

- [54] **INTER-ACTIVE PROGRAM GUIDE WITH DEFAULT SELECTION CONTROL**
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- [58] **Field of Search** ..... 345/326, 327; 348/906, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 461, 469, 473, 476-479, 552, 553, 563, 564, 565, 566, 569, 570; 455/3.1, 4.1, 4.2, 5.1, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3; 386/1, 46, 83; H04N 7/10, 7/14, 7/173, 7/00, 7/08, 7/083, 7/084, 7/085, 7/087, 7/088, 5/44, 5/445, 5/45, 5/50

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A system and method are provided for providing a full service cable television system. The cable system incorporates a digital and analog transmission architecture capable of delivering a high number of high quality television programs, advanced cable services, and online services to a subscriber’s home. The cable system comprises a cable headend, at least one fiber transport, at least one distribution hub, at least one hybrid fiber coax plant, and a plurality of set-top terminals. Programs and services are transmitted to the set-top terminals in both digital and analog formats to maintain downward compatibility with existing systems. The set-top terminal incorporates a central processing unit, a unified memory architecture, a memory management unit, communications circuitry, I/O control circuitry, and audio and video output circuitry. Through these components the set-top terminal provides advanced cable services such as a comprehensive channel navigator, an interactive program guide, Impulse Pay-Per-View activation, Near-Video-On-Demand and Video-On-Demand programming, and advanced configuration controls. The set-top terminal also provides online services such as World Wide Web browsing, Internet E-Mail, and Home Shopping.

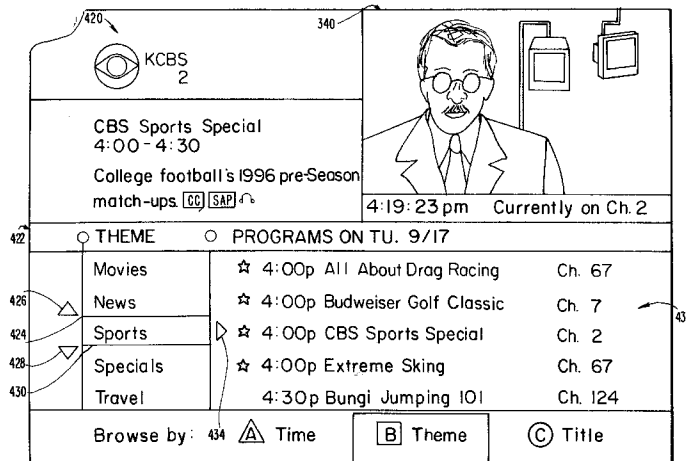
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**8 Claims, 35 Drawing Sheets**



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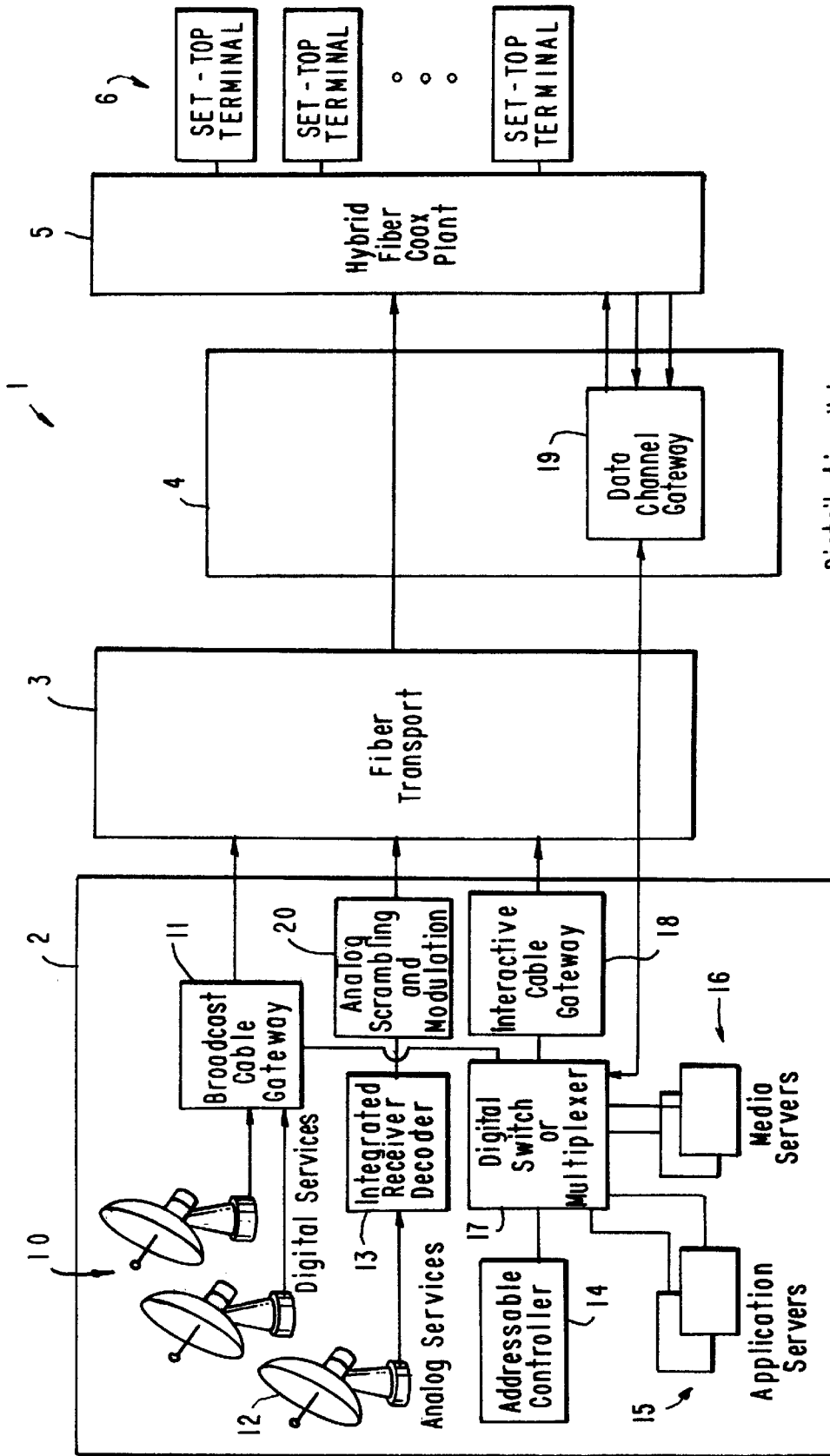
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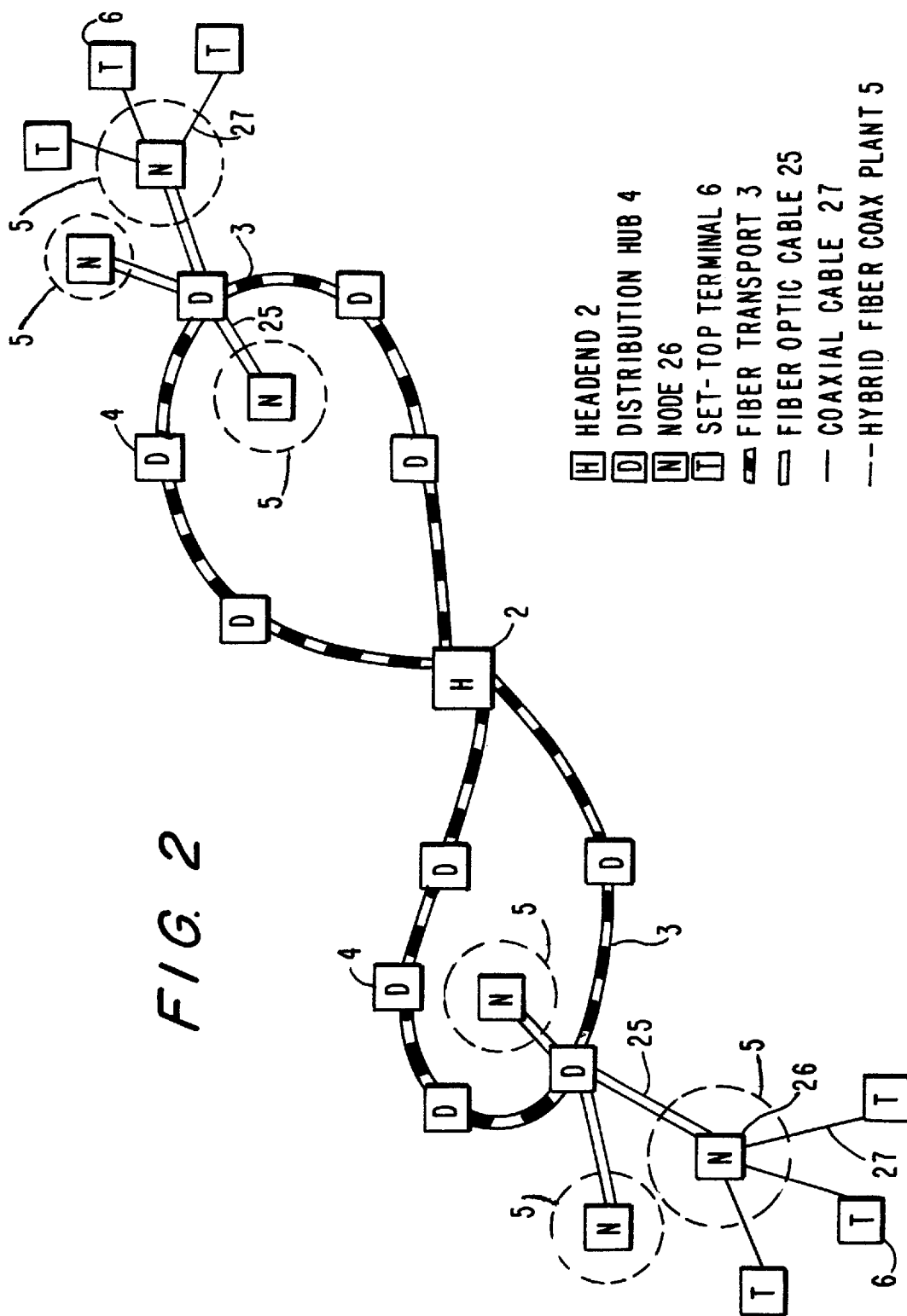
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Distribution Hub

FIG. 1



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