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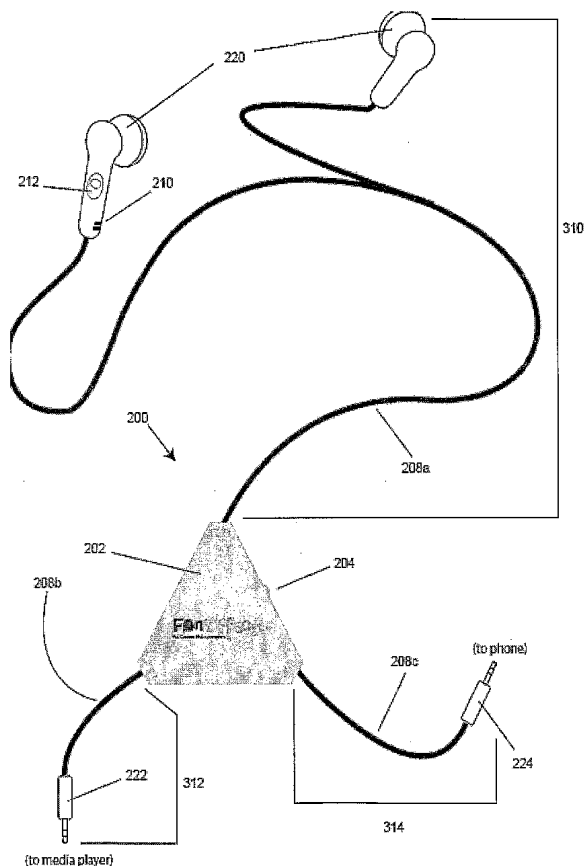
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(54) Title: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR ENABLING USERS TO INJECT SOUND EFFECTS INTO TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS



(57) Abstract: Methods and systems enable a user to inject sound clips from an audio device (270) into a telephone conversation. The invention includes an adapter (202) that connects to an audio player (270), a user listening device (220), and a communication device such as a telephone (280). In different embodiments, these connections may be wired, wireless or a combination of both. The audio player (270) is selectable and of the type wherein stored audio clips can be changed, for example an MP3 player, CD or DVD player, video player, computer or the like. In operation, the user selects an audio clip from the audio device (270) for substantially immediate and simultaneous playback through the user listening device (220) and the telephone (280). In this manner, both the user and any other party to the telephone conversation can hear the audio clip substantially simultaneously.

WO 2007/024566 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 06/31841

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8): H04M 1/00 (2007.01)

USPC: 379/441

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC(8): H04M 1/00 (2007.01)

USPC: 379/441

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

USPC: 379/423, 908 (view text search terms below)

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

pubWEST(PGPB,USPT,EPAB,JPAB; PLUR=YES; DialogPRO(Engineering); Google Scholar; Text
search terms: inject sound clips, audio device, telephone conversation, adapter, audio player, listening device, mixing, communication device, wired wireless, audio clips changed, MP3 player CD DVD video computer, user selects audio clip

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2004/0233930 A1 (COLBY) 25 November 2004 (25.11.2004), entire document, especially Abstract, FIGS. 9 and 18, and para [0043], [0047], [0103] and [0136]	1-5, 7-16 and 18-22
Y		6 and 17
Y	US 2003/0117728 A1 (HUTZEL, et al.) 26 June 2003 (26.06.2003), entire document, especially Abstract, FIGS. 7-8, and para [0026], [0027], [0036]-[0037]	6 and 17
A	BILLINGHURST, Mark et al. An overview of the international symposium on wearable computers 1998. In ACM SIGCHI Bulletin archive, Volume 32, Issue 1 (January 2000), [retrieved on 2007-07-08]. Retrieved from the Internet: <URL: http://www.sigchi.org/bulletin/2000.1/billinghurst.pdf >	1-22

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

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