Abstract

For the compatible introduction of a 16:9 letterbox format in existing 4:3 television standards, the picture information of the 16:9 recording is displayed with black strips at the top and bottom edges of the picture. For full-format display on a 16:9 receiver, additional information items are transmitted in the black strips of the compatible 4:3 transmission, which additional information items permit an improved picture quality. In order that a 16:9 receiver can decode the television signals in the correct manner, a corresponding signal type identifier is required.

In order to avoid changing or impairing the previous occupancy of the vertical blanking interval, a signal type additional information item is transmitted in that half of the first or last active picture line of the television signal which is free from picture signals.

Figure 4

This Sheet Has Been Replaced

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