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(54) **Title:** SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DISPLAYING MESSAGES IN A BUILDING AUTOMATION SYSTEM

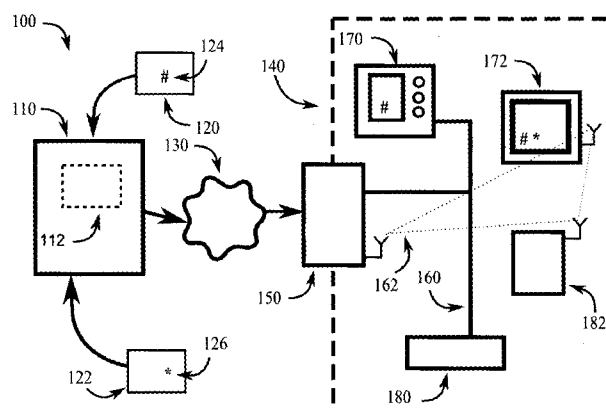


Figure 1B

(57) **Abstract:** Building automation systems typically comprise one or more simple control panels for controlling lighting, air conditioning etc. Such control panels are typically always on, and but are resource limited having small display areas as well as limited processing and memory capabilities. A system and a method is described for enabling the display of messages in a portion of the display area of such control panels. The system comprises an information centre which sources information such as weather forecasts or number of new emails. The collected information is then formatted into a message which is sent to a gateway device associated with the building automation system. The gateway device then provides the message to the control panels for display to the building occupants for representation (visual or audio) or action (eg turn on a device). The message generation system can comprise a web interface to allow occupants to customise the type and frequency of messages sent to their dwelling. Information gathering and processing can be distributed to the gateway devices such as by using instructions provided by the information centre. The system thus allows occupants to utilise existing infrastructure for displaying short informational messages of potential interest to the occupants.

