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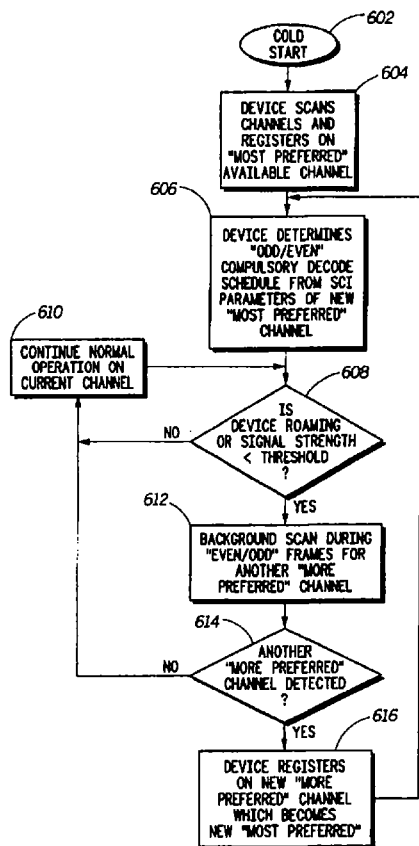
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS TO ENABLE BACKGROUND SCANNING

(57) Abstract: A method is provided for background scanning in a selective call communication system (102) having a plurality of channels (110, 112, 114), wherein a selective call device (104) has designated thereto one of an odd and even frame compulsory decoding schedule. The selective call device (104) decodes system configuration information (SCI) on odd SCI frames during the odd compulsory decoding schedule, scans for even SCI frames of target channels while maintaining the odd compulsory decoding schedule, and releases or maintains the odd compulsory decoding schedule based on the system configuration information found on the target channels.



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