ABSTRACT

ELECTRONIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM

An identification system comprises an interrogator and a number of transponders. The interrogator includes a transmitter (10) for transmitting an interrogation signal to the transponder, and a receiver (16,18,20,22) for receiving a response signal from the transponder. A micro-processor (28) identifies the transponder from data in the response signal. Each transponder comprises a receiving antenna (30) for receiving the interrogation signal, a code generator (36), a transmitting antenna (32), and a modulator (40) connected to the code generator. On receipt of the interrogation signal the transponder repeatedly transmits a response signal containing data which identifies the transponder. The interrogator detects successful identification of any transponder and briefly interrupts the interrogation signal to indicate the successful identification. Each transponder includes a logic circuit (42) responsive to a respective interruption in the interrogation signal to cease transmission of its own response signal.

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