

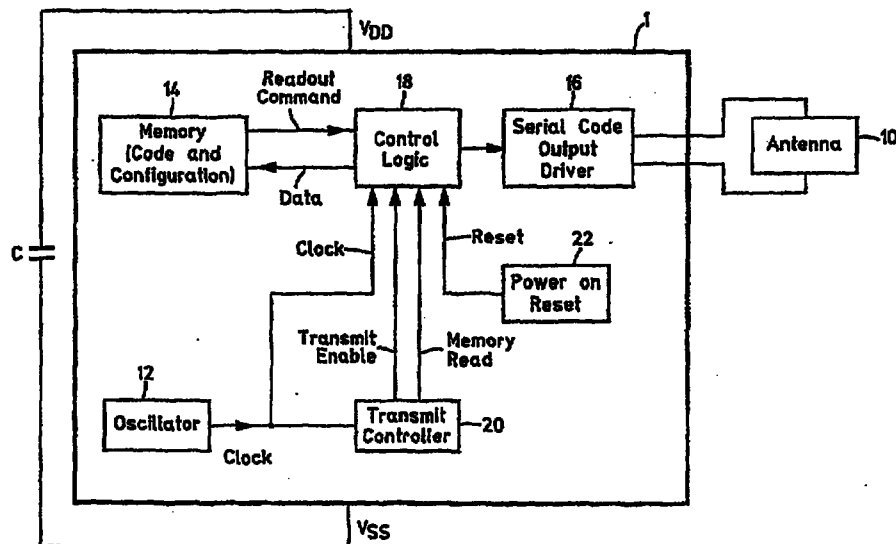
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VERSION*

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International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT) -

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : G06K 7/10, 7/08		A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 97/17667 ✓ (43) International Publication Date: 15 May 1997 (15.05.97)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB96/02742 ✓ (22) International Filing Date: 8 November 1996 (08.11.96) ✓ (30) Priority Data: 95/9519 9 November 1995 (09.11.95) ✓ ZA (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): BRITISH TECHNOLOGY GROUP LIMITED [GB/GB]; 101 Newington Causeway, London SE1 6BU (GB). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): VAN EEDEN, Hendrik, Lodewyk [ZA/ZA]; 607 Sean Street, Moreletapark, Pretoria 0044 (ZA). CLOETE, Jacob, Pieter, Laurens [ZA/ZA]; 29 Watergras Street, Plaaswerf, Moreletapark, Pretoria 0044 (ZA). (74) Agent: BUTTRICK, Richard; British Technology Group Limited, Patents Dept., 101 Newington Causeway, London SE1 6BU (GB).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>	

(54) Title: **ENHANCED DETECTION OF MULTIPLE DATA TRANSMISSIONS**

(57) Abstract

The present invention provides method and apparatus which enhance the probability of identification of a number of transmitters (1), typically transponders, which are all transmitting data to a receiver. The invention is applicable to a number of systems including passive radio-frequency transponders systems, systems in which a number of self-powered transmitters must be identified by a receiver, or systems in which a number of transmitters broadcast using a randomly delayed "back-end and retry" algorithm. Each transmitter (1) is adapted to transmit at intervals and comprises means for generating transmissions, means for calculating the duration of the intervals between successive transmissions and means (20) for enabling the transmitter at random or pseudo-random intervals related to an operating frequency of local timing means (21). In passive RFID systems, the frequency of the local timing means is indeterminate, being unspecified until the transmitter is in operation.