

ABSTRACT

A PERSONAL ON-DEMAND AUDIO ENTERTAINMENT DEVICE THAT IS UNTETHERED AND ALLOWS WIRELESS DOWNLOAD OF CONTENT

Described is a personal on-demand audio entertainment system with a base unit attached to a personal computer or other source, a headphone unit and a remote control unit. The base unit transmits digital audio content to the headphone unit using infrared, radio frequency, magnetic or electromagnetic coupling. These data are stored in solid-state memory within the headphone unit. In the headphone unit, the stored digital audio content is converted to analog audio signals, amplified and sent to transducers for conversion to audio signal for the listener during playback. The system is designed such that playback may occur during the downloading process. The remote control unit also uses infrared, radio frequency, magnetic or electromagnetic coupling for communication to the headphone unit. This communication is made using a different channel and does not interfere with the audio data downloading. The remote control unit has a display and allows for control of player functions and modification of audio characteristics such as volume, bass, treble, balance, etc.

(FIG. 3)