



AMTC IP Coverage

Online Education Provider
Transmitting Media to Personal
Computers
Compared to
Yurt '863 Claim 17

This document is the property of Acacia Technologies Group.

Patent 5,550,863 Claim 17:

17. 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 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 the received compressed, digitized data representing the complete copy of the at least one item at a local distribution system;

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

wherein the formatting step comprises:

inputting an item having information into the transmission system;

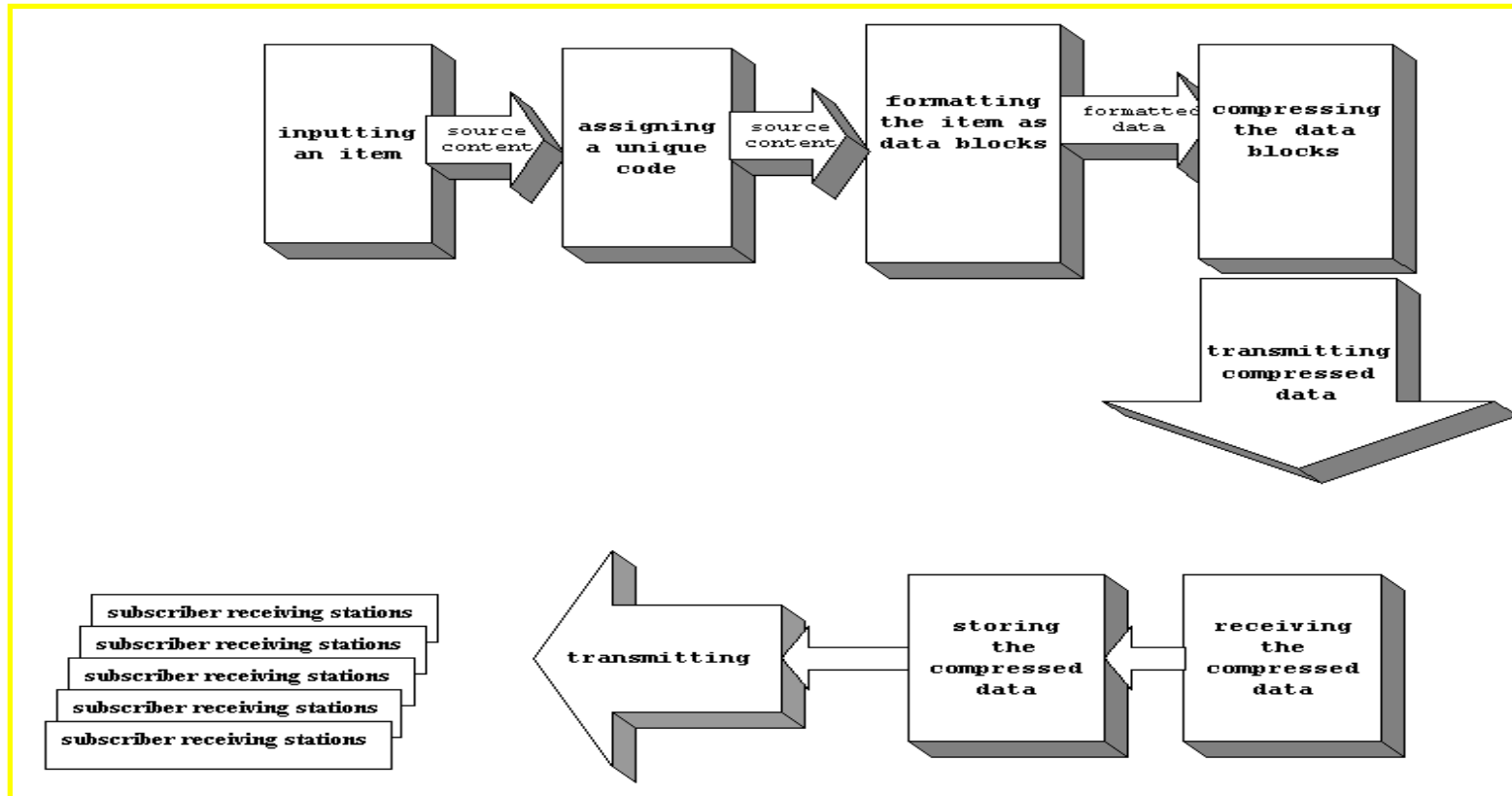
assigning a unique identification code to the item having information;

formatting the item having information as a sequence of addressable data blocks;

compressing the formatted and sequenced data blocks.

Online Education Provider Transmitting Media to Personal Computers Compared to the '863 Patent Claim 17:

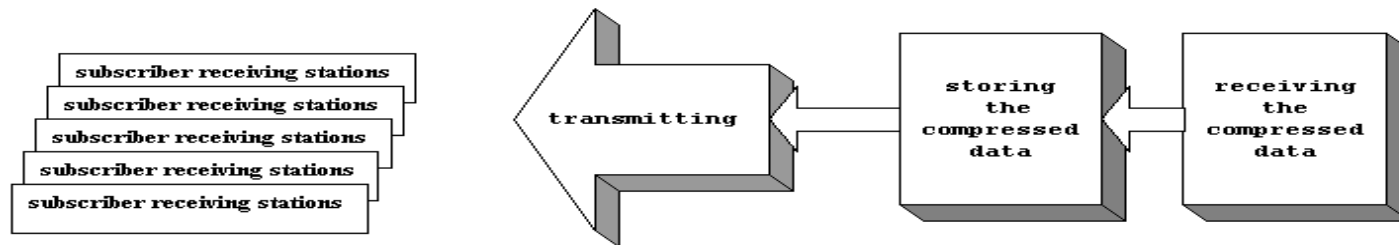
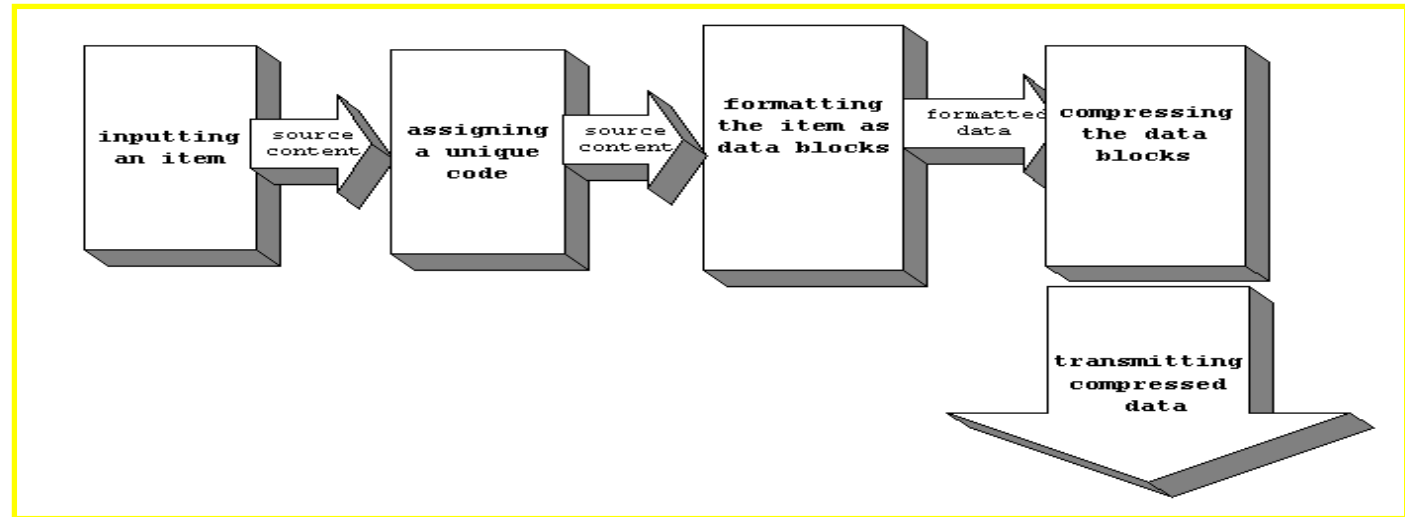
A method of distributing audio/video information comprising:



An online education provider transmitting media (e.g., classroom lectures, demonstration videos) over the Internet to its students is an example of a method of distributing audio/video information.

Online Education Provider Transmitting Media to Personal Computers Compared to the '863 Patent Claim 17:

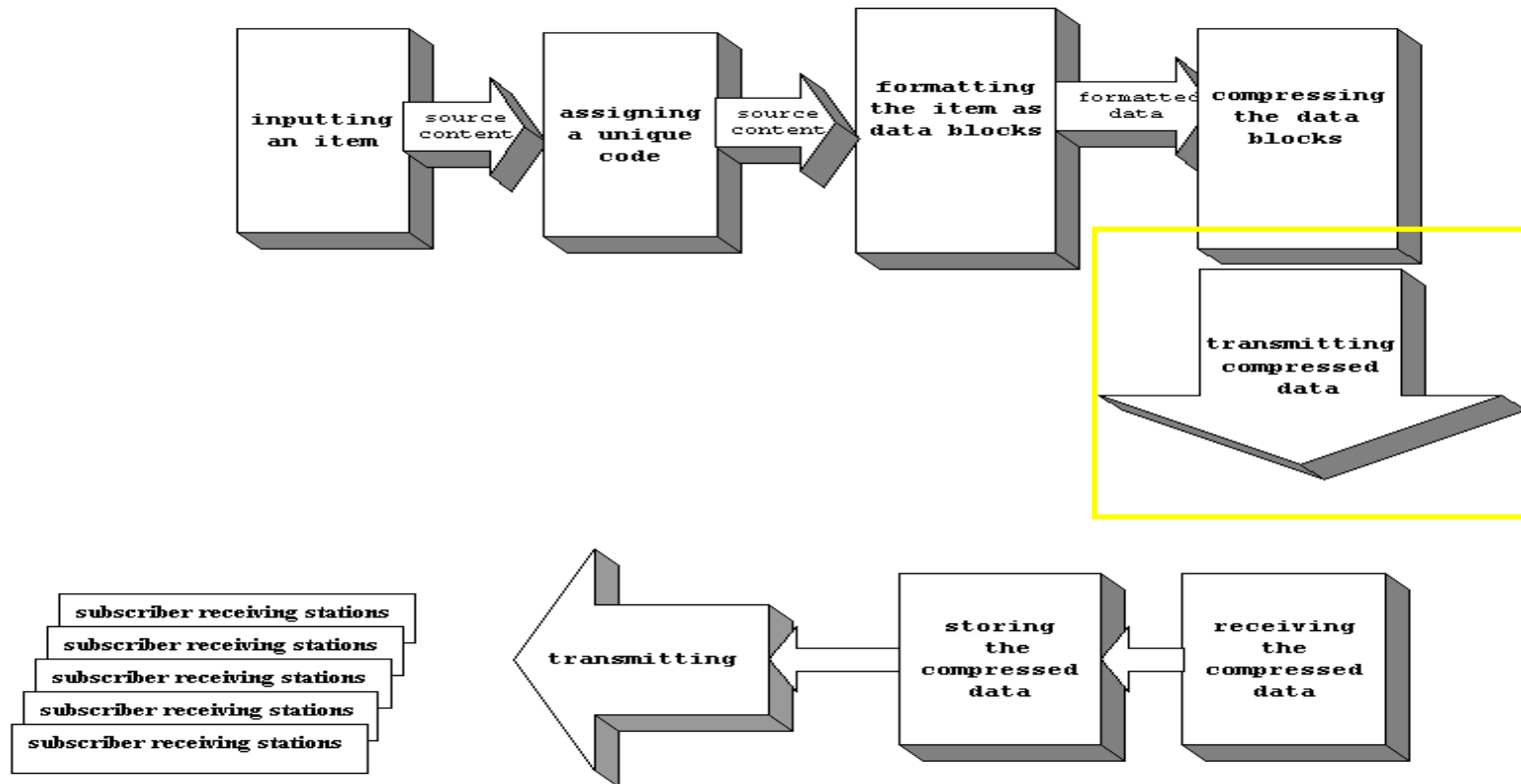
formatting items of audio/video information as compressed digitized data at a central processing location;



The media is digitized and compressed prior to being transmitted to students. This digitization and compression may be done by the online education provider or by an agent acting on their behalf. The digitization and compression of the media is an example of formatting items of audio/video information as compressed digitized data.

Online Education Provider Transmitting Media to Personal Computers Compared to the '863 Patent Claim 17:

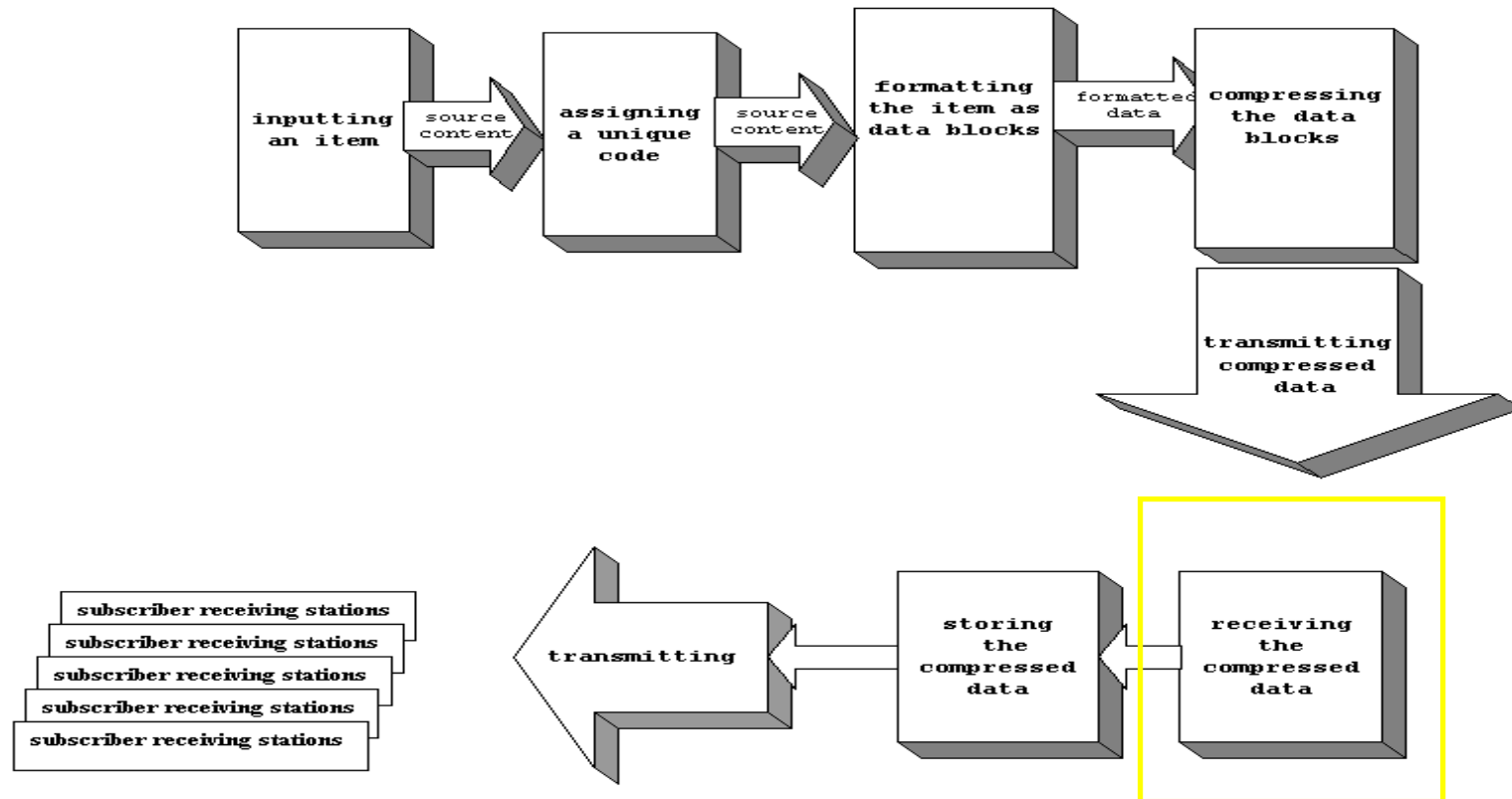
transmitting compressed, digitized data representing a complete copy of at least one item of audio/video information from the central processing location;



The compressed media is transmitted from the content encoding location via a file transfer method (e.g., FTP) over a network connection to the online education provider's distribution location. This distribution location may be managed by the online education provider or by a content delivery network (CDN) or hosting provider acting on the behalf of the online education provider. This is an example of transmitting compressed, digitized data from a central processing location.

Online Education Provider Transmitting Media to Personal Computers Compared to the '863 Patent Claim 17:

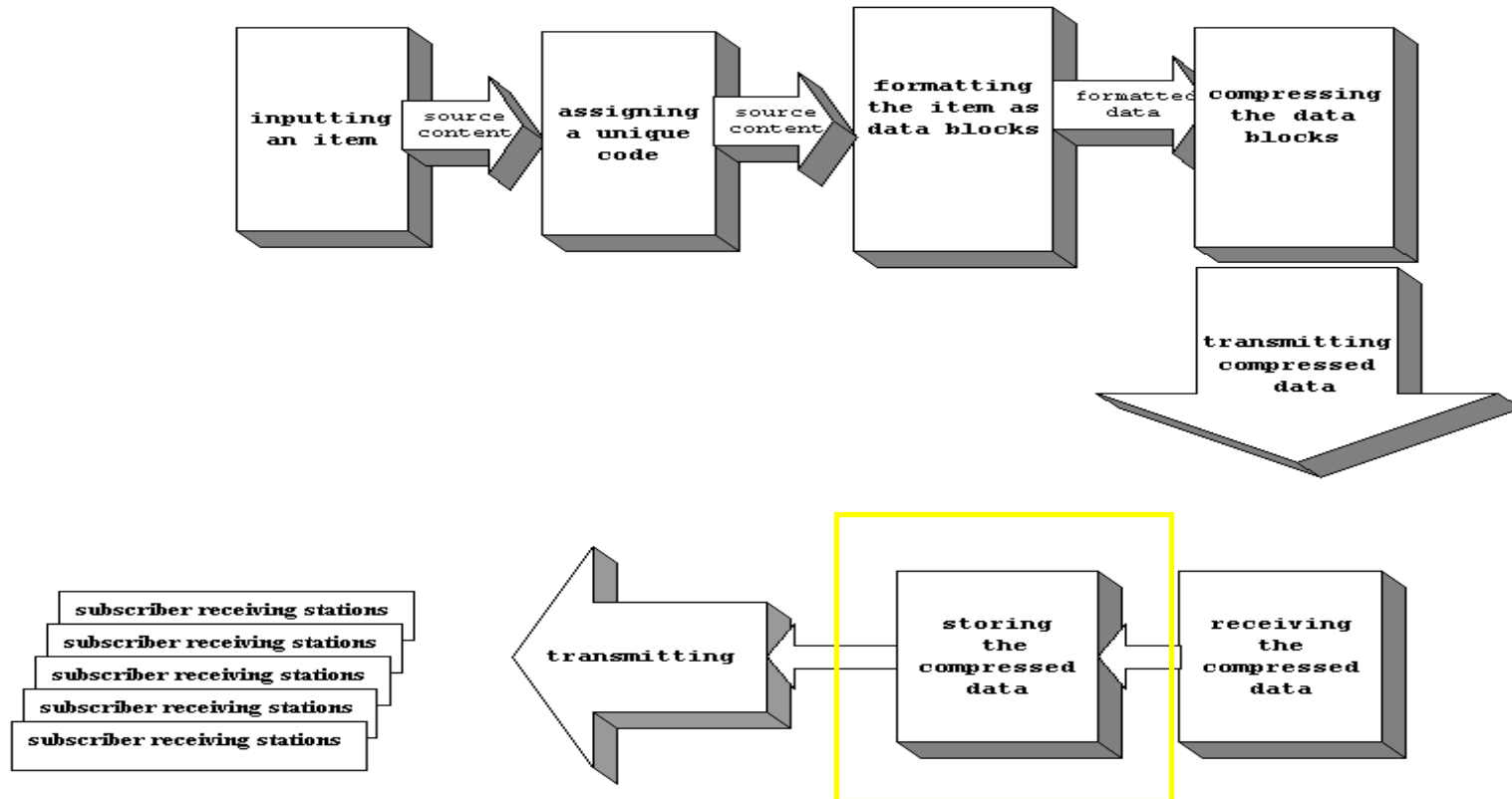
receiving the transmitted compressed, digitized data representing a complete copy of the at least one item of audio/video information, at a local distribution system;



The transmitted compressed media is received via a network connection at the location that is used for distribution to students. This is an example of receiving the transmitted compressed, digitized data at a local distribution system.

Online Education Provider Transmitting Media to Personal Computers Compared to the '863 Patent Claim 17:

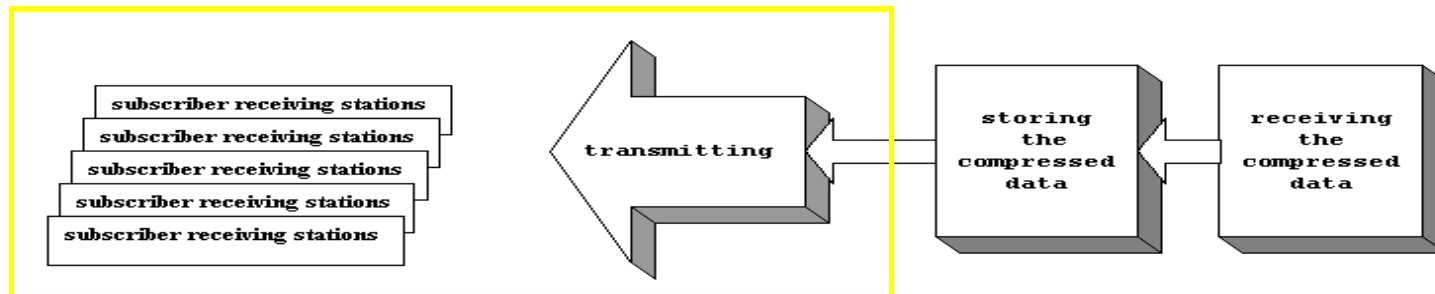
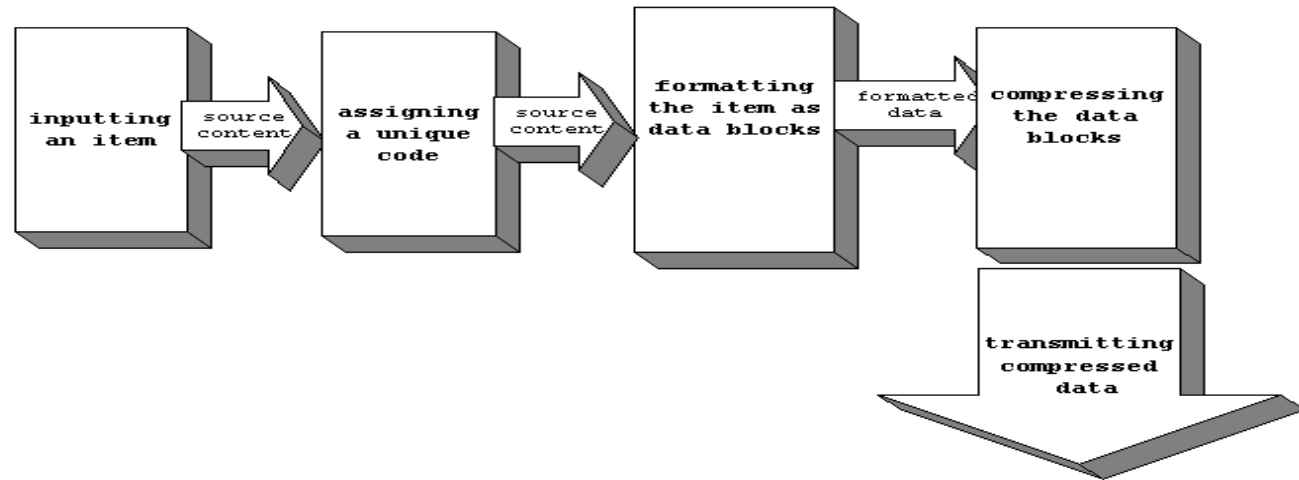
storing the received compressed, digitized data representing the complete copy of the at least one item at a local distribution system;



The received compressed media is stored on an array of storage devices. This is an example of storing the received compressed, digitized data.

Online Education Provider Transmitting Media to Personal Computers Compared to the '863 Patent Claim 17:

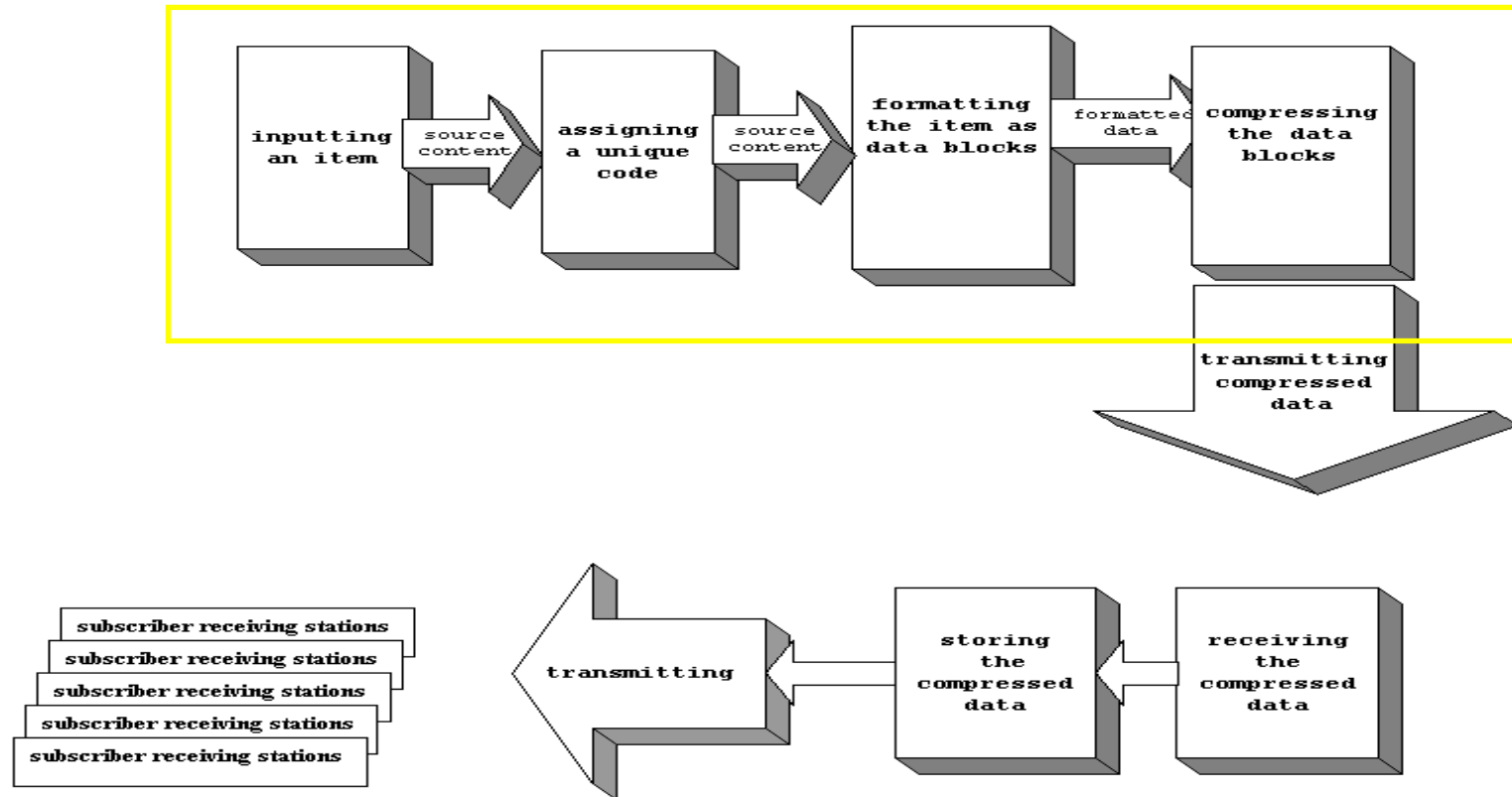
using the stored compressed, digitized data to transmit a representation of the at least one item to a plurality of subscriber receiving stations coupled to the local distribution system;



The online education provider transmits the video from a video server connected to the array of storage devices over the Internet to the personal computers of its students. This is an example of using the stored compressed, digitized data to transmit to a plurality of subscriber receiving stations.

Online Education Provider Transmitting Media to Personal Computers Compared to the '863 Patent Claim 17:

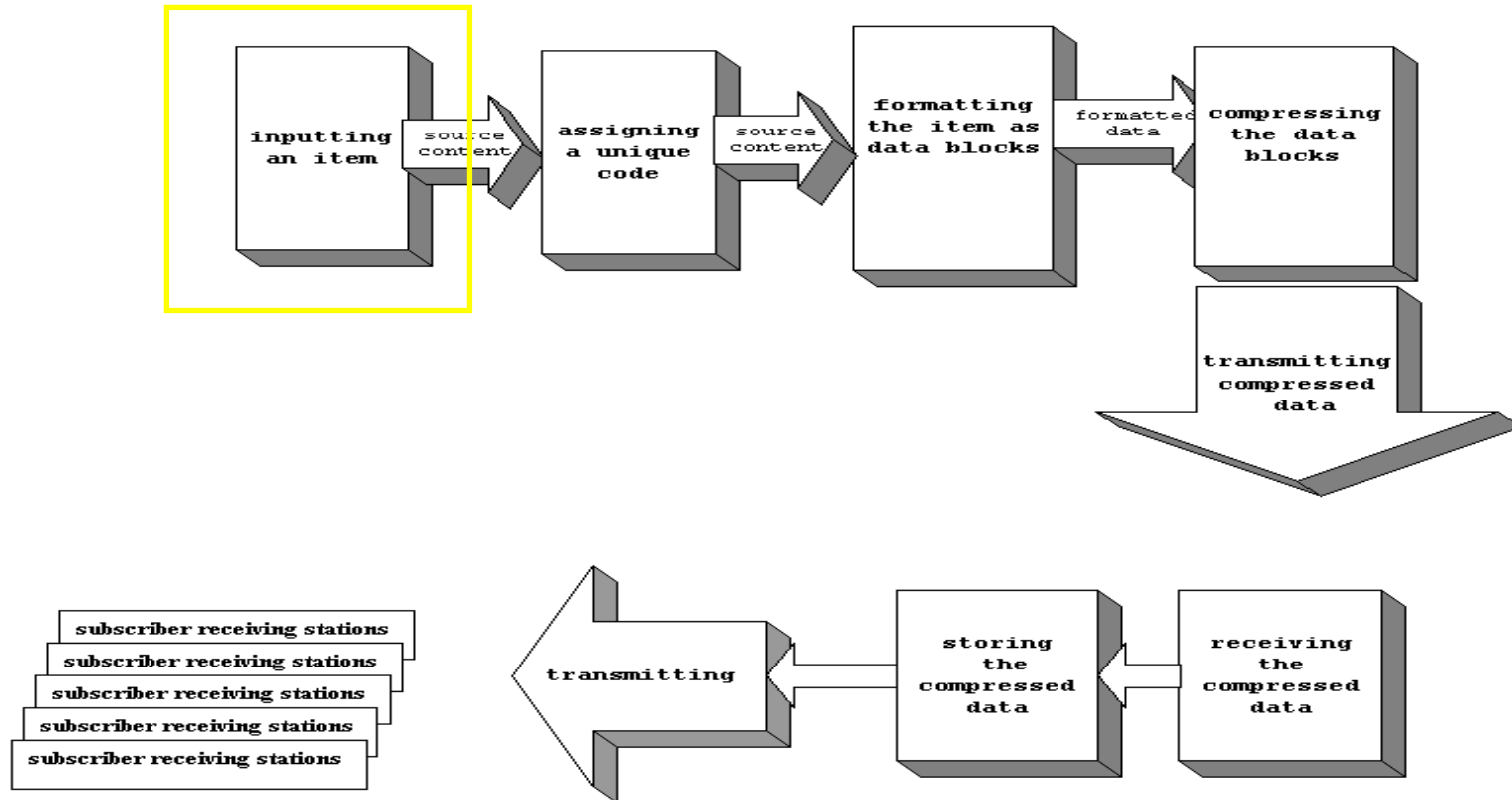
wherein the formatting step comprises:



Prior to distribution to students, the media is compressed and digitized.

Online Education Provider Transmitting Media to Personal Computers Compared to the '863 Patent Claim 17:

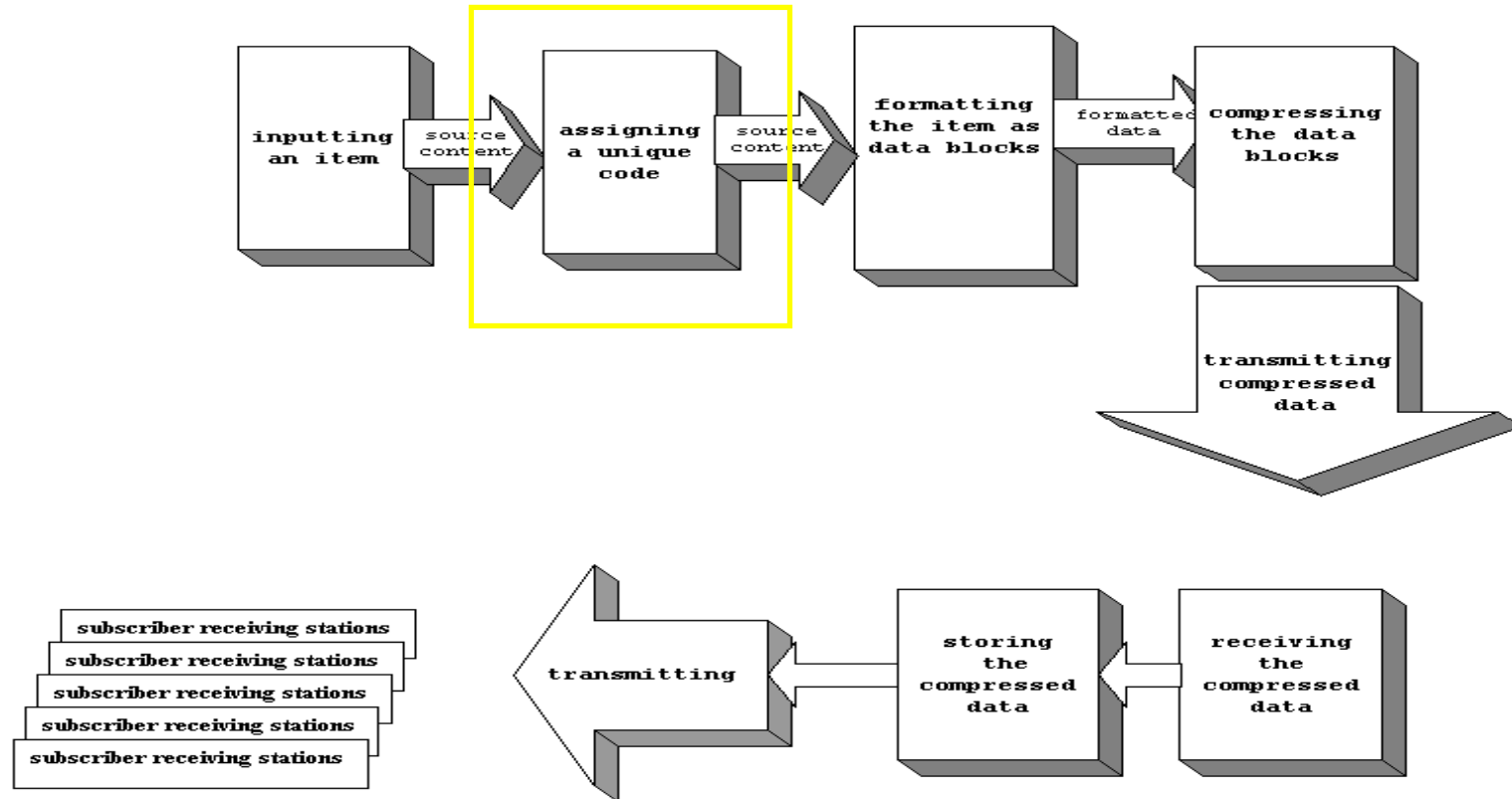
inputting an item having information into the transmission system;



Physical media, such as a videotape, is received, logged in as received, and placed in the received media storage library. This is an example of inputting an item having information into the transmission system.

Online Education Provider Transmitting Media to Personal Computers Compared to the '863 Patent Claim 17:

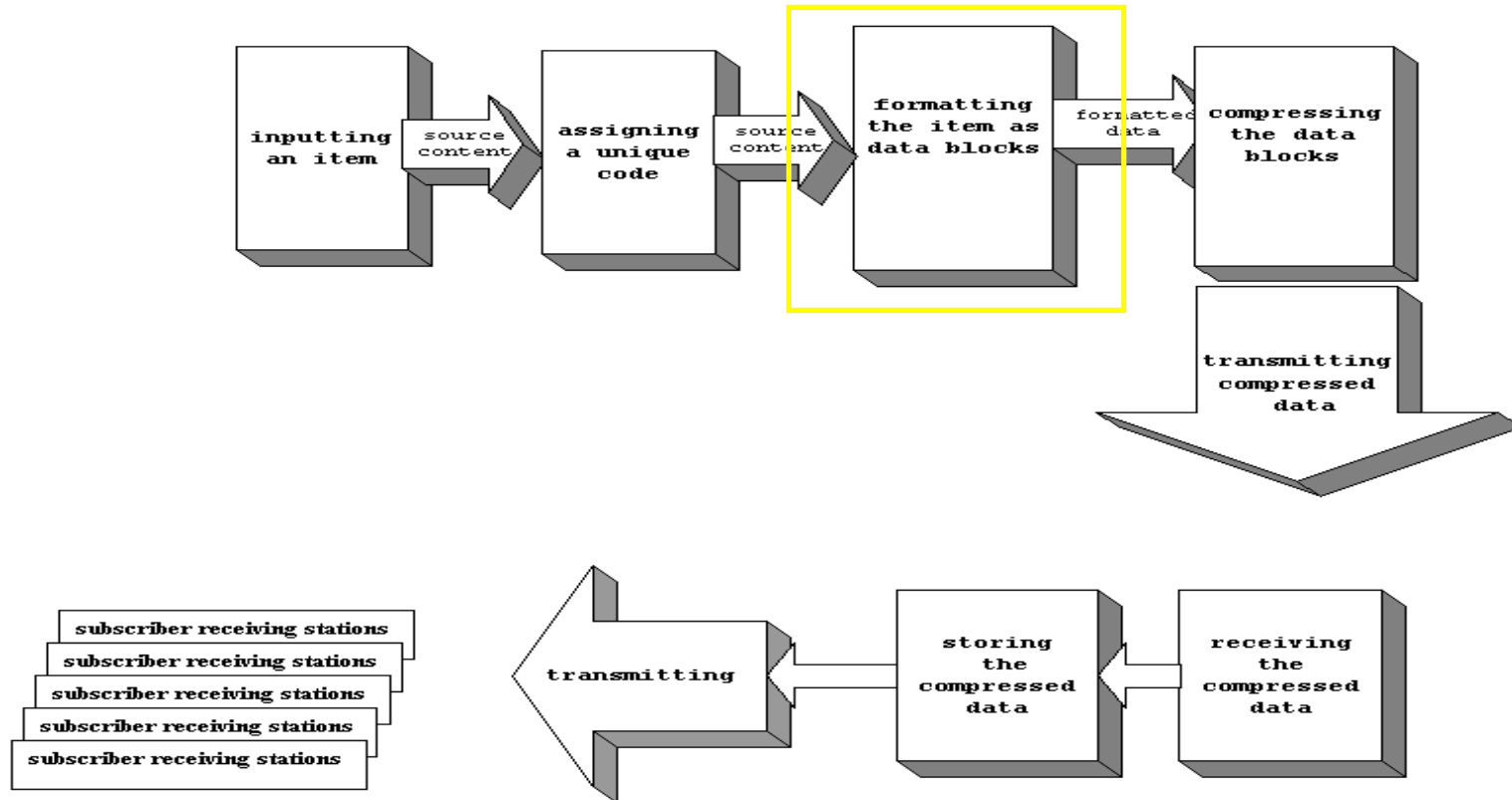
assigning a unique identification code to the item having information;



A unique file name will be used to identify the compressed media on a server after it has been compressed. This is an example of assigning a unique identification code.

Online Education Provider Transmitting Media to Personal Computers Compared to the '863 Patent Claim 17:

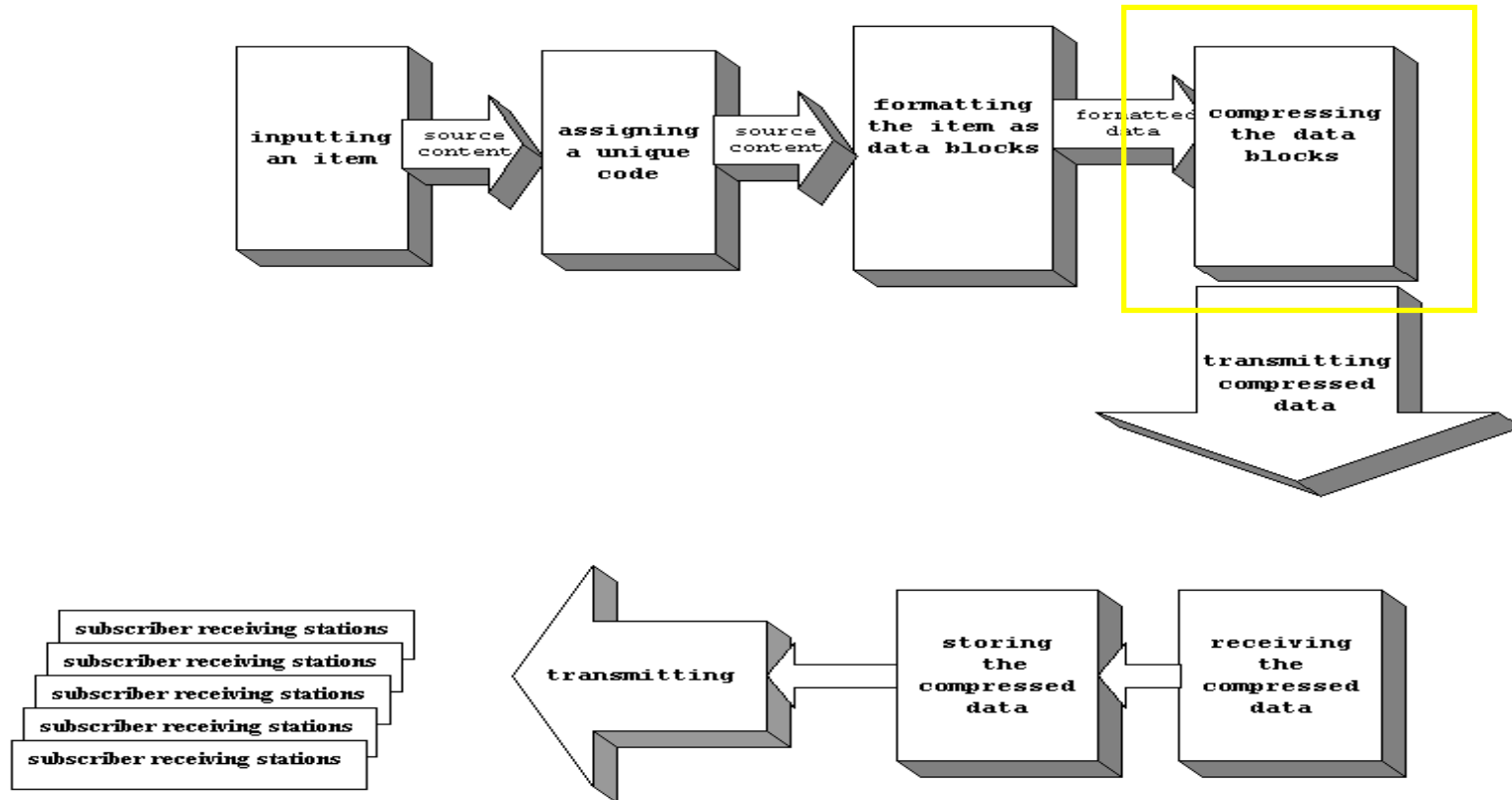
formatting the item having information as a sequence of addressable data blocks;



Video encoding methods organize frames into sequences of frames (data blocks) prior to compression. These frames are compressed and assigned relative time markers so that they are addressable by presentation time. This is an example of formatting the item as a sequence of addressable data blocks.

Online Education Provider Transmitting Media to Personal Computers Compared to the '863 Patent Claim 17:

compressing the formatted and sequenced data blocks.



Video encoders compress video by operating on individual video frames and sequences of video frames. An online education provider, or an agent acting on their behalf, uses encoders by Apple, Microsoft, and/or Real to encode the media. Using encoders is an example of compressing the formatted and sequenced data blocks.