

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A program executing apparatus, comprising:

a nonvolatile memory operable to store a program for activating equipment and first and second variables used in the program, and to sustain the stored program and the variables even though power is not supplied, the program and the variables being able to be read out and written into the nonvolatile memory, wherein the nonvolatile memory is a random-access memory, and wherein the first variable does not vary even though the program is executed and the second variable varies according to the execution of the program;

a read only memory operable to store the program and the first and second variables at an initial status where the program and the variables are not stored in the nonvolatile memory;

an executing unit operable:

to transmit the program and the variables to the nonvolatile memory when the activation of the equipment is instructed at an the initial status ~~where the program and the variables are not stored in the nonvolatile memory,~~ and to subsequently execute the program using the variables stored in the nonvolatile memory; and

when the activation of the equipment is re-instructed to execute the program which is stored in the nonvolatile memory using the first variable which was transmitted to and stored in the nonvolatile memory at the time when the activation of the equipment was instructed at an the initial status and using a copy of the second variable ~~which was transmitted to and stored in the nonvolatile memory when the activation of the equipment was instructed at the initial status and~~ which was not used when the program was executed before the activation of the equipment was re-instructed, wherein

both of the second variable and the copy of the second variable which are transmitted to and stored in the nonvolatile memory when the activation of equipment is instructed at the initial status.

2. The program executing apparatus of claim 1, wherein

the read only memory stores the program and the variables in a compressed format, and

the executing unit decompresses the compressed program and the variables that are stored in the read only memory.

3. The program executing apparatus according to any one of claims 1 and 2, wherein the nonvolatile memory is one of an MRAM, a FeRAM, a PRAM, and a ReRAM.

4. The program executing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first variable includes a read-only data and the second variable includes a block started by symbol.

5. An image forming apparatus, comprising:
 an image processing unit that performs at least one of processes including an image forming process to form an image on a recording material, an image reading process to read an image formed on a recording material, and an image transmitting and receiving process to transmit and receive the image; and
 a program executing apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 4,
 wherein the nonvolatile memory stores a program for activating at least one of the processes.

6. A program causing a computer to execute a process for executing a program executing method, comprising:

storing a program for activating equipment and first and second variables used in the program in a nonvolatile memory in which the program and the variables can be read out and written into, and which sustains the stored program and the variables even though power is not supplied, wherein the nonvolatile memory is a random-access memory, and wherein the first variable does not vary even though the program is executed and the second variable varies according to the execution of the program;

storing the program and the variables in a read only memory operable to store the program and the first and second variables at an initial status where the program and the variables are not stored in the nonvolatile memory;

transmitting the program and the variables to the nonvolatile memory when the activation of the equipment is instructed at an ~~the~~ initial status ~~where the program and the variables are not stored in the nonvolatile memory,~~ and subsequently

executing the program stored in the nonvolatile memory using the variables stored in the nonvolatile memory; and

when the activation of the equipment is re-instructed, executing the program stored in the nonvolatile memory using the first variable which was transmitted to and stored in the nonvolatile memory at the time when the activation of the equipment was instructed at an ~~the~~

initial status and using a copy of the second variable ~~which was transmitted to and stored in the nonvolatile memory when the activation of the equipment was instructed at the initial status and~~ which was not used when the program was executed before the activation of the equipment was re-instructed, wherein

both of the second variable and the copy of the second variable which are transmitted to and stored in the nonvolatile memory when the activation of equipment is instructed at the initial status.