

State of the art

The invention relates to a bar code reader for use with radio sets, television sets and video recorders.

Such readers are used for scanning a bar code, which is printed e.g. in programme guides and contains the nature and the transmission times of the various transmitting stations, in order to store this information in the above-mentioned units for the purpose of programming them. The date of the bar code reader are transmitted to the units by means of lines.

The above-mentioned reception or reproduction units usually also possess a remote-control device, by means of which the various functions of the units can be activated. The combination of the wand of a bar code reader with a remote-control transmitter and the wireless transmission of the scanned data to the receiver are known from DE-A-2 757 264. Although this method offers the user of such units an increasingly wide choice of operations, there is once again the risk of confusion.

Object

The object of the invention is therefore to simplify the operations involved, which is achieved by the measures characterised in the claims.

Description

The gist of the invention will be described below with the assistance of the drawing.

The figure represents a remote-control casing 1 containing the electronic circuitry for the individual remote-control commands which can be switched on and off by means of pushbuttons 2. The remote-control signals FB are transmitted by means of infra-red diodes 3. For the scanning of bar codes (5), the optics (4) for the bar code reader are disposed on the underside of the casing 1. The data read out are stored temporarily if necessary and passed as data signals DS to the receiver concerned via the infra-red diodes 3 of the remote control device, e.g. by actuation of a pushbutton 6. A pushbutton 7 is with advantage disposed on a surface of the transmitter 1, and is actuated only during the scanning, so that it automatically remains switched off in the quiescent state.

Claims

1. Bar code readers for the programming of radio sets, television sets and video recorders, which are capable of remote control with a wireless remote control by means of infra-red or ultrasonic signals, in combination with a pushbutton-operated remote-control transmitter, characterised in that the optics (4) of the reader are disposed on a lateral surface of the remote-control transmitter (1) and the electronic circuitry for the reader is disposed inside the remote-control transmitter.
2. Bar code reader according to claim 1, characterised in that the optics (4) are disposed on the same side as the push-buttons (2) of the transmitter (1).
3. Bar code reader according to claim 1, characterised in that the optics are disposed on the opposite side of the transmitter to the remote-control pushbuttons.

