



(19)

Europäisches Patentamt

European Patent Office

Office européen des brevets



(11)

EP 0 852 367 A3

(12)

## EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3:  
12.01.2000 Bulletin 2000/02

(51) Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup>: G08B 13/14

(43) Date of publication A2:  
08.07.1998 Bulletin 1998/28

(21) Application number: 97122169.2

(22) Date of filing: 16.12.1997

(84) Designated Contracting States:  
AT BE CH DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC  
NL PT SE

Designated Extension States:  
AL LT LV MK RO SI

(30) Priority: 04.01.1997 GB 9700094

(71) Applicant:  
SIEMENS MEASUREMENTS LIMITED  
Oldham, Lancashire OL9 7JS (GB)

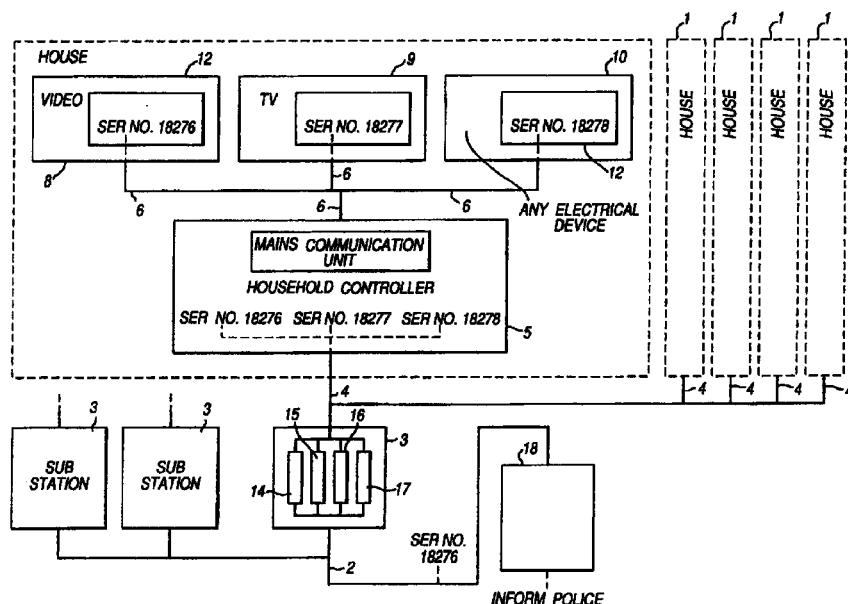
(72) Inventor: Hamer, Mark Joseph  
Littleborough, Rochdale OL15 0EE (GB)

(74) Representative: Allen, Derek  
Siemens Group Services Limited,  
Intellectual Property Department,  
Siemens House,  
Oldbury  
Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 8FZ (GB)

### (54) Security system

(57) A security system for locating items of electrical equipment, which is comprised of security identification units and a controller unit, the security identification units being located within the items of electrical equipment. To provide power to the items of electrical equipment they must be connected to a power distribution network, which may be a national electrical grid or

'mains' supply. In use the security identification units are arranged to communicate identification data with the controller unit via the electrical power distribution network, thereby providing an indication of a presence or an absence of at least one of the items of electrical equipment.



EP 0 852 367 A3



European Patent  
Office

## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 97 12 2169

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.6)
X	WO 93 14550 A (EASY SHOPPING AB) 22 July 1993 (1993-07-22) * page 1, line 1 - line 12 * * page 8, line 2 - line 5 * ---	1,2,15, 18	G08B13/14 H04L12/28 G05B19/042 G08B25/06
X	GB 2 229 025 A (ELOCKTRONICS LIMITED) 12 September 1990 (1990-09-12)	1,2,15	
A	* page 3, line 25 - page 4, line 20 *	3-14, 16-18	
Y	EP 0 675 626 A (BRITISH TELECOMM) 4 October 1995 (1995-10-04)	1-4,6,7, 11-13, 15,18	
	* column 3, line 43 - line 50 * * column 4, line 9 - line 18 *		
Y	WO 96 36952 A (SPECTRAL INVESTMENTS LIMITED ; JOHNSON KEVIN MURRAY (NZ)) 21 November 1996 (1996-11-21)	1-4,6,7, 11-13, 15,18	
A	* page 4, line 4 - line 8 * * page 7, line 1 - page 8, line 10 * * page 9, line 11 - line 15 *	5	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
A	US 5 554 968 A (LEE RAYMOND) 10 September 1996 (1996-09-10) * column 3, line 67 - column 4, line 2 * * figure 1 *	1,2,7, 11-13,15	G08B H04L G05B H04B
A	EP 0 621 676 A (EURO CP SARL) 26 October 1994 (1994-10-26) * column 4, line 51 - line 55 * * column 8, line 12 - line 49 *	1-13, 15-18	
	-----		
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
THE HAGUE	24 November 1999	De la Cruz Valera, D	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		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	
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			

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 97 12 2169

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on. The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

24-11-1999

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
WO 9314550	A	22-07-1993		AU 3412193 A SE 9200066 A		03-08-1993 11-07-1993
GB 2229025	A	12-09-1990		NONE		
EP 0675626	A	04-10-1995		US 5729596 A		17-03-1998
WO 9636952	A	21-11-1996		AU 5847196 A		29-11-1996
US 5554968	A	10-09-1996		WO 9810579 A AU 7106896 A EP 0931411 A		12-03-1998 26-03-1998 28-07-1999
EP 0621676	A	26-10-1994		FR 2704319 A		28-10-1994