

### US006513723B1

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### (54) METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATICALLY TRANSMITTING TEMPERATURE INFORMATION TO A **THERMOSTAT**

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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 0 days.

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Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup> ...... F23N 5/20; G08B 17/00

U.S. Cl. ...... 236/46 R; 236/51; 340/584; (52)374/167

340/870.17, 589; 374/167

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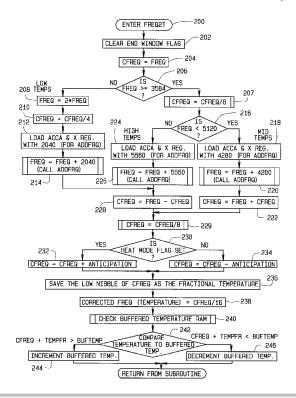
<sup>\*</sup> cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—William Wayner (74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm-Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.

#### (57)**ABSTRACT**

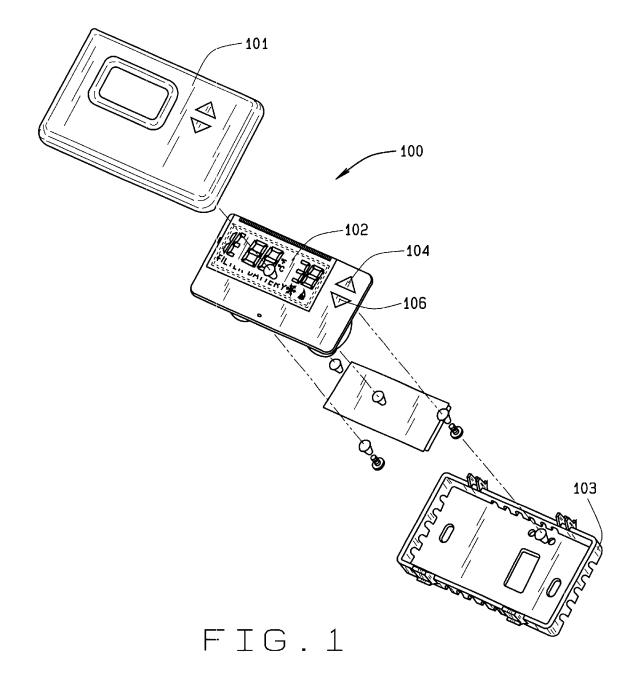
A method and device includes the use of multiple remote sensors transmitting temperature information to a thermostat, while reducing or eliminating transmission interference and providing increased user control. Remote temperature sensors of the present invention sense temperature at variable time periods and only transmit temperature information on a sensed change in temperature. Transmission of temperature information is provided on variably selected frequencies within a specified range, and may be based in part on previous temperature transmissions. A learn mode is provided that allows for recognition of each sensor by a host-controlling thermostat, including determining the proper transmission power level for each sensor. Additionally, each sensor is programmable to provide a temperature offset and each sensor may be individually weighted according to specific requirements or needs.

### 47 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets

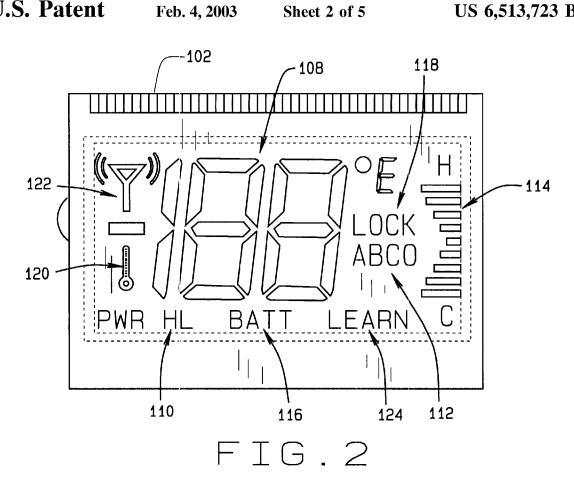












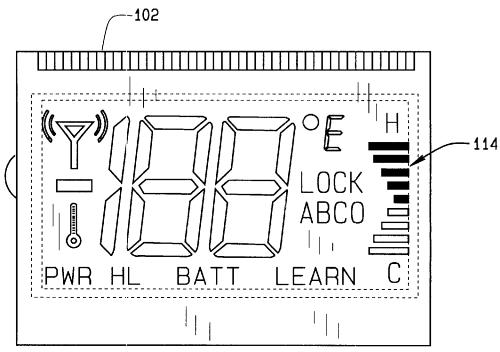


FIG.3



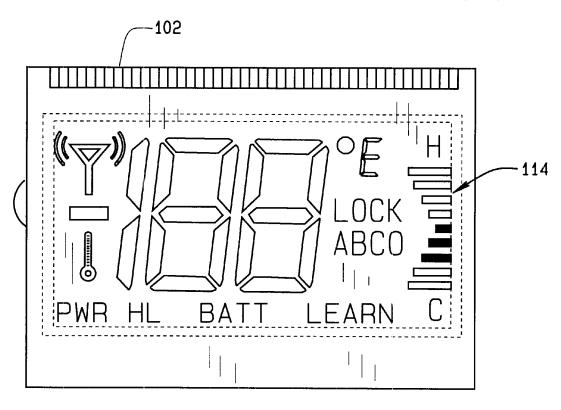


FIG.4

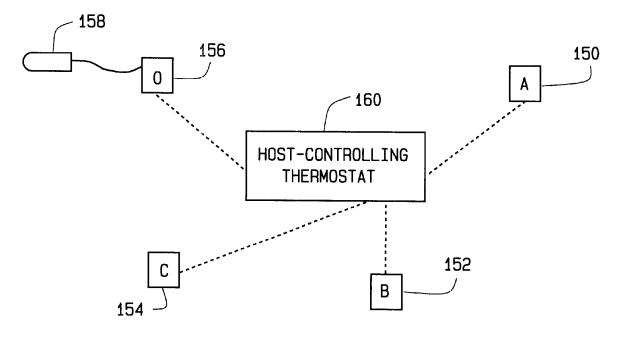
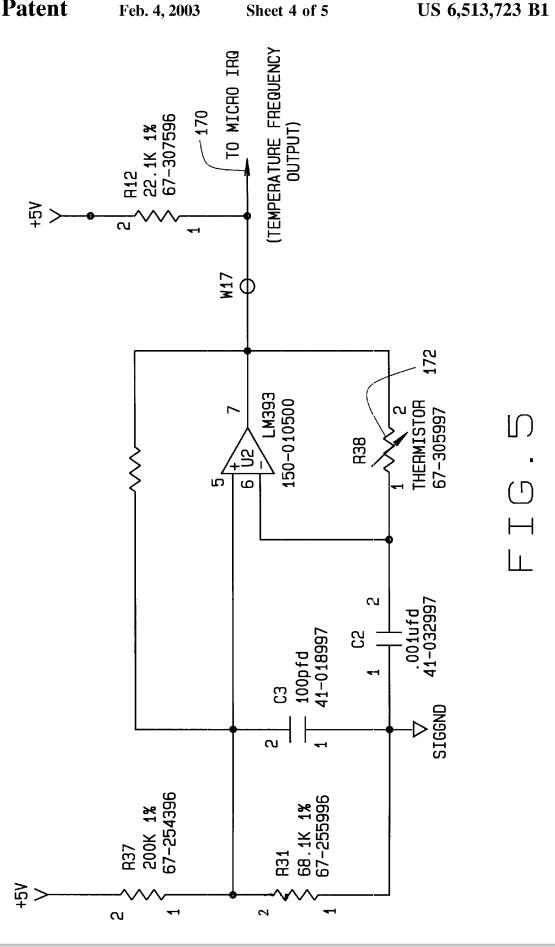


FIG.7







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