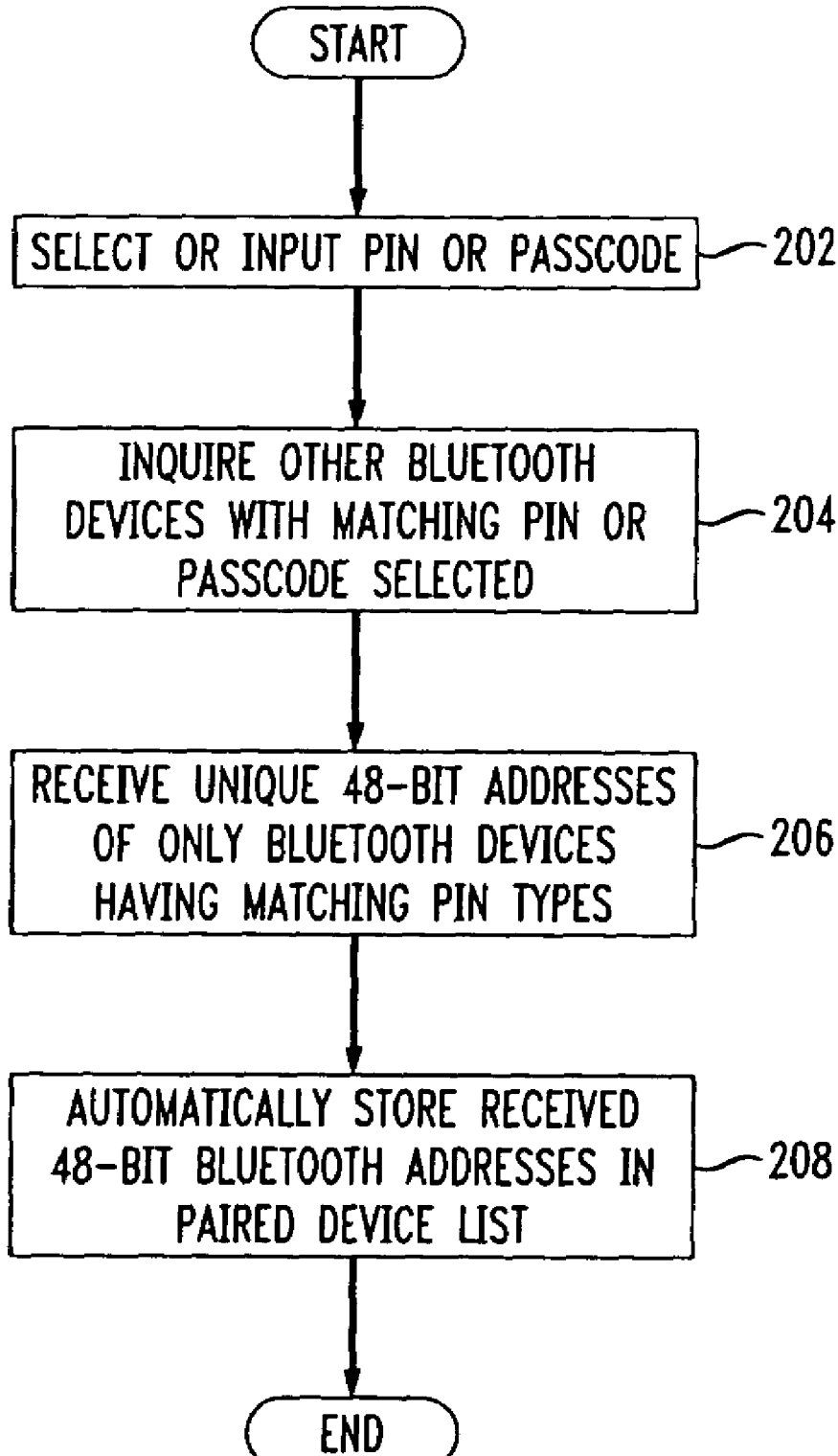


FIG. 3

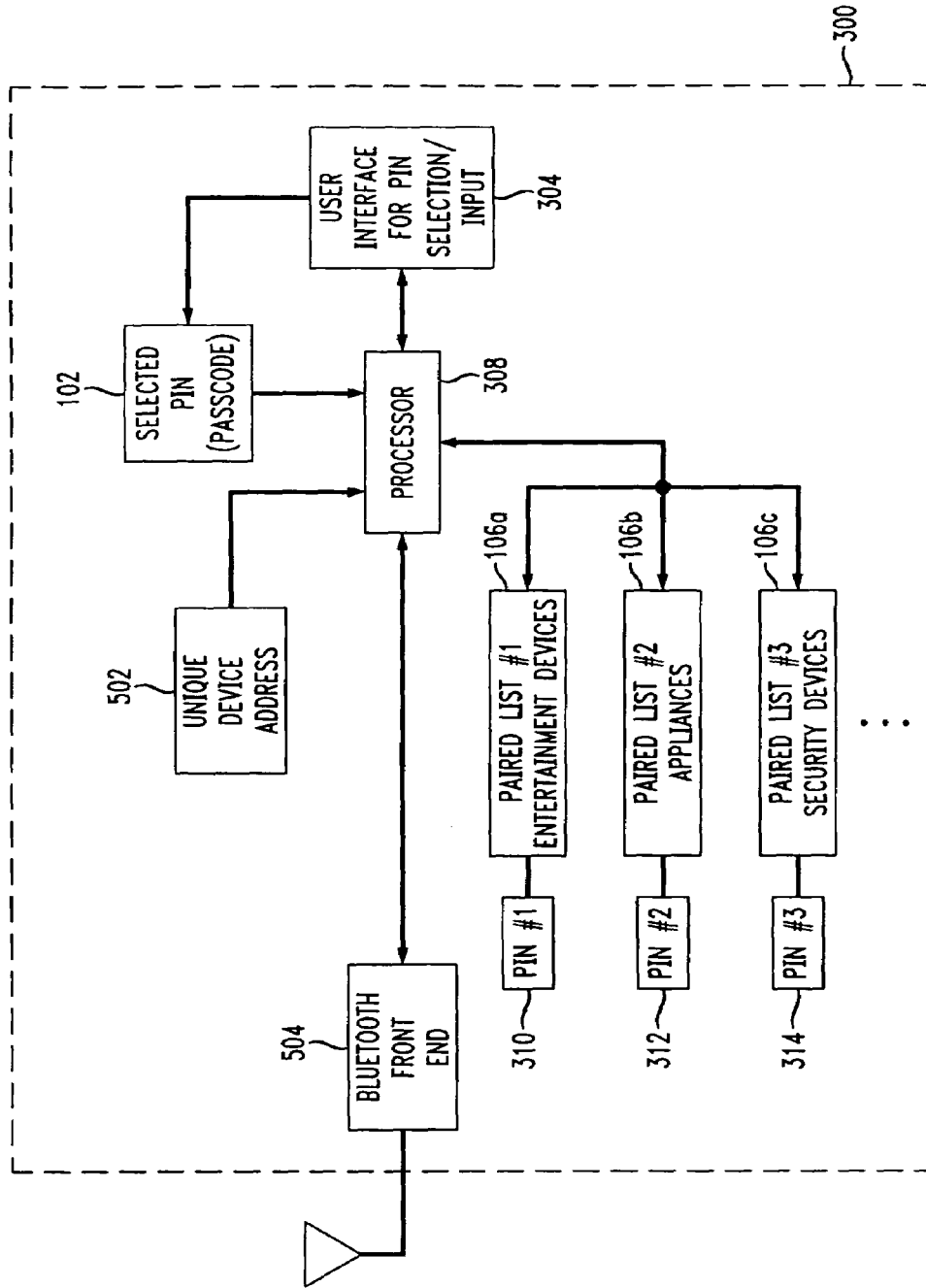
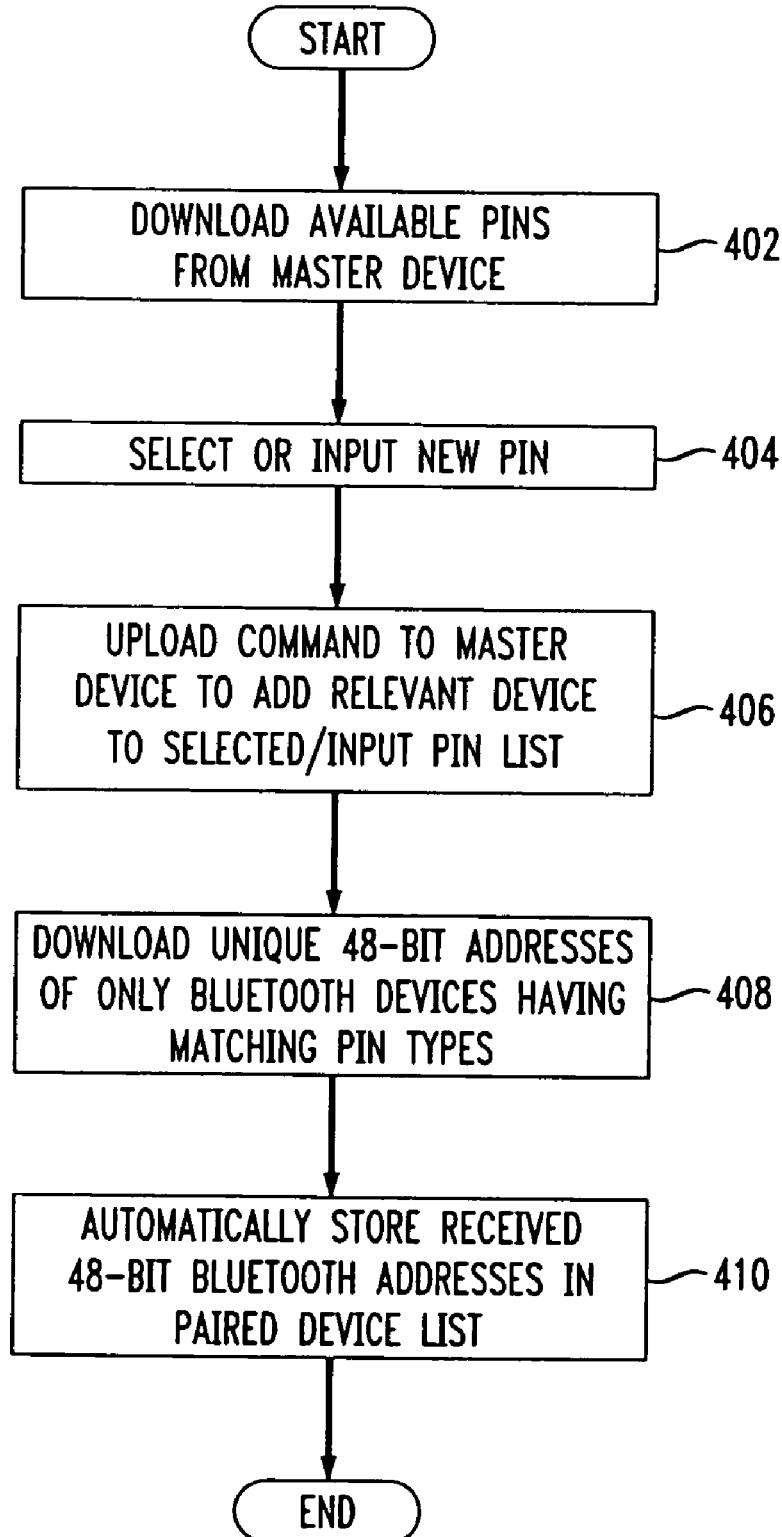


FIG. 4



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