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United States Patent

Joao

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(54) CONTROL AND/OR MONITORING APPARATUS AND METHOD

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claimer.

Related U.S. Application Data

- (63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 09/551,365, filed on Apr. 17, 2000, now Pat. No. 6,542,076, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/277,935, filed on Mar. 29, 1999, now Pat. No. 6,549,130, which is a continuation of application No. 08/683,828, filed on Jul. 18, 1996, now Pat. No. 5,917,405, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/622,749, filed on Mar. 27, 1996, now abandoned.
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(58) Field of Classification Search

None

See application file for complete search history.

(56) References Cited

To view the complete listing of prior art documents cited during the proceeding for Reexamination Control Number 90/013,303, please refer to the USPTO's public Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system under the Display References tab.

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(57) ABSTRACT

An apparatus including a first device which generates and/or transmits a first signal and which is associated with a web site and located remote from a premises or vehicle. The first signal is transmitted in response to a second signal transmitted from a second device located remote from the first device and remote from the premises or vehicle. The first device determines whether an action or an operation associated with the second signal is authorized or allowed and, if so, transmits the first signal to a third device located at the premises. The second signal is transmitted via the Internet and/or the World Wide Web. The third device generates and/or transmits a third signal for activating, de-activating, disabling, re-enabling, and/or controlling an operation of, a system, device, equipment, equipment system, component, and appliance, of the premises or vehicle.

