

Title (en)
DUAL-MODE PROCESSOR

Title (de)
DUAL-MODUS-PROZESSOR

Title (fr)
PROCESSEUR BIMODAL

Publication
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Application
EP 00986569 A 20001219

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Abstract (en)
[origin: WO0146800A2] A multiple-mode processing circuit, such as a dual-mode processor (5), operates in at least first and second modes according to a switch (10). When a mode is active, data transfer between the processor and a respective memory occurs. Thus, instructions from the memory can be executed at the processor, and the results can be stored in the respective memory. For example, first and second memories (14, 54) may be provided for the first and second modes (10, 50), respectively. The memories are separate, and no data transfer can occur between the memories directly or via the processor. The first mode (10) may be a secure mode for secure processing operations, such as providing conditional access for television programming services at a set-top subscriber terminal. The second mode (50) may be a non-secure mode, such as for providing any other application at the terminal, e.g., program guide, shop at home service, etc. In one embodiment, a data bus is provided for time-multiplexed transfer of data between the processor and the respective memories. In another embodiment, switching of individual internal registers and external elements such as address and data latches, is provided.

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