Displaying Closed Captioning On A Separate Device From Display

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DISPLAYING CLOSED CAPTIONING ON A SEPARATE DEVICE FROM DISPLAY

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ABSTRACT

A device and system for placing closed captioning (CC) on a separate device than the original rendering device or screen is disclosed. Accordingly, the system may override the placement of CC by the content provider. The system includes an original rendering device and an external display that is connected to the original rendering device via USB or wirelessly through WI-FI or Bluetooth. In another implementation, the external device may use audio clips to sync-up with the video to display CC. Alternatively, the external device may also sync up to the program, and retrieve and display CC from a web server. The advantages of this system are full visibility to the video on screen as the CC does not overlay what is being shown. Also CC could be selectively viewed by anyone having an external display device or a handheld screen that could be synchronized with the rendering device.

BACKGROUND

Closed captioning (CC) was developed to aid the hearing-impaired, but could also be used in various other situations. One of the biggest problems with CC is that, the text that is overlaid on the video may interfere with display of the video. It may obscure faces, gestures, and action shown in the video. Also CC could obscure the scrolling text banners that may be delivered as part of the video. One of the ways to mitigate the problem, if allowed by the display device, is to minimize the size of the CC text so that it does not obscure as much video. This obviously may make it difficult for the viewer to read, depending on how close the viewer is to the TV. Misplaced CC could also obscure some critical aspect of the video.

DESCRIPTION
A device and system for placing CC on a separate device than the original rendering device or screen is disclosed. Accordingly, the system may override the placement of CC by the content provider. The system includes an original rendering device and an external display that is connected to the original rendering device via a wired or wireless connection. The wired connection could be USB and the wireless connection could be through WI-FI or Bluetooth, as illustrated in FIG. 1. In another implementation, the external device may use audio clips to sync up with the video in the rendering device to display CC. Alternatively, the external device may also sync up to the program, and retrieve and display the CC from a web server.

The advantages of the system are full visibility to the video on screen as the CC does not overlay what is being shown. Also, the CC text could be selectively viewed by anyone having an external display device or a handheld screen that could be synchronized with the rendering device.

FIG. 1: Closed caption displayed on an external device