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(54) Title: DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM

(57) Abstract

A receiver/decoder for a broadcast digital television system in which received signals are passed through a receiver to the receiver/decoder and then to a television set. The receiver/decoder decodes a compressed MPEG–type signal, and is controlled by a remote controller handset, through an interface in the receiver/decoder. The operation of the receiver/decoder is controlled by a virtual machine (VM) which includes a run time engine (RTE). The receiver/decoder includes a plurality of interfaces to external units, and logical driver devices for the interfaces. Applications control the external units by the RTE, which receives events from the interfaces via a set of queues. The RTE comprises a plurality of process sequencer units associated with the device means, and means for extracting events from the queue means and actuating the associated process sequencer units accordingly.

