



United States Patent [19]

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Schein et al.

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[54] **ELECTRONIC PROGRAM GUIDE WITH INTERACTIVE AREAS**

[75] Inventors: **Steven Michael Schein**, Menlo Park; **Jim Leftwich**, Palo Alto; **David M. Folker**, Fremont; **Keith Hunwick**, Mountain View, all of Calif.

[73] Assignee: **StarSight Telecast, Inc.**, Fremont, Calif.

[*] Notice: This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2).

[21] Appl. No.: **08/906,073**

[22] Filed: **Aug. 5, 1997**

Related U.S. Application Data

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[51] Int. Cl.⁷ **H04N 7/14**

[52] U.S. Cl. **348/13**; 348/906; 348/563; 345/327

[58] Field of Search 348/13, 563, 564, 348/565, 569, 906; 455/2, 6.2, 6.3, 6.1, 5.1, 4.2; 345/327

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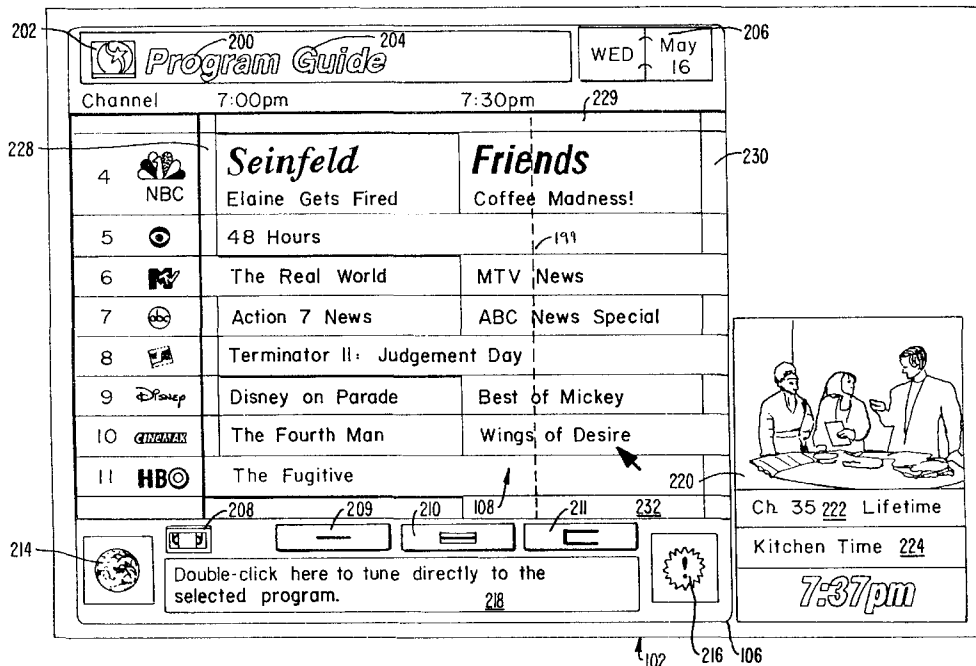
International Preliminary Examination Report dated Oct. 15, 1998 from the corresponding PCT application (PCT/US97/13751).

Primary Examiner—Thomas G. Black
Assistant Examiner—Uyen Le
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Christie, Parker & Hale, LLP

[57] ABSTRACT

A television schedule system and method for displaying television schedule information on a television screen includes a program guide having a schedule information area that depicts the programs that are being presented on each channel at each time during the day. An input device allows the viewer to move a pointer over different interactive areas of the guide and the function performed when the area is activated is displayed in a contextual help window. Various control glyphs provide for recursive interaction with the guide. Additionally, a video window is interactive and provides tuning functions.

24 Claims, 36 Drawing Sheets



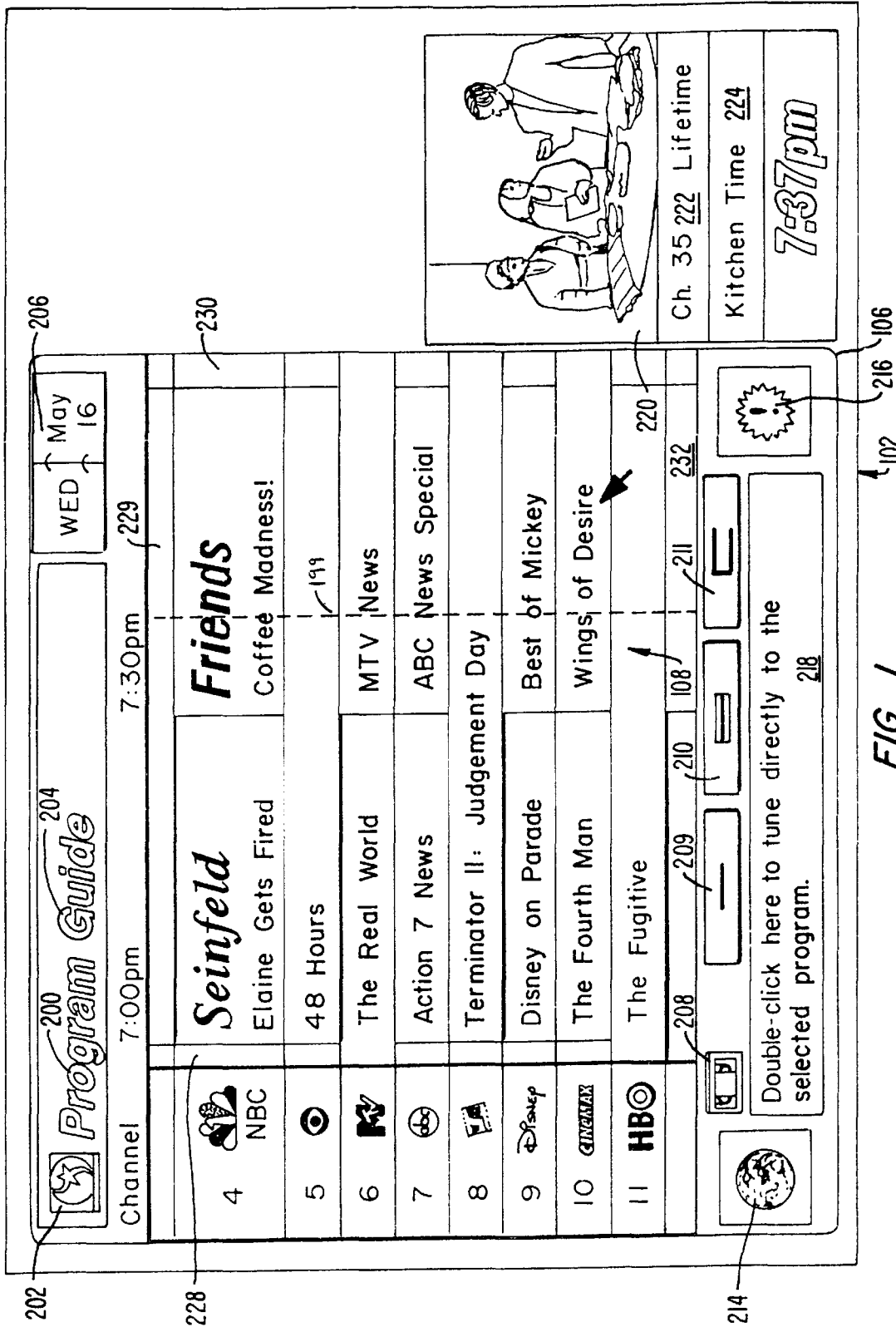


FIG. 1.

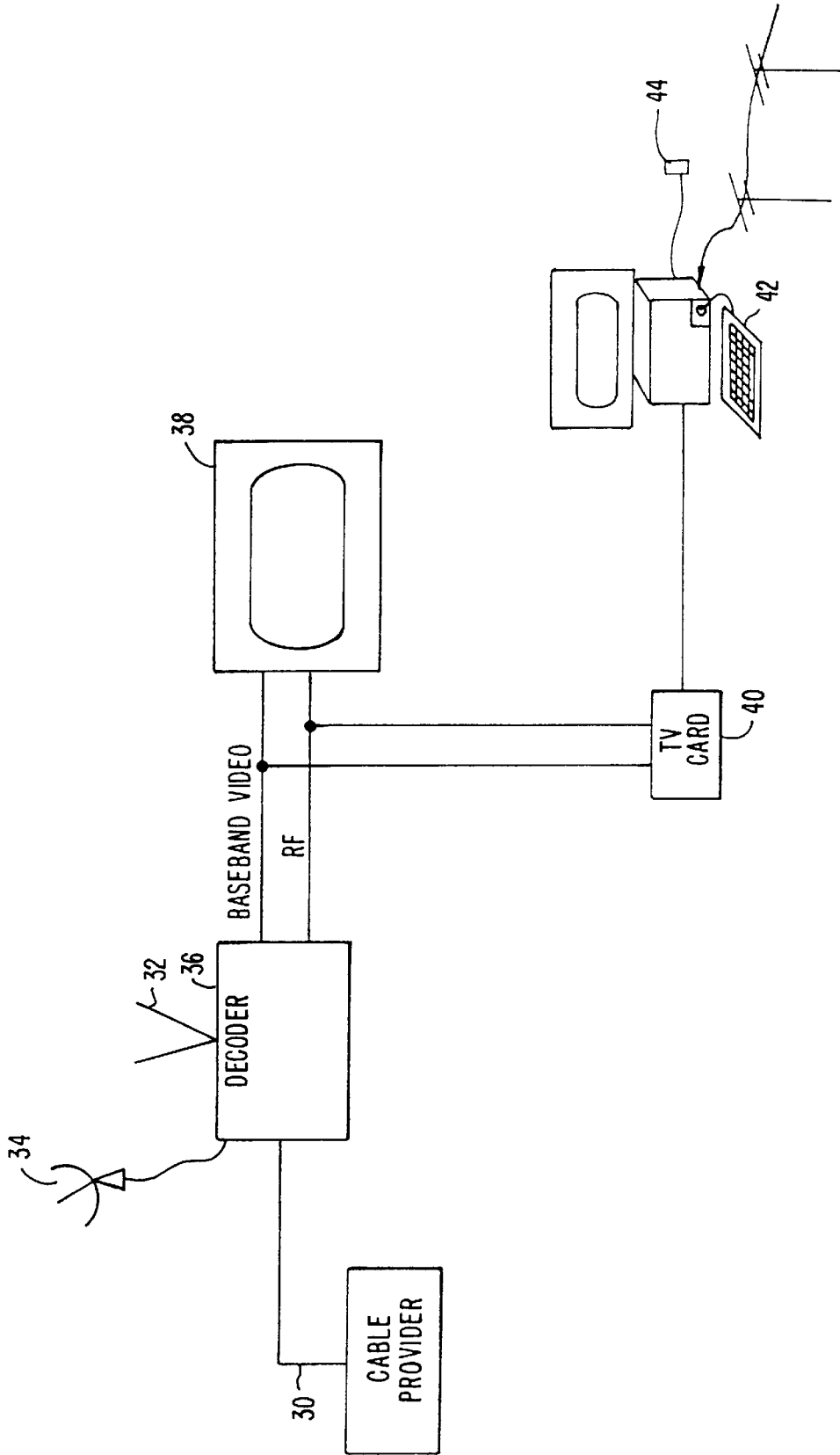


FIG. 2.

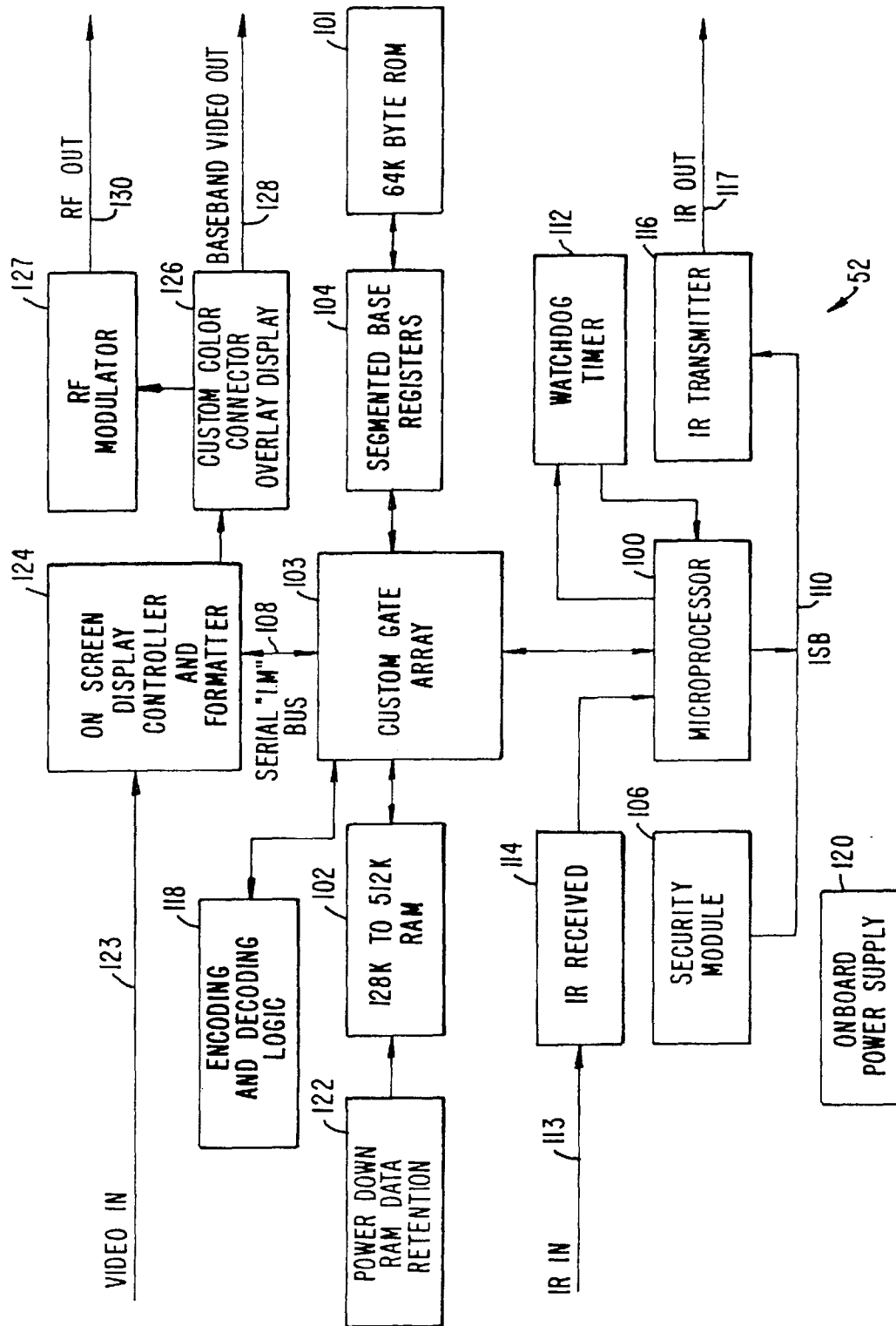


FIG. 3.

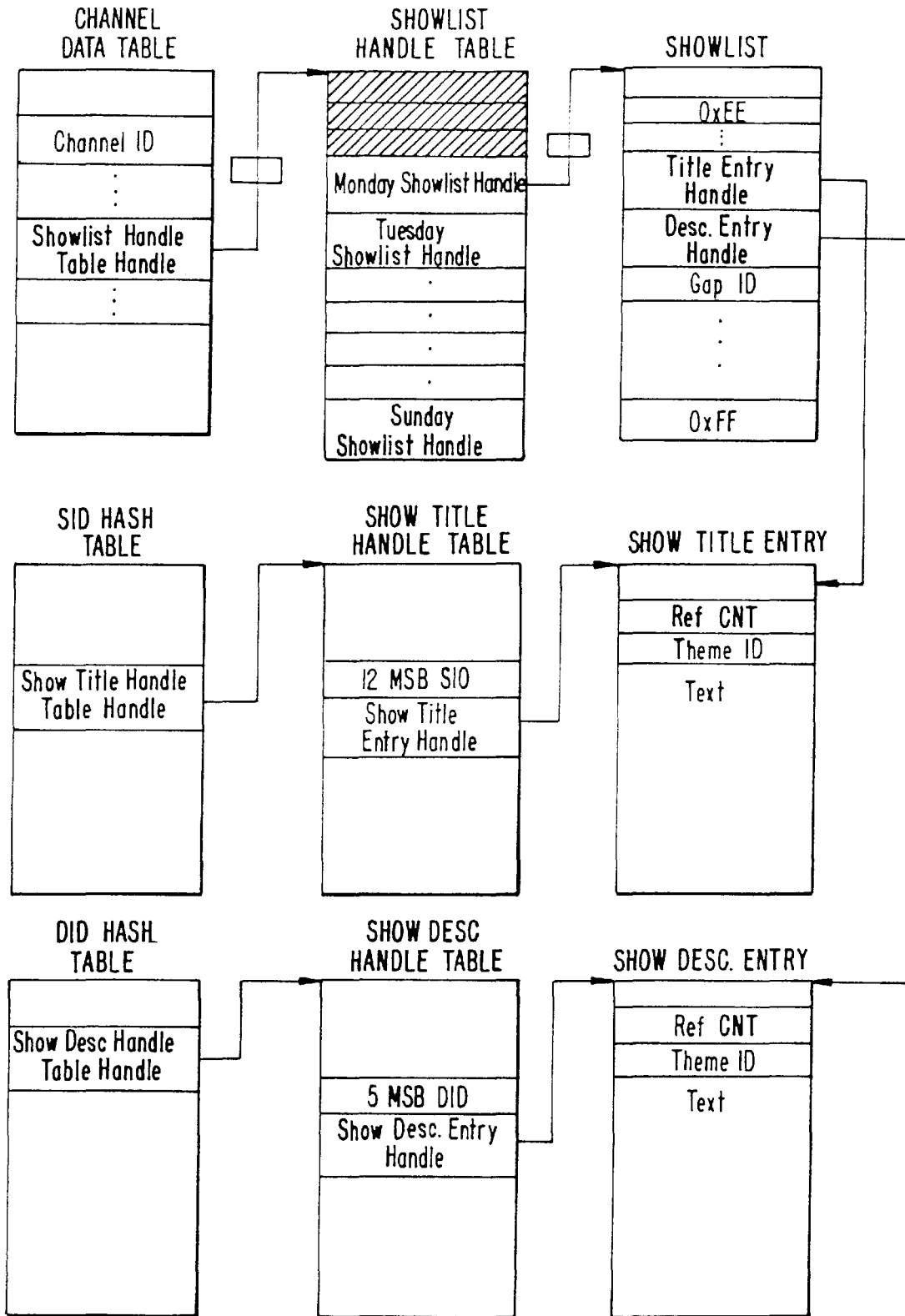


FIG. 4.

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