

**COMMUNICATION CONTROL METHOD, COMMUNICATION CONTROL PROGRAM
AND MASTER COMMUNICATION SYSTEM**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A communication control method of a master-slave communication system which is configured in such a manner that

5 a plurality of slave communication devices are connected to a master communication system through a communication network, in which the master communication system repeatedly executes: communication device assignment processing that the master communication system assigns one slave communication device

10 among the plurality of the slave communication devices; query transmission processing that transmits a query to the assigned slave communication device; and response reception processing that receives a response from the slave communication device to which the query is transmitted, as a series of a

15 communication processing unit. The master communication system comprises: a timeout error monitoring timer that detects whether or not the response to the transmitted query is received; and a timeout error counter that counts a number of detections of successive timeout errors for each of the slave

20 communication devices. In the response reception processing, when the response is received from the slave communication device assigned in the communication device assignment processing, the master communication system executes a step of resetting a count value of the timeout error counter

25 corresponding to the slave communication device to zero, and when a timeout error is detected based on a notification from

the timeout error monitoring timer, the master communication system executes steps of: increasing the count value of the timeout error counter corresponding to the slave communication device by one; terminating the communication processing unit
5 immediately; determining whether or not a count value of the error counter reached a predetermined count value, while terminating the communication processing unit; and outputting error information indicating that the slave communication device is in failure if the count value of the error counter
10 reached the predetermined count vale.

Fig. 1