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Teller et al.

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(54) DEVICE AND METHOD FOR MONITORING THE PRESENCE OF ITEMS AND ISSUING AN ALERT IF AN ITEM IS NOT DETECTED

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 450 days.

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U.S. Cl. USPC 340/539.32; 235/385; 340/539.11; 340/572.1

Field of Classification Search USPC 340/539.32, 572.1, 539.23, 539.11; 235/385; 705/28

See application file for complete search history.

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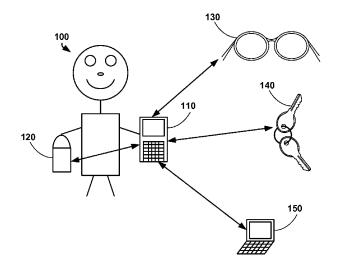
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ABSTRACT

Disclosed herein are methods and systems that involve monitoring presence of items based on context. An exemplary method involves: (i) determining a context for a given user; (ii) determining a proximity framework between a monitoring device and one or more items, based on the determined context, wherein the proximity framework comprises (a) one or more proximity requirements, each proximity requirement indicating a required proximity between the monitoring device and at least one of the items and (b) a notification process corresponding to each proximity requirement; (iii) monitoring proximity of each of the items relative to the monitoring device, based on a presence signal from each of the items, in order to determine when one of the proximity requirements is not met; and (iv) responsive to determining that one of the proximity requirements is not met, initiating the corresponding notification process.

35 Claims, 22 Drawing Sheets





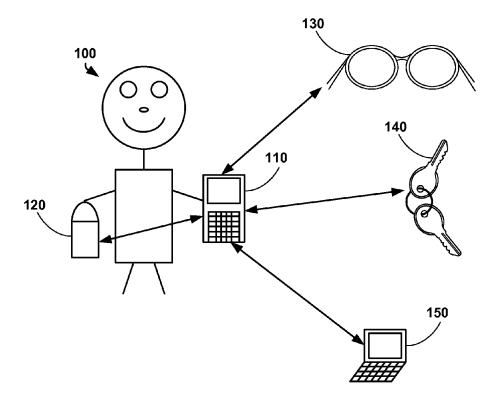
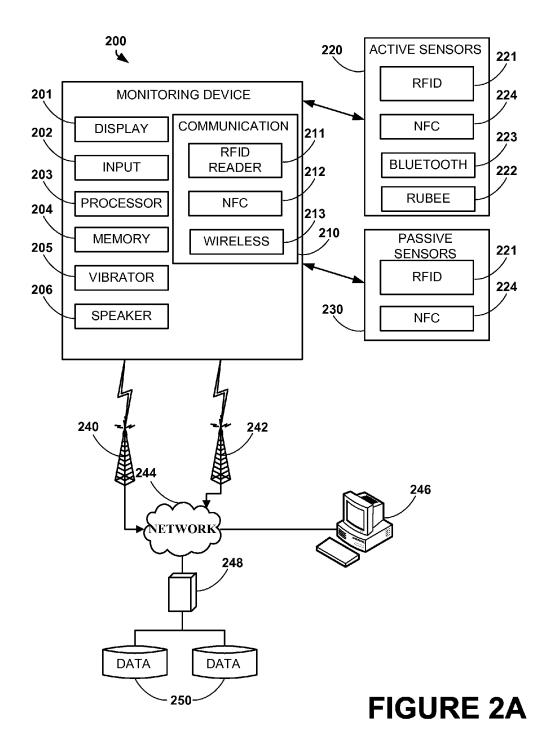


FIGURE 1







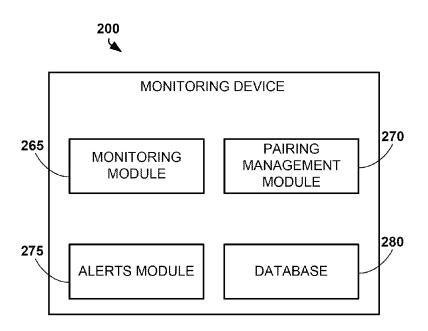


FIGURE 2B



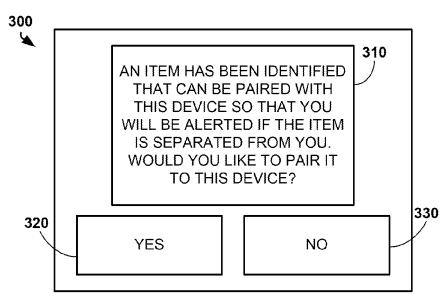


FIGURE 3A

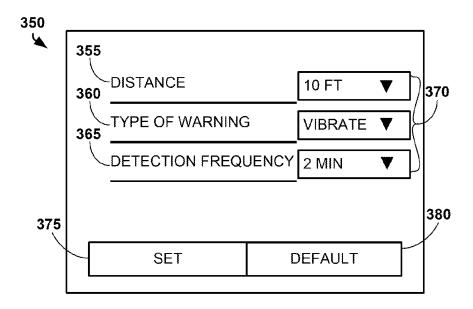


FIGURE 3B



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