

AMTC IP Coverage

Cable Systems Transmitting Media to Set-top Boxes (VOD) Compared to Yurt '720 Claim 11

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This visual depiction represents an example of claim coverage only. Acacia is not limited to this or any other interpretation of the claim language.

Patent 6,002,720 Claim 11:

11. A method of distributing audio/video information comprising:

formatting items of audio/video information as compressed digitized data at a central processing location;

transmitting compressed, digitized data representing a complete copy of at least one item of audio/video information from the central processing location;

receiving, into a receiving means, the transmitted compressed, digitized data representing a complete copy of the at least one item of audio/video information at a local distribution system;

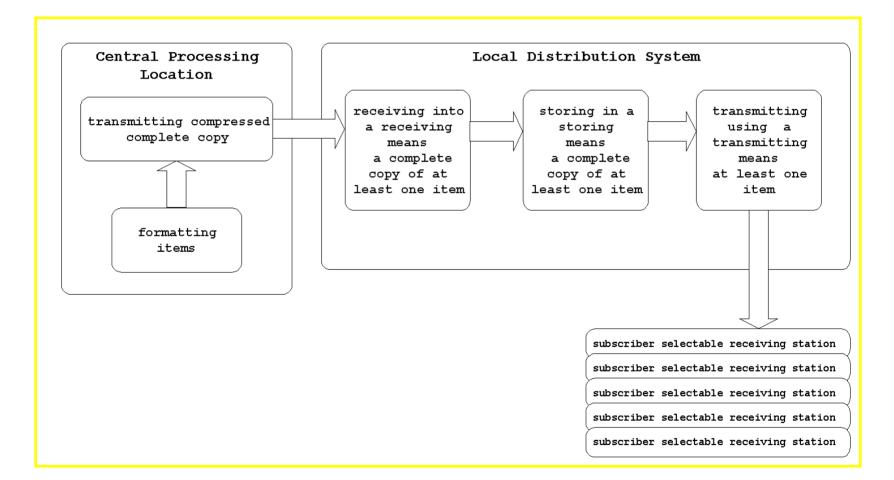
storing, in a storing means, the received compressed, digitized data representing the complete copy of the at least one item at the local distribution system; and

using the stored compressed, digitized data to transmit using a transmitting means a representation of the at least one item to at least one of a plurality of subscriber selectable receiving stations coupled to the local distribution system,

wherein the receiving means, the storing means, and the transmitting means are positioned at the same location,

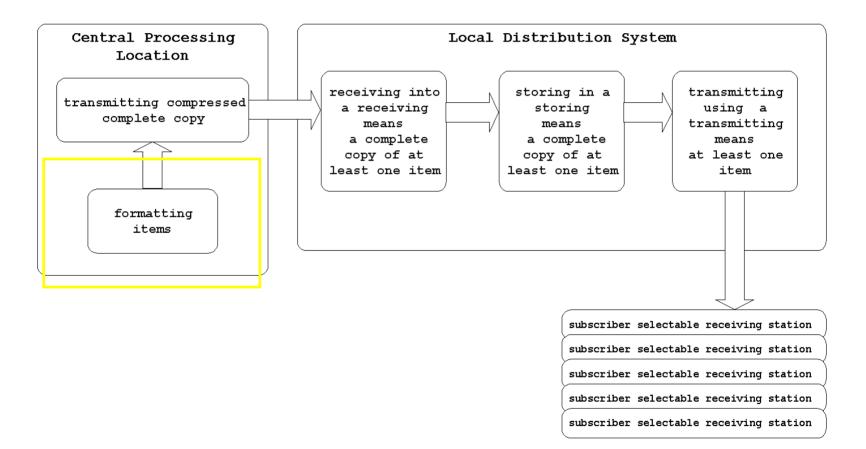
and wherein the at least one of the plurality of subscriber selectable stations is located at a premises geographically separated from the location of the local distribution system.

A method of distributing audio/video information comprising:



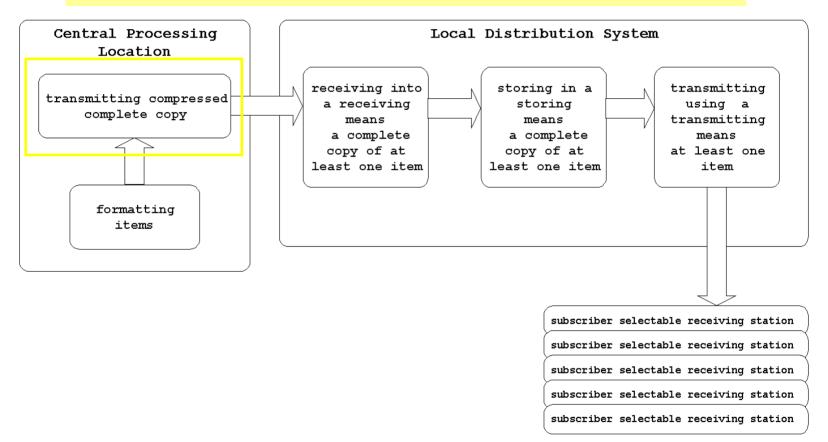
A cable video on demand system delivers media (e.g., movies) to subscriber set-top boxes. This media may be in a compressed digital format and is transmitted to the cable operators by content providers. This is an example of a method of distributing audio/video information.

formatting items of audio/video information as compressed digitized data at a central processing location;



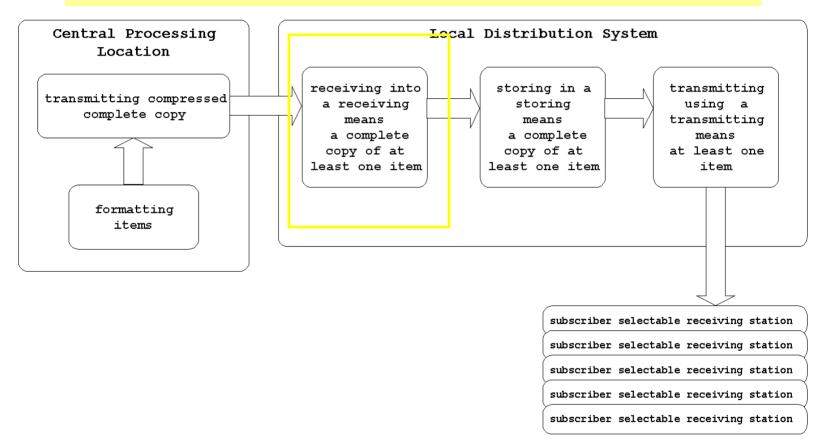
At a facility independent from the cable operator, content providers, acting on behalf of the cable operator, encode physical media and produce compressed digital copies of the physical media. Encoding is an example of formatting items as compressed digitized data.

transmitting compressed, digitized data representing a complete copy of at least one item of audio/video information from the central processing location;



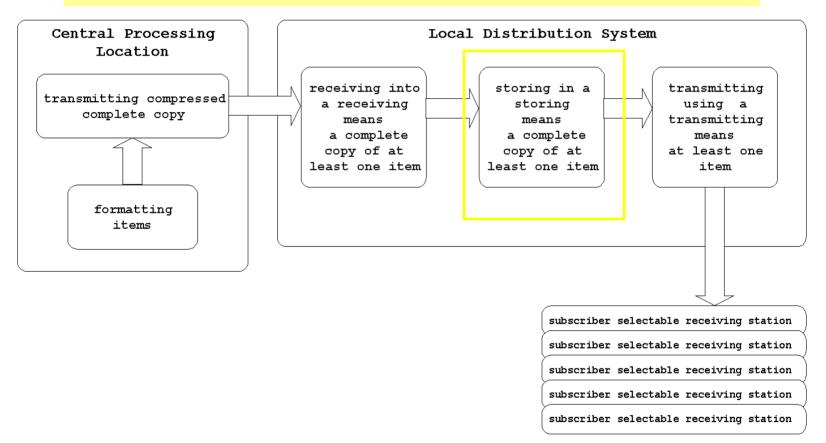
The content provider transmits the compressed media via satellite from its central processing facility to a cable operator headend. This is an example of transmitting compressed audio/video information from the central processing location.

receiving, into a receiving means, the transmitted compressed, digitized data representing a complete copy of the at least one item of audio/video information at a local distribution system;



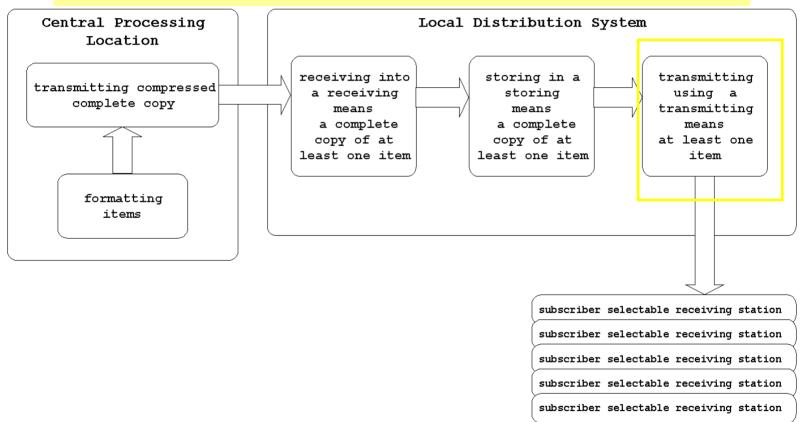
A cable operator receives the compressed media via a satellite receiver at a cable headend. The satellite receiver is an example of a receiving means at a local distribution system.

storing, in a storing means, the received compressed, digitized data representing the complete copy of the at least one item at the local distribution system; and



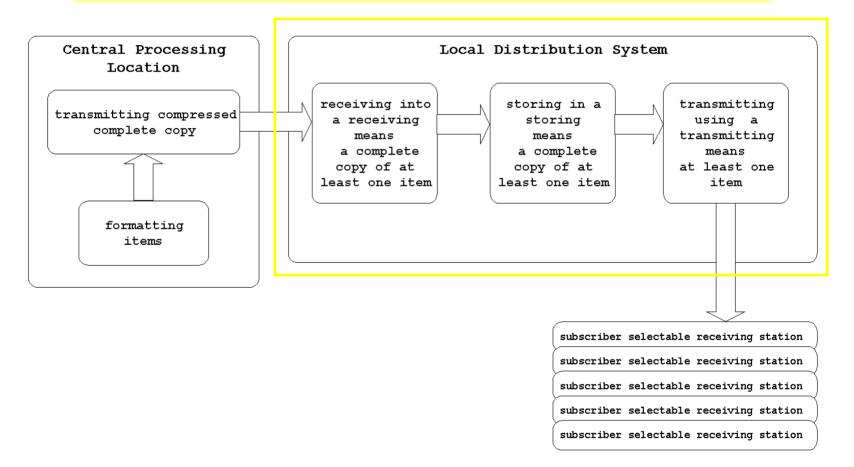
The received compressed media is stored on a server in the cable headend. The server is an example of a storing means at a local distribution system.

using the stored compressed, digitized data to transmit using a transmitting means a representation of the at least one item to at least one of a plurality of subscriber selectable receiving stations coupled to the local distribution system,



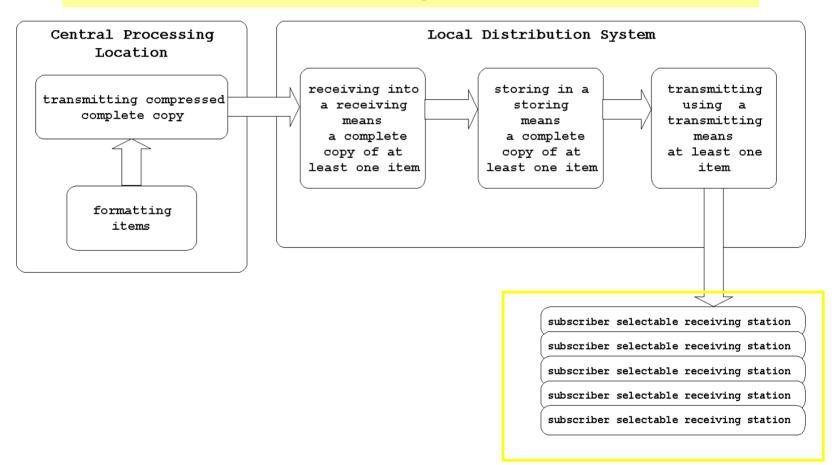
The available stored media is delivered by the cable operator to the subscriber set-top boxes via, for example, an HFC network. The HFC network is an example of a transmitting means.

wherein the receiving means, the storing means, and the transmitting means are positioned at the same location,



As an example, a cable headend has receiving, storage, and delivery at the same facility.

and wherein the at least one of the plurality of subscriber selectable stations is located at a premises geographically separated from the location of the local distribution system.



A cable headend serves many subscriber set-top boxes at distances miles away, including different cities, from the headend itself. This is an example of a plurality of subscriber selectable stations at premises geographically separated from the local distribution system.