

receiving a request for one of a plurality of pre-defined stored haptic effects, wherein the request is a control signal generated in response to a first application that identifies the haptic effect out of the plurality of haptic effects to be played; 5

retrieving the requested pre-defined stored haptic effect; generating drive signals based on the retrieved pre-defined stored haptic effect; and

applying the drive signals to an actuator;

wherein the entire haptic output in response to the request consists of the requested pre-defined stored haptic effect; 10

wherein an application program interface (API) receives the haptic effect request from the first application and retrieves the requested pre-defined stored haptic effect, wherein the first application is registered with the API and a second application is also registered with the API and has access to the requested pre-defined stored haptic effect. 15

13. The computer readable medium of claim **12**, wherein each of the plurality of pre-defined haptic effects are stored as a digitized streamed envelope construct. 20

14. The computer readable medium of claim **12**, wherein the request comprises a priority, and the one of the pre-defined haptic effects is retrieved based on the priority. 25

15. The computer readable medium of claim **12**, wherein the haptic feedback is generated from only the pre-defined stored haptic effects.

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