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(54)

Display system.

(57)

A display system is described, comprising a display device (88) for generating a visual output in response to a plurality of data signals defining the data to be displayed, a display adapter circuit (92) for generating the data signals in a form specified by control data identifying the display device (88), an output port (94) for connecting the data signals from the display adapter circuit to the display device (88) and for connecting the control data from the display device (88) to the display adapter circuit (92), characterised in that the display system further comprises a non-volatile memory (9) located in the display device (88) for storing the control data in the form of a plurality of control codes, and communication logic (95) for communicating a control code between the memory and the output port (94) in response to a command signal (21) generated by the display adapter circuit (92). The communication logic comprises a serial data link (3) for communicating the control code between the display device and the output port, device logic (97) located in the

display device for communicating the control code between the memory and the serial data link, and adapter logic (96) located in the display adapter circuit for communicating the control code between the serial data link and the display adapter circuit. The control data, such as the signal timing requirements of any new display device, can be stored in the form of digital control codes held within the memory of the display device, the display system programming does not require updating every time a different display device is connected to the output port. Instead, the display adaptor can read the new timing requirements from the memory of the new display device for the purpose of generating video and sync signals for correctly driving the new display device. Furthermore, where the display system comprises a multiple mode display device, the display adapter circuit can use the serial link to configure the display device to operate in a desired display mode.

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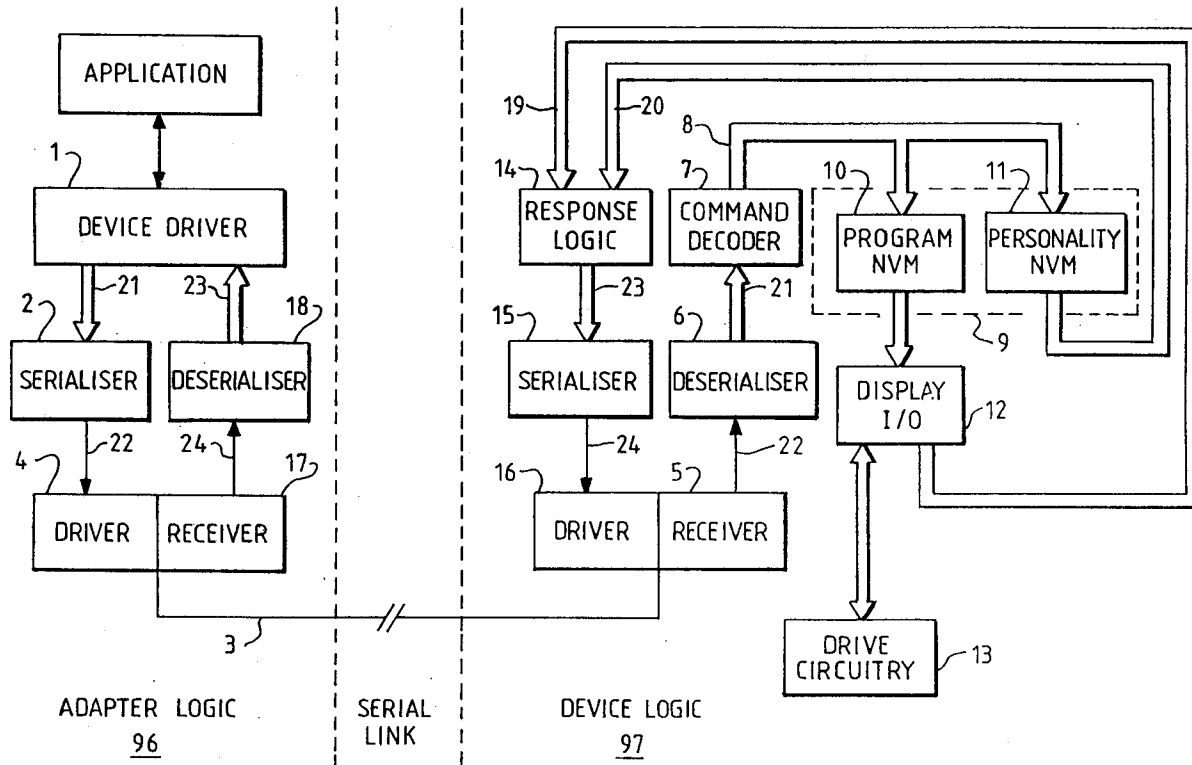


FIG. 2



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.5)
A,D	EP-A-0 170 816 (INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION) * abstract; figures 1,2 * * page 5, column 6 - page 5, column 16 * ---	1	G09G1/16 G06F3/14
A	NTIS TECH NOTES, April 1988, SPRINGFIELD, VA US page 246 'Interface for Color-Video Monitor' * whole article * -----	1,2	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.5)
			G09G
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 5 September 1994	Examiner Van Roost, L
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			