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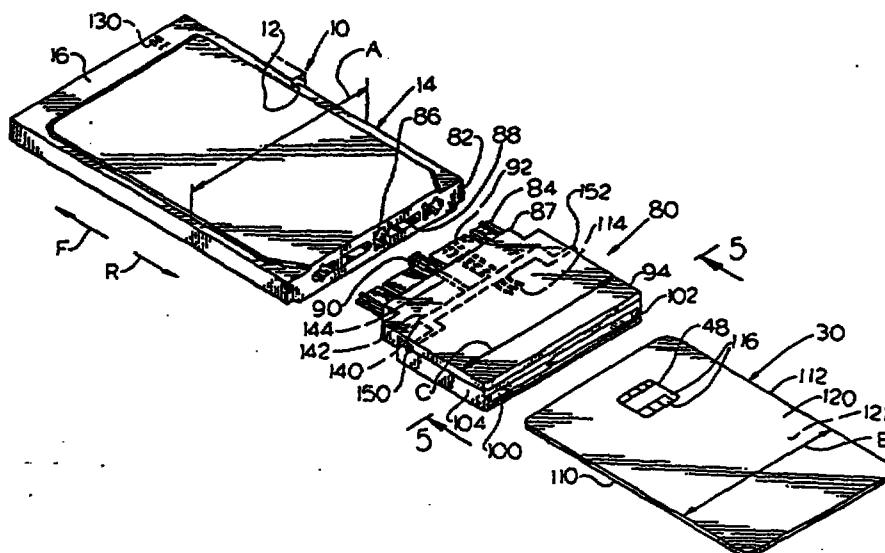
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(54) Title: SMART CARD COMPUTER ADAPTOR



(57) Abstract

Apparatus is described for coupling the contact pads (116) of a smart card (30) to a computer device (10) that has a slot (12) for receiving an IC card, which provides a small but reliable card receiver to be stored outside the computer device. The apparatus includes an adaptor (80) with a front end forming a plug (84) that is mateable to the receptacle (82) at the rear of a standard IC card (14) of the type that has a rear I/O (input/output) connector. The adaptor has a card receiver (94) with a slot (100) that receives a smart card and has terminals (114) that engage contact pads of the smart card, with the terminals connected to contacts (92) of the adaptor plug. The card receiver is wider than the IC card for reliably receiving the card. The IC card can be stored in the IC card slot of the computer device, while only a relatively small adaptor is stored outside the IC card slot.