

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6 : H04N 7/173, H04Q 7/24, H04L 12/28, H04Q 7/38	A2	(11) International Publication Number: WO 95/34168 (43) International Publication Date: 14 December 1995 (14.12.95)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/IB95/00434 (22) International Filing Date: 6 June 1995 (06.06.95) (30) Priority Data: 94201652.8 9 June 1994 (09.06.94) <i>English</i> EP (34) Countries for which the regional or international application was filed: NL et al. (71) Applicant: PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V. [NL/NL]; Groenewoudseweg 1, NL-5621 BA Eindhoven (NL). (71) Applicant (for SE only): PHILIPS NORDEN AB [SE/SE]; Kotbygatan 5, Kista, S-164 85 Stockholm (SE). (72) Inventor: DE BOT, Paulus, George, Maria; Groenewoudseweg 1, NL-5621 BA Eindhoven (NL). (74) Agent: DEGUELLE, Wilhelmus, Hendrikus, Gerardus; Internationaal Octrooibureau B.V., P.O. Box 220, NL-5600 AE Eindhoven (NL).		(81) Designated States: JP, KR, SG , European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published <i>Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.</i> <i>RTMHS copy</i> <i>"AB" inside</i>
(54) Title: A TWO-WAY MULTIPLE ACCESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM, AND A CENTRAL STATION AND A USER STATION FOR USE IN SUCH A SYSTEM		
(57) Abstract Known is a CATV system (1) operating as a two-way multiple access communication system in which a plurality of user stations (US1 to US5) communicate with a central station (CS) which can provide video programs. The known system (1) can be an interactive TV system in which the user stations (US1 to US5) can order a specific program, or can respond to multiple choice questions in a program, or the like. For exchanging session accompanying information between the central station (CS) and the user stations (US1 to US5) a common control channel is provided. For true interactivity in high capacity and high user density systems, such a solution to a multiple access problem no longer satisfies. A two-way multiple access communication system (1) of the above kind is provided in which session accompanying control information is exchanged between the central station (CS) and the user stations (US1 to US5) via dedicated control channels (DSCS, USCS). Such a system (1) satisfies the needs of all kinds of multimedia systems, interactivity being an important feature in such systems. 		