

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An audio system responsive to a source of audio programming, the audio system comprising:

a master amplifier connected to the source of audio programming, the master amplifier providing channelized amplified audio signals at each one of a plurality of channel output connectors;

a signal splitter connected to at least one of the plurality of channel output connectors for splitting the channelized amplified audio signal at a selected one of the plurality of channel output connectors into an audio channel signal and a power signal;

a channel transmit module responsive to the audio channel signal and the power signal for transmitting the audio channel signal;

a channel receiver responsive to an intended audio channel signal;

a channel amplifier connected to an associated channel receiver for amplifying the intended audio channel signal; and

a sound reproducing device connected to the channel amplifier for aurally reproducing the intended audio channel signal.

2. The audio system of claim 1 the transmit module transmitting the audio channel signal as radio frequency signals or as optical signals.

3. The audio system of claim 1 wherein the signal splitter and the transmit module are enclosed in a single enclosure.

4. The audio system of claim 1 wherein the channelized amplified audio signals from the master amplifier maintain a relative audio level between each one of the channelized amplified audio signals.

5. The audio system of claim 1 further comprising a power module interposed between the signal splitter and the transmit module, the power module comprising:

a transformer responsive to the power signal from the signal splitter;

a rectifier connected to the transformer;

a charging circuit connected to the rectifier, the charging circuit supplying a modified power signal to the transmit module; and

an energy storage device responsive to the modified power signal for supplying power to the charging circuit as needed.

6. The audio system of claim 5 wherein the energy storage device comprises a capacitor, a battery or another energy device for storing energy.

7. The audio system of claim 1 further comprising a plurality of signal splitters, a like plurality of channel transmit modules, a like plurality of channel receivers, a like plurality of channel amplifiers and a like plurality of sound reproducing devices each of the like plurality of channel receivers responsive to a different audio channel signal.

8. A transmit module responsive to a master amplifier that is responsive to a source of audio programming, the master amplifier providing channelized amplified audio signals at each one of a plurality of channel output connectors, the transmit module comprising:

a connector for physically connecting the transmit module to one of the plurality of channel output connectors for providing a selected channelized amplified audio signal to the transmit module;

a signal splitter for splitting the selected channelized amplified audio signal into an audio channel signal and a first power signal;

a power module responsive to the first power signal for providing a second power signal; and

a transmitter responsive to the audio channel signal and deriving power from the second power signal, the transmitter transmitting the audio channel signal to a channel receiver.

9. The transmit module of claim 8 wherein the power module comprises:

a transformer responsive to the first power signal from the signal splitter;

a rectifier connected to the transformer;

a charging circuit connected to the rectifier, the charging circuit supplying the second power signal to the transmitter; and

an energy storage device responsive to the second power signal for supplying power to the charging circuit as needed.

10. The transmit module of claim 9 wherein the energy storage device comprises a capacitor, a battery or another device capable of storing energy.