(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3: **06.12.2000 Bulletin 2000/49**

(51) Int Cl.7: **G06F 19/00**, A63F 9/24

(43) Date of publication A2: 03.11.1999 Bulletin 1999/44

(21) Application number: 99301382.0

(22) Date of filing: 25.02.1999

(84) Designated Contracting States:

AT BE CH CY 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: 27.04.1998 JP 13442098

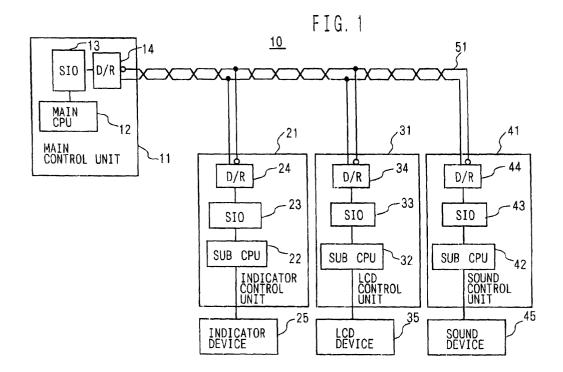
(71) Applicant: Aruze Corporation Tokyo (JP)

- (72) Inventor: Yoshizawa, Masaki Koto-ku Tokyo (JP)
- (74) Representative: Pacitti, Pierpaolo A.M.E. et al Murgitroyd and Company373 Scotland StreetGlasgow G5 8QA (GB)

(54) "Control apparatus for game machine"

(57) A control apparatus for a game machine (10), which comprises at least a main control unit (12) and a plurality of sub-control units (22, 25, 32, 35, 42 and 45), comprises a serial communication line (51) for linking the main control unit (12) and the sub-control units (22,

25, 32, 35, 42 and 45) with each other therethrough. The control apparatus allows the game machine (10) to be easily manufactured, tested and maintained at a low cost and improved in its reliability even when the game machine (10) is required to perform a highly enhanced function and have a complicated configuration.





EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 99 30 1382

Category	Citation of document with indicate of relevant passages	on, where appropriate,	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)	
X	EP 0 685 246 A (SONY CO 6 December 1995 (1995- * abstract * * column 4, line 8 - co figures 1-9 *	12-06)	1-3	G06F19/00 A63F9/24	
A	US 5 739 811 A (ROSENBI 14 April 1998 (1998-04 * column 2, line 34 - 6 figure 1 *	-14)	1-3		
A	GB 2 267 801 A (MCATEE AUGUSTI) 15 December 19 * abstract *		1-3		
A	US 5 421 590 A (ROBBINS 6 June 1995 (1995-06-06 * column 1, line 64 - 6 figures 1-3 *	5)	1-3		
				TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)	
				G06F	
				A63F	
	The present search report has been	drawn up for all claims			
	Place of search	Date of completion of the search	<u>'</u>	Examiner	
	THE HAGUE	18 October 2000	Sch	enkels, P	
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		T : theory or principl E : earlier patent do after the filing da D : document cited i L : document cited f	cument, but publi te in the application or other reasons		

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

EP 99 30 1382

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.

18-10-2000

Patent document cited in search rep		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0685246	A	06-12-1995	JP	7323158 A	12-12-199
21 0000210	,,	00 12 1330	ĀT	179342 T	15-05-199
			ÂÜ	698045 B	22-10-199
			AU	2042095 A	07-12-199
			AU	713084 B	25-11-199
			AU	9053598 A	14-01-199
			AU	9053698 A	14-01-199
			CA	2150626 A	02-12-199
			CN	1115684 A	31-01-199
					02-06-199
			DE	69509297 D	
			DE	69509297 T	04-11-199
			EP	0810015 A	03-12-199
			ΕP	0810016 A	03-12-199
			US	5791994 A	11-08-199
			US	6074300 A	13-06-200
			US 	6030292 A	29-02-200
US 5739811	Α	14-04-1998	US	5576727 A	19-11-199
			US	5721566 A	24-02-199
			CA	2233136 A	03-04-199
			CA	2233206 A	03-04-199
			DE	69607189 D	20-04-200
			EP	0852770 A	15-07-199
			ΕP	085278 9 A	15-07-199
			EP	0974889 A	26-01-200
			JP	11514469 T	07-12-199
			WO	9712337 A	03-04-199
			WO	9712357 A	03-04-199
			US	5734373 A	31-03-199
			US	5691898 A	25-11-199
			US	5999168 A	07-12-199
			ÜS	5907487 A	25-05-199
			ÜS	5929607 A	27-07-199
			ÜS	6125337 A	26-09-200
			ÜS	5724264 A	03-03-199
			US	5805140 A	08-09-199
			ÜS	5929846 A	27-07-199
			CA	2167304 A,C	26-01-199
			WO	9502801 A	26-01-199
			ÜS	6046727 A	04-04-200
			US	5880714 A	09-03-199
			US	6057828 A	02-05-200
			CA	2223289 A	27-12-199
			EP	0836735 A	22-04-199
			WO	9642078 A	27-12-199
			n U	2076010 K	L/ 12 13

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82

FORM P0459

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

EP 99 30 1382

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.

18-10-2000

Patent document cited in search repo	rt	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
GB 2267801	Α	15-12-1993	NONE	
- 	Α	06-06-1995	NONE	

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82