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(54) **GUARANTEED DATA COMPRESSION**

(71) Applicant: **Imagination Technologies Limited,**
Kings Langley (GB)

(72) Inventors: **Ilaria Martinelli**, Watford (GB); **Jeff
Bond**, Barry (GB); **Simon Fenney**, St.
Albans (GB); **Peter Malcolm Lacey**,
Buckinghamshire (GB); **Gregory
Clark**, Hemel Hempstead (GB)

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method of converting 10-bit pixel data (e.g. 10:10:10:2
data) into 8-bit pixel data involves converting the 10-bit
values to 7-bits or 8-bits and generating error values for each
of the converted values. Two of the 8-bit output channels
comprise a combination of a converted 7-bit value and one
of the bits from the fourth input channel. A third 8-bit output
channel comprises the converted 8-bit value and the fourth
8-bit output channel comprises the error values. In various
examples, the bits of the error values may be interleaved
when they are packed into the fourth output channel.