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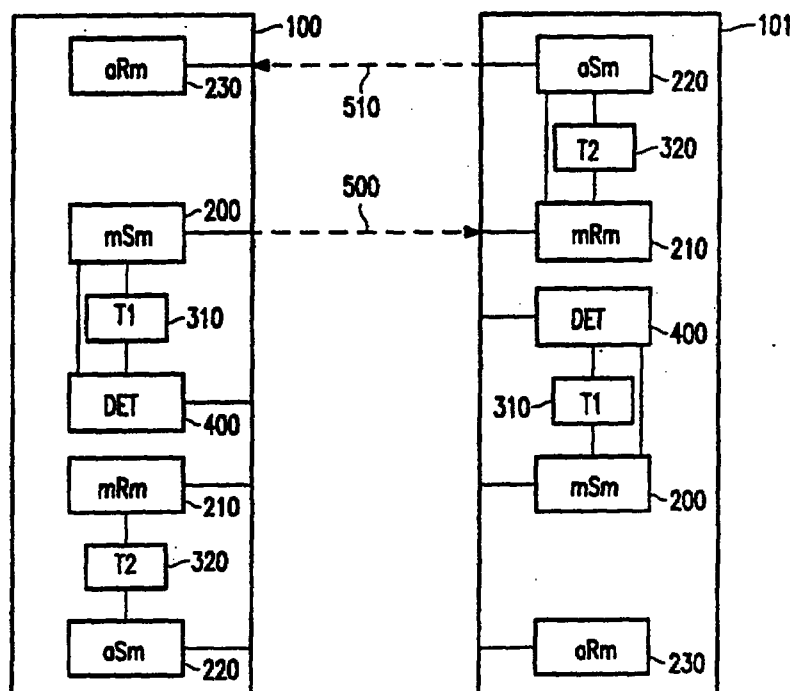
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : G08C 25/02		A2	(11) International Publication Number: WO 96/34374
			(43) International Publication Date: 31 October 1996 (31.10.96)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/IB96/00305		(81) Designated States: CN, JP, KR, SG European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).	
(22) International Filing Date: 10 April 1996 (10.04.96)			
(30) Priority Data: 95201102.1 ✓ 28 April 1995 (28.04.95) EP (34) Countries for which the regional or international application was filed: NL et al.		Published Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.	
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(54) Title: WIRELESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM FOR RELIABLE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN A GROUP OF APPARATUSES

(57) Abstract

The communication system allows a group of apparatuses, such as game computers and Personal Digital Assistants, to communicate wirelessly. A period following transmission of a message frame (500) is reserved for acknowledging reception. Receiving apparatuses (101, e.a.) wait a random time before acknowledging. Only the first apparatus (101) to time-out transmits an acknowledgment frame (510). An apparatus (100, e.a.) comprises detection means (400) for detecting a frame transmission, which is followed by first timing means (310) setting a first timer at a first time. Message sending means (200) transmits a message frame (500) when the first timer is expired. Following reception of the message frame (500) by message receiving means (210), second timing (320) means sets a second timer at a random time, which is smaller than the first time. Acknowledge sending means (220) transmits an acknowledgment frame (510) if the second timer expires prior to detecting another transmission.



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