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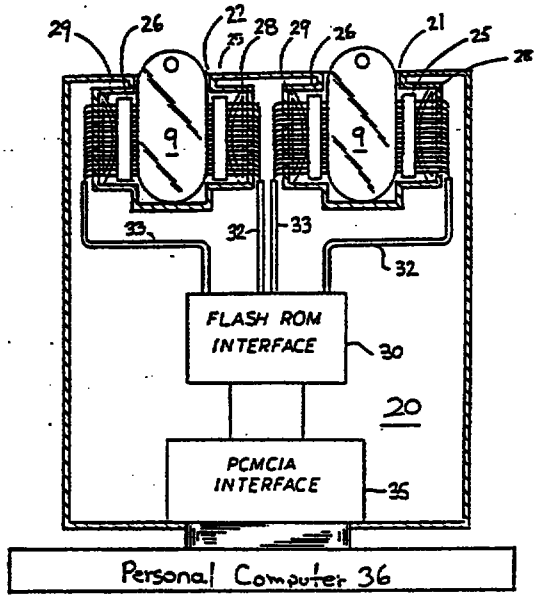
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(57) Abstract

A personal data storage device (9) for storing information has a system for storing and reading such information from the storage device (9). A programmable memory (10) is encapsulated in a potting compound (13) which includes a plurality of channels (15) enclosing leads (11) of the memory package (9). The channels (15) extend to the outside of the encapsulated memory (10) to permit exterior contact with the memory leads (11). A conductive sealant place in the channels for sealing the channels (15) of the encapsulated flash memory (10) makes electrical contact with the leads (11). A device for reading the information (36) from the data storage device (9) includes a PCMCIA interface (35) which can read and write data to and from the personal data storage device (9) and a computer (36). The computer (36) further includes programming for compressing and decompressing data which is stored and read from the personal data storage device (9).