CLAIMS

1. A method for selecting devices within a system that contains a first device, a second device, and a third device, the method comprising:

assigning an identical master identifier to each device within the system;

assigning a first assigned identifier to the first device;

assigning a second assigned identifier to the second device;

assigning a third assigned identifier to the third device; and

selecting each of the first device, second device, and third device by setting a select identifier to a value equal to the master identifier.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

selecting only the first device by setting a select identifier to a value equal to the first assigned identifier;

selecting only the second device by setting a select identifier to a value equal to the second assigned identifier; and

selecting only the third device by setting a select identifier to a value equal to the third assigned identifier; wherein

the first assigned identifier is not equal to the second assigned identifier;

the first assigned identifier is not equal to the third assigned identifier; and

the second assigned identifier is not equal to the third assigned identifier.

3. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

selecting only the first device by setting a select identifier to a value equal to the first assigned identifier; and

selecting both the second device and the third device by setting a select identifier to a value equal to the second assigned identifier; wherein

the first assigned identifier is not equal to the second assigned identifier;

the first assigned identifier is not equal to the third assigned identifier; and

the second assigned identifier is equal to the third assigned identifier.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein each of the first, second, and third devices in the system are memory devices.

5. A method for selecting devices within a system that contains a first device, a second device, and a third device, the method comprising:

assigning a first assigned identifier to the first device;

assigning a second assigned identifier to the second device;

assigning a third assigned identifier to the third device; wherein

assigning the first assigned identifier to the first device comprises setting the first assigned identifier equal to a persistent identifier associated with the first device.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the persistent identifier is stored in a persistent area of the device.

7. The method of claim 5 further wherein:

assigning the second assigned identifier to the second device comprises setting the second assigned identifier equal to a second persistent identifier associated with the second device; wherein

the second persistent identifier is stored in a persistent area of the second device.

8. The method of claim 7 further wherein:

assigning the third assigned identifier to the third device comprises setting the third assigned identifier equal to a third persistent identifier associated with the third device; wherein

the persistent identifier is stored in a persistent area of the third device.

9. A method of executing a command on a device within a multiple device system comprising:

receiving a command;

updating a select identifier when the command is a SelectID command;

determining if there is a persistent identifier associated with the device;

setting the assigned identifier of the device from a persistent area within the device when there is a persistent ID associated with the device;

determining if the command is intended for the device by comparing the select identifier (ID_s) to the assigned identifier (ID_a) of the device;

ignoring the command when the command is not intended for the device; and

performing the command when the command is intended for the device.

10. The method of claim 9 further comprising:

determining if the command is intended to write a persistent identifier to the device;

writing the persistent identifier to a persistent area of the device.

11. The method of claim 9 further comprising:

determining if the command is intended to write a value to the assigned identifier of the device;

determining if the assigned identifier has previously been set;

determining if a select input (SIN) to the device is asserted; and

writing the value to the assigned identifier to the device when each of the determining steps above are true.

12. The method of claim 11 further comprising:

asserting a select output (SOUT) output of the device; wherein

the SOUT of the device is coupled to an SIN of a second device.

13. A system comprising:

a first device having a first master identifier and a first assigned identifier, the first device being capable of being accessed using either the first master identifier or the first assigned identifier;

a second device having a second master identifier and a second assigned identifier, the second device being capable of being accessed using either the second master identifier or the second assigned identifier; and

third device having a third master identifier and a third assigned identifier, the third device being capable of being accessed using either the third master identifier or the third assigned identifier; wherein

the system accesses one of the first, second, or third devices by setting a select identifier to one of the first master identifier, second master identifier, third master identifier, first assigned identifier, second assigned identifier, or third assigned identifier.

14. The system of claim 13 wherein:

the first master identifier, the second master identifier, and the third master identifier are each set to a first value;

the first assigned identifier and the second assigned identifier are each set to a second value that is different from the first value; and

the third assigned value is set to a third value that is different from the first and second values.

15. The system of claim 14 wherein

the system is arranged to access each of the first, second, and third devices by setting the select identifier to the first value;

the system is arranged to access the first and second devices by setting the select identifier to the second value; and

the system is arranged to access the third device by setting the select identifier to the third value.

16. The system of claim 13 wherein:

the first master identifier, the second master identifier, and the third master identifier are each set to a first value;

the first assigned identifier is set to a second value that is different from the first value;

the second assigned identifier is set to a third value that is different from the first value and the second value; and

the third assigned value is set to a fourth value that is different from the first value, second value, and third value.

17. The system of claim 16 wherein

the system is arranged to access each of the first, second, and third devices by setting the select identifier to the first value;

the system is arranged to access the first device by setting the select identifier to the second value; and

the system is arranged to access the second device by setting the select identifier to the third value; and

the system is arranged to access the third device by setting the select identifier to the fourth value.

18. The system of claim 17 wherein each of the first, second, and third devices are memory devices.

19. A device comprising:

a chip select input;

a command/address input;

a select in (SIN) input;

a select out (SOUT) output; and

a persistent area; wherein the persistent area is configured to contain a value for an assigned identifier and a value for a master identifier such that the device is accessible in response to a setting of a select identifier to the assigned identifier and the device is accessible in response to a setting of a select identifier to the master identifier.

20. The device of claim 19 wherein the device is arranged to set the assigned identifier from the persistent area.

21. The device of claim 19 further comprising:

a flag; wherein

the flag indicates if the device sets the assigned identifier from the persistent area or if an external entity sets the assigned identifier.

22. The device of claim 21 wherein:

the device is arranged to set an assigned identifier if the SIN is set to a high level.

23. The device of claim 22 wherein:

the device is arranged to receive an assigned identifier value via the command/address input.

24. The device of claim 23 wherein:

the SOUT is arranged to be coupled to the SIN of another device.

25. The device of claim 19 wherein the device is arranged to write a value to the persistent area.

26. The device of claim 19 wherein the persistent area is selected from one of the following: poly-fuses, metal fuses, memory array cells, and non-volatile memory.