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[54] **METHOD FOR BIDIRECTIONALLY TRANSMITTING DIGITAL VIDEO SIGNAL AND DIGITAL VIDEO SIGNAL BIDIRECTIONAL TRANSMISSION SYSTEM**

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[51] **Int. Cl.**[6] **H04H 1/02**; H04N 5/232; H04N 7/18

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **455/5.1**; 348/12; 348/16; 348/17; 348/143; 348/212; 370/458; 370/521

[58] **Field of Search** 455/5.1, 3.1, 4.1, 455/4.2, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3; 348/12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 6, 143, 211, 212, 423; 370/521, 451, 458; H04N 9/47, 7/00, 7/14, 7/15, 7/18, 5/232

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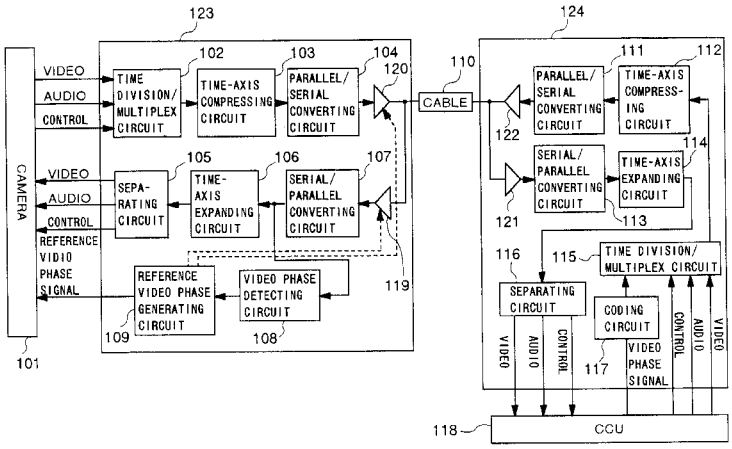
[57] **ABSTRACT**

In a video signal transmission method and system wherein a signal containing a video signal is bidirectionally transmitted and received in a substantially real time in video appliances coupled via a transmission path to each other, a digital signal containing a digital video signal is time-compressed, and a transmission operation is controlled in such a manner that a transmission period and a no transmission period are alternately produced in a preselected period. Then, the time-compressed digital signal is transmitted to the transmission path during the transmission period, whereas another digital signal transmitted via the transmission path from the video appliance on the counter side is received during the no transmission period. Then, the received digital signal is time-expanded to reproduce the original signal.

21 Claims, 16 Drawing Sheets