

general play as a slot machine game, a keno game, a video poker game, a video blackjack game, and/or any other video table game, among others. While gaming machine 10 is usually adapted for live game play with a physically present player, it is also contemplated that such a gaming machine may also be adapted for remote game play with a player at a remote gaming terminal. Such an adaptation preferably involves communication from the gaming machine to at least one outside location, such as a remote gaming terminal itself, as well as the incorporation of a gaming network that is capable of supporting a system of remote gaming with multiple gaming machines and/or multiple remote gaming terminals.

[0111] Gaming machine 10 may also be a “dummy” machine, kiosk or gaming terminal, in that all processing may be done at a remote server, with only the external housing, displays, and pertinent inputs and outputs being available to a player. Further, it is also worth noting that the term “gaming machine” may also refer to a wide variety of gaming machines in addition to traditional free standing gaming machines. Such other gaming machines can include kiosks, set-top boxes for use with televisions in hotel rooms and elsewhere, and many server based systems that permit players to log in and play remotely, such as at a personal computer or PDA. All such gaming machines can be considered “gaming machines” for purposes of the present invention and following discussion, with all of the disclosed metering techniques and devices being adaptable for such uses of alternative gaming machines and devices.

[0112] With reference to FIG. 1B, the gaming machine of FIG. 1A is illustrated in perspective view with its main door opened. In addition to the various exterior items described above, such as top box 11, main cabinet 12 and primary video display monitor 26, gaming machine 10 also comprises a variety of internal components. As will be readily understood by those skilled in the art, gaming machine 10 contains a variety of locks and mechanisms, such as main door lock 36 and latch 37. Internal portions of coin acceptor 22 and bill or ticket scanner 23 can also be seen, along with the physical meters associated with these peripheral devices. Processing system 50 includes computer architecture for interacting with and implementing a retinal image system, as will be discussed in further detail below.

[0113] When a person wishes to play a gaming machine 10, he or she provides coins, cash or a credit device to a scanner included in the gaming machine. The scanner may comprise a bill scanner or a similar device configured to read printed information on a credit device such as a paper ticket or magnetic scanner that reads information from a plastic card. The credit device may be stored in the interior of the gaming machine. During interaction with the gaming machine, the person views game information using a video display. Usually, during the course of a game, a player is required to make a number of decisions that affect the outcome of the game. The player makes these choices using a set of player-input switches.

[0114] After the player has completed interaction with the gaming machine, the player may receive a portable credit device from the machine that includes any credit resulting from interaction with the gaming machine. By way of example, the portable credit device may be a ticket having a dollar value produced by a printer within the gaming

machine. A record of the credit value of the device may be stored in a memory device provided on a gaming machine network (e.g., a memory device associated with validation terminal and/or processing system in the network). Any credit on some devices may be used for further games on other gaming machines 10. Alternatively, the player may redeem the device at a designated change booth or pay machine.

[0115] A gaming machine of the present invention can be used to play any primary game, bonus game, progressive or other type of game. In one embodiment, the gaming machine includes a game that enables a player to have inputs and interaction that are associated with a depth or z-dimension extending into and through the face of a frontmost display surface. This type of 3D game play can be suitable for wagering games which, by their original design, are 3D, such as blackjack, poker, roulette, and other casino games including, but not limited to, skill and perceived-skill games. Other wagering games can enable a player to cause different events to occur based upon how hard the player pushes on a touch screen. For example, a player could cause reels or objects to move faster by pressing harder on the exterior touch screen. In these types of games, the gaming machine can enable the player to interact in the 3D by varying the amount of pressure the player applies to a touchscreen.

[0116] In another embodiment, the gaming machine enables a player to play two or more games on two or more display screens at the same time or at different times. For example, a player can play two related games on two of the display screens simultaneously. In another example, once a player deposits currency to initiate the gaming machine, the gaming machine may enable the player to choose from one or more games to play on different screens. In yet another example, the gaming machine can include a multi-level bonus scheme that enables a player to advance to different bonus rounds that are displayed and played on different display screens.

[0117] Some gaming machines may include a touchscreen that permits force differentiation that allows a person to separately access each display layer in a layered display configuration. This includes gaming machine software and control that reads the amount of force applied by a person and reactively associates this force with video data on a particular screen or layer.

[0118] As indicated above, a gaming machine of the present invention also enables a person to view information and graphics generated on one display screen while playing a game that is generated on another display screen. Such information and graphics can include game paytables, game-related information, entertaining graphics, background, history or game theme-related information or information not related to the game, such as advertisements. The gaming machine can display this information and graphics adjacent to a game, underneath or behind a game or on top of a game. For example, a gaming machine could display paylines on the frontmost display screen and also display a reel game on an underlying display screen, and the paylines could fade in and fade out periodically.

[0119] A gaming machine includes one or more processors and memory that cooperate to output games and gaming interaction functions from stored memory. FIG. 7 illustrates