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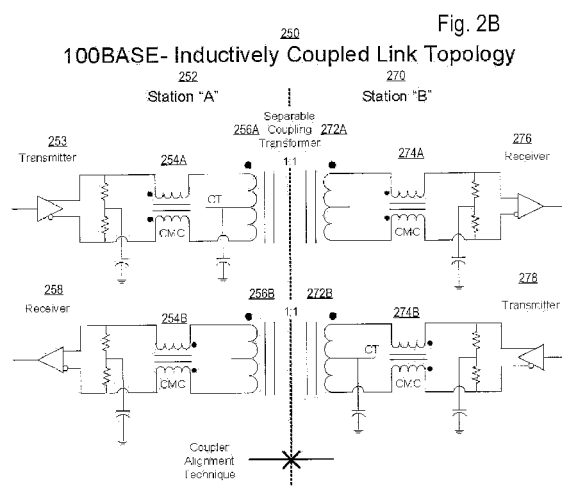
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(54) Title: STACKABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM



(57) **Abstract:** A method and apparatus describes a stackable communications system. A system is modularized and stacked in various configurations. The interconnections between the modules may be by close proximity inductively coupled wireless Ethernet connections or a physical connection mechanism. Each module detects the power requirement of modules installed next to it. When a new module is installed, the module below determines the power requirements of the new module and whether adequate power is available. If adequate power is available, the new module is powered. An audio system that comprises an audio server and individual speaker clients may also be connected. Individual speaker clients may be the same physical configuration. When the audio server detects each speaker client, the audio server configures each speaker to a particular purpose. This allows the same type of speakers to be used for different features. Other audio devices may also be connected to the audio server.