

system, or combinations thereof, the interaction device being used to choose one of the command regions at each of the levels.

12. The system of claim 1, wherein:

an application window is displayed as part of the UDI upon a user choosing one of the command regions that was assigned to the application;

the application window allows the user to interact with the application; and

the command regions are accessible to the user after the application window is displayed.

13. A method, comprising:

(a) managing a visual appearance of a UDI, which includes a shape and number of command regions, the visual appearance remaining substantially the same at each of a plurality of levels, wherein only one of the levels appears at a given time;

(b) assigning application functions to each of the command regions; and

(c) managing the UDI in response to interactions with the command regions.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein steps (a)-(c) are performed in a hand-held device.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein steps (a)-(c) are performed in video equipment.

16. The method of claim 13, wherein steps (a)-(c) are performed in a home entertainment system.

17. The method of claim 13, wherein steps (a)-(c) are performed in a camera.

18. The method of claim 13, wherein steps (a)-(c) are performed in a wireless telephone.

19. The method of claim 13, wherein steps (a)-(c) are performed in a copier.

20. The method of claim 13, wherein steps (a)-(c) are performed in a remote control.

21. The method of claim 13, wherein steps (a)-(c) are performed in a household appliance.

22. The method of claim 13, wherein steps (a)-(c) are performed in a commercial appliance.

23. The method of claim 13, further comprising:

(d) interacting with one of one or more buttons, one or more rotary dials, a touch screen, a voice input system or combinations thereof, the interacting step being used to choose one of the command regions at each of the levels.

24. A user definable interface (UDI), comprising:

a display device that displays a user-selectable geometric arrangement of command regions that remains substantially the same at each of a plurality of levels, wherein only one of the plurality of levels appears at a given time; and

an associating device that allows one or more functions to be associated by a user or pre-assigned to each command region, so as to define the plurality of levels of the command regions.

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