Abstract

A video display control system, comprising a video display having a wide format display ratio and a letterbox processor (100) for determining when a picture represented by an input video signal (Y_IN) has a letterbox format, the letterbox format picture sometimes having auxiliary information disposed in a border area, characterized by a pixel counter (108) for generating a running pixel count (H_COUNT); first (102) and second (104) comparators, responsive to first and second predetermined pixel counts ("68", "218") respectively, and both responsive to the running pixel count (H_COUNT); and, a flip/flop (106) responsive to each of the comparators (102, 104), for initiating a letterbox detection enable signal (LTRBX_EN) when the running pixel count (H_COUNT) reaches the first predetermined pixel count ("68") and terminating the enable signal when the running pixel count (H_COUNT) reaches the second predetermined pixel count ("218"), the letterbox detection enable signal controlling operation of the letterbox processor (100) to ignore a certain type of the auxiliary information when present.