

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
22 June 2006 (22.06.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2006/065275 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:

H04L 5/12 (2006.01) *H04L* 12/28 (2006.01)
H04L 27/30 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2005/019080

(22) International Filing Date: 1 June 2005 (01.06.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

11/012,616 15 December 2004 (15.12.2004) US

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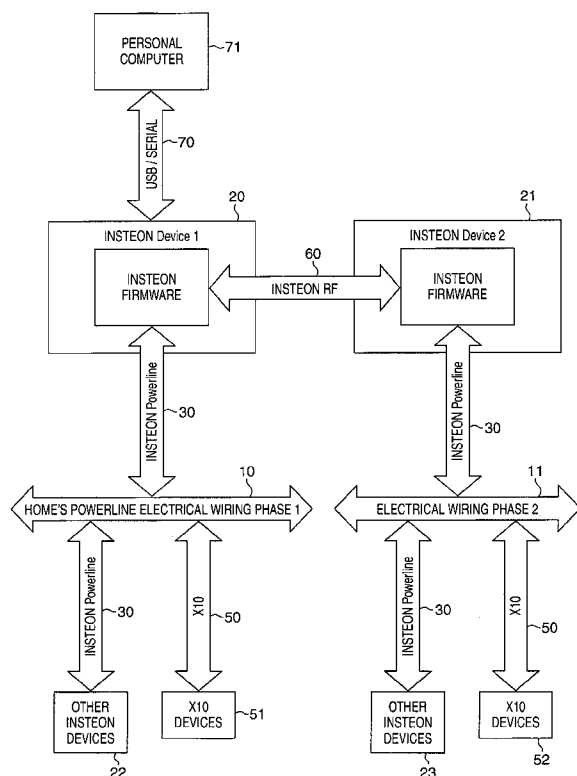
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),

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(54) Title: MESH NETWORK OF INTELLIGENT DEVICES COMMUNICATING VIA POWERLINE AND RADIO FREQUENCY



(57) Abstract: Low-cost intelligent control and communication devices (21, 22, 23, 51, 52) are arranged to communicate with one another over one or more shared physical media (10, 11), such as a powerline or a radio frequency band. No network controller is needed, because any device can act as a master, slave or repeater. Adding more devices makes the system more robust, by virtue of a simple protocol (30, 50, 60) for communication retransmissions and retries.



European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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Published:

— *with international search report*