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United States Patent [19]

Shimomura et al.

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[54] **DISPLAY DEVICE**

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[51] **Int. Cl.**[6] **G09G 3/36**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **345/102**; 345/63

[58] **Field of Search** 345/102, 63; 348/602, 348/603

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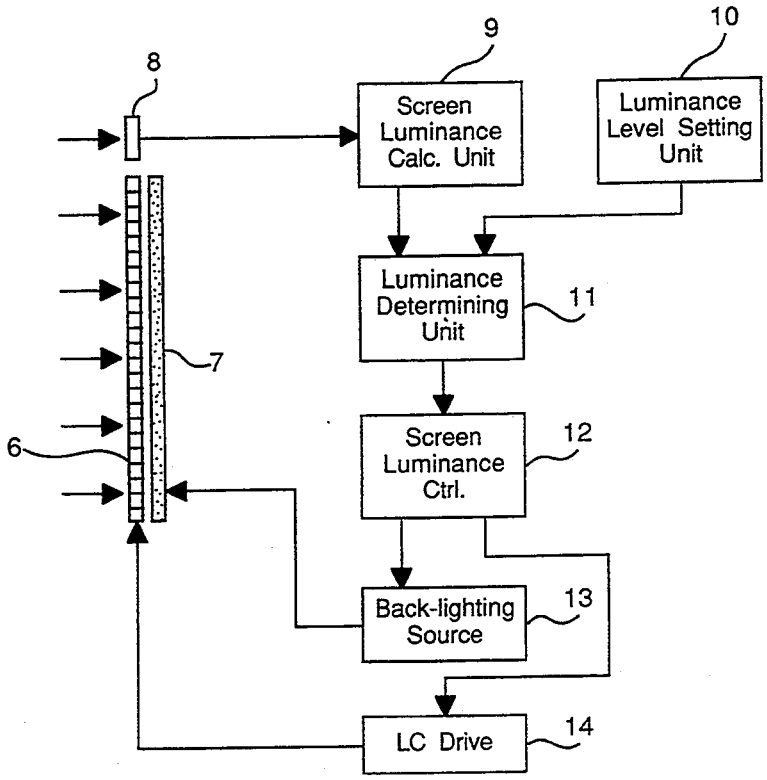
[57] **ABSTRACT**

A display device includes an ambient light sensor positioned adjacent a display screen so as to confront an occupant in front of the display device, and a luminance level setting unit for inputting a desired luminance level. An output from the ambient light sensor is fed to a screen luminance calculating unit for calculating the adjustable range of screen luminance to be adjusted on the basis of an output signal from the ambient light sensor. A luminance determining unit determines a proper screen luminance based on an output signal from the screen luminance calculating unit and an output signal from the luminance level setting unit. A screen luminance control unit operates in response to an output signal from the luminance determining unit to adjust the screen luminance to the proper screen luminance.

6 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets