ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

PACKET PROGRAM COMPONENT DETECTOR

Apparatus for selecting predetermined ones of packets of signal components, from a signal stream (12) of packets includes a control device (19), responsive to user selection (20) and a transmitted program guide, for determining packet identifier codes, SCID's, for respective program signal components. The respective component SCID's are stored in programmable registers (13). SCID's, from respective packets in the signal stream, are successively loaded into a further register (14). Comparators (15) which are associated with the programmable registers, compare the stored SCID's with the SCID's from packets in the signal stream. Output signals from the respective comparators control the utilization (21-24) of the respective signal component packets in the signal stream. Programming (19) of SCID's in the respective programmable registers is performed according to a schedule to preclude undesired data inadvertently being accepted by the system.

Fig 3