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

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
11 December 2003 (11.12.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/102788 A1

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: G06F 13/00, 17/60

(21) International Application Number: PCT/SG02/00086

(22) International Filing Date: 13 May 2002 (13.05.2002)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **TREK 2000 INTERNATIONAL LTD.** [SG/SG]; 30 Loyang Way #07-13/14/15, Loyang Industrial Estate, Singapore 508769 (SG).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant *(for US only)*: **POO, Teng, Pin** [MY/SG]; c/o Trek 2000 International Ltd., 30 Loyang Way #07-13/14/15, Loyang Industrial Estate, Singapore 508769 (SG).

(74) Agent: **WATKIN, Timothy, Lawrence, Harvey**; Lloyd Wise, Tanjong Pagar, P.O. Box 636, Singapore 910816 (SG).

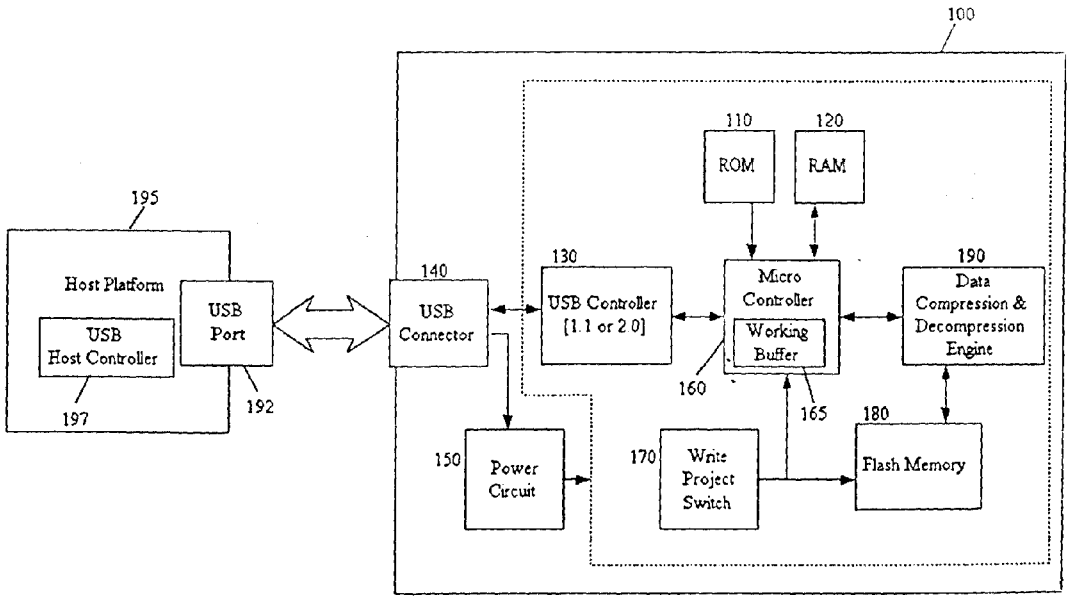
(81) Designated States *(national)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(regional)*: ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— *with international search report*

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND APPARATUS FOR COMPRESSING AND DECOMPRESSING DATA STORED TO A PORTABLE DATA STORAGE DEVICE



(57) Abstract: A portable memory device is provided that is capable of easy connection to a personal computer via a universal serial bus (USB) port, IEEE 1394 (i.e., firewire) or similar port. Included in the portable memory device is a compression/decompression engine capable of compressing and decompressing data. Data residing on a personal computer or other host platform is compressed by the engine and saved to the memory of the portable memory device. Compressed data is retrieved and decompressed by the engine and transmitted to the personal computer for use by the user. Embodiments of the present invention thus provide a highly convenient system and apparatus for users to access and save larger quantities of data to a relatively small device.

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