

PCT

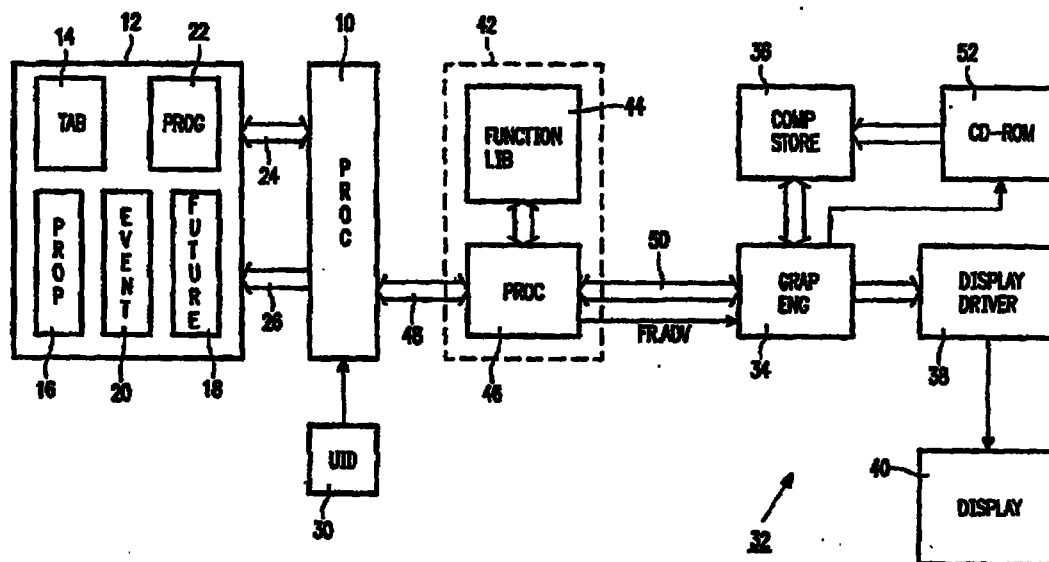
WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6 : G06T 15/70, G09G 1/16		A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 97/07483
			(43) International Publication Date: 27 February 1997 (27.02.97)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/IB96/00808		(51) Designated States: AU, CA, CN, JP, SG, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).	
(22) International Filing Date: 16 August 1996 (16.08.96)			
(30) Priority Data: 9517115.3 21 August 1995 (21.08.95) GB		Published With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.	
(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]; Kottbygatan 7, Kista, S-164 85 Stockholm (SE).			
(72) Inventors: ALLEN, Richard, John; 44 Earlswood Road, Redhill, Surrey (GB). GALLERY, Richard, David; 18 Farguharson Road, Croydon, Surrey CR0 2UH (GB).			
(74) Agent: WHITE, Andrew, G.; Internationaal Octrooibureau B.V., P.O. Box 220, NL-5600 AE Eindhoven (NL).			

(54) Title: ANIMATION CONTROL APPARATUS



(57) Abstract

A method and apparatus are described for controlling a computer-generated animation suite (32), where the suite generates sequences of image frames from stored libraries of image components and component motion parameters. An interface (42) includes a store (44) of function specifications each of which, when called and applied to the animation suite, initiates one or a predetermined sequence of image component movements. A rule-based processor (10) comprises means for modelling an asynchronous logic circuit as a plurality of circuit elements, the functions of which are governed by a stored set (14, 22) of rules each defining a response to a given condition with the processor generating a response when the associated condition is satisfied. Predetermined conjunctions of image frame features are specified as the condition portion of some of the rules, and the calling of each of the interface function specifications is the response portion of a respective rule. A method and apparatus for the control of a motion simulation suite are also described.