



METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REMOTE INTERACTION WITH A TELEVISION SYSTEM

Abstract

A portable program selection device (PSD) (42) stores data downloadable to the device regarding program scheduling. The device includes a database (58) and application program (68) as well as an end-user interface for querying the database (58). The database (58) contains parameters associated with television programs such as description, time, duration, genre, channel number and unique program code associated with each program, and is key word searchable. Upon the user selecting a program either by key word searching or viewing a program channel/time grid and activating a program, the selected program is stored in the program code transferred by IR link (52) to the remote VCR (54) and/or television (56). The VCR (54) is then automatically programmed to record the selected program at its appropriate time or the television channel automatically changed when the program selection relates to a real time program, both in response to the received program code.

Fig 2