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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/04204 (22) International Filing Date: 25 February 1999 (25.02.99) (30) Priority Data: 09/048,143 25 March 1998 (25.03.98) US (71) Applicant: XIRCOM, INC. [US/US]; 2300 Corporate Center Drive, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320-1420 (US). (72) Inventor: LAITY, Ian, A.; 375 Horneblend Court, Simi Valley, CA 93065 (US). (74) Agent: MOK, Louis, A.; Loeb & Loeb LLP, Suite 2200, 10100 Santa Monica Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90067 (US).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>

(54) Title: TYPE III PCMCIA CARD WITH INTEGRATED RECEPTACLES FOR RECEIVING STANDARD COMMUNICATIONS PLUGS

(57) Abstract

A Type III PCMCIA communications card (10) for insertion in a slot in a host computer comprises a housing (50) including a top wall (56) and longitudinal, parallel side walls (52, 54) depending from the top wall (56) the longitudinal side walls and top wall defining an internal cavity enclosed by a bottom cover panel (60). The housing (50) further has a forward end, a rear margin (62) and a rear end surface, the rear margin of the housing defining at least one substantially longitudinally oriented receptacle (82, 84, 86) extending forwardly from the rear end surface and sized and configured to receive a standard RJ-type modular plug. A substrate (160) mounted within the cavity of the housing, supports electronic components for carrying out the communications function. The substrate (160) has a rear margin (174) carrying a contact block (180) including a plurality of contact wires (230), each contact wire having a first portion (132, 134, 136) connected to components on the substrate (160) and a second portion (238) extending into the at least one receptacle (82, 84, 86), the second portion of the contact wire being shaped and positioned for engagement with a corresponding contact on the connector plug. A connector (34) provided at the forward end of the housing is adapted to be received by a corresponding connector within the slot of the host computer. The card has an overall height not exceeding approximately 10.5 mm, the communications card being directly connectable to a digital information system such as a LAN or a telephone line system utilizing standard RJ-type connectors.

