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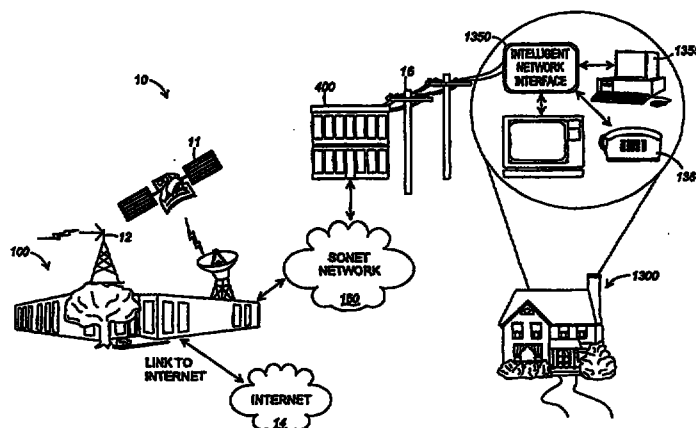
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(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MAINTAINING TIMING SYNCHRONIZATION IN A DIGITAL VIDEO NETWORK



(57) Abstract

A novel system and method for maintaining timing synchronization in a digital video network, in conjunction with a digital video and data delivery system, makes possible the delivery of digital video content, bi-directional data services, such as Internet data (14), and plain old telephone service (POTS) to an end user over a communications channel. The channel is typically the copper wire pair that extends between a telephone company central office (100) and a residential premises (1300), but may be any communication medium that supports the communication of compressed digital video, bi-directional data, such as Internet data, and POTS, and indeed, may be a wireless connection. The digital video and data delivery system capitalizes on a bus, or broadcast backplane, created by circuitry contained within the central office. The broadcast backplane enables a plurality of video program data to be available to each end user, and allows a plurality of end users access to a plurality of video programming content without the necessity of delivering the entire program content to each user. The digital video and data delivery system employs novel architecture to synchronize the timing of the digital video signal to ensure that the digital video program received is of high quality and that it also complies with the MPEG-2 standard.