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SYNCHRONIZED MULTIPLE AMBIENT DISPLAYS

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ABSTRACT

Ambient displays are particularly good at monitoring and displaying information in a peripheral and aesthetically pleasing way. A system of multiple ambient displays is disclosed where the user can view image or video or any content in two or more displays at a time, in synchronized fashion. Alternatively, multiple displays may be used to display content scaled or extended across the displays. A major advantage of the system is that users may be able to display important ambient information at all rooms in a location, for example.

BACKGROUND

As technology rapidly advances, more and more sources and types of information are available to the user. Ambient displays are a way to present information in an unobtrusive way so that the user can act on relevant information of interest. Users may have multiple TVs or displays that could be used as ambient displays. They may want to see the same content across all these displays. Currently, ambient displays work independently and some may have the same general feed, but they are not synchronized in time. To achieve this, manual setting in each device may be required. A system is disclosed that provides a way to display the same ambient content simultaneously in multiple displays.

DESCRIPTION

The aim of this disclosure is to create a system of multiple ambient displays where the user can view the image or video or any content in two or more displays at a time, in synchronized fashion. The user may have displays associated with their account ID and would have access to turn the displays on or off. When the user turns on the display, all the displays are configured to show the same ambient content. For example, this could be the image of a flower or other scenery. If the content changes, all ambient displays change at the same time or within a few seconds of each other to show the next piece of content - for example, this could be a security alert showing someone at the gate. If the user changes the ambient settings, all displays reflect this change at the same time.

One alternative to identical displays is to display content scaled or extended across displays. The displays may be flat panel displays or screens or TVs, and could be placed in a row or stacked in a grid. The displays could be compounded to act as a larger canvas to display content.

A major advantage of the system is that users may be able to display important ambient information at all rooms in a location, for example. The information could be a news ticker with event information or financial information, or it could be security information in the form of video, images, status or other security alerts. Another example of use of the system is to display curated content such as a personal gallery, or a special image that the user wants to see in all rooms or situations. A children’s party could be held at a location in which themed content is synchronized across various rooms, enabling participation across several locations, for example.