

INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD,
AND DISTRIBUTING MEDIUM

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An information processing apparatus having unique information connected to a network together with a plurality of other information processing apparatuses each connected to the network and each having unique information is provided. The apparatus includes a receiving means for receiving the unique information for identifying all of the information processing apparatuses on the network, and a network structure obtaining means for obtaining a network structure of the network based upon the unique information of all of the information processing apparatuses. The apparatus further comprises a counting means for counting a number of connections between all of the information processing apparatuses on the network based upon the network structure, and a controlling means for controlling communication timing of the information apparatuses on the network based upon the number of the connections. The network may be a bus interface, and the information processing apparatus may be an Audio/Visual apparatus. The apparatus further comprises a topology map obtaining means for obtaining a topology map of the network based upon the unique information of each of the information processing apparatuses. The apparatus further comprises a topology map storing means for storing the topology map obtained by the topology map obtaining means, a storing means for storing appropriate timings corresponding to number of the connections, and the controlling means controls the communication timing with a use of the appropriate timings in the storing means.

Figure 1