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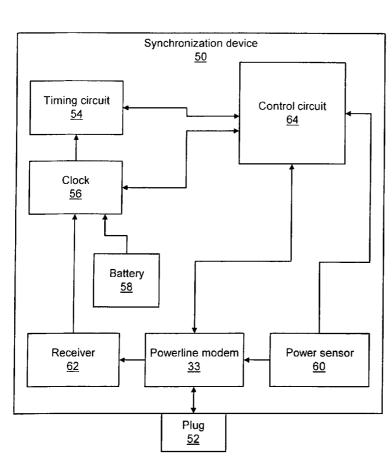
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(54) Title: CLOCK SYNCHRONIZATION OVER A POWERLINE MODEM NETWORK FOR MULTIPLE DEVICES



(57) Abstract: An apparatus and method of clock synchronization of a powerline modem network for a plurality of devices are provided. A plurality of devices are provided having a powerline modem and a clock (100). The powerline modem communication between permits of devices over a powerline plurality network. A synchronization message is provided over the powerline network (102).The synchronization message includes an instruction for reach of the plurality of devices to update their clock in accordance with a clock time provided in the synchronization message (104). A synchronization device may be provided to update device clocks on a powerline network.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H04B3/54 H04B H04J3/06 G06F1/14 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) H04B G06F HO4J IPC 7 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, INSPEC, COMPENDEX, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages 1 - 11US 3 811 265 A (CATER J) Χ 21 May 1974 (1974-05-21) abstract column 1, line 36 -column 2, line 15 column 2, line 65 -column 4, line 17 claim 9 1 - 11EP 0 946 003 A (ALSTOM UK LTD) X 29 September 1999 (1999-09-29) abstract page 2, line 3 - line 21 1 - 11US 4 174 517 A (MANDEL JEROME) Α 13 November 1979 (1979-11-13) abstract column 1, line 42 - line 50 column 4, line 39 -column 8, line 42 Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. ° Special categories of cited documents: "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 "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "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 filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "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 docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 18/03/2003 10 March 2003 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016 Chauvet, C

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