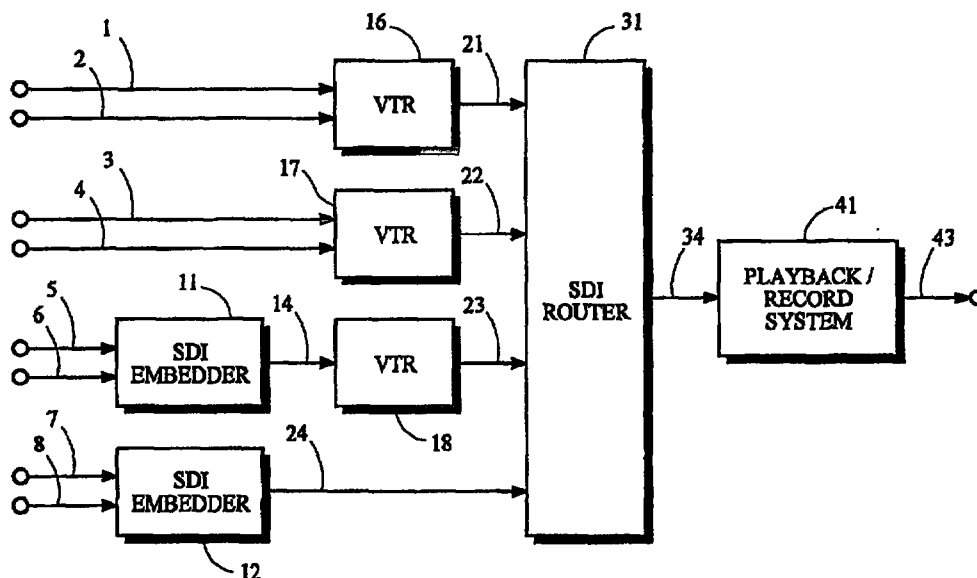


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(54) Title: **METHOD OF EMBEDDING COMPRESSED DIGITAL AUDIO SIGNALS IN A VIDEO SIGNAL USING GUARD BANDS**

(57) Abstract

An audio signal processor forms gaps or guard bands in sequences of blocks conveying encoded audio information and time aligns the guard bands with video information. The guard bands are formed to allow for variations in processing or circuit delays so that the routing or switching of different streams of video information with embedded audio information does not result in a loss of any encoded audio blocks.