



US 20040008255A1

(19) **United States**

(12) **Patent Application Publication**

Lewellen

(10) **Pub. No.: US 2004/0008255 A1**

(43) **Pub. Date: Jan. 15, 2004**

(54) **VEHICLE VIDEO SYSTEM AND METHOD**

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(21) **Appl. No.: 10/192,941**

(22) **Filed: Jul. 11, 2002**

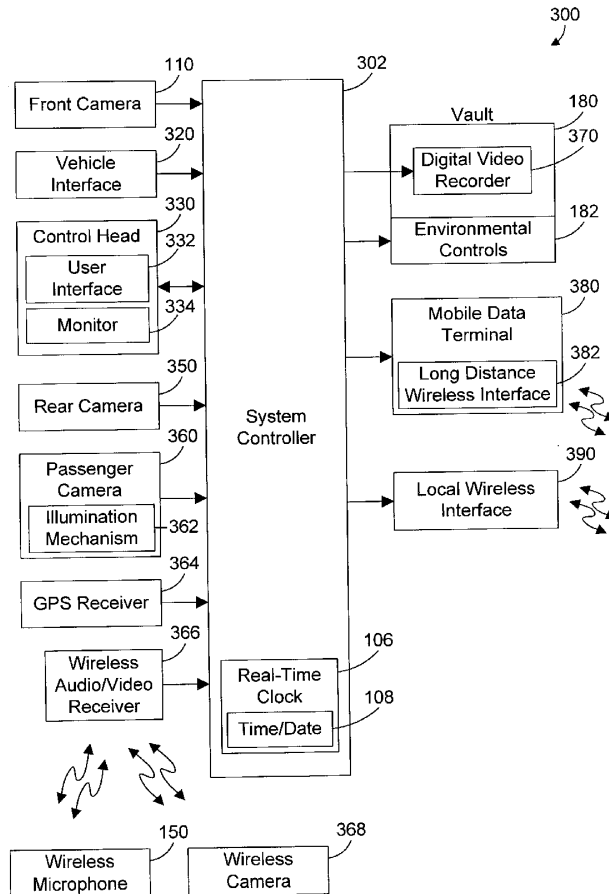
Publication Classification

(51) **Int. Cl.⁷ H04N 7/18**
(52) **U.S. Cl. 348/148**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A vehicle video system includes a small camera in the passenger area that uses illumination in the non-visible

spectrum to illuminate the passenger area. The vehicle video system records video information on a digital video recorder that uses digital media such as a hard disk drive, recordable CD (CD-R), rewritable CD (CR-RW), or writable Digital Video Disc (DVD). The vehicle video system includes a local wireless interface, such as a Bluetooth-compatible interface, that automatically connects to a compatible device in the parking area of the vehicle that is coupled to a database. In this manner, the digital video information collected by the vehicle video system is automatically transferred to the database when the vehicle is parked, removing the need for any human intervention for the logging and cataloging of video tapes. The local wireless interface of the vehicle video system also allows other devices, such as a handheld device or a vehicle video system in a different vehicle, to access the stored digital video information.



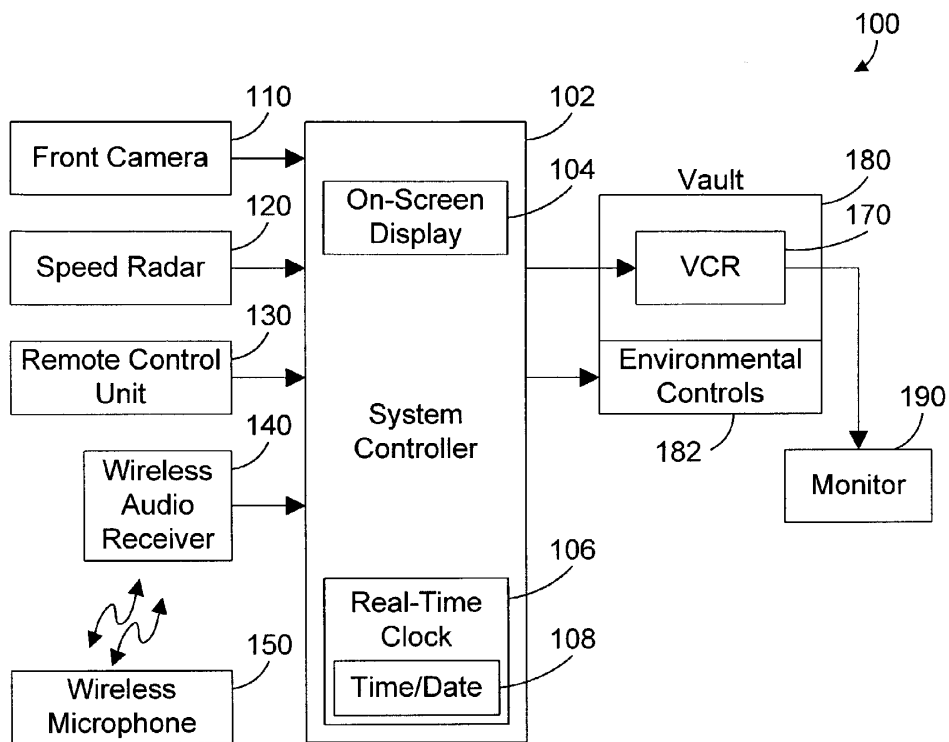


FIG. 1 Prior Art

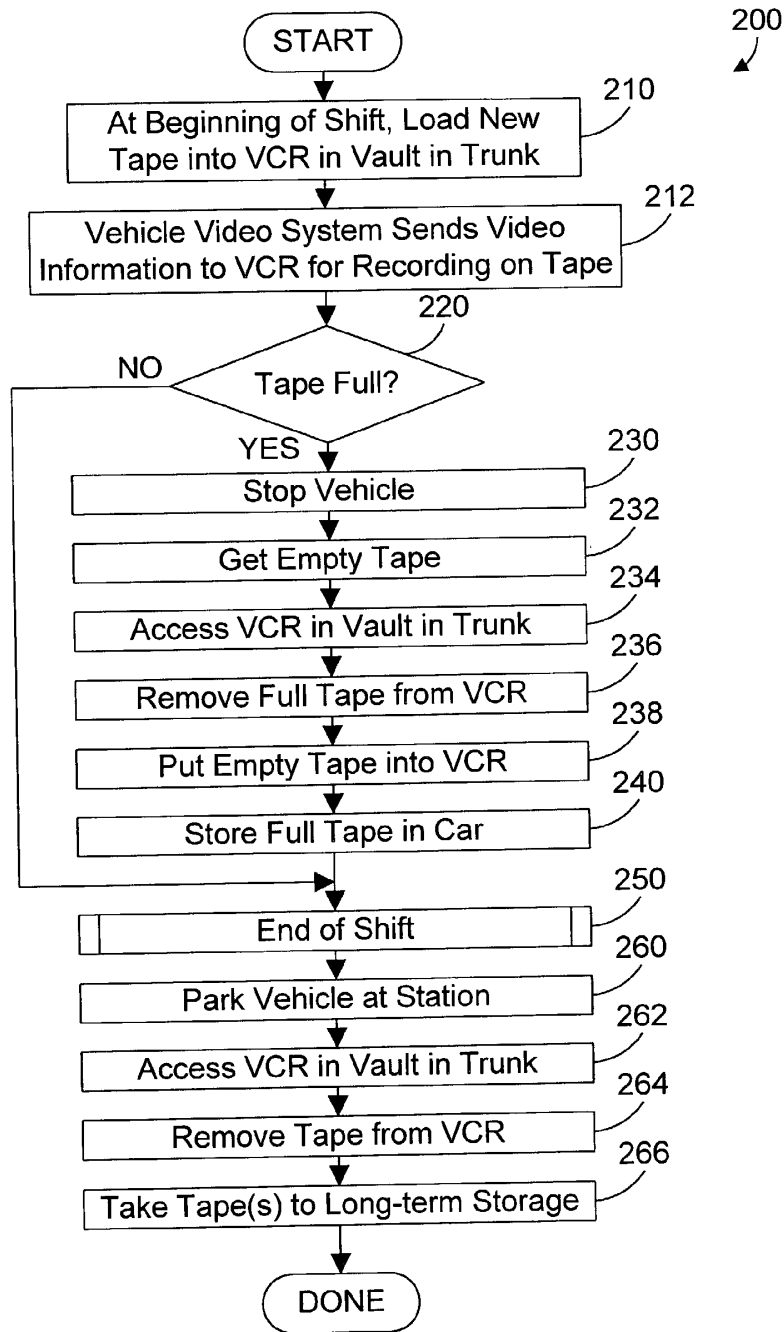


FIG. 2 Prior Art

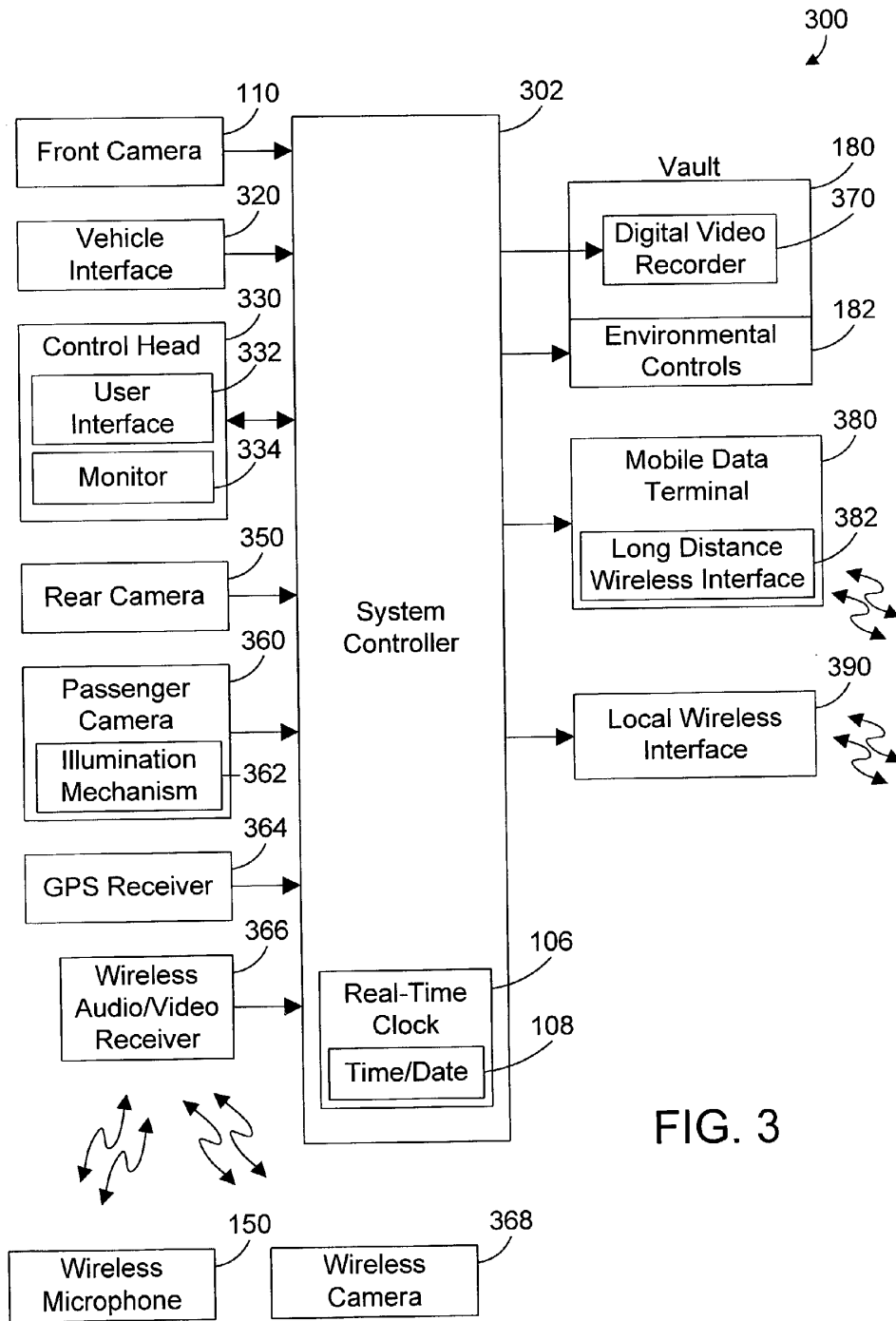


FIG. 3

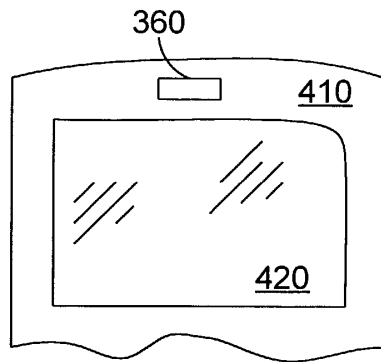


FIG. 4

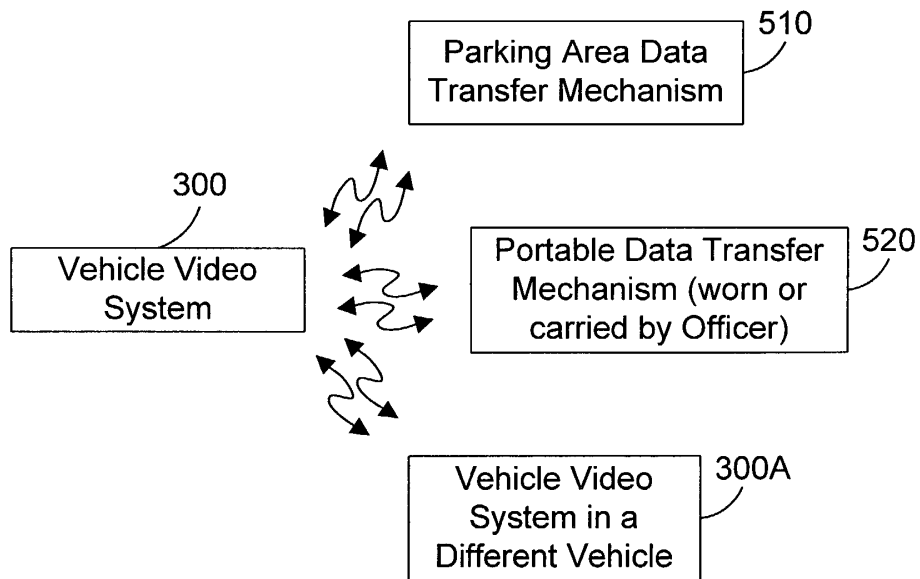


FIG. 5

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