

THIS OPINION WAS NOT WRITTEN FOR PUBLICATION

The opinion in support of the decision being entered today (1) was not written for publication in a law journal and (2) is not binding precedent of the Board.

Paper No. 20

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte YASUAKI MAEDA

Appeal No. 1998-1476
Application No. 08/609,234

ON BRIEF

Before KRASS, JERRY SMITH, and LALL, Administrative Patent Judges.
KRASS, Administrative Patent Judge.

DECISION ON APPEAL

This is a decision on appeal from the final rejection of claims 1, 5 and 20. Claim 21, the only other remaining claim, has been

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indicated by the examiner as being directed to allowable subject matter.

The invention is directed to a recording/reproducing apparatus having a system controller, a memory and a memory control. More particularly, the memory control creates, autonomously with respect to the system controller, a sector data storing area and an additive storing area in each sector-based data storing area in the memory. Prescribed data is stored in the additive data storing area in accordance with the sector-based data which is stored in the sector data storing area. This prescribed data in the additive data storing area is at least one of track number, track change information, identification code of stereo/monaural, emphasis information, information of inhibit/permit copyright, error information, segment link information, and running time. The processing load of the system controller is reduced by storing additive data for sector data in the memory (a buffer RAM) and releasing the system controller from the processing load involved in carrying out the address calculation of the additive data.

Independent claim 1 is reproduced as follows:

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We reverse.

While we agree with the examiner that Maeda discloses a system controller, 7, a memory means, 6, and a memory control means, 8, in a similar environment as the claimed subject matter, instant independent claim 1 requires that the memory control means "autonomously with respect to the system controller," creates a sector data storing area...

Thus, in accordance with the instant disclosure, the memory control means creates the recited sector data storing area *independently* of the system controller. As explained throughout the specification, this reduces the processing load of the system controller since the system controller is not required to calculate addresses corresponding to additive data.

While the examiner contends that this is taught by Maeda because "the sub-data address generator 25, by way of RAM interface 19, still performs the claimed recording/reproduction operation of the additive data in the memory means 6 autonomously with respect to the system controller 7" [Answer-page 3], we do not agree in view of Maeda's disclosure. Maeda discloses, at column 7, lines 22-30, for example, that the system controller 7 detects the addresses in the

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voice data recording region and supplies the detected data to sub-data address generator 25. It seems clear that if the system controller 7 of Maeda is detecting addresses and supplying the detected data to sub-data address generator 25 which, in turn, feeds RAM interface 19 [generator 25 and RAM interface 19 being part of the memory controller] for addressing RAM 6, the memory control means is *not* acting independently, or "autonomously with respect to the system controller," in creating a sector data storing area, as claimed.

Accordingly, the examiner's decision rejecting claims 1, 5 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is reversed.

REVERSED

ERROL A. KRASS)	
Administrative Patent Judge)	
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JERRY SMITH)	BOARD OF PATENT
Administrative Patent Judge)	APPEALS AND
)	INTERFERENCES
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PARSHOTAM S. LALL)
Administrative Patent Judge)

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