

various alterations, modifications, and/or alternative applications of the invention will, no doubt, be suggested to those skilled in the art after having read the preceding disclosure. Accordingly, it is intended that the following claims be interpreted as encompassing all alterations, modifications, or alternative applications as fall within the true spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A computer system adapted to play audio files, said computer system comprising:

a system CPU;

memory;

at least one drive comprising compressed audio data, said compressed audio data residing in one or more audio files;

a play list software program for selecting and storing a play list comprising one or more of said audio files;

a first operating system adapted to control at least said system CPU and said memory; and

a second operating system, said second operating system being stored in BIOS and adapted to retrieve said play list and cause said drive to read at least one said audio file of said play list, to cause said system CPU to decompress the compressed audio data of said file and provide decompressed audio data, and to cause said decompressed audio data to be stored in said memory.

2. A computer system adapted to play audio files, said computer system comprising:

a system CPU;

memory;

at least one drive comprising compressed audio data;

a first operating system adapted to control at least said system CPU and said memory; and

a second operating system, said second operating system being stored in BIOS and adapted to cause said system CPU to decompress said compressed audio data and store said decompressed audio data in said memory.

3. A computer system adapted to play audio files, said computer system comprising:

a system CPU;

memory;

at least one drive comprising compressed audio data; and

an operating system stored in BIOS, said operating system being adapted to cause said system CPU to decompress said compressed audio data and store said compressed audio data in said memory.

4. A computer system adapted to play audio files, said computer system comprising:

compressed audio data;

a system CPU; and

an operating system stored in BIOS, said operating system being adapted to cause said system CPU to decompress said compressed audio data.

5. A computer system adapted to play audio files, said computer system comprising:

compressed audio data;

a system CPU;

an audio controller; and

an operating system stored in BIOS, said operating system controlling said audio controller and said system CPU, so as to cause said system CPU to decompress said compressed audio data.

6. A computer system adapted to play audio files, said computer system comprising:

compressed audio data;

a system CPU;

an audio controller;

a first operating system adapted to control at least said system CPU; and

a second operating system stored in BIOS, said second operating system controlling said audio controller and said system CPU, so as to cause said system CPU to decompress said compressed audio data.

7. A computer system adapted to play audio files, said computer system comprising:

a system CPU;

memory;

at least one drive comprising compressed audio data, said compressed audio data residing in one or more audio files;

a first operating system adapted to control at least said system CPU and said memory;

a play list software program executable under said first operating system, said play list software program being adapted to permit selection and storage of a play list comprising one or more of said audio files; and

a second operating system, said second operating system being stored in BIOS and adapted to retrieve said play list and cause said drive to read at least one said audio file of said play list, to cause said system CPU to decompress the compressed audio data of said file and provide decompressed audio data, and to cause said decompressed audio data to be stored in said memory.

8. A computer system adapted to play audio files, said computer system comprising:

at least one drive comprising audio data, said audio data residing in one or more audio files;

a system CPU;

memory;

a first operating system adapted to control at least said system CPU and said memory;

a play list software program executable under said first operating system, said play list software program being adapted to permit selection and storage of a play list comprising one or more of said audio files; and

a second operating system, said second operating system being stored in BIOS and adapted to retrieve said play