

AMTC IP Coverage

Internet Website Operator
Transmitting Audio to Personal
Computers
Compared to
Yurt '863 Claim 10

CONFIDENTIAL

Patent 5,550,863 Claim 10:

10. A system for providing information to be transmitted to remote locations, the transmission system comprising:

identification encoding means for assigning a unique identification code to items of information;

conversion means, coupled to the identification encoding means, for placing the retrieved information into a predetermined format as formatted data;

ordering means, coupled to the conversion means, for placing the formatted data for each item of information into a sequence of addressable data blocks;

compression means, coupled to the ordering means, for compressing the formatted and sequenced data blocks;

compressed data storing means, coupled to the data compression means, for storing as files the compressed, sequenced data blocks; and

first transmitter means, coupled to the compressed data storing means, for selectively sending at least a portion of one of the files;

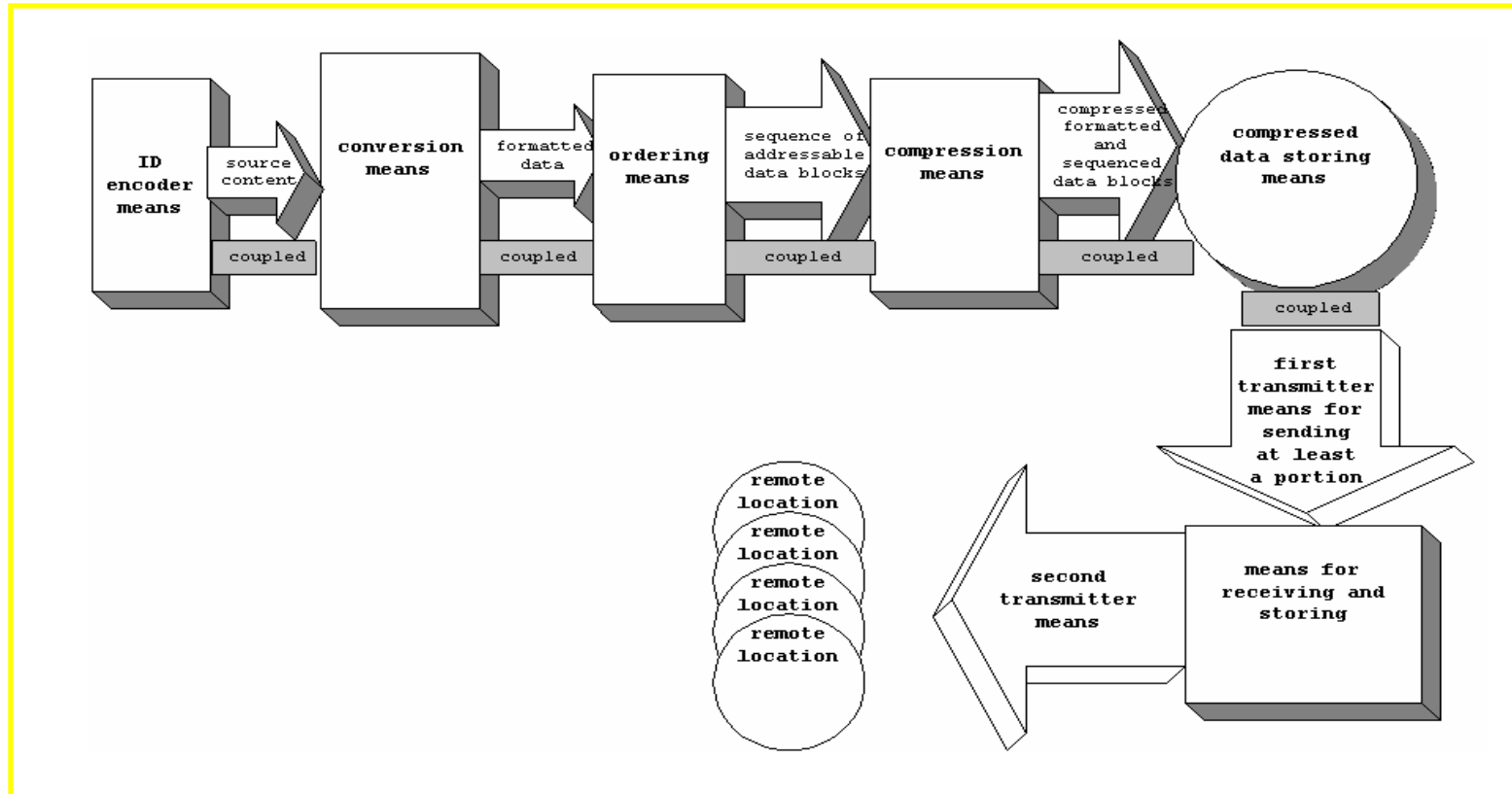
a distribution system, remote from the transmission system, the distribution system comprising:

means for receiving and storing a complete copy of the portion of one of the files sent by the first transmitter means; and

second transmitter means, responsive to the stored portion of one of the files, for transmitting a representation of the stored portion to at least one of a plurality of the remote locations.

Internet Website Operator Transmitting Audio to Personal Computers Compared to the '863 Patent Claim 10:

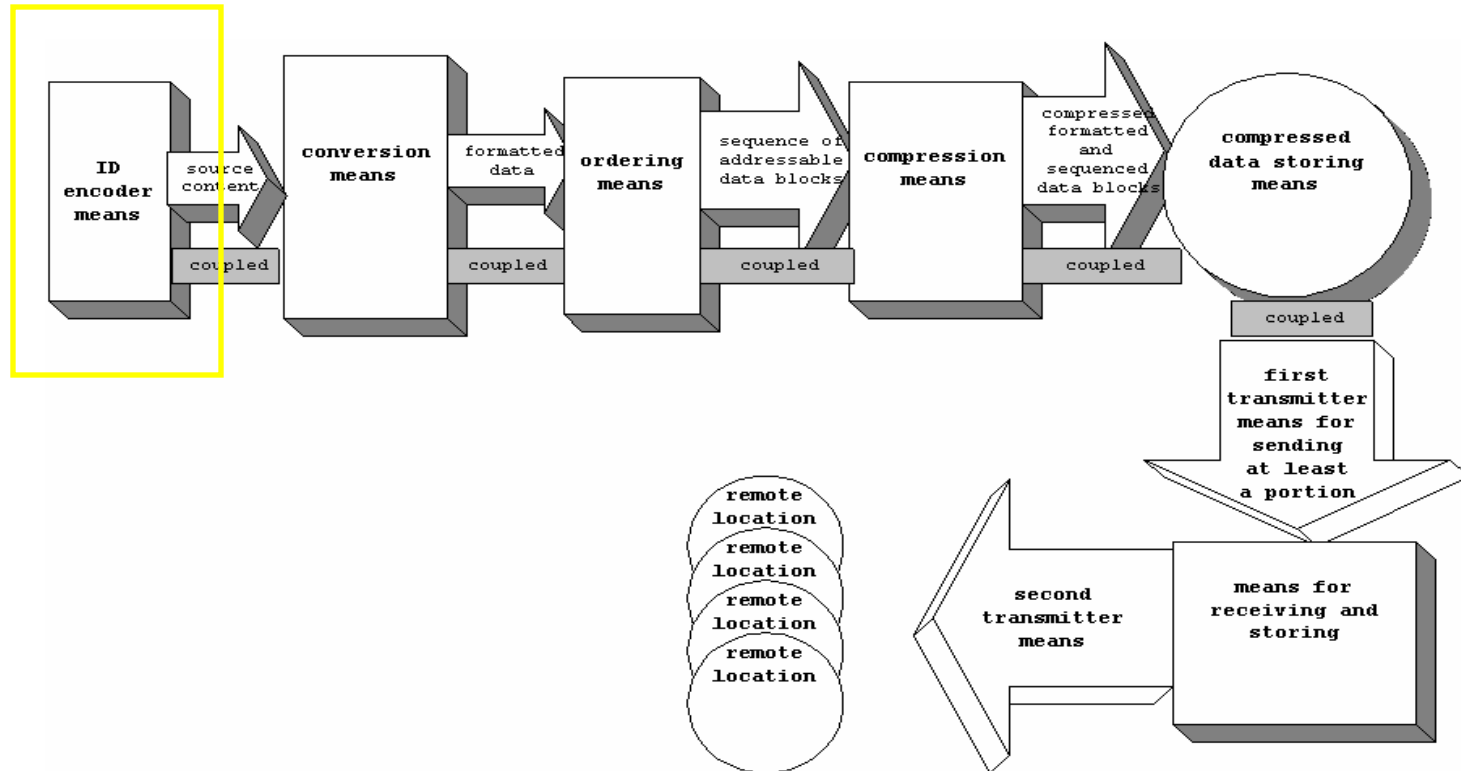
A system for providing information to be transmitted to remote locations, the transmission system comprising:



An Internet website operator delivers compressed digital audio (e.g., news, music) over the Internet to its users. This is an example of a system for providing information to be transmitted to remote locations.

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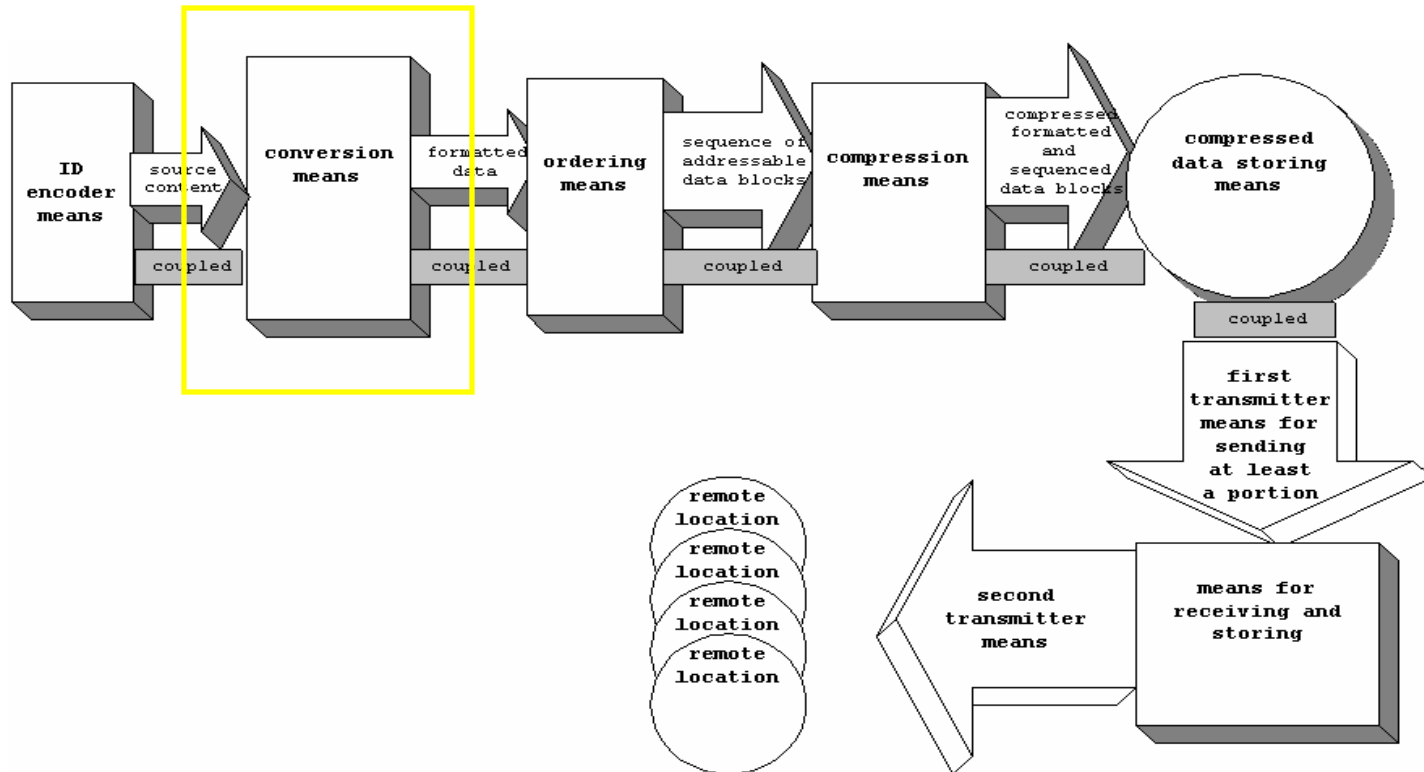
identification encoding means for assigning a unique identification code to items of information;



The media used by the Internet website operator is digitized and compressed prior to distribution to users. This digitization and compression may be done by the website operator or by an agent acting on behalf of the operator. A technician(s) assigns a unique file name to identify the encoded media on a server after it has been encoded. The technician(s) and encoding software are one example of an identification encoding means for assigning a unique identification code to items of information.

Internet Website Operator Transmitting Audio to Personal Computers Compared to the '863 Patent Claim 10:

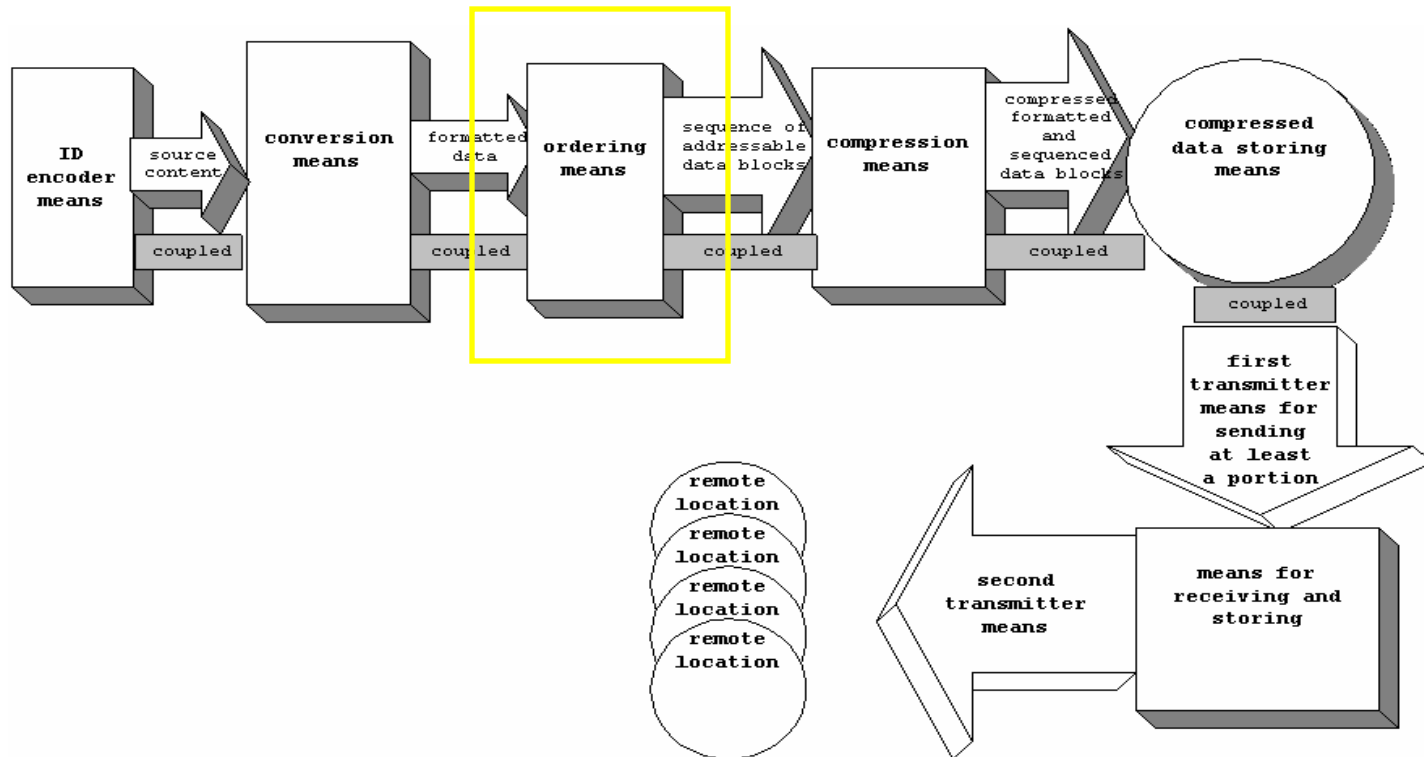
conversion means, coupled to the identification encoding means, for placing the retrieved information into a predetermined format as formatted data;



Physical media (e.g., a CD, a tape) is placed in a player (i.e., an input receiver) where it is output from the player in digital form. The signal is input to a digital formatter and converted to a predetermined format. The receivers, converters, and formatters represent examples of conversion means for placing retrieved information into a predetermined format as formatted data.

Internet Website Operator Transmitting Audio to Personal Computers Compared to the '863 Patent Claim 10:

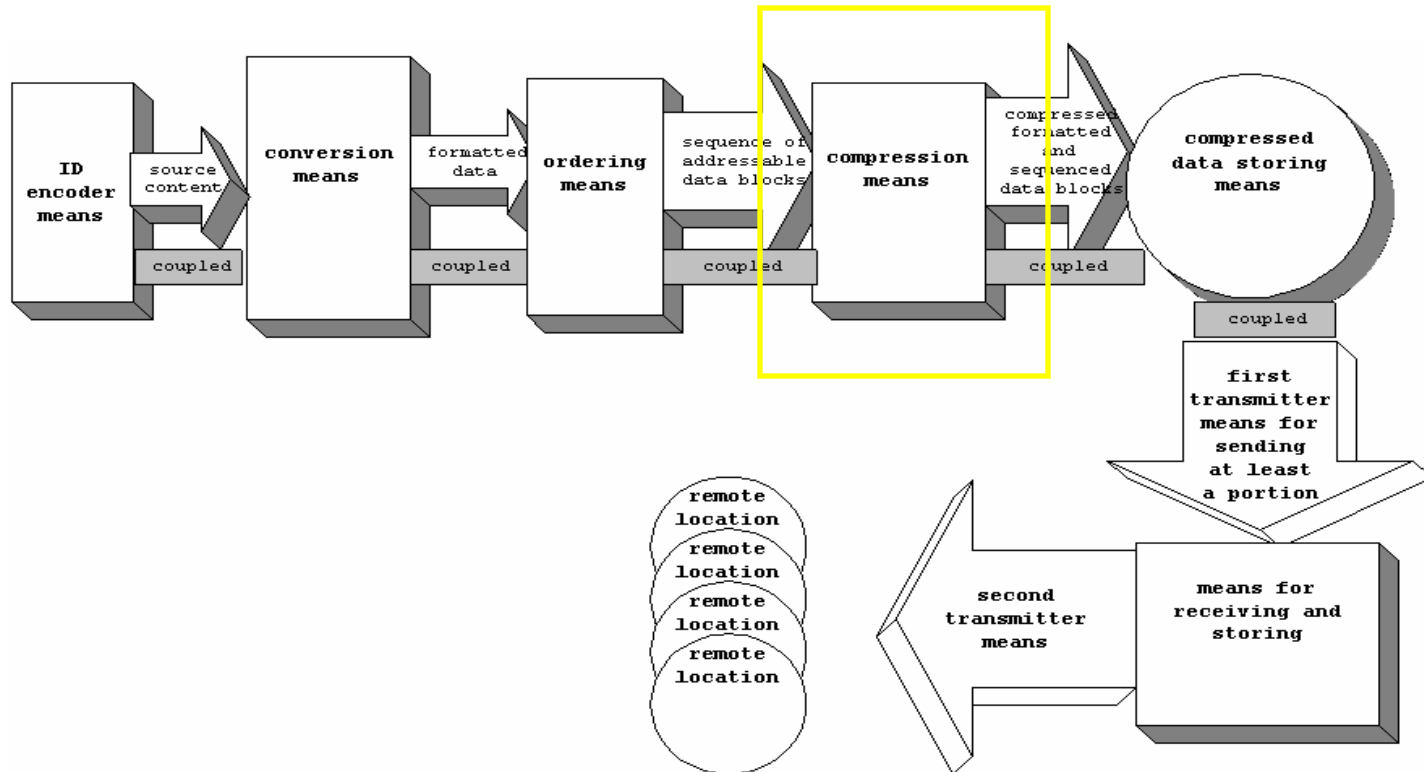
ordering means, coupled to the conversion means, for placing the formatted data for each item of information into a sequence of addressable data blocks;



Most audio encoders, such as RealAudio and Windows Media, organize audio data into discrete data objects prior to compression. Time stamps for data objects in the stream are assigned by the encoder to the data blocks prior to compression. The portion of the audio encoder that creates these time stamped data objects is an example of an ordering means for placing formatted data into a sequence of addressable data blocks.

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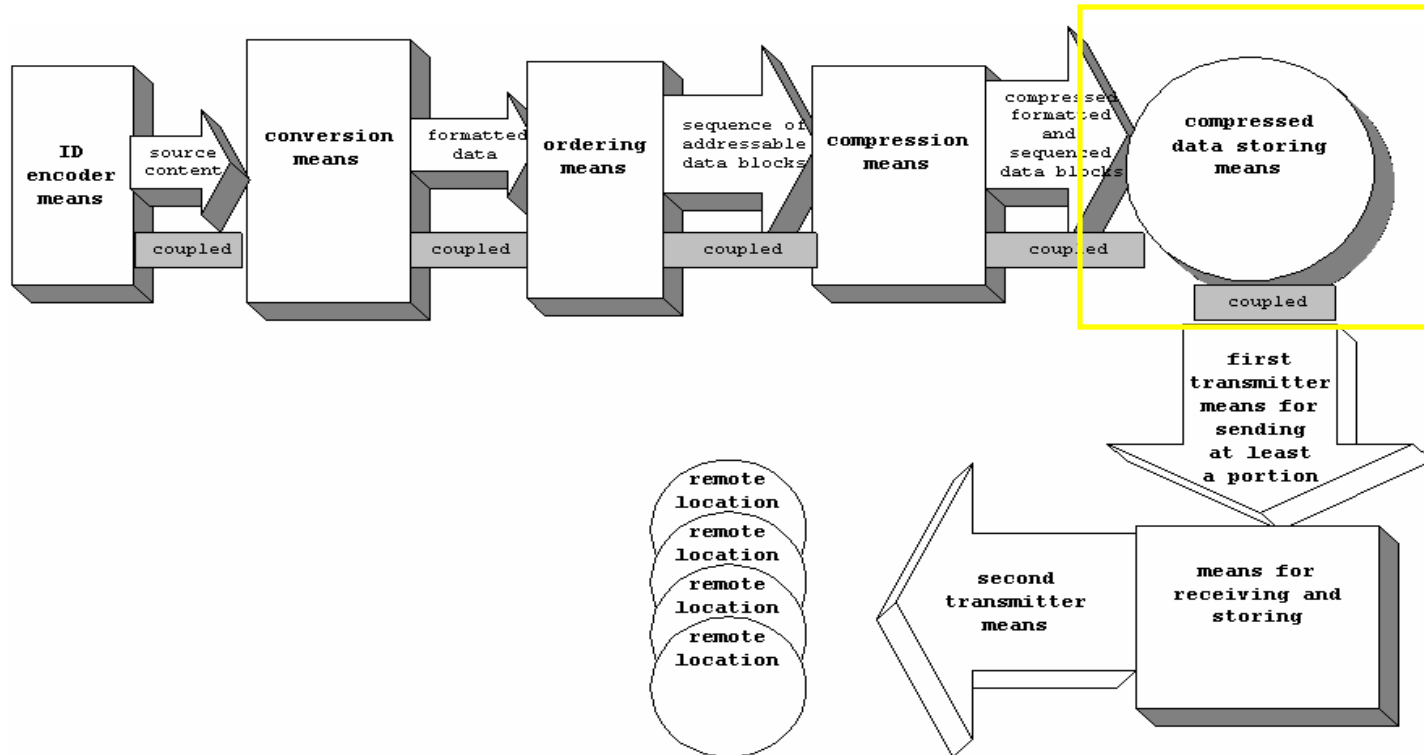
compression means, coupled to the ordering means, for compressing the formatted and sequenced data blocks;



Audio encoders encode the data objects. Audio encoders are examples of compression means.

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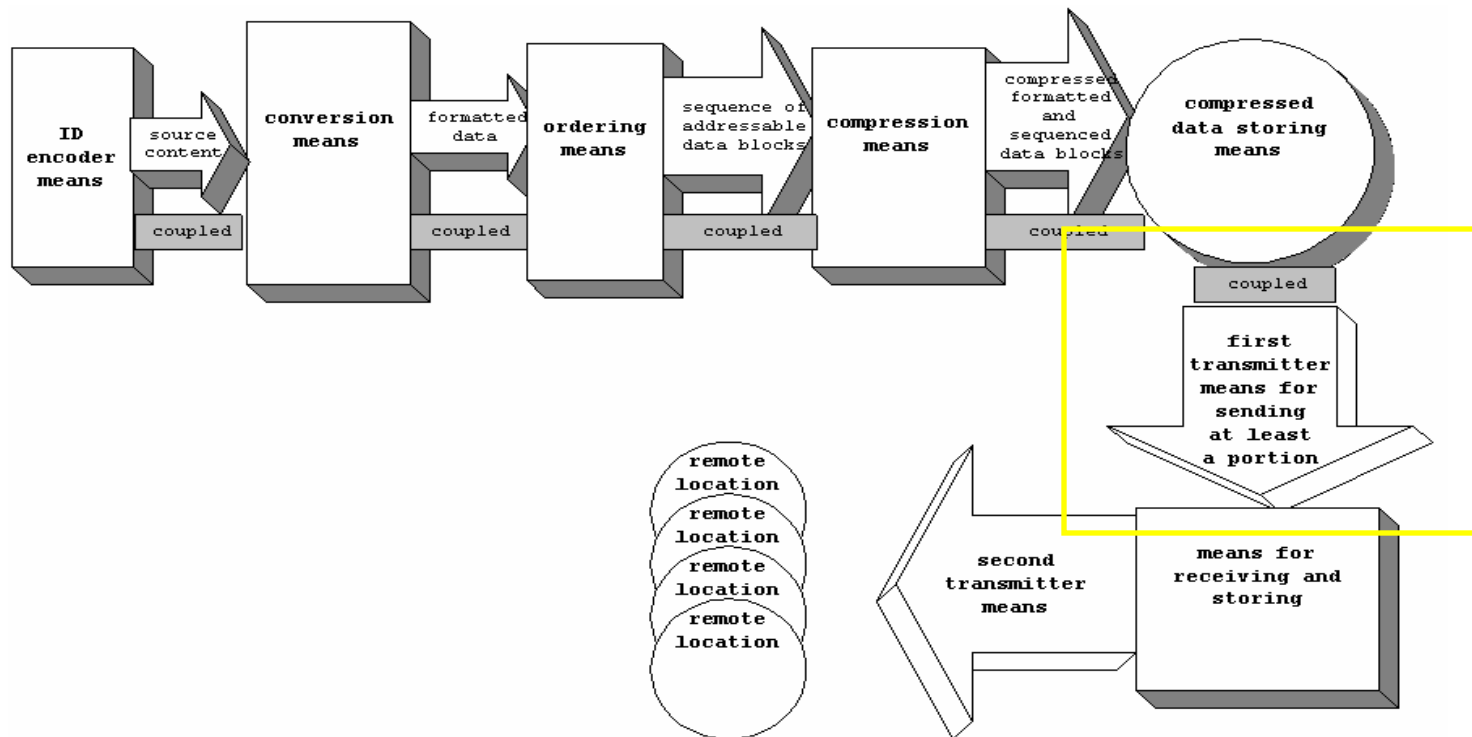
compressed data storing means, coupled to the data compression means, for storing as files the compressed, sequenced data blocks; and



Once compressed, the audio is stored as files on a server. Each file stored on the server is stored with its unique identification code. The server is an example of a compressed data storing means.

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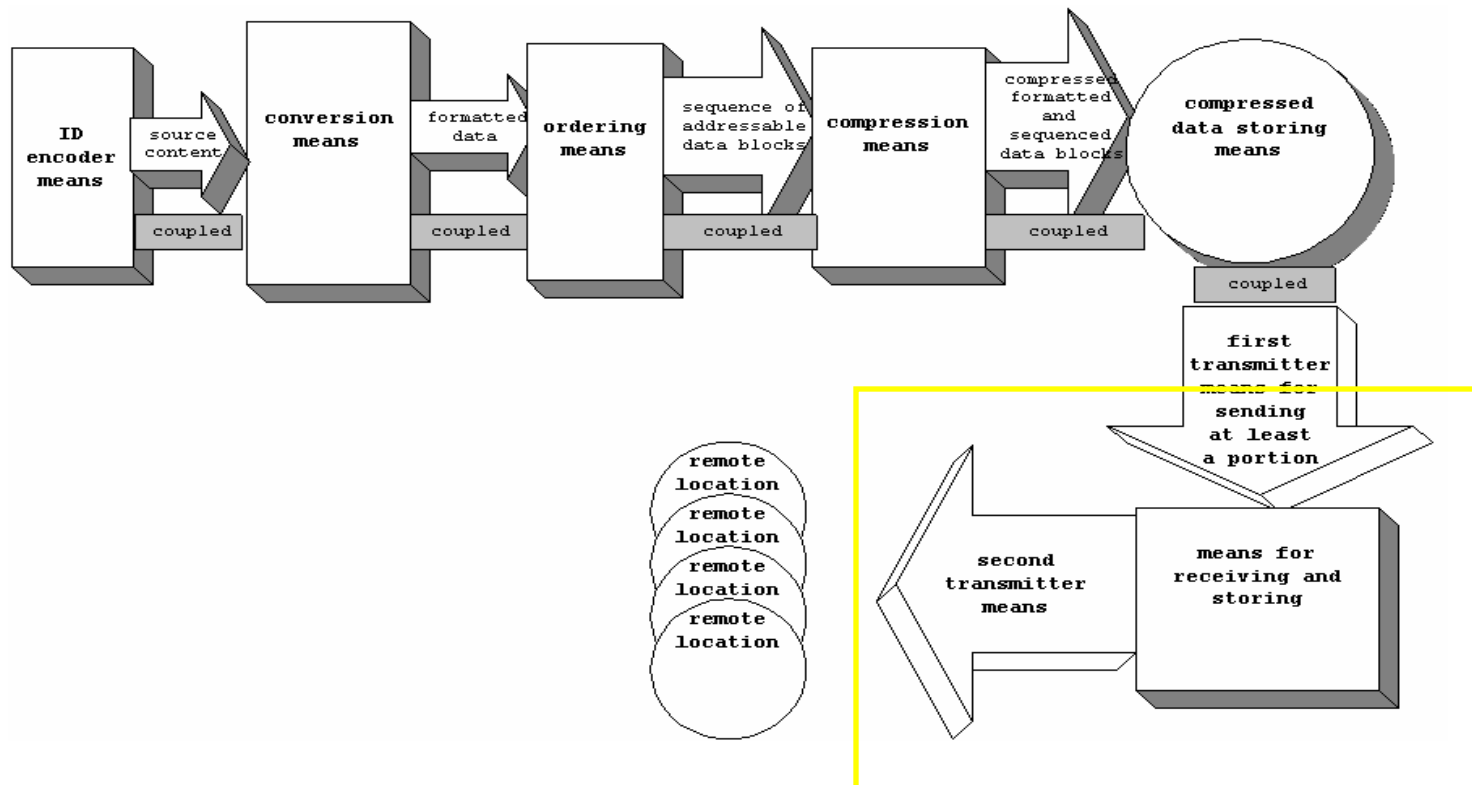
first transmitter means, coupled to the compressed data storing means, for selectively sending at least a portion of one of the files;



The compressed media is transmitted from the content encoding location via a file transfer method (e.g., FTP) over a network connection to the Internet website operator's distribution location. This distribution location may be managed by the website operator or by a content delivery network (CDN) or hosting provider acting on the behalf of the website operator. The network connection used to transfer the compressed media is an example of first transmitter means.

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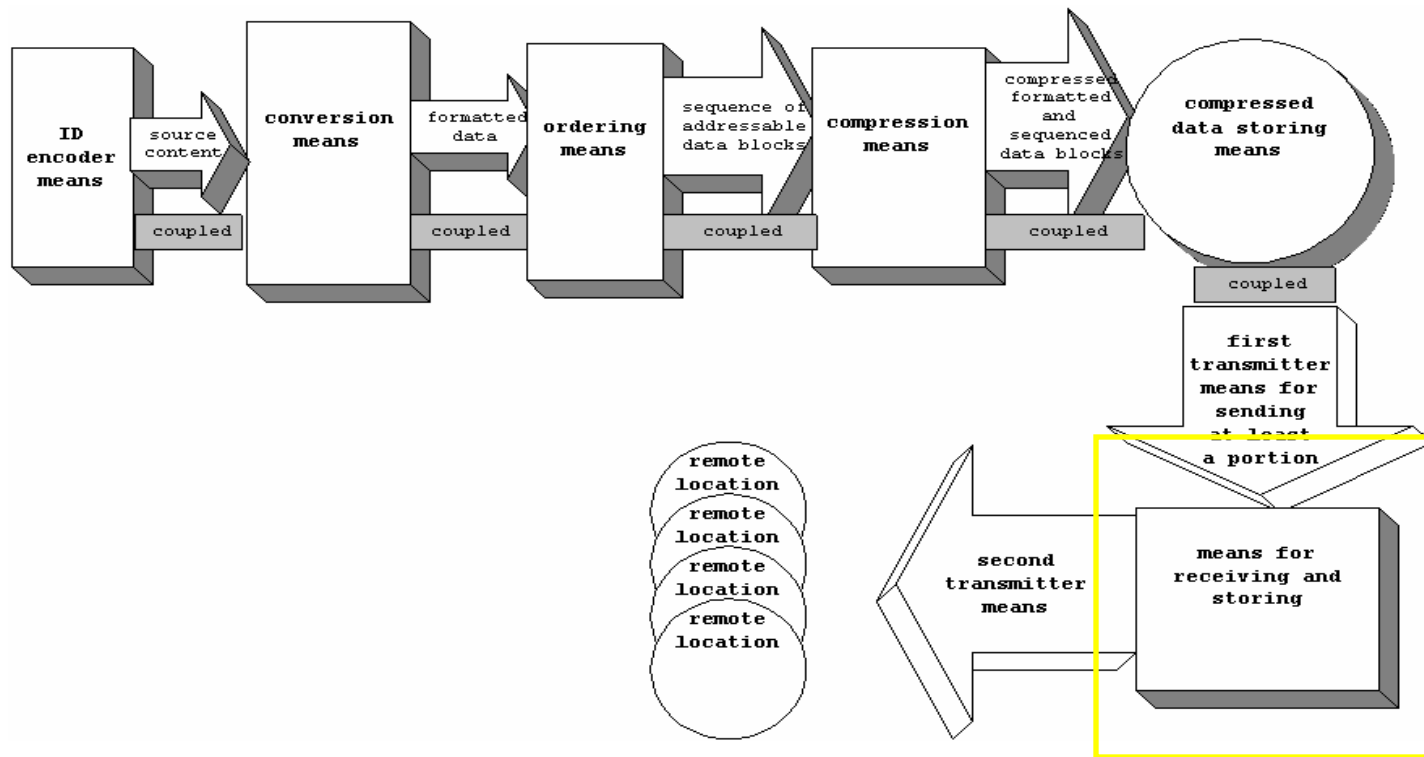
a distribution system, remote from the transmission system, the distribution system comprising:



As an example, the compressed media is transmitted from servers and storage separate from the encoding servers.

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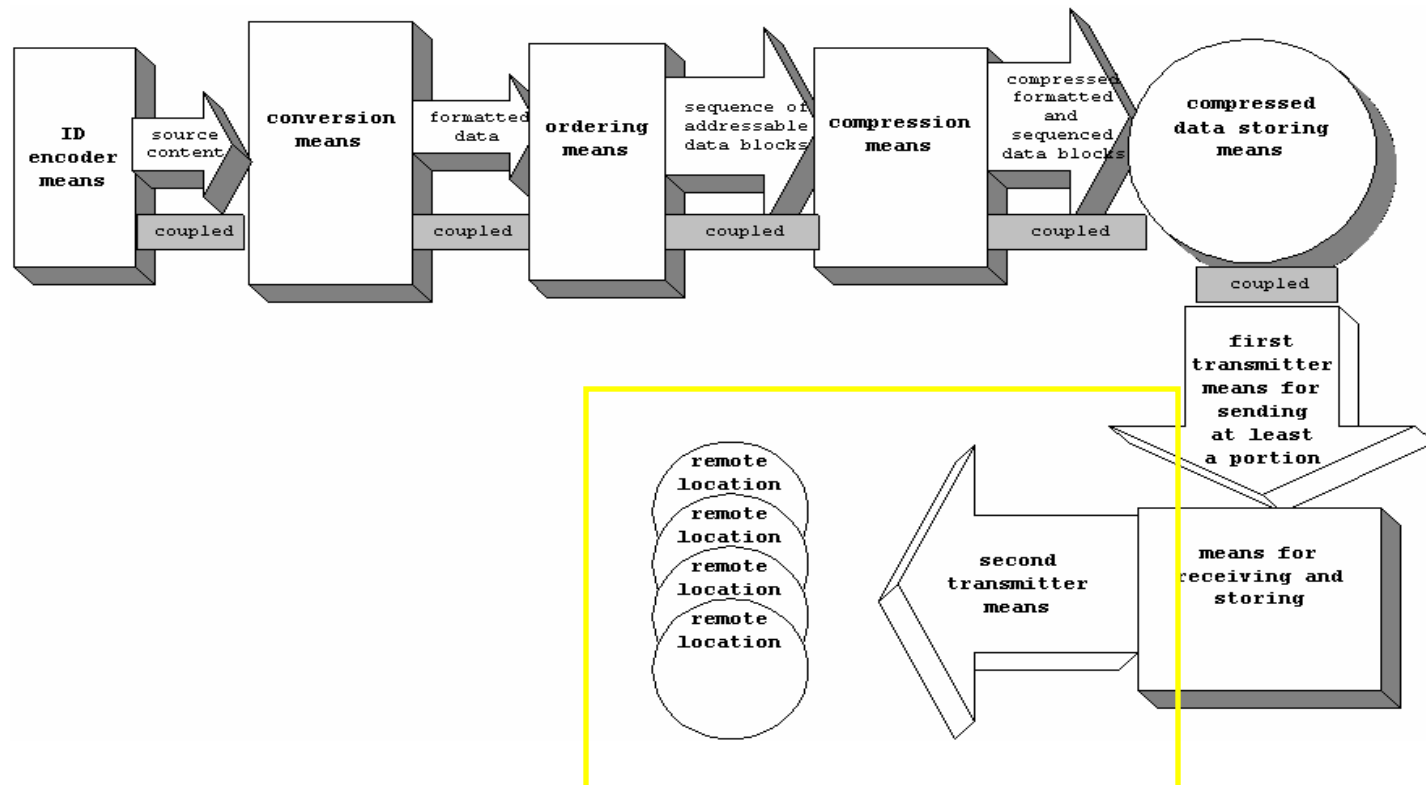
means for receiving and storing a complete copy of the portion of one of the files sent by the first transmitter means; and



The transmitted compressed audio is received via a network connection and stored as files on an array of storage devices. The network connection is an example of a means for receiving and the array of storage devices is an example of a means for storing.

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second transmitter means, responsive to the stored portion of one of the files, for transmitting a representation of the stored portion to at least one of a plurality of the remote locations.



The Internet website operator transmits (e.g., streams, downloads) the audio from a media server connected to the array of storage devices over the Internet to the personal computers of its users. The media server and its infrastructure is an example of a second transmitter means. The Internet connected users are an example of a plurality of remote locations.