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

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
27 December 2002 (27.12.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 02/104023 A2

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: H04N 7/16, 5/00

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US01/48251

(22) International Filing Date:
13 December 2001 (13.12.2001)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
09/736,617 13 December 2000 (13.12.2000) US

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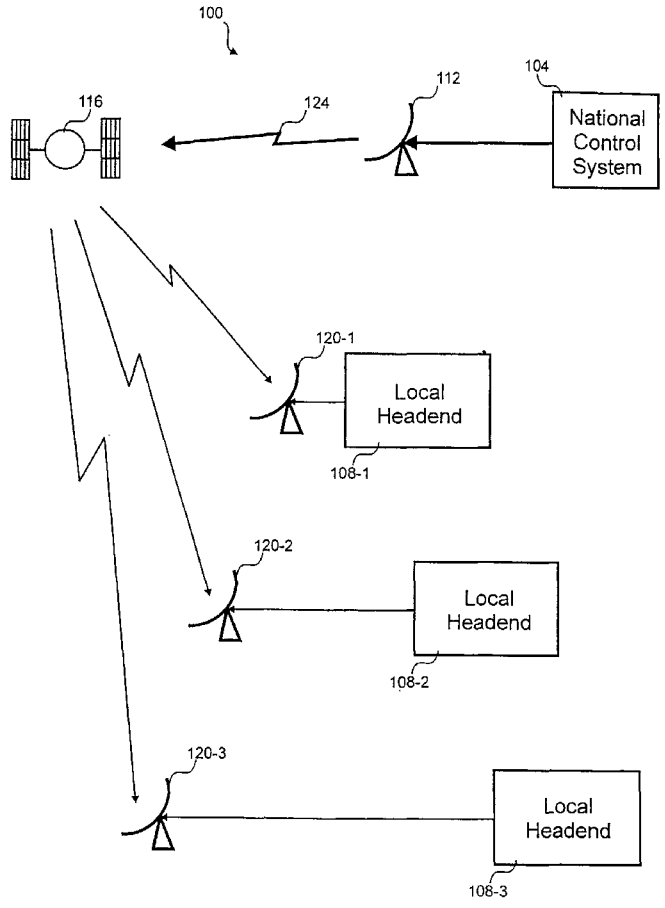
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(81) Designated States *(national)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, 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,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: CONDITIONAL ACCESS FOR FUNCTIONAL UNITS



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to controlling functional units within a conditional access system. In one embodiment, a method for controlling access to a functional unit within a set top box is described. In one step, first information comprising a plurality of functional unit identifiers and one or more tier requirements respectively related to each functional unit identifier is received. Second information compressing tier rights is also received. The functional unit identifiers are correlated to their respective tier requirements. The functional unit is interacted with. It is determined if the respective tier requirements are satisfied by the tier rights. Further interaction with the functional unit is authorized.

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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:

— *without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report*

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