ABSTRACT:

Information storage system.

A device for optically scanning a record carrier (1) with a recording layer of phase-change material is described. The radiation beam supplied by a radiation source (4) is focused on the recording layer by an objective system (5). Crystalline information areas may be written by means of the beam in the initially amorphous recording layer. The information areas are erased by means of pulses of the radiation beam, while according to the invention the erasing pulses have such a short duration that the areas of the recording layer heated during erasing to a temperature lower than the melting point of the recording layer remain above the crystallization temperature of the recording layer for a period of time which is shorter than the crystallization time.

Fig. 1.

This Sheet Has Been Replaced

