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Document Description: Provisional Cover Sheet (SB16)

PTO/SB/16 (04-07)
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Provisional Application for Patent Cover Sheet

This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT under 37 CFR 1.53(c)

Inventor(s)

Inventor 1 — Remove

Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name	City	State	Country
Daniel		Danciu	Zurich		CH

All Inventors Must Be Listed – Additional Inventor Information blocks may be generated within this form by selecting the **Add** button. — Add

Title of Invention	NETWORK-BASED REMOTE CONTROL
Attorney Docket Number (if applicable)	1133-051USP1

Correspondence Address

Direct all correspondence to (select one):

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The invention was made by an agency of the United States Government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.

(•) No.

( ) Yes, the name of the U.S. Government agency and the Government contract number are:

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Entity Status

Applicant claims small entity status under 37 CFR 1.27

- ○ Yes, applicant qualifies for small entity status under 37 CFR 1.27
- ◉ No

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Signature	/Raymond R. Berdie/			Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2010-11-08
First Name	Raymond R.	Last Name	Berdie	Registration Number (If appropriate)	50769

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NETWORK-BASED REMOTE CONTROL

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0001] The disclosure relates to techniques for controlling networked devices, such as personal computers, tablet computers, cellular telephones, televisions, and gaming consoles.

BACKGROUND

[0002] Various computing devices may be used to control a home electronic device such as a television, personal computer, tablet computer, stereo, or other computing device capable of outputting audio and/or video content. Remote controls typically communicate directly with the device being controlled. For example, a user may actuate buttons on the remote control, which causes the remote control to transmit a signal directly to the device being controlled. The device interprets the received signal and performs a corresponding action (e.g., altering the content being played on the device). For instance, a user may use a remote control to change the channel of a television.

[0003] In one conventional solution, a user may control the playback of video on a television via a web application displayed on the television using a keyboard and mouse. In another conventional solution, the user may pair a device that acts as a remote control directly with the device outputting the audio and video (e.g., a television or stereo), such that the device outputting the audio and video acts as a server to the remote control by, for example, communicating directly with the remote control and accepting incoming connections from the remote control.

SUMMARY

[0004] In general, this disclosure is directed to techniques for exchanging information between a networked device, such as a network-enabled television, and web-enabled device, such as a remote control, via a network service (e.g., a "cloud service"). In an example, the web-enabled device can transmit control information via the network service to the networked device to control playback of media content (e.g., audio and/or video content) on the networked device. In another example, the networked device can transmit information

via the network service to the web-enabled device, such as status information concerning the networked device.

[0005] In one example, the disclosure is directed to an article of manufacture comprising a computer-readable storage medium encoded with instructions for causing one or more programmable processors of a computing device to receive, by a server, a first message from a remote control, wherein the first message includes a remote control identifier that uniquely identifies the remote control, and wherein the first message further includes control information for controlling one or more functions of at least one device other than the remote control. The instructions also cause on or more programmable processors of the computing device to retrieve, by the server, at least one controlled device identifier from a data repository based on the remote control identifier, wherein the at least one controlled device identifier uniquely identifies at least one controlled device that is distinct from and external to the server. The instructions also cause on or more programmable processors of the computing device to send a second message from the server to the at least one controlled device identified by the at least one controlled device identifier, wherein the second message is based on the first message and includes the control information to control an operation of the at least one controlled device

[0006] In another example, the disclosure is directed to a method that includes receiving a first message from a remote control, wherein the first message includes a remote control identifier that uniquely identifies the remote control, and wherein the first message further includes control information. The method also includes retrieving at least one controlled device identifier from a data repository based on the remote control identifier, wherein the at least one controlled device identifier uniquely identifies at least one controlled device. The method also includes sending a second message to the at least one controlled device identified by the at least one controlled device identifier, wherein the second message is based on the first message and includes the control information to control an operation of the at least one controlled device.

[0007] In another example, a computing device includes one or more processors, a data repository configured to store data, a means for receiving a first message from a remote control, and a device management module. The first message received by the means includes a remote control identifier that uniquely identifies the remote control, and the first message

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