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Shelton, IV et al.

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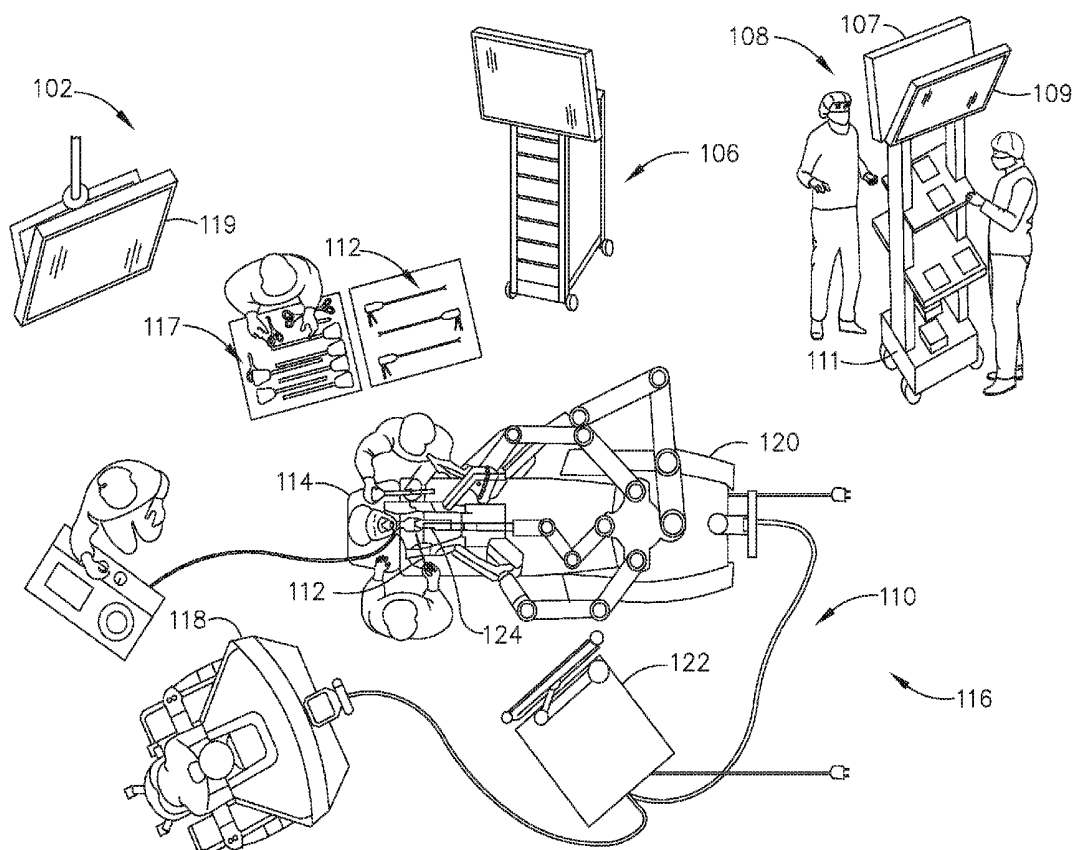
(52) U.S. Cl.

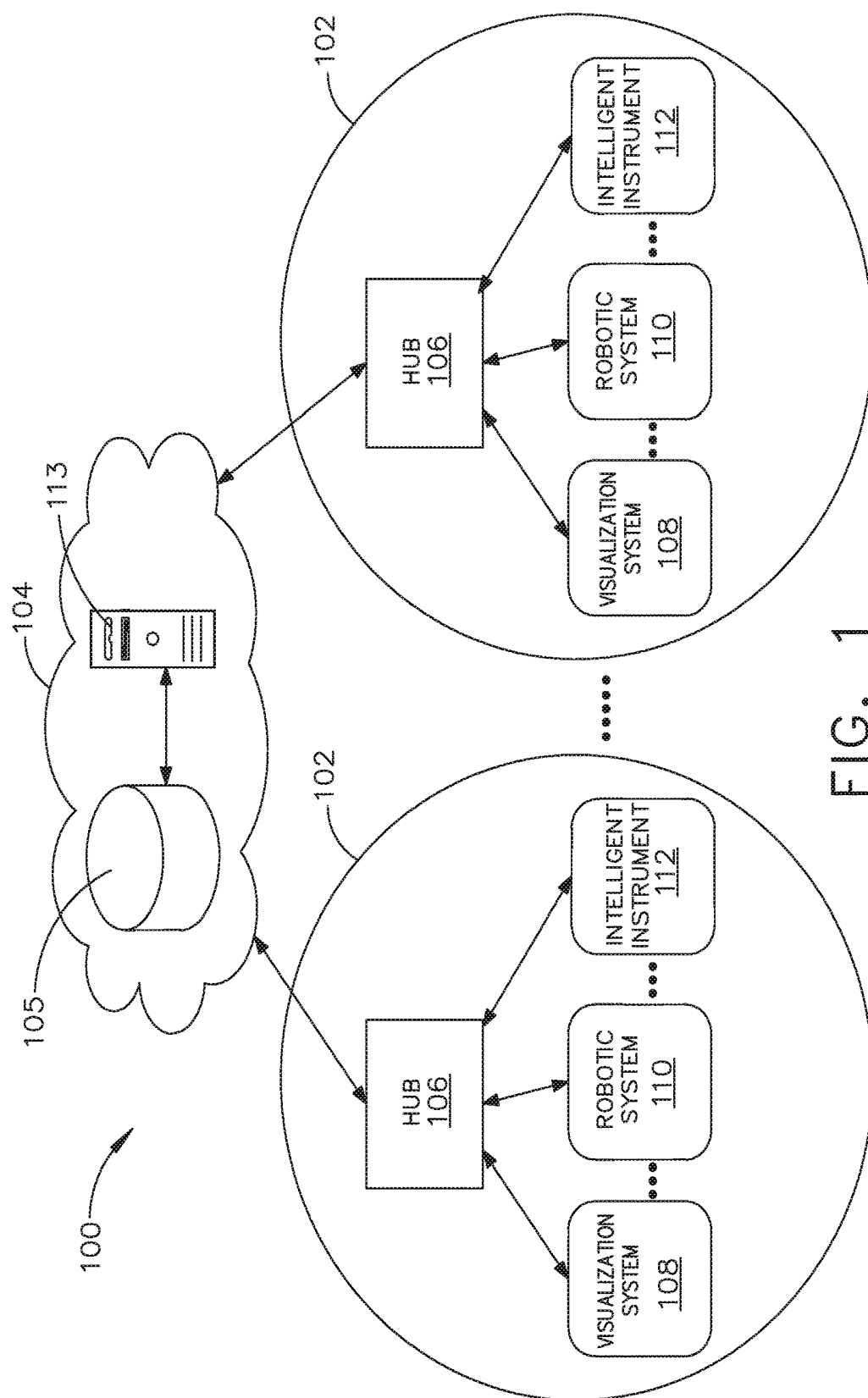
CPC *A61B 90/37* (2016.02); *A61B 2017/00199*
(2013.01); *A61B 17/320068* (2013.01); *A61B*
34/25 (2016.02)

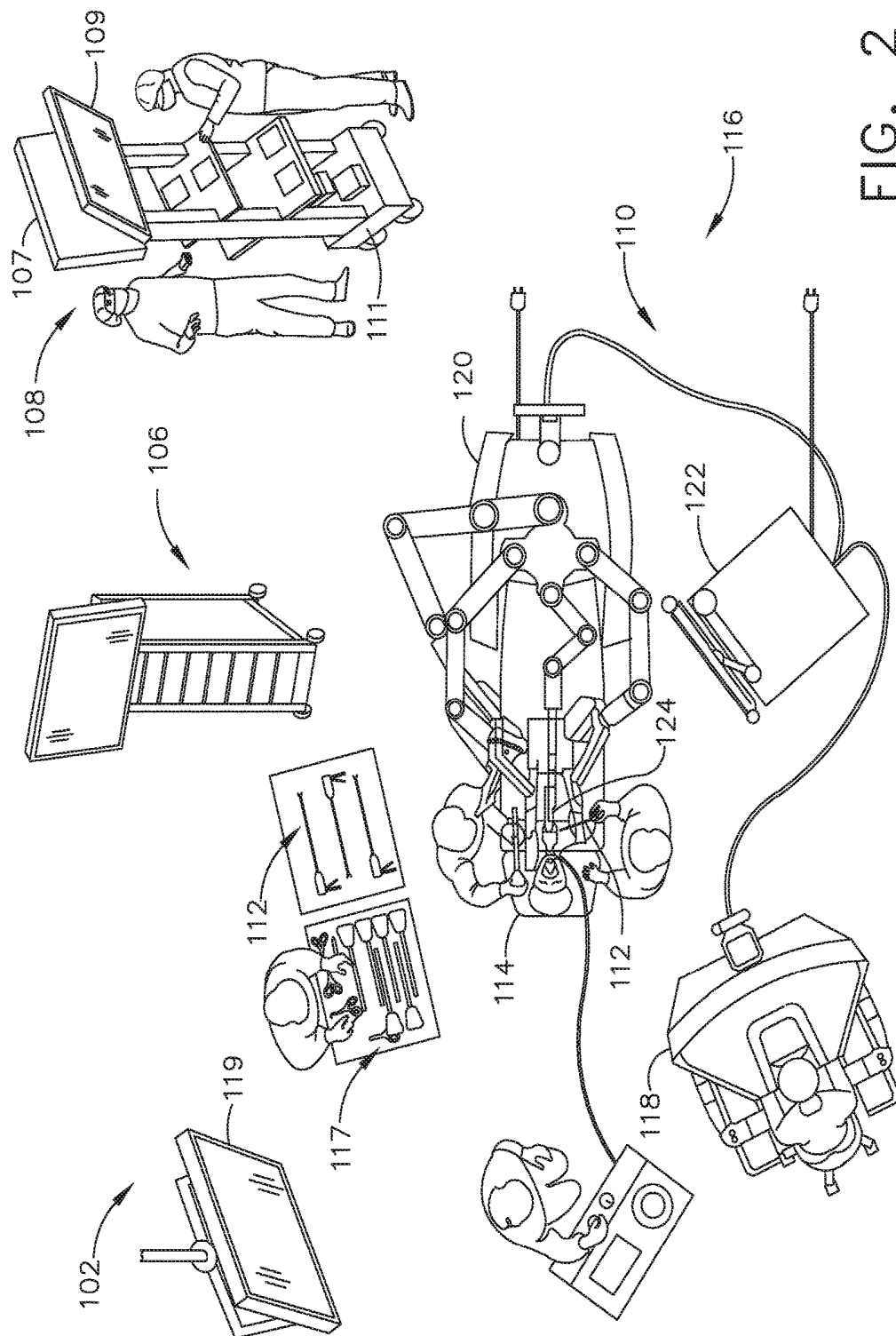
(57)

ABSTRACT

A surgical system assembly is disclosed. The surgical system assembly includes a first surgical system and a second surgical system coupled to the first surgical system. The second surgical system includes a control circuit. The control circuit is configured to operate in a first mode or a second mode and control one or more functions of the first surgical system when the second surgical system is in the second mode.







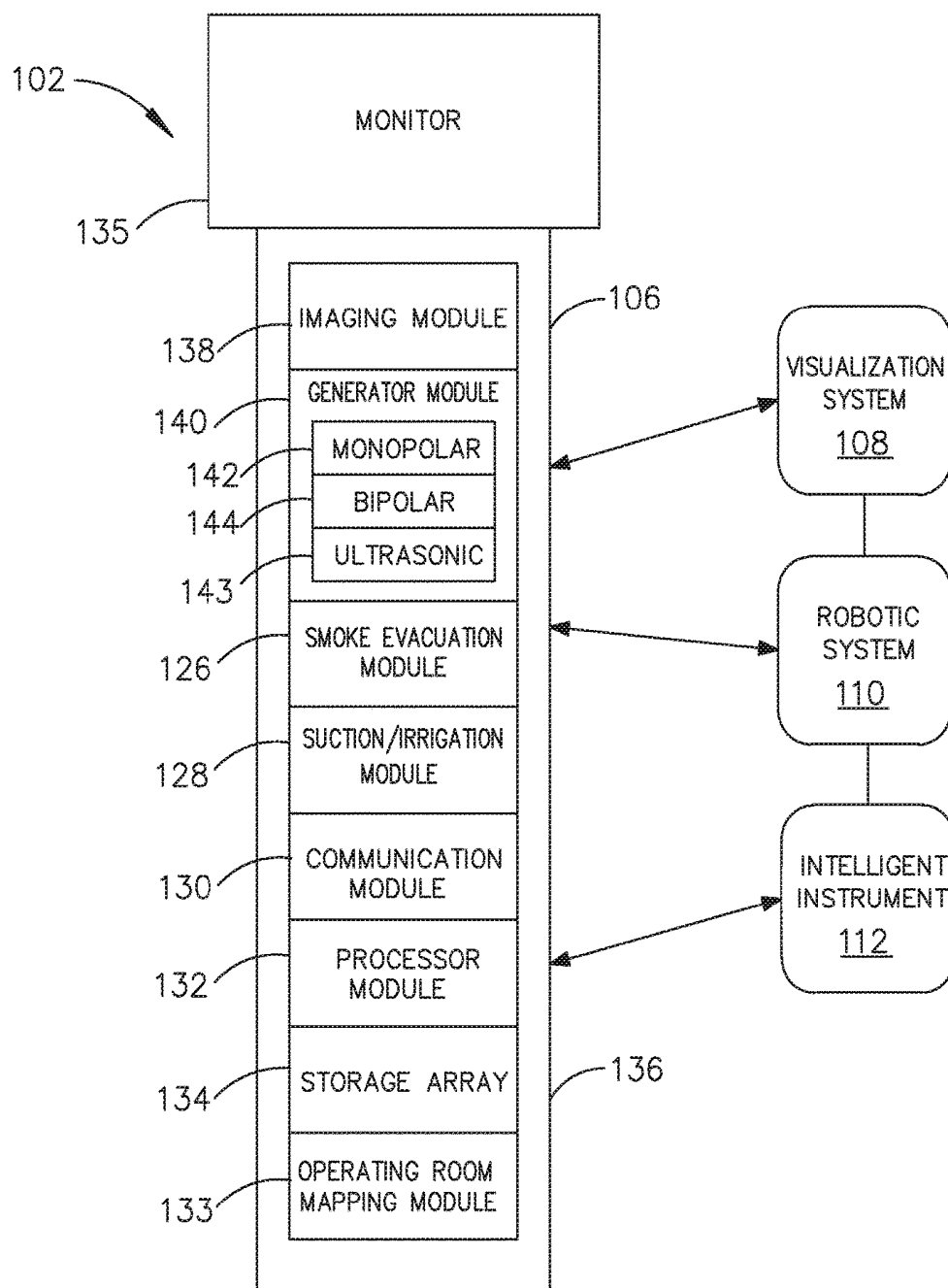


FIG. 3

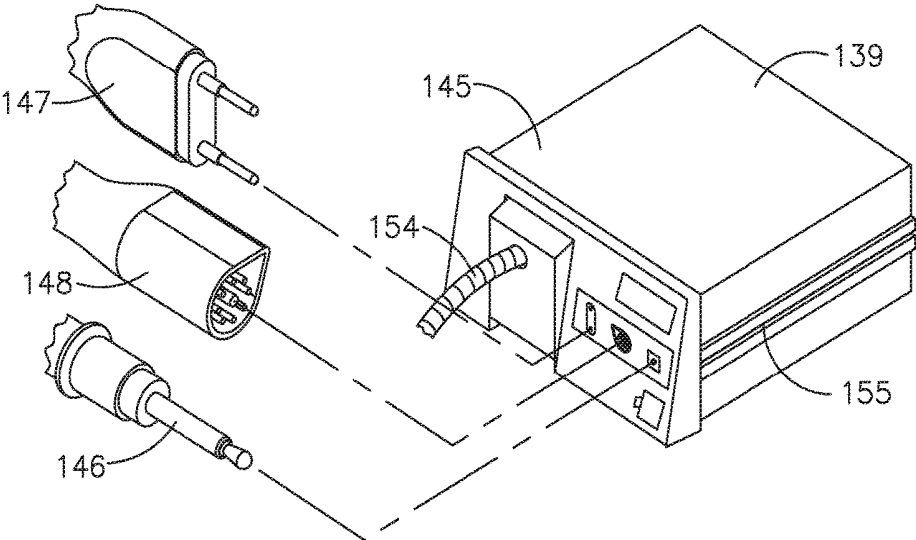


FIG. 5

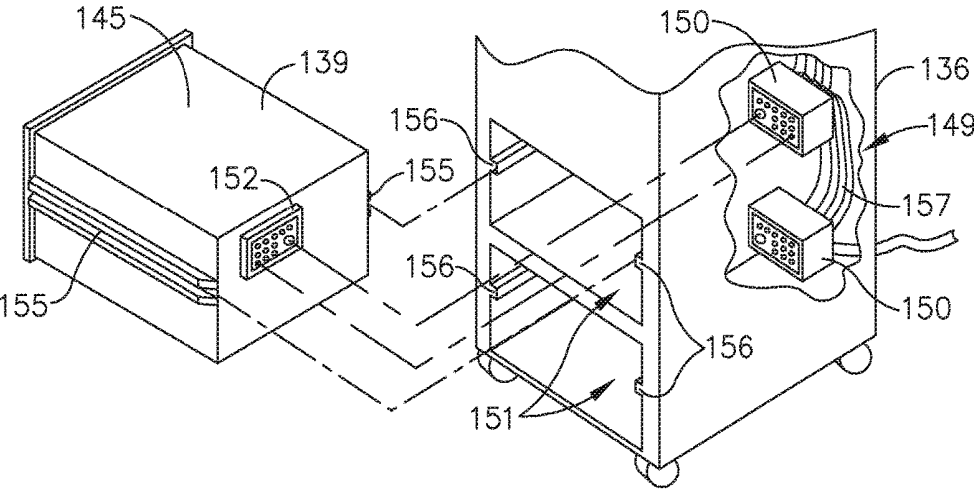


FIG. 4

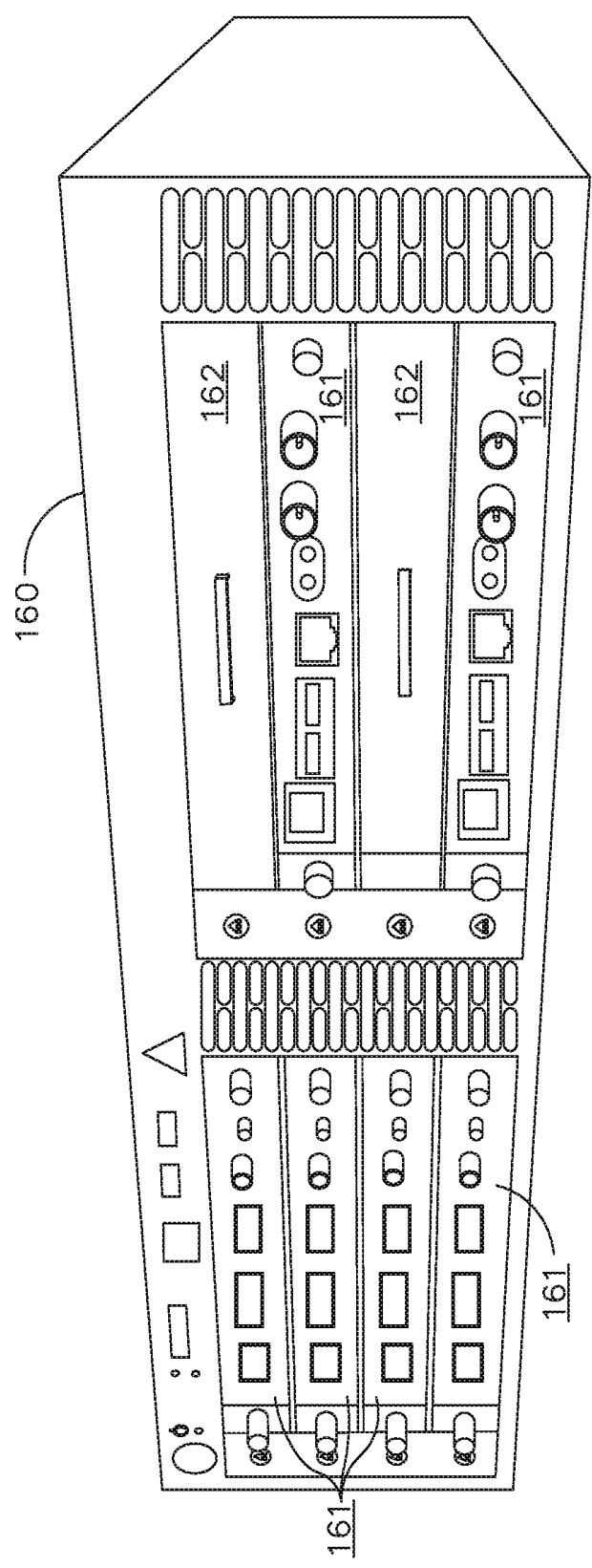


FIG. 6

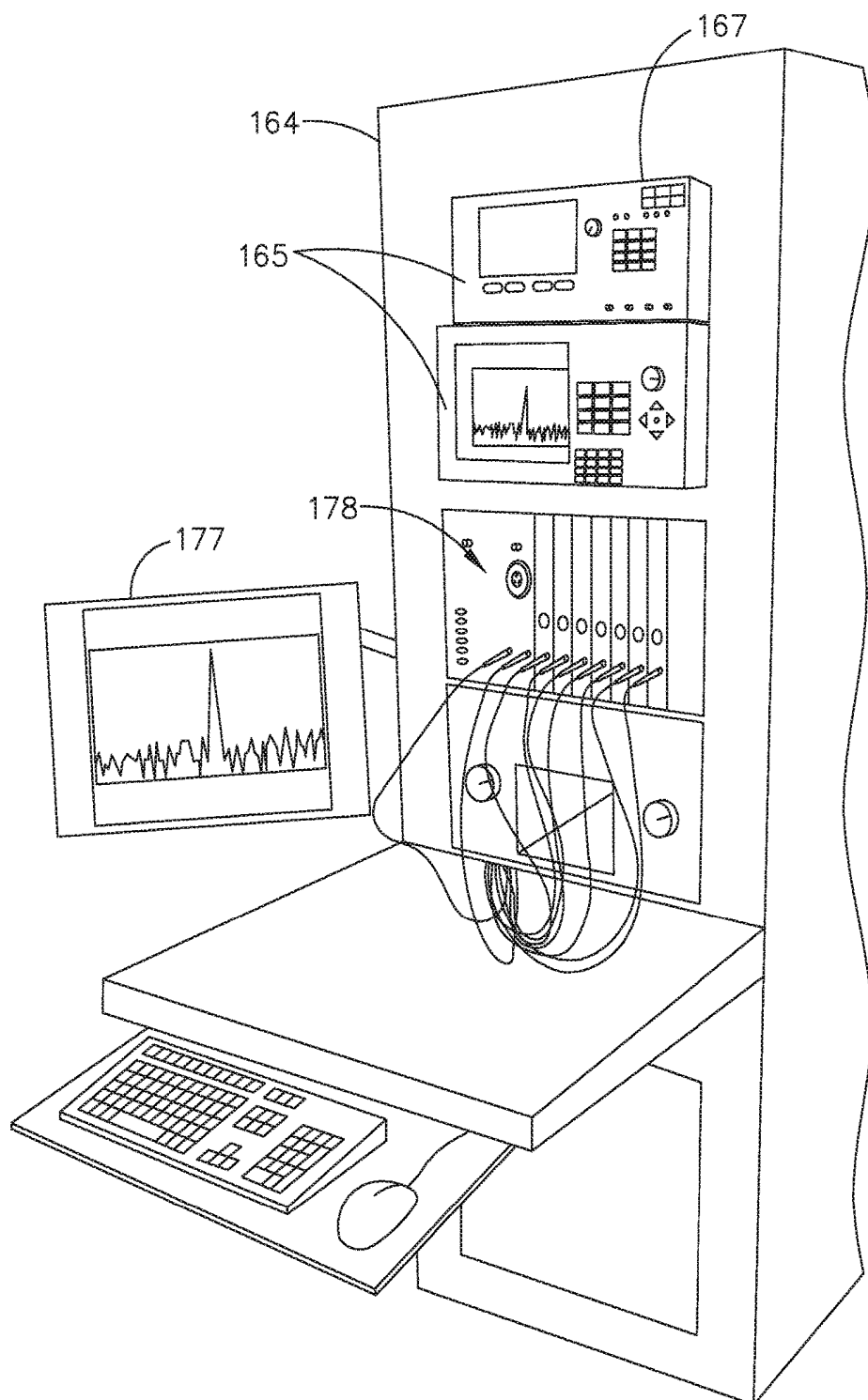


FIG. 7

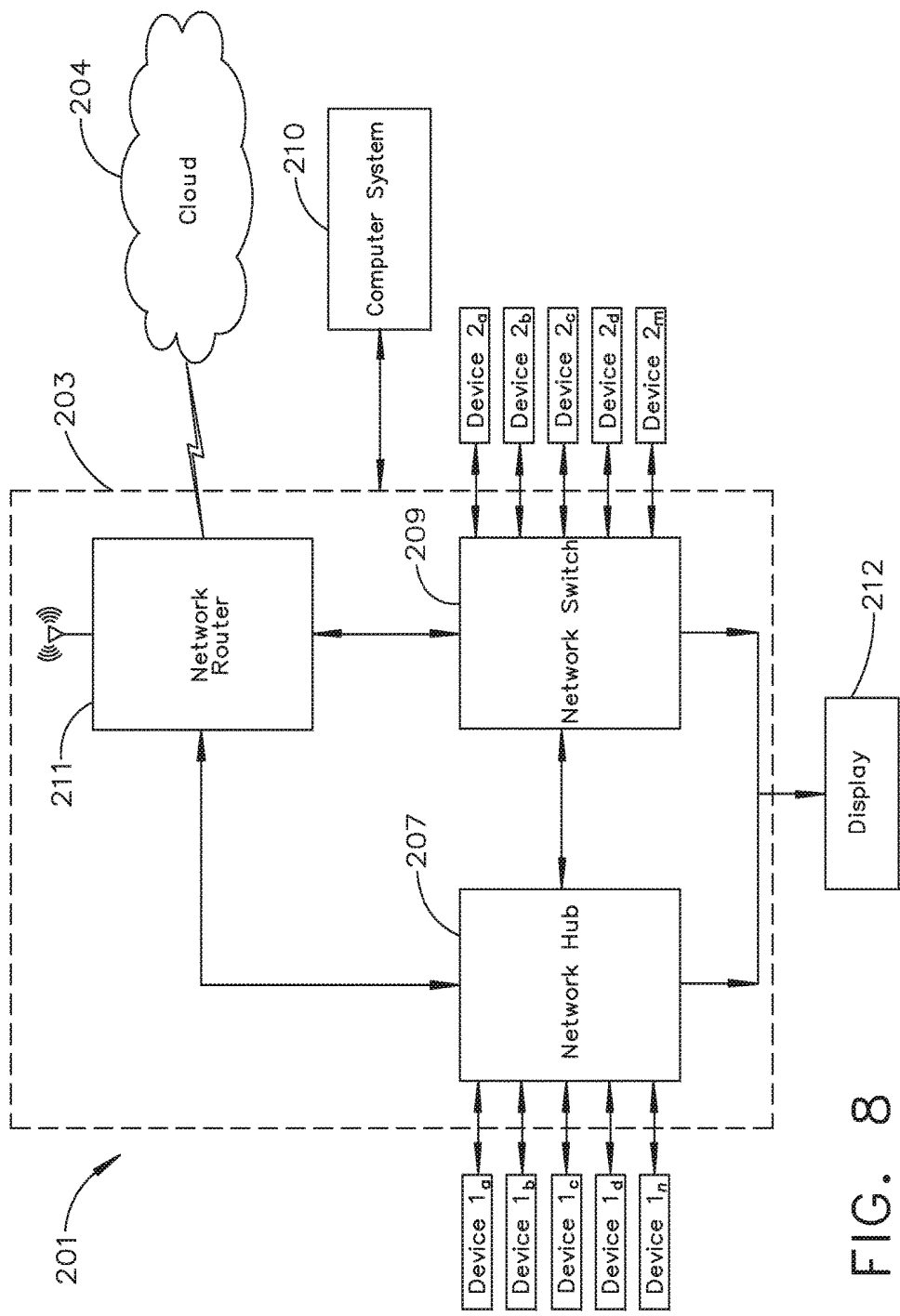


FIG. 8

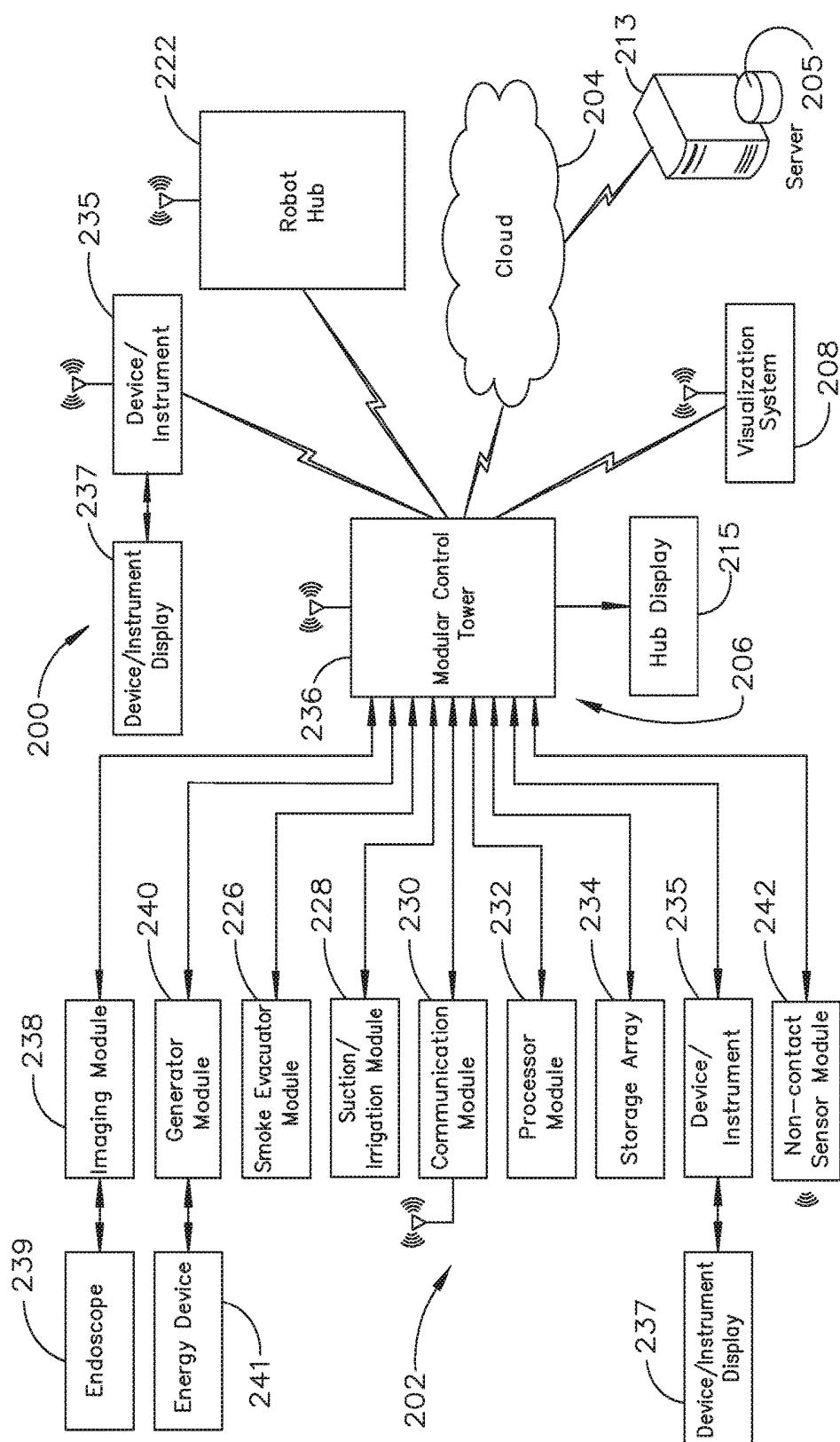


FIG. 9

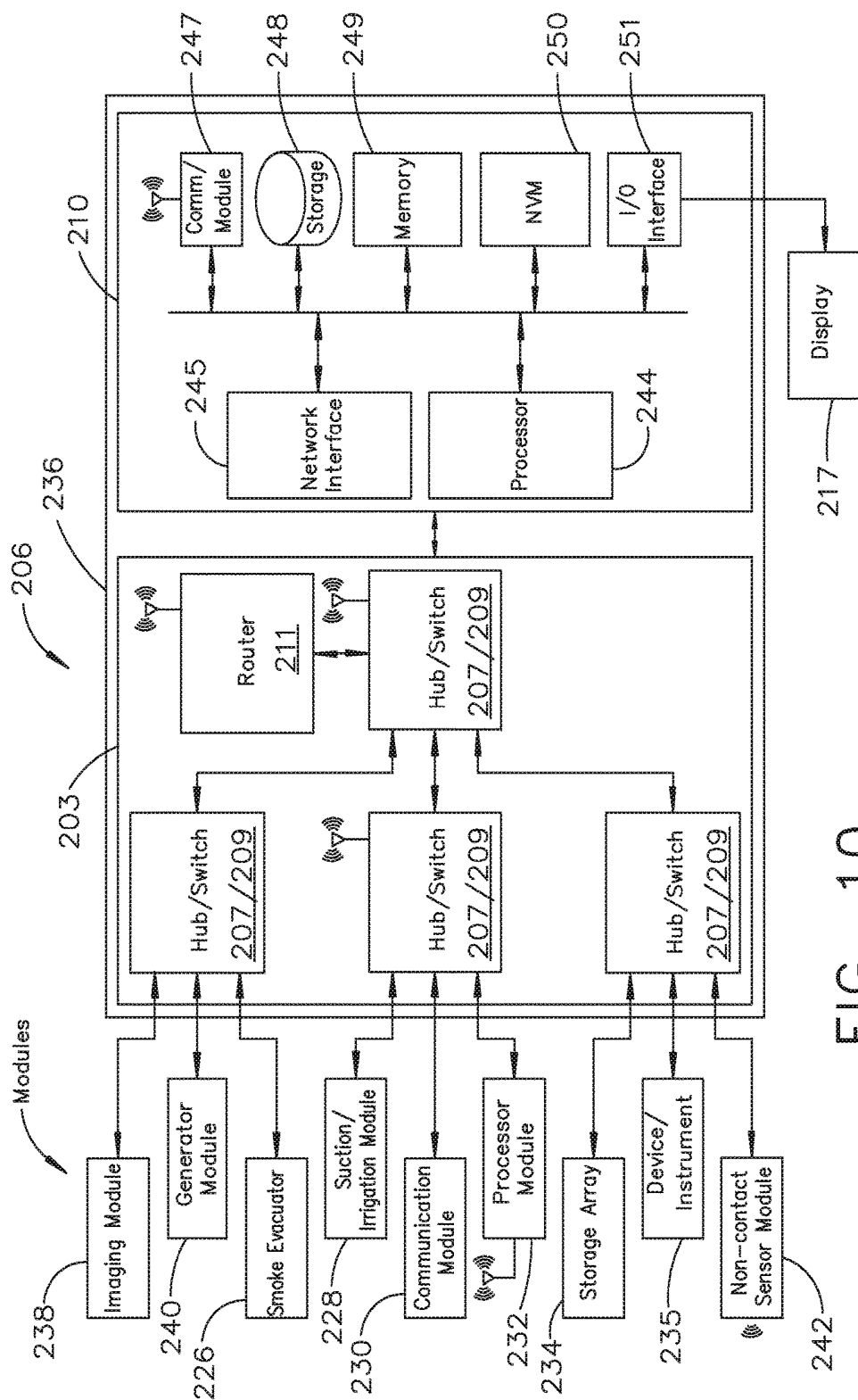


FIG. 10

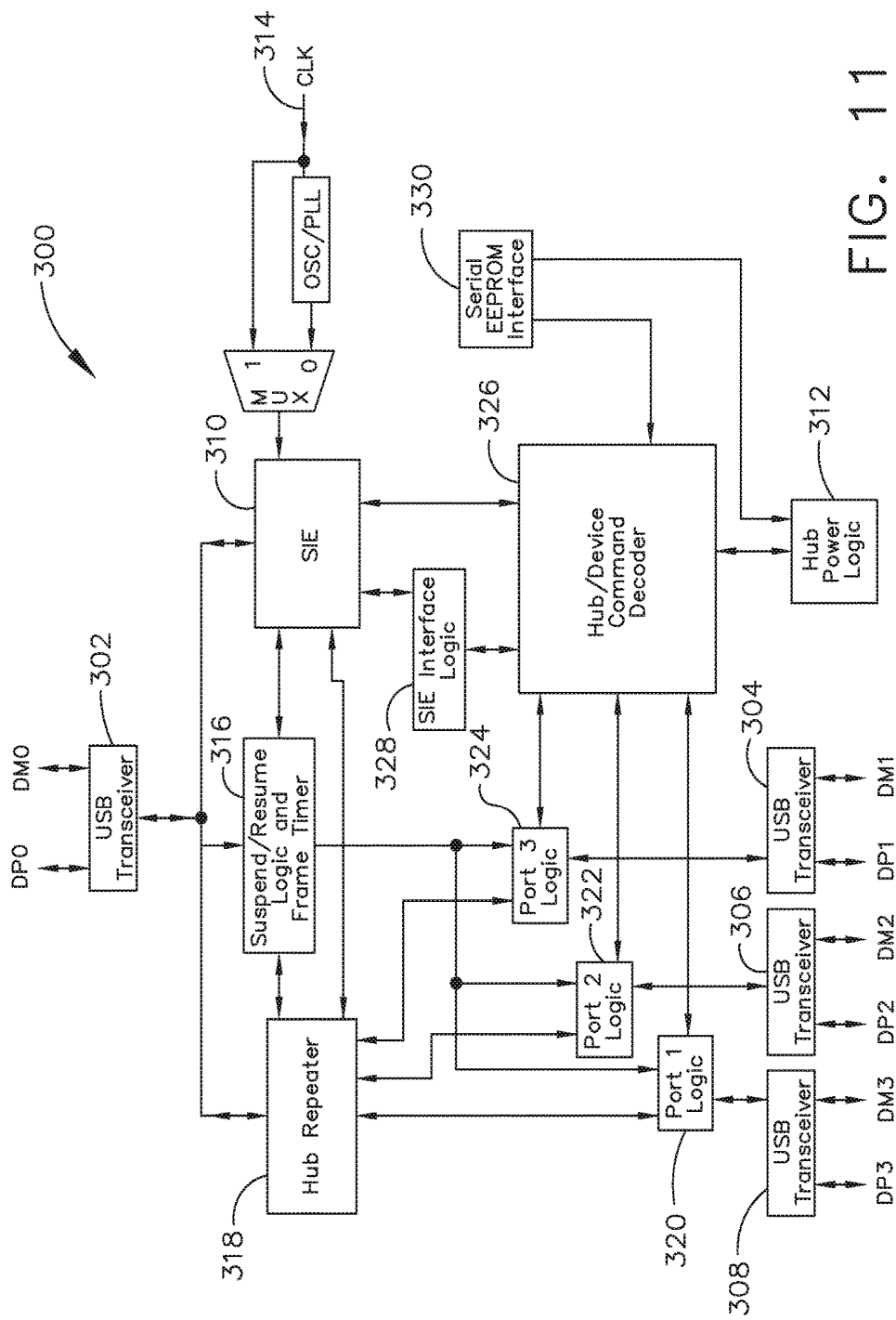


FIG. 11

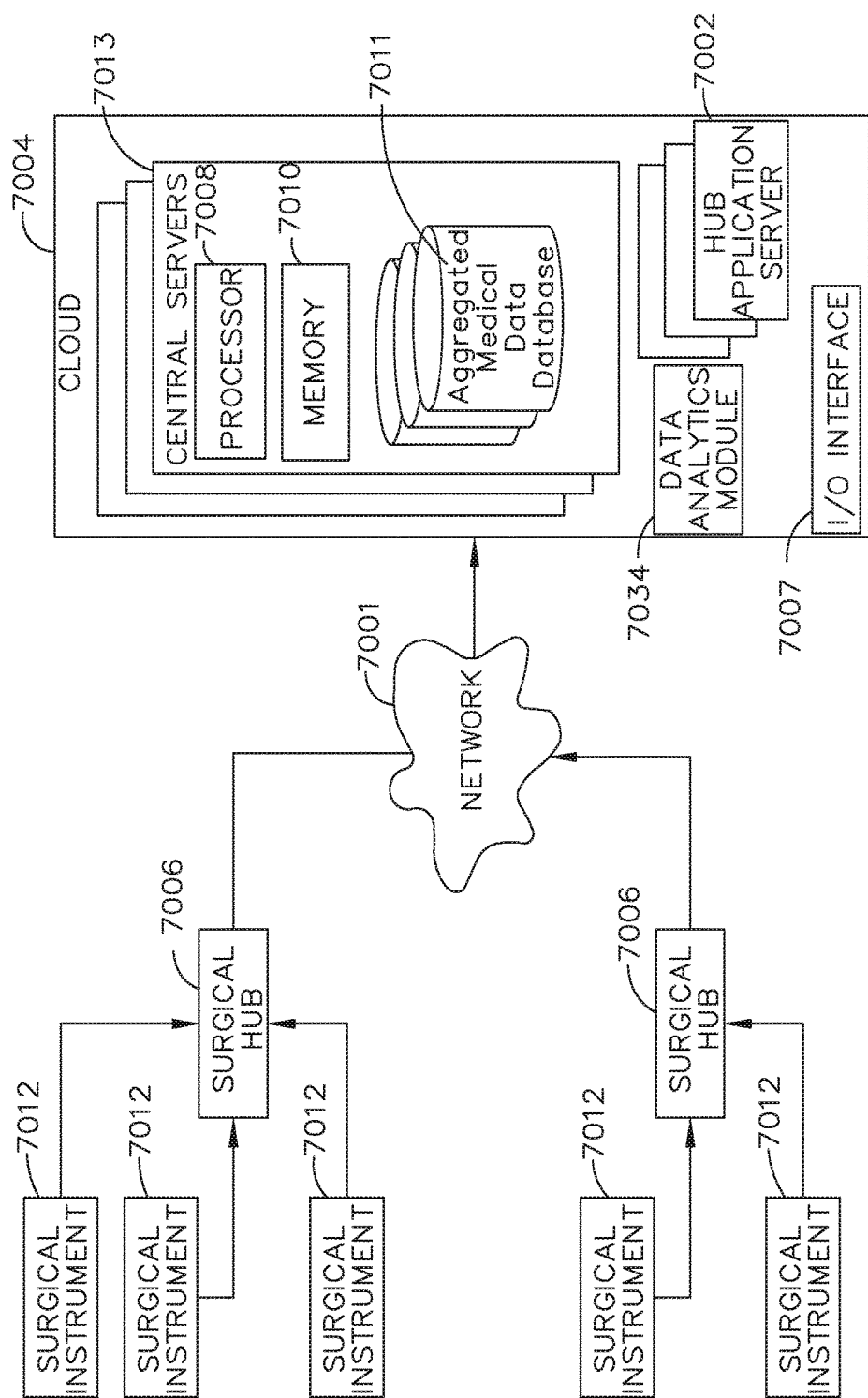


FIG. 12

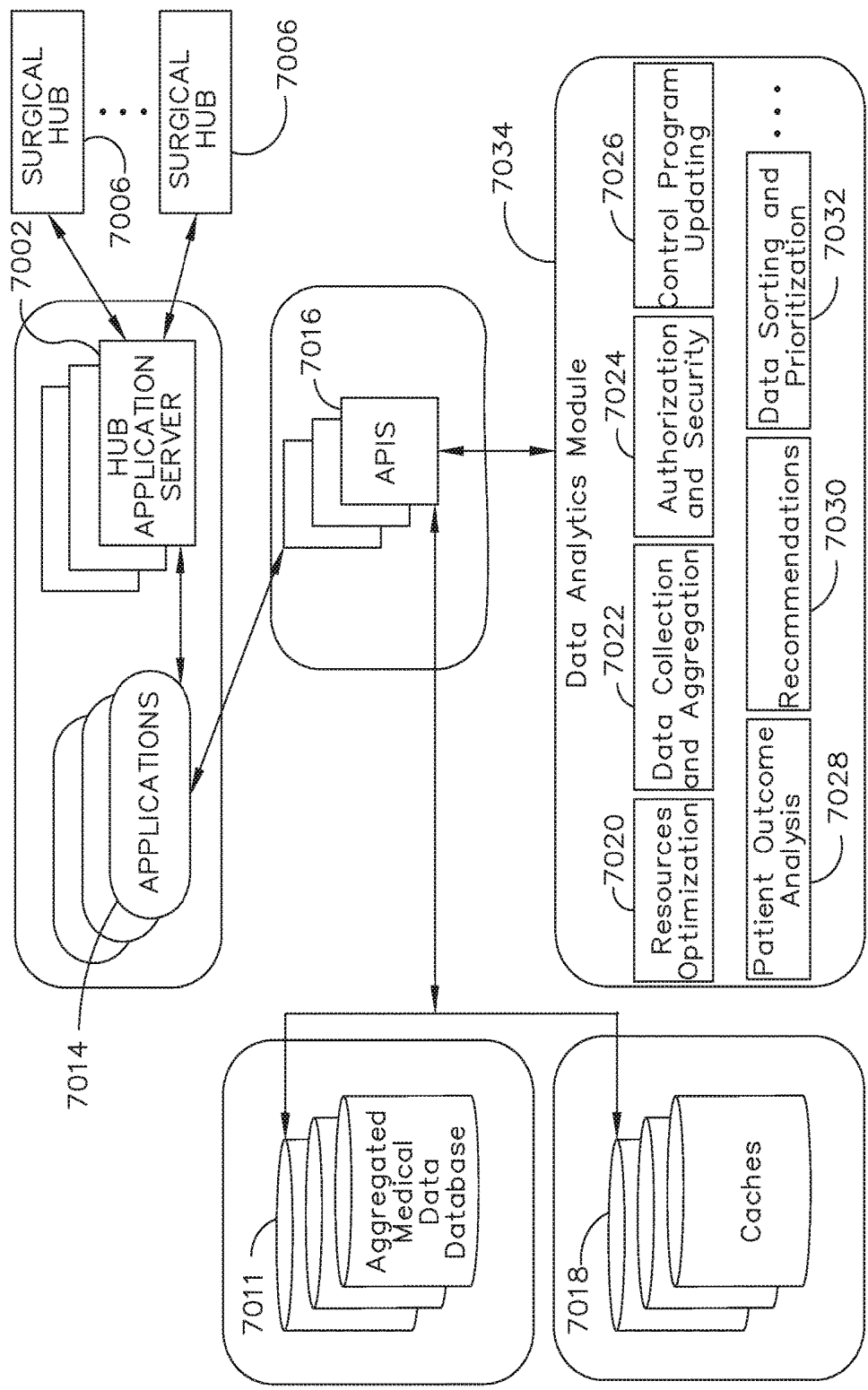


FIG. 13

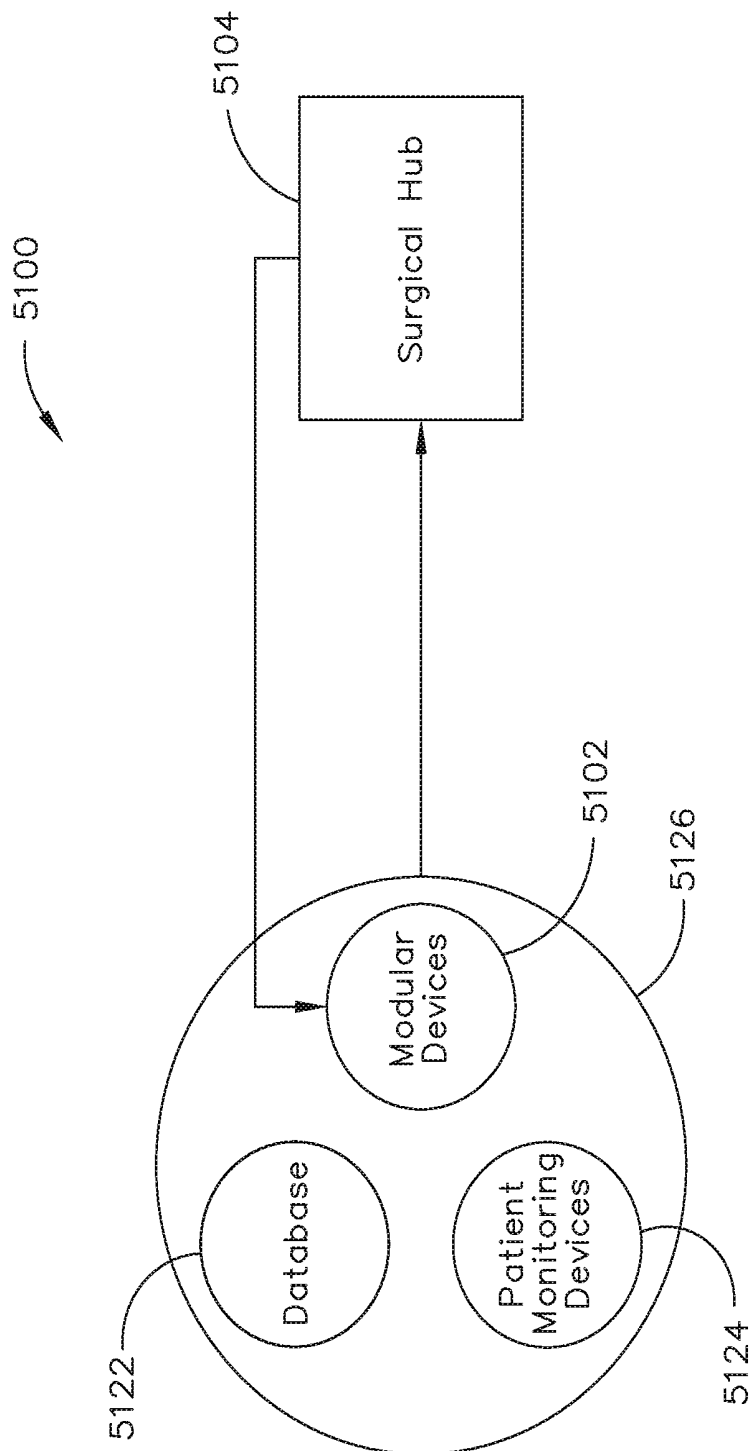


FIG. 14

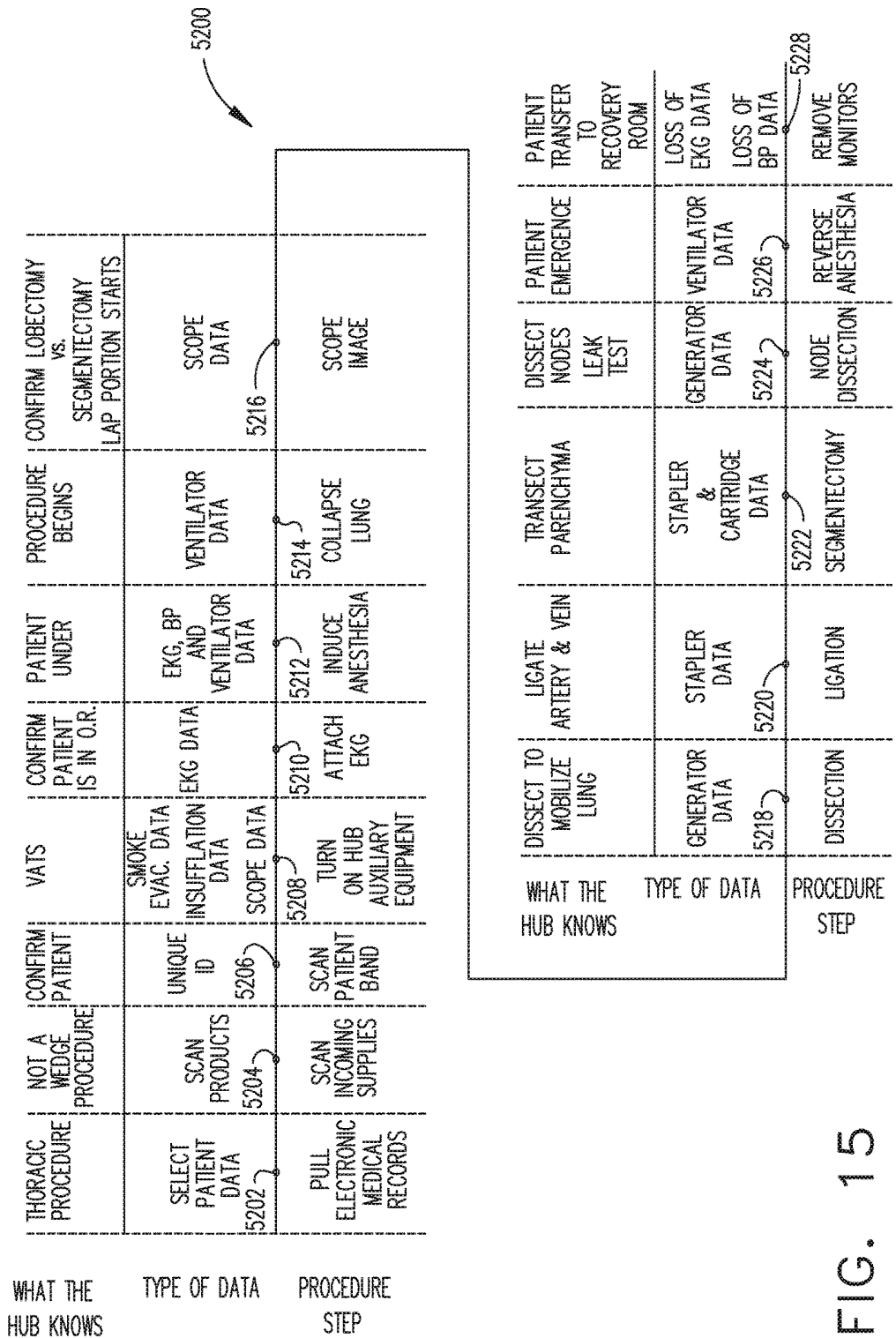


FIG. 15

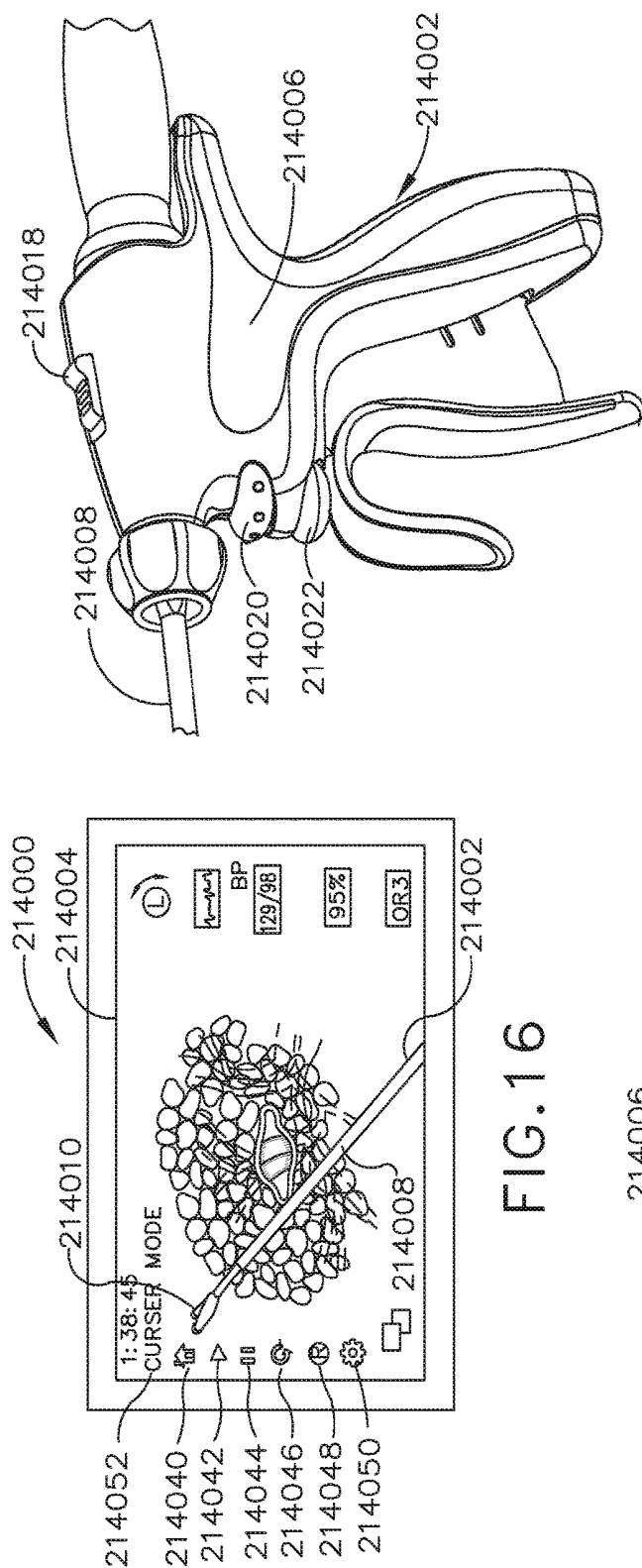


FIG. 16

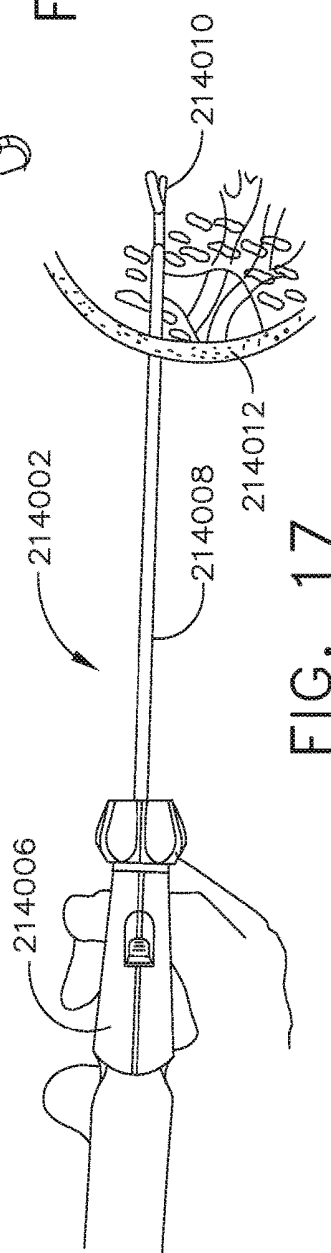


FIG. 17

FIG. 18

FIG. 19

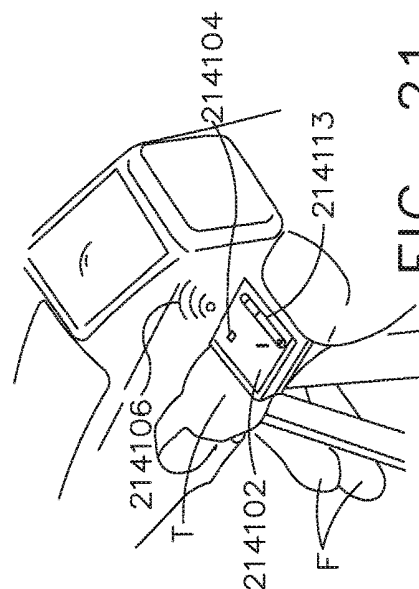
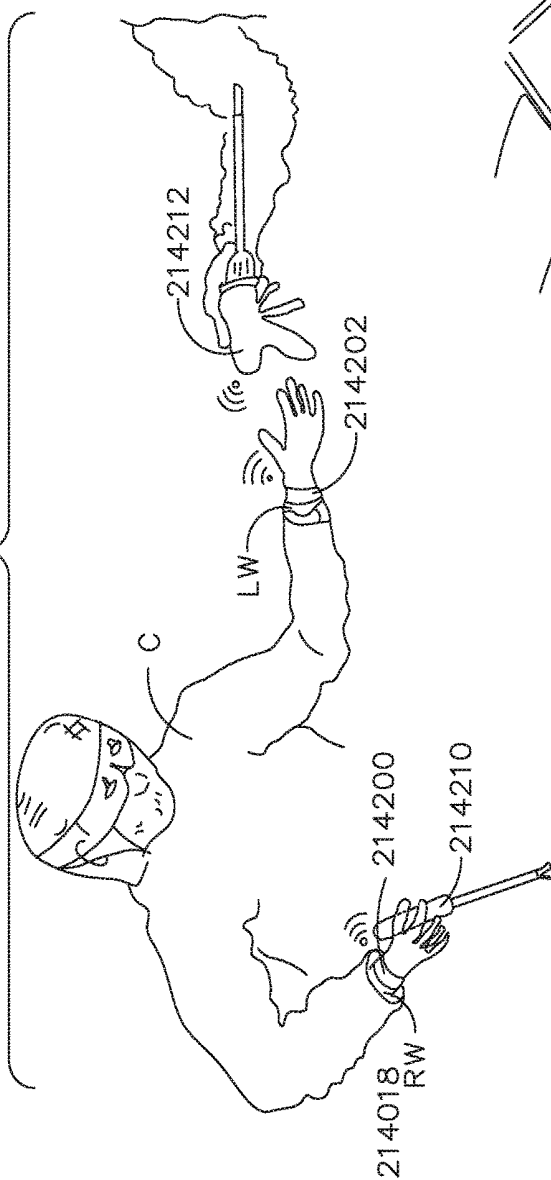


FIG. 21

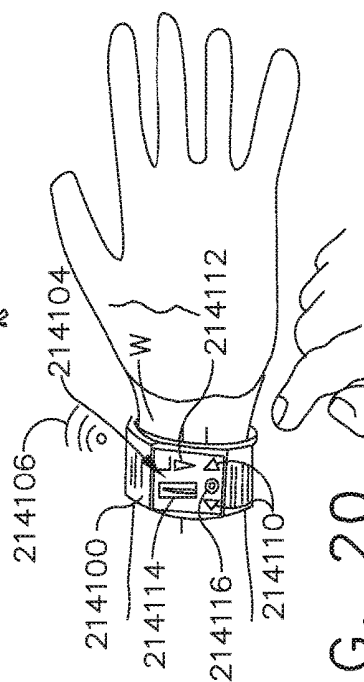


FIG. 20

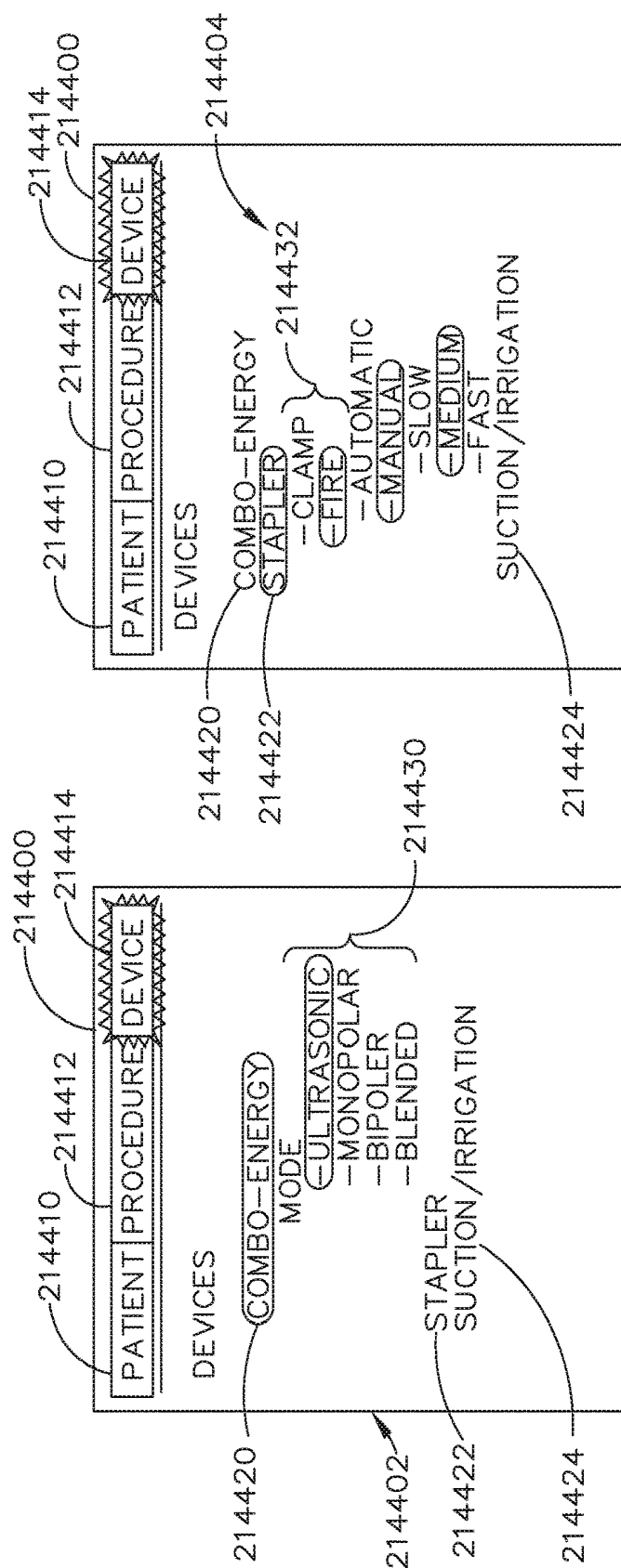


FIG. 22B

FIG. 22A

CONTROL OF A SURGICAL SYSTEM THROUGH A SURGICAL BARRIER

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] The present application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/729,176, titled INDIRECT COMMAND AND CONTROL OF A FIRST OPERATING ROOM SYSTEM THROUGH THE USE OF A SECOND OPERATING ROOM SYSTEM WITHIN A STERILE FIELD WHERE THE SECOND OPERATING ROOM SYSTEM HAS PRIMARY AND SECONDARY OPERATING MODES, filed on Sep. 10, 2018, the disclosure of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0002] The present application also claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/692,747, titled SMART ACTIVATION OF AN ENERGY DEVICE BY ANOTHER DEVICE, filed on Jun. 30, 2018, to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/692,748, titled SMART ENERGY ARCHITECTURE, filed on Jun. 30, 2018, and to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/692,768, titled SMART ENERGY DEVICES, filed on Jun. 30, 2018, the disclosure of each of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0003] The present application also claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/659,900, titled METHOD OF HUB COMMUNICATION, filed on Apr. 19, 2018, the disclosure of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0004] The present application also claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/650,898, filed on Mar. 30, 2018, titled CAPACITIVE COUPLED RETURN PATH PAD WITH SEPARABLE ARRAY ELEMENTS, to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/650,887, titled SURGICAL SYSTEMS WITH OPTIMIZED SENSING CAPABILITIES, filed Mar. 30, 2018, to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/650,882, titled SMOKE EVACUATION MODULE FOR INTERACTIVE SURGICAL PLATFORM, filed Mar. 30, 2018, and to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/650,877, titled SURGICAL SMOKE EVACUATION SENSING AND CONTROLS, filed Mar. 30, 2018, the disclosure of each of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0005] The present application also claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/640,417, titled TEMPERATURE CONTROL IN ULTRASONIC DEVICE AND CONTROL SYSTEM THEREFOR, filed Mar. 8, 2018, and to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/640,415, titled ESTIMATING STATE OF ULTRASONIC END EFFECTOR AND CONTROL SYSTEM THEREFOR, filed Mar. 8, 2018, the disclosure of each of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0006] The present application also claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/611,341, titled INTERACTIVE SURGICAL PLATFORM, filed Dec. 28, 2017, to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/611,340, titled CLOUD-BASED MEDICAL ANALYTICS, filed Dec. 28, 2017, and to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/611,339, titled ROBOT ASSISTED SURGICAL PLATFORM, filed Dec.

28, 2017, the disclosure of each of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

BACKGROUND

[0007] The present disclosure relates to various surgical systems. Surgical procedures are typically performed in surgical operating theaters or rooms in a healthcare facility such as, for example, a hospital. A sterile field is typically created around the patient. The sterile field may include the scrubbed team members, who are properly attired, and all furniture and fixtures in the area. Various surgical devices and systems are utilized in performance of a surgical procedure.

FIGURES

[0008] The various aspects described herein, both as to organization and methods of operation, together with further objects and advantages thereof, may best be understood by reference to the following description, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings as follows.

[0009] FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a computer-implemented interactive surgical system, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0010] FIG. 2 is a surgical system being used to perform a surgical procedure in an operating room, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0011] FIG. 3 is a surgical hub paired with a visualization system, a robotic system, and an intelligent instrument, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0012] FIG. 4 is a partial perspective view of a surgical hub enclosure, and of a combo generator module slidably receivable in a drawer of the surgical hub enclosure, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0013] FIG. 5 is a perspective view of a combo generator module with bipolar, ultrasonic, and monopolar contacts and a smoke evacuation component, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0014] FIG. 6 illustrates individual power bus attachments for a plurality of lateral docking ports of a lateral modular housing configured to receive a plurality of modules, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0015] FIG. 7 illustrates a vertical modular housing configured to receive a plurality of modules, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0016] FIG. 8 illustrates a surgical data network comprising a modular communication hub configured to connect modular devices located in one or more operating theaters of a healthcare facility, or any room in a healthcare facility specially equipped for surgical operations, to the cloud, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0017] FIG. 9 illustrates a computer-implemented interactive surgical system, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0018] FIG. 10 illustrates a surgical hub comprising a plurality of modules coupled to the modular control tower, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0019] FIG. 11 illustrates one aspect of a Universal Serial Bus (USB) network hub device, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0020] FIG. 12 is a block diagram of a cloud computing system comprising a plurality of smart surgical instruments coupled to surgical hubs that may connect to the cloud

component of the cloud computing system, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0021] FIG. 13 is a functional module architecture of a cloud computing system, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0022] FIG. 14 illustrates a diagram of a situationally aware surgical system, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0023] FIG. 15 is a timeline depicting situational awareness of a surgical hub, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0024] FIG. 16 is a view of a display screen for a surgical procedure, depicting a surgical site and a distal portion of a surgical device at the surgical site, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure,

[0025] FIG. 17 is a view of the surgical device of FIG. 16 extending through a surgical barrier into the surgical site, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0026] FIG. 18 is a perspective view of a handle portion of the surgical device of FIGS. 16 and 17, the handle portion having an input switch for switching the surgical device between operational modes, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0027] FIG. 19 is a diagram depicting wearable devices communicating with surgical instruments to facilitate pairing and handing off of the surgical instruments, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0028] FIG. 20 is a diagram of a wearable wrist device, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0029] FIG. 21 is a diagram of a wearable ring device, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0030] FIG. 22A is a first view of a display screen, in which the display screen is configured to receive operator inputs to control a first surgical device—a combination energy device—in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

[0031] FIG. 22B is a second view of the display screen of FIG. 22A, in which the display screen is configured to receive operator inputs to control a second surgical device—a stapler—in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure.

DESCRIPTION

[0032] Applicant of the present application owns the following U.S. Patent Applications, filed on Nov. 6, 2018, the disclosure of each of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety:

[0033] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled SURGICAL NETWORK, INSTRUMENT, AND CLOUD RESPONSES BASED ON VALIDATION OF RECEIVED DATASET AND AUTHENTICATION OF ITS SOURCE AND INTEGRITY, Attorney Docket No. END9012USNP1/180511-1;

[0034] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled SURGICAL SYSTEM FOR PRESENTING INFORMATION INTERPRETED FROM EXTERNAL DATA, Attorney Docket No. END9012USNP2/180511-2;

[0035] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled MODIFICATION OF SURGICAL SYSTEMS CONTROL PROGRAMS BASED ON MACHINE LEARNING, Attorney Docket No. END9012USNP3/180511-3;

[0036] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled ADJUSTMENT OF DEVICE CONTROL PROGRAMS BASED ON STRATIFIED CONTEXTUAL DATA IN ADDITION TO THE DATA, Attorney Docket No. END9012USNP4/180511-4;

[0037] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled SURGICAL HUB AND MODULAR DEVICE RESPONSE ADJUSTMENT BASED ON SITUATIONAL AWARENESS, Attorney Docket No. END9012USNP5/180511-5;

[0038] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled DETECTION AND ESCALATION OF SECURITY RESPONSES OF SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS TO INCREASING SEVERITY THREATS, Attorney Docket No. END9012USNP6/180511-6;

[0039] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled INTERACTIVE SURGICAL SYSTEM, Attorney Docket No. END9012USNP7/180511-7;

[0040] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled AUTOMATED DATA SCALING, ALIGNMENT, AND ORGANIZING BASED ON PREDEFINED PARAMETERS WITHIN SURGICAL NETWORKS, Attorney Docket No. END9012USNP8/180511-8;

[0041] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled SENSING THE PATIENT POSITION AND CONTACT UTILIZING THE MONO-POLAR RETURN PAD ELECTRODE TO PROVIDE SITUATIONAL AWARENESS TO A SURGICAL NETWORK, Attorney Docket No. END9013USNP1/180512-1;

[0042] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled POWERED SURGICAL TOOL WITH PREDEFINED ADJUSTABLE CONTROL ALGORITHM FOR CONTROLLING END EFFECTOR PARAMETER, Attorney Docket No. END9014USNP1/180513-1;

[0043] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled ADJUSTMENTS BASED ON AIRBORNE PARTICLE PROPERTIES, Attorney Docket No. END9016USNP1/180515-1;

[0044] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled ADJUSTMENT OF A SURGICAL DEVICE FUNCTION BASED ON SITUATIONAL AWARENESS, Attorney Docket No. END9016USNP2/180515-2;

[0045] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled REAL-TIME ANALYSIS OF COMPREHENSIVE COST OF ALL INSTRUMENTATION USED IN SURGERY UTILIZING DATA FLUIDITY TO TRACK INSTRUMENTS THROUGH STOCKING AND IN-HOUSE PROCESSES, Attorney Docket No. END9018USNP1/180517-1;

[0046] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled USAGE AND TECHNIQUE ANALYSIS OF SURGEON/STAFF PERFORMANCE AGAINST A BASELINE TO OPTIMIZE DEVICE UTILIZATION AND PERFORMANCE FOR BOTH CURRENT AND FUTURE PROCEDURES, Attorney Docket No. END9018USNP2/180517-2;

[0047] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled IMAGE CAPTURING OF THE AREAS OUTSIDE THE ABDOMEN TO IMPROVE PLACEMENT AND CONTROL OF A SURGICAL DEVICE IN USE, Attorney Docket No. END9018USNP3/180517-3;

[0048] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled COMMUNICATION OF DATA WHERE A SURGICAL NETWORK IS USING CONTEXT OF THE

- DATA AND REQUIREMENTS OF A RECEIVING SYSTEM/USER TO INFLUENCE INCLUSION OR LINKAGE OF DATA AND METADATA TO ESTABLISH CONTINUITY, Attorney Docket No. END9018USNP4/180517-4;
- [0049] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled SURGICAL NETWORK RECOMMENDATIONS FROM REAL TIME ANALYSIS OF PROCEDURE VARIABLES AGAINST A BASELINE HIGHLIGHTING DIFFERENCES FROM THE OPTIMAL SOLUTION, Attorney Docket No. END9018USNP5/180517-5;
- [0050] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled SURGICAL NETWORK DETERMINATION OF PRIORITIZATION OF COMMUNICATION, INTERACTION, OR PROCESSING BASED ON SYSTEM OR DEVICE NEEDS, Attorney Docket No. END9032USNP1/180519-1;
- [0051] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled WIRELESS PAIRING OF A SURGICAL DEVICE WITH ANOTHER DEVICE WITHIN A STERILE SURGICAL FIELD BASED ON THE USAGE AND SITUATIONAL AWARENESS OF DEVICES, Attorney Docket No. END9032USNP2/180519-2;
- [0052] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled ADJUSTMENT OF STAPLE HEIGHT OF AT LEAST ONE ROW OF STAPLES BASED ON THE SENSED TISSUE THICKNESS OR FORCE IN CLOSING, Attorney Docket No. END9034USNP1/180521-1;
- [0053] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled STAPLING DEVICE WITH BOTH COMPULSORY AND DISCRETIONARY LOCKOUTS BASED ON SENSED PARAMETERS, Attorney Docket No. END9034USNP2/180521-2;
- [0054] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled POWERED STAPLING DEVICE CONFIGURED TO ADJUST FORCE, ADVANCEMENT SPEED, AND OVERALL STROKE OF CUTTING MEMBER BASED ON SENSED PARAMETER OF FIRING OR CLAMPING, Attorney Docket No. END9034USNP3/180521-3;
- [0055] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled VARIATION OF RADIO FREQUENCY AND ULTRASONIC POWER LEVEL IN COOPERATION WITH VARYING CLAMP ARM PRESSURE TO ACHIEVE PREDEFINED HEAT FLUX OR POWER APPLIED TO TISSUE, Attorney Docket No. END9035USNP1/180522-1; and
- [0056] U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled ULTRASONIC ENERGY DEVICE WHICH VARIES PRESSURE APPLIED BY CLAMP ARM TO PROVIDE THRESHOLD CONTROL PRESSURE AT A CUT PROGRESSION LOCATION, Attorney Docket No. END9035USNP2/180522-2.
- [0057] Applicant of the present application owns the following U.S. Patent Applications, filed on Sep. 10, 2018, the disclosure of each of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety:
- [0058] U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/729, 183, titled A CONTROL FOR A SURGICAL NETWORK OR SURGICAL NETWORK CONNECTED DEVICE THAT ADJUSTS ITS FUNCTION BASED ON A SENSED SITUATION OR USAGE;
- [0059] U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/729, 177, titled AUTOMATED DATA SCALING, ALIGNMENT, AND ORGANIZING BASED ON PREDEFINED PARAMETERS WITHIN A SURGICAL NETWORK BEFORE TRANSMISSION;
- [0060] U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/729, 176, titled INDIRECT COMMAND AND CONTROL OF A FIRST OPERATING ROOM SYSTEM THROUGH THE USE OF A SECOND OPERATING ROOM SYSTEM WITHIN A STERILE FIELD WHERE THE SECOND OPERATING ROOM SYSTEM HAS PRIMARY AND SECONDARY OPERATING MODES;
- [0061] U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/729, 185, titled POWERED STAPLING DEVICE THAT IS CAPABLE OF ADJUSTING FORCE, ADVANCEMENT SPEED, AND OVERALL STROKE OF CUTTING MEMBER OF THE DEVICE BASED ON SENSED PARAMETER OF FIRING OR CLAMPING;
- [0062] U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/729, 184, titled POWERED SURGICAL TOOL WITH A PREDEFINED ADJUSTABLE CONTROL ALGORITHM FOR CONTROLLING AT LEAST ONE END EFFECTOR PARAMETER AND A MEANS FOR LIMITING THE ADJUSTMENT;
- [0063] U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/729, 182, titled SENSING THE PATIENT POSITION AND CONTACT UTILIZING THE MONO POLAR RETURN PAD ELECTRODE TO PROVIDE SITUATIONAL AWARENESS TO THE HUB;
- [0064] U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/729, 191, titled SURGICAL NETWORK RECOMMENDATIONS FROM REAL TIME ANALYSIS OF PROCEDURE VARIABLES AGAINST A BASELINE HIGHLIGHTING DIFFERENCES FROM THE OPTIMAL SOLUTION;
- [0065] U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/729, 195, titled ULTRASONIC ENERGY DEVICE WHICH VARIES PRESSURE APPLIED BY CLAMP ARM TO PROVIDE THRESHOLD CONTROL PRESSURE AT A CUT PROGRESSION LOCATION; and
- [0066] U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/729, 186, titled WIRELESS PAIRING OF A SURGICAL DEVICE WITH ANOTHER DEVICE WITHIN A STERILE SURGICAL FIELD BASED ON THE USAGE AND SITUATIONAL AWARENESS OF DEVICES.
- [0067] Applicant of the present application owns the following U.S. Patent Applications, filed on Aug. 28, 2018, the disclosure of each of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety:
- [0068] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/115,214, titled ESTIMATING STATE OF ULTRASONIC END EFFECTOR AND CONTROL SYSTEM THEREFOR;
- [0069] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/115,205, titled TEMPERATURE CONTROL OF ULTRASONIC END EFFECTOR AND CONTROL SYSTEM THEREFOR;
- [0070] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/115,233, titled RADIO FREQUENCY ENERGY DEVICE FOR DELIVERING COMBINED ELECTRICAL SIGNALS;

- [0071] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/115,208, titled CONTROLLING AN ULTRASONIC SURGICAL INSTRUMENT ACCORDING TO TISSUE LOCATION;
- [0072] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/115,220, titled CONTROLLING ACTIVATION OF AN ULTRASONIC SURGICAL INSTRUMENT ACCORDING TO THE PRESENCE OF TISSUE;
- [0073] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/115,232, titled DETERMINING TISSUE COMPOSITION VIA AN ULTRASONIC SYSTEM;
- [0074] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/115,239, titled DETERMINING THE STATE OF AN ULTRASONIC ELECTROMECHANICAL SYSTEM ACCORDING TO FREQUENCY SHIFT;
- [0075] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/115,247, titled DETERMINING THE STATE OF AN ULTRASONIC END EFFECTOR;
- [0076] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/115,211, titled SITUATIONAL AWARENESS OF ELECTROSURGICAL SYSTEMS;
- [0077] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/115,226, titled MECHANISMS FOR CONTROLLING DIFFERENT ELECTROMECHANICAL SYSTEMS OF AN ELECTROSURGICAL INSTRUMENT;
- [0078] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/115,240, titled DETECTION OF END EFFECTOR IMMERSION IN LIQUID;
- [0079] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/115,249, titled INTERRUPTION OF ENERGY DUE TO INADVERTENT CAPACITIVE COUPLING;
- [0080] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/115,256, titled INCREASING RADIO FREQUENCY TO CREATE PAD-LESS MONOPOLAR LOOP;
- [0081] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/115,223, titled BIPOLAR COMBINATION DEVICE THAT AUTOMATICALLY ADJUSTS PRESSURE BASED ON ENERGY MODALITY; and
- [0082] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/115,238, titled ACTIVATION OF ENERGY DEVICES.
- [0083] Applicant of the present application owns the following U.S. Patent Applications, filed on Aug. 23, 2018, the disclosure of each of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety:
- [0084] U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/721,995, titled CONTROLLING AN ULTRASONIC SURGICAL INSTRUMENT ACCORDING TO TISSUE LOCATION;
- [0085] U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/721,998, titled SITUATIONAL AWARENESS OF ELECTROSURGICAL SYSTEMS;
- [0086] U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/721,999, titled INTERRUPTION OF ENERGY DUE TO INADVERTENT CAPACITIVE COUPLING;
- [0087] U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/721,994, titled BIPOLAR COMBINATION DEVICE THAT AUTOMATICALLY ADJUSTS PRESSURE BASED ON ENERGY MODALITY; and
- [0088] U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/721,996, titled RADIO FREQUENCY ENERGY DEVICE FOR DELIVERING COMBINED ELECTRICAL SIGNALS.
- [0089] Applicant of the present application owns the following U.S. Patent Applications, filed on Jun. 30, 2018, the disclosure of each of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety:
- [0090] U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/692,747, titled SMART ACTIVATION OF AN ENERGY DEVICE BY ANOTHER DEVICE;
- [0091] U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/692,748, titled SMART ENERGY ARCHITECTURE; and
- [0092] U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/692,768, titled SMART ENERGY DEVICES. Applicant of the present application owns the following U.S. Patent Applications, filed on Jun. 29, 2018, the disclosure of each of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety:
- [0093] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,090, titled CAPACITIVE COUPLED RETURN PATH PAD WITH SEPARABLE ARRAY ELEMENTS;
- [0094] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,057, titled CONTROLLING A SURGICAL INSTRUMENT ACCORDING TO SENSED CLOSURE PARAMETERS;
- [0095] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,067, titled SYSTEMS FOR ADJUSTING END EFFECTOR PARAMETERS BASED ON PERIOPERATIVE INFORMATION;
- [0096] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,075, titled SAFETY SYSTEMS FOR SMART POWERED SURGICAL STAPLING;
- [0097] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,083, titled SAFETY SYSTEMS FOR SMART POWERED SURGICAL STAPLING;
- [0098] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,094, titled SURGICAL SYSTEMS FOR DETECTING END EFFECTOR TISSUE DISTRIBUTION IRREGULARITIES;
- [0099] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,138, titled SYSTEMS FOR DETECTING PROXIMITY OF SURGICAL END EFFECTOR TO CANCEROUS TISSUE;
- [0100] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,150, titled SURGICAL INSTRUMENT CARTRIDGE SENSOR ASSEMBLIES;
- [0101] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,160, titled VARIABLE OUTPUT CARTRIDGE SENSOR ASSEMBLY;
- [0102] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,124, titled SURGICAL INSTRUMENT HAVING A FLEXIBLE ELECTRODE;
- [0103] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,132, titled SURGICAL INSTRUMENT HAVING A FLEXIBLE CIRCUIT;
- [0104] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,141, titled SURGICAL INSTRUMENT WITH A TISSUE MARKING ASSEMBLY;
- [0105] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,162, titled SURGICAL SYSTEMS WITH PRIORITIZED DATA TRANSMISSION CAPABILITIES;
- [0106] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,066, titled SURGICAL EVACUATION SENSING AND MOTOR CONTROL;
- [0107] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,096, titled SURGICAL EVACUATION SENSOR ARRANGEMENTS;

- [0108] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,116, titled SURGICAL EVACUATION FLOW PATHS;
- [0109] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,149, titled SURGICAL EVACUATION SENSING AND GENERATOR CONTROL;
- [0110] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,180, titled SURGICAL EVACUATION SENSING AND DISPLAY;
- [0111] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,245, titled COMMUNICATION OF SMOKE EVACUATION SYSTEM PARAMETERS TO HUB OR CLOUD IN SMOKE EVACUATION MODULE FOR INTERACTIVE SURGICAL PLATFORM;
- [0112] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,258, titled SMOKE EVACUATION SYSTEM INCLUDING A SEGMENTED CONTROL CIRCUIT FOR INTERACTIVE SURGICAL PLATFORM;
- [0113] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,265, titled SURGICAL EVACUATION SYSTEM WITH A COMMUNICATION CIRCUIT FOR COMMUNICATION BETWEEN A FILTER AND A SMOKE EVACUATION DEVICE; and
- [0114] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/024,273, titled DUAL IN-SERIES LARGE AND SMALL DROPLET FILTERS.
- [0115] Applicant of the present application owns the following U.S. Provisional Patent Applications, filed on Jun. 28, 2018, the disclosure of each of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety:
- [0116] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/691,228, titled A METHOD OF USING REINFORCED FLEX CIRCUITS WITH MULTIPLE SENSORS WITH ELECTROSURGICAL DEVICES;
- [0117] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/691,227, titled CONTROLLING A SURGICAL INSTRUMENT ACCORDING TO SENSED CLOSURE PARAMETERS;
- [0118] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/691,230, titled SURGICAL INSTRUMENT HAVING A FLEXIBLE ELECTRODE;
- [0119] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/691,219, titled SURGICAL EVACUATION SENSING AND MOTOR CONTROL;
- [0120] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/691,257, titled COMMUNICATION OF SMOKE EVACUATION SYSTEM PARAMETERS TO HUB OR CLOUD IN SMOKE EVACUATION MODULE FOR INTERACTIVE SURGICAL PLATFORM;
- [0121] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/691,262, titled SURGICAL EVACUATION SYSTEM WITH A COMMUNICATION CIRCUIT FOR COMMUNICATION BETWEEN A FILTER AND A SMOKE EVACUATION DEVICE; and
- [0122] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/691,251, titled DUAL IN-SERIES LARGE AND SMALL DROPLET FILTERS.
- [0123] Applicant of the present application owns the following U.S. Provisional Patent Application, filed on Apr. 19, 2018, the disclosure of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety:
- [0124] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/659,900, titled METHOD OF HUB COMMUNICATION.
- [0125] Applicant of the present application owns the following U.S. Provisional Patent Applications, filed on Mar. 30, 2018, the disclosure of each of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety:
- [0126] U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/650,898 filed on Mar. 30, 2018, titled CAPACITIVE COUPLED RETURN PATH PAD WITH SEPARABLE ARRAY ELEMENTS;
- [0127] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/650,887, titled SURGICAL SYSTEMS WITH OPTIMIZED SENSING CAPABILITIES;
- [0128] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/650,882, titled SMOKE EVACUATION MODULE FOR INTERACTIVE SURGICAL PLATFORM; and
- [0129] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/650,877, titled SURGICAL SMOKE EVACUATION SENSING AND CONTROLS.
- [0130] Applicant of the present application owns the following U.S. Patent Applications, filed on Mar. 29, 2018, the disclosure of each of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety:
- [0131] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,641, titled INTERACTIVE SURGICAL SYSTEMS WITH ENCRYPTED COMMUNICATION CAPABILITIES;
- [0132] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,648, titled INTERACTIVE SURGICAL SYSTEMS WITH CONDITION HANDLING OF DEVICES AND DATA CAPABILITIES;
- [0133] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,656, titled SURGICAL HUB COORDINATION OF CONTROL AND COMMUNICATION OF OPERATING ROOM DEVICES;
- [0134] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,666, titled SPATIAL AWARENESS OF SURGICAL HUBS IN OPERATING ROOMS;
- [0135] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,670, titled COOPERATIVE UTILIZATION OF DATA DERIVED FROM SECONDARY SOURCES BY INTELLIGENT SURGICAL HUBS;
- [0136] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,677, titled SURGICAL HUB CONTROL ARRANGEMENTS;
- [0137] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,632, titled DATA STRIPPING METHOD TO INTERROGATE PATIENT RECORDS AND CREATE ANONYMIZED RECORD;
- [0138] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,640, titled COMMUNICATION HUB AND STORAGE DEVICE FOR STORING PARAMETERS AND STATUS OF A SURGICAL DEVICE TO BE SHARED WITH CLOUD BASED ANALYTICS SYSTEMS;
- [0139] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,645, titled SELF DESCRIBING DATA PACKETS GENERATED AT AN ISSUING INSTRUMENT;
- [0140] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,649, titled DATA PAIRING TO INTERCONNECT A DEVICE MEASURED PARAMETER WITH AN OUTCOME;
- [0141] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,654, titled SURGICAL HUB SITUATIONAL AWARENESS;
- [0142] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,663, titled SURGICAL SYSTEM DISTRIBUTED PROCESSING;

- [0143] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,668, titled AGGREGATION AND REPORTING OF SURGICAL HUB DATA;
- [0144] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,671, titled SURGICAL HUB SPATIAL AWARENESS TO DETERMINE DEVICES IN OPERATING THEATER;
- [0145] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,686, titled DISPLAY OF ALIGNMENT OF STAPLE CARTRIDGE TO PRIOR LINEAR STAPLE LINE;
- [0146] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,700, titled STERILE FIELD INTERACTIVE CONTROL DISPLAYS;
- [0147] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,629, titled COMPUTER IMPLEMENTED INTERACTIVE SURGICAL SYSTEMS;
- [0148] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,704, titled USE OF LASER LIGHT AND RED-GREEN-BLUE COLORATION TO DETERMINE PROPERTIES OF BACK SCATTERED LIGHT;
- [0149] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,722, titled CHARACTERIZATION OF TISSUE IRREGULARITIES THROUGH THE USE OF MONO-CHROMATIC LIGHT REFRACTIVITY;
- [0150] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,742, titled DUAL CMOS ARRAY IMAGING.
- [0151] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,636, titled ADAPTIVE CONTROL PROGRAM UPDATES FOR SURGICAL DEVICES;
- [0152] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,653, titled ADAPTIVE CONTROL PROGRAM UPDATES FOR SURGICAL HUBS;
- [0153] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,660, titled CLOUD-BASED MEDICAL ANALYTICS FOR CUSTOMIZATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO A USER;
- [0154] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,679, titled CLOUD-BASED MEDICAL ANALYTICS FOR LINKING OF LOCAL USAGE TRENDS WITH THE RESOURCE ACQUISITION BEHAVIORS OF LARGER DATA SET;
- [0155] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,694, titled CLOUD-BASED MEDICAL ANALYTICS FOR MEDICAL FACILITY SEGMENTED INDIVIDUALIZATION OF INSTRUMENT FUNCTION;
- [0156] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,634, titled CLOUD-BASED MEDICAL ANALYTICS FOR SECURITY AND AUTHENTICATION TRENDS AND REACTIVE MEASURES;
- [0157] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,706, titled DATA HANDLING AND PRIORITIZATION IN A CLOUD ANALYTICS NETWORK;
- [0158] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,675, titled CLOUD INTERFACE FOR COUPLED SURGICAL DEVICES;
- [0159] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,627, titled DRIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ROBOT-ASSISTED SURGICAL PLATFORMS;
- [0160] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,637, titled COMMUNICATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR ROBOT-ASSISTED SURGICAL PLATFORMS;
- [0161] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,642, titled CONTROLS FOR ROBOT-ASSISTED SURGICAL PLATFORMS;
- [0162] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,676, titled AUTOMATIC TOOL ADJUSTMENTS FOR ROBOT-ASSISTED SURGICAL PLATFORMS;
- [0163] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,680, titled CONTROLLERS FOR ROBOT-ASSISTED SURGICAL PLATFORMS;
- [0164] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,683, titled COOPERATIVE SURGICAL ACTIONS FOR ROBOT-ASSISTED SURGICAL PLATFORMS;
- [0165] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,690, titled DISPLAY ARRANGEMENTS FOR ROBOT-ASSISTED SURGICAL PLATFORMS; and
- [0166] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/940,711, titled SENSING ARRANGEMENTS FOR ROBOT-ASSISTED SURGICAL PLATFORMS.
- [0167] Applicant of the present application owns the following U.S. Provisional Patent Applications, filed on Mar. 28, 2018, the disclosure of each of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety:
- [0168] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/649,302, titled INTERACTIVE SURGICAL SYSTEMS WITH ENCRYPTED COMMUNICATION CAPABILITIES;
- [0169] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/649,294, titled DATA STRIPPING METHOD TO INTERROGATE PATIENT RECORDS AND CREATE ANONYMIZED RECORD;
- [0170] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/649,300, titled SURGICAL HUB SITUATIONAL AWARENESS;
- [0171] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/649,309, titled SURGICAL HUB SPATIAL AWARENESS TO DETERMINE DEVICES IN OPERATING THEATER;
- [0172] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/649,310, titled COMPUTER IMPLEMENTED INTERACTIVE SURGICAL SYSTEMS;
- [0173] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/649,291, titled USE OF LASER LIGHT AND RED-GREEN-BLUE COLORATION TO DETERMINE PROPERTIES OF BACK SCATTERED LIGHT;
- [0174] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/649,296, titled ADAPTIVE CONTROL PROGRAM UPDATES FOR SURGICAL DEVICES;
- [0175] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/649,333, titled CLOUD-BASED MEDICAL ANALYTICS FOR CUSTOMIZATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO A USER;
- [0176] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/649,327, titled CLOUD-BASED MEDICAL ANALYTICS FOR SECURITY AND AUTHENTICATION TRENDS AND REACTIVE MEASURES;
- [0177] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/649,315, titled DATA HANDLING AND PRIORITIZATION IN A CLOUD ANALYTICS NETWORK;
- [0178] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/649,313, titled CLOUD INTERFACE FOR COUPLED SURGICAL DEVICES;
- [0179] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/649,320, titled DRIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ROBOT-ASSISTED SURGICAL PLATFORMS;

[0180] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/649,307, titled AUTOMATIC TOOL ADJUSTMENTS FOR ROBOT-ASSISTED SURGICAL PLATFORMS; and

[0181] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/649,323, titled SENSING ARRANGEMENTS FOR ROBOT-ASSISTED SURGICAL PLATFORMS.

[0182] Applicant of the present application owns the following U.S. Provisional Patent Applications, filed on Mar. 8, 2018, the disclosure of each of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety:

[0183] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/640,417, titled TEMPERATURE CONTROL IN ULTRASONIC DEVICE AND CONTROL SYSTEM THEREFOR; and

[0184] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/640,415, titled ESTIMATING STATE OF ULTRASONIC END EFFECTOR AND CONTROL SYSTEM THEREFOR.

[0185] Applicant of the present application owns the following U.S. Provisional Patent Applications, filed on Dec. 28, 2017, the disclosure of each of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety:

[0186] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/611,341, titled INTERACTIVE SURGICAL PLATFORM;

[0187] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/611,340, titled CLOUD-BASED MEDICAL ANALYTICS; and

[0188] U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/611,339, titled ROBOT ASSISTED SURGICAL PLATFORM.

[0189] Before explaining various aspects of surgical devices and generators in detail, it should be noted that the illustrative examples are not limited in application or use to the details of construction and arrangement of parts illustrated in the accompanying drawings and description. The illustrative examples may be implemented or incorporated in other aspects, variations and modifications, and may be practiced or carried out in various ways. Further, unless otherwise indicated, the terms and expressions employed herein have been chosen for the purpose of describing the illustrative examples for the convenience of the reader and are not for the purpose of limitation thereof. Also, it will be appreciated that one or more of the following-described aspects, expressions of aspects, and/or examples, can be combined with any one or more of the other following-described aspects, expressions of aspects and/or examples.

Surgical Hubs

[0190] Referring to FIG. 1, a computer-implemented interactive surgical system 100 includes one or more surgical systems 102 and a cloud-based system (e.g., the cloud 104 that may include a remote server 113 coupled to a storage device 105). Each surgical system 102 includes at least one surgical hub 106 in communication with the cloud 104 that may include a remote server 113. In one example, as illustrated in FIG. 1, the surgical system 102 includes a visualization system 108, a robotic system 110, and a handheld intelligent surgical instrument 112, which are configured to communicate with one another and/or the hub 106. In some aspects, a surgical system 102 may include an M number of hubs 106, an N number of visualization systems 108, an O number of robotic systems 110, and a P

number of handheld intelligent surgical instruments 112, where M, N, O, and P are integers greater than or equal to one.

[0191] In various aspects, the intelligent instruments 112 as described herein with reference to FIGS. 1-7 may be implemented as a surgical device 214002 (FIGS. 16-18), a display screen (FIG. 16), a wearable device 214100, 214102, 214200, 214202 (FIGS. 19-21), and a display 214400 (FIGS. 22A and 22B). The intelligent instruments 112 (e.g., devices 1_a-1_n) such as the surgical device 214002 (FIGS. 16-18), the display screen (FIG. 16), the wearable devices 214100, 214102, 214200, 214202 (FIGS. 19-21), and the display 214400 (FIGS. 22A and 22B) are configured to operate in a surgical data network 201 as described with reference to FIG. 8.

[0192] FIG. 2 depicts an example of a surgical system 102 being used to perform a surgical procedure on a patient who is lying down on an operating table 114 in a surgical operating room 116. A robotic system 110 is used in the surgical procedure as a part of the surgical system 102. The robotic system 110 includes a surgeon's console 118, a patient side cart 120 (surgical robot), and a surgical robotic hub 122. The patient side cart 120 can manipulate at least one removably coupled surgical tool 117 through a minimally invasive incision in the body of the patient while the surgeon views the surgical site through the surgeon's console 118. An image of the surgical site can be obtained by a medical imaging device 124, which can be manipulated by the patient side cart 120 to orient the imaging device 124. The robotic hub 122 can be used to process the images of the surgical site for subsequent display to the surgeon through the surgeon's console 118.

[0193] Other types of robotic systems can be readily adapted for use with the surgical system 102. Various examples of robotic systems and surgical tools that are suitable for use with the present disclosure are described in U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/611,339, titled ROBOT ASSISTED SURGICAL PLATFORM, filed Dec. 28, 2017, the disclosure of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0194] Various examples of cloud-based analytics that are performed by the cloud 104, and are suitable for use with the present disclosure, are described in U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/611,340, titled CLOUD-BASED MEDICAL ANALYTICS, filed Dec. 28, 2017, the disclosure of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0195] In various aspects, the imaging device 124 includes at least one image sensor and one or more optical components. Suitable image sensors include, but are not limited to, Charge-Coupled Device (CCD) sensors and Complementary Metal-Oxide Semiconductor (CMOS) sensors.

[0196] The optical components of the imaging device 124 may include one or more illumination sources and/or one or more lenses. The one or more illumination sources may be directed to illuminate portions of the surgical field. The one or more image sensors may receive light reflected or refracted from the surgical field, including light reflected or refracted from tissue and/or surgical instruments.

[0197] The one or more illumination sources may be configured to radiate electromagnetic energy in the visible spectrum as well as the invisible spectrum. The visible spectrum, sometimes referred to as the optical spectrum or luminous spectrum, is that portion of the electromagnetic

spectrum that is visible to (i.e., can be detected by) the human eye and may be referred to as visible light or simply light. A typical human eye will respond to wavelengths in air that are from about 380 nm to about 750 nm.

[0198] The invisible spectrum (i.e., the non-luminous spectrum) is that portion of the electromagnetic spectrum that lies below and above the visible spectrum (i.e., wavelengths below about 380 nm and above about 750 nm). The invisible spectrum is not detectable by the human eye. Wavelengths greater than about 750 nm are longer than the red visible spectrum, and they become invisible infrared (IR), microwave, and radio electromagnetic radiation. Wavelengths less than about 380 nm are shorter than the violet spectrum, and they become invisible ultraviolet, x-ray, and gamma ray electromagnetic radiation.

[0199] In various aspects, the imaging device **124** is configured for use in a minimally invasive procedure. Examples of imaging devices suitable for use with the present disclosure include, but not limited to, an arthroscope, angioscope, bronchoscope, choledochoscope, colonoscope, cytoscope, duodenoscope, enteroscope, esophagogastric-duodenoscope (gastroscope), endoscope, laryngoscope, nasopharyngo-neproscope, sigmoidoscope, thoracoscope, and ureterscope.

[0200] In one aspect, the imaging device employs multi-spectrum monitoring to discriminate topography and underlying structures. A multi-spectral image is one that captures image data within specific wavelength ranges across the electromagnetic spectrum. The wavelengths may be separated by filters or by the use of instruments that are sensitive to particular wavelengths, including light from frequencies beyond the visible light range, e.g., IR and ultraviolet. Spectral imaging can allow extraction of additional information the human eye fails to capture with its receptors for red, green, and blue. The use of multi-spectral imaging is described in greater detail under the heading “Advanced Imaging Acquisition Module” in U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/611,341, titled INTERACTIVE SURGICAL PLATFORM, filed Dec. 28, 2017, the disclosure of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety. Multi-spectrum monitoring can be a useful tool in relocating a surgical field after a surgical task is completed to perform one or more of the previously described tests on the treated tissue.

[0201] It is axiomatic that strict sterilization of the operating room and surgical equipment is required during any surgery. The strict hygiene and sterilization conditions required in a “surgical theater,” i.e., an operating or treatment room, necessitate the highest possible sterility of all medical devices and equipment. Part of that sterilization process is the need to sterilize anything that comes in contact with the patient or penetrates the sterile field, including the imaging device **124** and its attachments and components. It will be appreciated that the sterile field may be considered a specified area, such as within a tray or on a sterile towel, that is considered free of microorganisms, or the sterile field may be considered an area, immediately around a patient, who has been prepared for a surgical procedure. The sterile field may include the scrubbed team members, who are properly attired, and all furniture and fixtures in the area.

[0202] In various aspects, the visualization system **108** includes one or more imaging sensors, one or more image-processing units, one or more storage arrays, and one or more displays that are strategically arranged with respect to

the sterile field, as illustrated in FIG. 2. In one aspect, the visualization system **108** includes an interface for HL7, PACS, and EMR. Various components of the visualization system **108** are described under the heading “Advanced Imaging Acquisition Module” in U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/611,341, titled INTERACTIVE SURGICAL PLATFORM, filed Dec. 28, 2017, the disclosure of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0203] As illustrated in FIG. 2, a primary display **119** is positioned in the sterile field to be visible to an operator at the operating table **114**. In addition, a visualization tower **111** is positioned outside the sterile field. The visualization tower **111** includes a first non-sterile display **107** and a second non-sterile display **109**, which face away from each other. The visualization system **108**, guided by the hub **106**, is configured to utilize the displays **107**, **109**, and **119** to coordinate information flow to operators inside and outside the sterile field. For example, the hub **106** may cause the visualization system **108** to display a snapshot of a surgical site, as recorded by an imaging device **124**, on a non-sterile display **107** or **109**, while maintaining a live feed of the surgical site on the primary display **119**. The snapshot on the non-sterile display **107** or **109** can permit a non-sterile operator to perform a diagnostic step relevant to the surgical procedure, for example.

[0204] In one aspect, the hub **106** is also configured to route a diagnostic input or feedback entered by a non-sterile operator at the visualization tower **111** to the primary display **119** within the sterile field, where it can be viewed by a sterile operator at the operating table. In one example, the input can be in the form of a modification to the snapshot displayed on the non-sterile display **107** or **109**, which can be routed to the primary display **119** by the hub **106**.

[0205] Referring to FIG. 2, a surgical instrument **112** is being used in the surgical procedure as part of the surgical system **102**. The hub **106** is also configured to coordinate information flow to a display of the surgical instrument **112**. For example, coordinate information flow is further described in U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/611,341, titled INTERACTIVE SURGICAL PLATFORM, filed Dec. 28, 2017, the disclosure of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety. A diagnostic input or feedback entered by a non-sterile operator at the visualization tower **111** can be routed by the hub **106** to the surgical instrument display **115** within the sterile field, where it can be viewed by the operator of the surgical instrument **112**. Example surgical instruments that are suitable for use with the surgical system **102** are described under the heading “Surgical Instrument Hardware” in U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/611,341, titled INTERACTIVE SURGICAL PLATFORM, filed Dec. 28, 2017, the disclosure of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety, for example.

[0206] Referring now to FIG. 3, a hub **106** is depicted in communication with a visualization system **108**, a robotic system **110**, and a handheld intelligent surgical instrument **112**. The hub **106** includes a hub display **135**, an imaging module **138**, a generator module **140** (which can include a monopolar generator **142**, a bipolar generator **144**, and/or an ultrasonic generator **143**), a communication module **130**, a processor module **132**, and a storage array **134**. In certain aspects, as illustrated in FIG. 3, the hub **106** further includes

a smoke evacuation module **126**, a suction/irrigation module **128**, and/or an OR mapping module **133**.

[0207] During a surgical procedure, energy application to tissue, for sealing and/or cutting, is generally associated with smoke evacuation, suction of excess fluid, and/or irrigation of the tissue. Fluid, power, and/or data lines from different sources are often entangled during the surgical procedure. Valuable time can be lost addressing this issue during a surgical procedure. Detangling the lines may necessitate disconnecting the lines from their respective modules, which may require resetting the modules. The hub modular enclosure **136** offers a unified environment for managing the power, data, and fluid lines, which reduces the frequency of entanglement between such lines.

[0208] Aspects of the present disclosure present a surgical hub for use in a surgical procedure that involves energy application to tissue at a surgical site. The surgical hub includes a hub enclosure and a combo generator module slidably receivable in a docking station of the hub enclosure. The docking station includes data and power contacts. The combo generator module includes two or more of an ultrasonic energy generator component, a bipolar RF energy generator component, and a monopolar RF energy generator component that are housed in a single unit. In one aspect, the combo generator module also includes a smoke evacuation component, at least one energy delivery cable for connecting the combo generator module to a surgical instrument, at least one smoke evacuation component configured to evacuate smoke, fluid, and/or particulates generated by the application of therapeutic energy to the tissue, and a fluid line extending from the remote surgical site to the smoke evacuation component.

[0209] In one aspect, the fluid line is a first fluid line and a second fluid line extends from the remote surgical site to a suction and irrigation module slidably received in the hub enclosure. In one aspect, the hub enclosure comprises a fluid interface.

[0210] Certain surgical procedures may require the application of more than one energy type to the tissue. One energy type may be more beneficial for cutting the tissue, while another different energy type may be more beneficial for sealing the tissue. For example, a bipolar generator can be used to seal the tissue while an ultrasonic generator can be used to cut the sealed tissue. Aspects of the present disclosure present a solution where a hub modular enclosure **136** is configured to accommodate different generators, and facilitate an interactive communication therebetween. One of the advantages of the hub modular enclosure **136** is enabling the quick removal and/or replacement of various modules.

[0211] Aspects of the present disclosure present a modular surgical enclosure for use in a surgical procedure that involves energy application to tissue. The modular surgical enclosure includes a first energy-generator module, configured to generate a first energy for application to the tissue, and a first docking station comprising a first docking port that includes first data and power contacts, wherein the first energy-generator module is slidably movable into an electrical engagement with the power and data contacts and wherein the first energy-generator module is slidably movable out of the electrical engagement with the first power and data contacts,

[0212] Further to the above, the modular surgical enclosure also includes a second energy-generator module con-

figured to generate a second energy, different than the first energy, for application to the tissue, and a second docking station comprising a second docking port that includes second data and power contacts, wherein the second energy-generator module is slidably movable into an electrical engagement with the power and data contacts, and wherein the second energy-generator module is slidably movable out of the electrical engagement with the second power and data contacts.

[0213] In addition, the modular surgical enclosure also includes a communication bus between the first docking port and the second docking port, configured to facilitate communication between the first energy-generator module and the second energy-generator module.

[0214] Referring to FIGS. 3-7, aspects of the present disclosure are presented for a hub modular enclosure **136** that allows the modular integration of a generator module **140**, a smoke evacuation module **126**, and a suction/irrigation module **128**. The hub modular enclosure **136** further facilitates interactive communication between the modules **140**, **126**, **128**. As illustrated in FIG. 5, the generator module **140** can be a generator module with integrated monopolar, bipolar, and ultrasonic components supported in a single housing unit **139** slidably insertable into the hub modular enclosure **136**. As illustrated in FIG. 5, the generator module **140** can be configured to connect to a monopolar device **146**, a bipolar device **147**, and an ultrasonic device **148**. Alternatively, the generator module **140** may comprise a series of monopolar, bipolar, and/or ultrasonic generator modules that interact through the hub modular enclosure **136**. The hub modular enclosure **136** can be configured to facilitate the insertion of multiple generators and interactive communication between the generators docked into the hub modular enclosure **136** so that the generators would act as a single generator.

[0215] In one aspect, the hub modular enclosure **136** comprises a modular power and communication backplane **149** with external and wireless communication headers to enable the removable attachment of the modules **140**, **126**, **128** and interactive communication therebetween.

[0216] In one aspect, the hub modular enclosure **136** includes docking stations, or drawers, **151**, herein also referred to as drawers, which are configured to slidably receive the modules **140**, **126**, **128**. FIG. 4 illustrates a partial perspective view of a surgical hub enclosure **136**, and a combo generator module **145** slidably receivable in a docking station **151** of the surgical hub enclosure **136**. A docking port **152** with power and data contacts on a rear side of the combo generator module **145** is configured to engage a corresponding docking port **150** with power and data contacts of a corresponding docking station **151** of the hub modular enclosure **136** as the combo generator module **145** is slid into position within the corresponding docking station **151** of the hub module enclosure **136**. In one aspect, the combo generator module **145** includes a bipolar, ultrasonic, and monopolar module and a smoke evacuation module integrated together into a single housing unit **139**, as illustrated in FIG. 5.

[0217] In various aspects, the smoke evacuation module **126** includes a fluid line **154** that conveys captured/collected smoke and/or fluid away from a surgical site and to, for example, the smoke evacuation module **126**. Vacuum suction originating from the smoke evacuation module **126** can draw the smoke into an opening of a utility conduit at the

surgical site. The utility conduit, coupled to the fluid line, can be in the form of a flexible tube terminating at the smoke evacuation module 126. The utility conduit and the fluid line define a fluid path extending toward the smoke evacuation module 126 that is received in the hub enclosure 136.

[0218] In various aspects, the suction/irrigation module 128 is coupled to a surgical tool comprising an aspiration fluid line and a suction fluid line. In one example, the aspiration and suction fluid lines are in the form of flexible tubes extending from the surgical site toward the suction/irrigation module 128. One or more drive systems can be configured to cause irrigation and aspiration of fluids to and from the surgical site.

[0219] In one aspect, the surgical tool includes a shaft having an end effector at a distal end thereof and at least one energy treatment associated with the end effector, an aspiration tube, and an irrigation tube. The aspiration tube can have an inlet port at a distal end thereof and the aspiration tube extends through the shaft. Similarly, an irrigation tube can extend through the shaft and can have an inlet port in proximity to the energy deliver implement. The energy deliver implement is configured to deliver ultrasonic and/or RF energy to the surgical site and is coupled to the generator module 140 by a cable extending initially through the shaft.

[0220] The irrigation tube can be in fluid communication with a fluid source, and the aspiration tube can be in fluid communication with a vacuum source. The fluid source and/or the vacuum source can be housed in the suction/irrigation module 128. In one example, the fluid source and/or the vacuum source can be housed in the hub enclosure 136 separately from the suction/irrigation module 128. In such example, a fluid interface can be configured to connect the suction/irrigation module 128 to the fluid source and/or the vacuum source.

[0221] In one aspect, the modules 140, 126, 128 and/or their corresponding docking stations on the hub modular enclosure 136 may include alignment features that are configured to align the docking ports of the modules into engagement with their counterparts in the docking stations of the hub modular enclosure 136. For example, as illustrated in FIG. 4, the combo generator module 145 includes side brackets 155 that are configured to slidably engage with corresponding brackets 156 of the corresponding docking station 151 of the hub modular enclosure 136. The brackets cooperate to guide the docking port contacts of the combo generator module 145 into an electrical engagement with the docking port contacts of the hub modular enclosure 136.

[0222] In some aspects, the drawers 151 of the hub modular enclosure 136 are the same, or substantially the same size, and the modules are adjusted in size to be received in the drawers 151. For example, the side brackets 155 and/or 156 can be larger or smaller depending on the size of the module. In other aspects, the drawers 151 are different in size and are each designed to accommodate a particular module.

[0223] Furthermore, the contacts of a particular module can be keyed for engagement with the contacts of a particular drawer to avoid inserting a module into a drawer with mismatching contacts.

[0224] As illustrated in FIG. 4, the docking port 150 of one drawer 151 can be coupled to the docking port 150 of another drawer 151 through a communications link 157 to facilitate an interactive communication between the modules housed in the hub modular enclosure 136. The docking

ports 150 of the hub modular enclosure 136 may alternatively, or additionally, facilitate a wireless interactive communication between the modules housed in the hub modular enclosure 136. Any suitable wireless communication can be employed, such as for example Air Titan-Bluetooth.

[0225] FIG. 6 illustrates individual power bus attachments for a plurality of lateral docking ports of a lateral modular housing 160 configured to receive a plurality of modules of a surgical hub 206. The lateral modular housing 160 is configured to laterally receive and interconnect the modules 161. The modules 161 are slidably inserted into docking stations 162 of lateral modular housing 160, which includes a backplane for interconnecting the modules 161. As illustrated in FIG. 6, the modules 161 are arranged laterally in the lateral modular housing 160. Alternatively, the modules 161 may be arranged vertically in a lateral modular housing.

[0226] FIG. 7 illustrates a vertical modular housing 164 configured to receive a plurality of modules 165 of the surgical hub 106. The modules 165 are slidably inserted into docking stations, or drawers, 167 of vertical modular housing 164, which includes a backplane for interconnecting the modules 165. Although the drawers 167 of the vertical modular housing 164 are arranged vertically, in certain instances, a vertical modular housing 164 may include drawers that are arranged laterally. Furthermore, the modules 165 may interact with one another through the docking ports of the vertical modular housing 164. In the example of FIG. 7, a display 177 is provided for displaying data relevant to the operation of the modules 165. In addition, the vertical modular housing 164 includes a master module 178 housing a plurality of sub-modules that are slidably received in the master module 178.

[0227] In various aspects, the imaging module 138 comprises an integrated video processor and a modular light source and is adapted for use with various imaging devices. In one aspect, the imaging device is comprised of a modular housing that can be assembled with a light source module and a camera module. The housing can be a disposable housing. In at least one example, the disposable housing is removably coupled to a reusable controller, a light source module, and a camera module. The light source module and/or the camera module can be selectively chosen depending on the type of surgical procedure. In one aspect, the camera module comprises a CCD sensor. In another aspect, the camera module comprises a CMOS sensor. In another aspect, the camera module is configured for scanned beam imaging. Likewise, the light source module can be configured to deliver a white light or a different light, depending on the surgical procedure.

[0228] During a surgical procedure, removing a surgical device from the surgical field and replacing it with another surgical device that includes a different camera or a different light source can be inefficient. Temporarily losing sight of the surgical field may lead to undesirable consequences. The module imaging device of the present disclosure is configured to permit the replacement of a light source module or a camera module midstream during a surgical procedure, without having to remove the imaging device from the surgical field.

[0229] In one aspect, the imaging device comprises a tubular housing that includes a plurality of channels. A first channel is configured to slidably receive the camera module, which can be configured for a snap-fit engagement with the first channel. A second channel is configured to slidably

receive the light source module, which can be configured for a snap-fit engagement with the second channel. In another example, the camera module and/or the light source module can be rotated into a final position within their respective channels. A threaded engagement can be employed in lieu of the snap-fit engagement.

[0230] In various examples, multiple imaging devices are placed at different positions in the surgical field to provide multiple views. The imaging module 138 can be configured to switch between the imaging devices to provide an optimal view. In various aspects, the imaging module 138 can be configured to integrate the images from the different imaging device.

[0231] Various image processors and imaging devices suitable for use with the present disclosure are described in U.S. Pat. No. 7,995,045, titled COMBINED SBI AND CONVENTIONAL IMAGE PROCESSOR, which issued on Aug. 9, 2011, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety. In addition, U.S. Pat. No. 7,982,776, titled SBI MOTION ARTIFACT REMOVAL APPARATUS AND METHOD, which issued on Jul. 19, 2011, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety, describes various systems for removing motion artifacts from image data. Such systems can be integrated with the imaging module 138. Furthermore, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2011/0306840, titled CONTROLLABLE MAGNETIC SOURCE TO FIXTURE INTRACORPOREAL APPARATUS, which published on Dec. 15, 2011, and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2014/0243597, titled SYSTEM FOR PERFORMING A MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGICAL PROCEDURE, which published on Aug. 28, 2014, each of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0232] FIG. 8 illustrates a surgical data network 201 comprising a modular communication hub 203 configured to connect modular devices located in one or more operating theaters of a healthcare facility, or any room in a healthcare facility specially equipped for surgical operations, to a cloud-based system (e.g., the cloud 204 that may include a remote server 213 coupled to a storage device 205). In one aspect, the modular communication hub 203 comprises a network hub 207 and/or a network switch 209 in communication with a network router. The modular communication hub 203 also can be coupled to a local computer system 210 to provide local computer processing and data manipulation. The surgical data network 201 may be configured as passive, intelligent, or switching. A passive surgical data network serves as a conduit for the data, enabling it to go from one device (or segment) to another and to the cloud computing resources. An intelligent surgical data network includes additional features to enable the traffic passing through the surgical data network to be monitored and to configure each port in the network hub 207 or network switch 209. An intelligent surgical data network may be referred to as a manageable hub or switch. A switching hub reads the destination address of each packet and then forwards the packet to the correct port.

[0233] Modular devices 1a-1n located in the operating theater may be coupled to the modular communication hub 203. The network hub 207 and/or the network switch 209 may be coupled to a network router 211 to connect the devices 1a-1n to the cloud 204 or the local computer system 210. Data associated with the devices 1a-1n may be transferred to cloud-based computers via the router for remote

data processing and manipulation. Data associated with the devices 1a-1n may also be transferred to the local computer system 210 for local data processing and manipulation. Modular devices 2a-2m located in the same operating theater also may be coupled to a network switch 209. The network switch 209 may be coupled to the network hub 207 and/or the network router 211 to connect to the devices 2a-2m to the cloud 204. Data associated with the devices 2a-2n may be transferred to the cloud 204 via the network router 211 for data processing and manipulation. Data associated with the devices 2a-2m may also be transferred to the local computer system 210 for local data processing and manipulation.

[0234] It will be appreciated that the surgical data network 201 may be expanded by interconnecting multiple network hubs 207 and/or multiple network switches 209 with multiple network routers 211. The modular communication hub 203 may be contained in a modular control tower configured to receive multiple devices 1a-1n/2a-2m. The local computer system 210 also may be contained in a modular control tower. The modular communication hub 203 is connected to a display 212 to display images obtained by some of the devices 1a-1n/2a-2m, for example during surgical procedures. In various aspects, the devices 1a-1n/2a-2m may include, for example, various modules such as an imaging module 138 coupled to an endoscope, a generator module 140 coupled to an energy-based surgical device, a smoke evacuation module 126, a suction/irrigation module 128, a communication module 130, a processor module 132, a storage array 134, a surgical device coupled to a display, and/or a non-contact sensor module, among other modular devices that may be connected to the modular communication hub 203 of the surgical data network 201.

[0235] In one aspect, the surgical data network 201 may comprise a combination of network hub(s), network switch(es), and network router(s) connecting the devices 1a-1n/2a-2m to the cloud. Any one of or all of the devices 1a-1n/2a-2m coupled to the network hub or network switch may collect data in real time and transfer the data to cloud computers for data processing and manipulation. It will be appreciated that cloud computing relies on sharing computing resources rather than having local servers or personal devices to handle software applications. The word “cloud” may be used as a metaphor for “the Internet,” although the term is not limited as such. Accordingly, the term “cloud computing” may be used herein to refer to “a type of Internet-based computing,” where different services—such as servers, storage, and applications—are delivered to the modular communication hub 203 and/or computer system 210 located in the surgical theater (e.g., a fixed, mobile, temporary, or field operating room or space) and to devices connected to the modular communication hub 203 and/or computer system 210 through the Internet. The cloud infrastructure may be maintained by a cloud service provider. In this context, the cloud service provider may be the entity that coordinates the usage and control of the devices 1a-1n/2a-2m located in one or more operating theaters. The cloud computing services can perform a large number of calculations based on the data gathered by smart surgical instruments, robots, and other computerized devices located in the operating theater. The hub hardware enables multiple devices or connections to be connected to a computer that communicates with the cloud computing resources and storage.

[0236] Applying cloud computer data processing techniques on the data collected by the devices $1a-1n/2a-2m$, the surgical data network provides improved surgical outcomes, reduced costs, and improved patient satisfaction. At least some of the devices $1a-1n/2a-2m$ may be employed to view tissue states to assess leaks or perfusion of sealed tissue after a tissue sealing and cutting procedure. At least some of the devices $1a-1n/2a-2m$ may be employed to identify pathology, such as the effects of diseases, using the cloud-based computing to examine data including images of samples of body tissue for diagnostic purposes. This includes localization and margin confirmation of tissue and phenotypes. At least some of the devices $1a-1n/2a-2m$ may be employed to identify anatomical structures of the body using a variety of sensors integrated with imaging devices and techniques such as overlaying images captured by multiple imaging devices. The data gathered by the devices $1a-1n/2a-2m$, including image data, may be transferred to the cloud **204** or the local computer system **210** or both for data processing and manipulation including image processing and manipulation. The data may be analyzed to improve surgical procedure outcomes by determining if further treatment, such as the application of endoscopic intervention, emerging technologies, a targeted radiation, targeted intervention, and precise robotics to tissue-specific sites and conditions, may be pursued. Such data analysis may further employ outcome analytics processing, and using standardized approaches may provide beneficial feedback to either confirm surgical treatments and the behavior of the surgeon or suggest modifications to surgical treatments and the behavior of the surgeon.

[0237] In one implementation, the operating theater devices $1a-1n$ may be connected to the modular communication hub **203** over a wired channel or a wireless channel depending on the configuration of the devices $1a-1n$ to a network hub. The network hub **207** may be implemented, in one aspect, as a local network broadcast device that works on the physical layer of the Open System Interconnection (OSI) model. The network hub provides connectivity to the devices $1a-1n$ located in the same operating theater network. The network hub **207** collects data in the form of packets and sends them to the router in half duplex mode. The network hub **207** does not store any media access control/Internet Protocol (MAC/IP) to transfer the device data. Only one of the devices $1a-1n$ can send data at a time through the network hub **207**. The network hub **207** has no routing tables or intelligence regarding where to send information and broadcasts all network data across each connection and to a remote server **213** (FIG. 9) over the cloud **204**. The network hub **207** can detect basic network errors such as collisions, but having all information broadcast to multiple ports can be a security risk and cause bottlenecks.

[0238] In another implementation, the operating theater devices $2a-2m$ may be connected to a network switch **209** over a wired channel or a wireless channel. The network switch **209** works in the data link layer of the OSI model. The network switch **209** is a multicast device for connecting the devices $2a-2m$ located in the same operating theater to the network. The network switch **209** sends data in the form of frames to the network router **211** and works in full duplex mode. Multiple devices $2a-2m$ can send data at the same time through the network switch **209**. The network switch **209** stores and uses MAC addresses of the devices $2a-2m$ to transfer data.

[0239] The network hub **207** and/or the network switch **209** are coupled to the network router **211** for connection to the cloud **204**. The network router **211** works in the network layer of the OSI model. The network router **211** creates a route for transmitting data packets received from the network hub **207** and/or network switch **211** to cloud-based computer resources for further processing and manipulation of the data collected by any one of or all the devices $1a-1n/2a-2m$. The network router **211** may be employed to connect two or more different networks located in different locations, such as, for example, different operating theaters of the same healthcare facility or different networks located in different operating theaters of different healthcare facilities. The network router **211** sends data in the form of packets to the cloud **204** and works in full duplex mode. Multiple devices can send data at the same time. The network router **211** uses IP addresses to transfer data.

[0240] In one example, the network hub **207** may be implemented as a USB hub, which allows multiple USB devices to be connected to a host computer. The USB hub may expand a single USB port into several tiers so that there are more ports available to connect devices to the host system computer. The network hub **207** may include wired or wireless capabilities to receive information over a wired channel or a wireless channel. In one aspect, a wireless USB short-range, high-bandwidth wireless radio communication protocol may be employed for communication between the devices $1a-1n$ and devices $2a-2m$ located in the operating theater.

[0241] In other examples, the operating theater devices $1a-1n/2a-2m$ may communicate to the modular communication hub **203** via Bluetooth wireless technology standard for exchanging data over short distances (using short-wavelength UHF radio waves in the ISM band from 2.4 to 2.485 GHz) from fixed and mobile devices and building personal area networks (PANs). In other aspects, the operating theater devices $1a-1n/2a-2m$ may communicate to the modular communication hub **203** via a number of wireless or wired communication standards or protocols, including but not limited to W-Fi (IEEE 802.11 family), WiMAX (IEEE 802.16 family), IEEE 802.20, long-term evolution (LTE), and Ev-DO, HSPA+, HSDPA+, HSUPA+, EDGE, GSM, GPRS, CDMA, TDMA, DECT, and Ethernet derivatives thereof, as well as any other wireless and wired protocols that are designated as 3G, 4G, 5G, and beyond. The computing module may include a plurality of communication modules. For instance, a first communication module may be dedicated to shorter-range wireless communications such as W-Fi and Bluetooth, and a second communication module may be dedicated to longer-range wireless communications such as GPS, EDGE, GPRS, CDMA, WiMAX, LTE, Ev-DO, and others.

[0242] The modular communication hub **203** may serve as a central connection for one or all of the operating theater devices $1a-1n/2a-2m$ and handles a data type known as frames. Frames carry the data generated by the devices $1a-1n/2a-2m$. When a frame is received by the modular communication hub **203**, it is amplified and transmitted to the network router **211**, which transfers the data to the cloud computing resources by using a number of wireless or wired communication standards or protocols, as described herein.

[0243] The modular communication hub **203** can be used as a standalone device or be connected to compatible network hubs and network switches to form a larger net-

work. The modular communication hub **203** is generally easy to install, configure, and maintain, making it a good option for networking the operating theater devices **1a-1n/2a-2m**.

[0244] FIG. 9 illustrates a computer-implemented interactive surgical system **200**. The computer-implemented interactive surgical system **200** is similar in many respects to the computer-implemented interactive surgical system **100**. For example, the computer-implemented interactive surgical system **200** includes one or more surgical systems **202**, which are similar in many respects to the surgical systems **102**. Each surgical system **202** includes at least one surgical hub **206** in communication with a cloud **204** that may include a remote server **213**. In one aspect, the computer-implemented interactive surgical system **200** comprises a modular control tower **236** connected to multiple operating theater devices such as, for example, intelligent surgical instruments, robots, and other computerized devices located in the operating theater. As shown in FIG. 10, the modular control tower **236** comprises a modular communication hub **203** coupled to a computer system **210**. As illustrated in the example of FIG. 9, the modular control tower **236** is coupled to an imaging module **238** that is coupled to an endoscope **239**, a generator module **240** that is coupled to an energy device **241**, a smoke evacuator module **226**, a suction/irrigation module **228**, a communication module **230**, a processor module **232**, a storage array **234**, a smart device/instrument **235** optionally coupled to a display **237**, and a non-contact sensor module **242**. The operating theater devices are coupled to cloud computing resources and data storage via the modular control tower **236**. A robot hub **222** also may be connected to the modular control tower **236** and to the cloud computing resources. The devices/instruments **235**, visualization systems **208**, among others, may be coupled to the modular control tower **236** via wired or wireless communication standards or protocols, as described herein. The modular control tower **236** may be coupled to a hub display **215** (e.g., monitor, screen) to display and overlay images received from the imaging module, device/instrument display, and/or other visualization systems **208**. The hub display also may display data received from devices connected to the modular control tower in conjunction with images and overlaid images.

[0245] FIG. 10 illustrates a surgical hub **206** comprising a plurality of modules coupled to the modular control tower **236**. The modular control tower **236** comprises a modular communication hub **203**, e.g., a network connectivity device, and a computer system **210** to provide local processing, visualization, and imaging, for example. As shown in FIG. 10, the modular communication hub **203** may be connected in a tiered configuration to expand the number of modules (e.g., devices) that may be connected to the modular communication hub **203** and transfer data associated with the modules to the computer system **210**, cloud computing resources, or both. As shown in FIG. 10, each of the network hubs/switches in the modular communication hub **203** includes three downstream ports and one upstream port. The upstream network hub/switch is connected to a processor to provide a communication connection to the cloud computing resources and a local display **217**. Communication to the cloud **204** may be made either through a wired or a wireless communication channel.

[0246] The surgical hub **206** employs a non-contact sensor module **242** to measure the dimensions of the operating

theater and generate a map of the surgical theater using either ultrasonic or laser-type non-contact measurement devices. An ultrasound-based non-contact sensor module scans the operating theater by transmitting a burst of ultrasound and receiving the echo when it bounces off the perimeter walls of an operating theater as described under the heading "Surgical Hub Spatial Awareness Within an Operating Room" in U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/611,341, titled INTERACTIVE SURGICAL PLATFORM, filed Dec. 28, 2017, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety, in which the sensor module is configured to determine the size of the operating theater and to adjust Bluetooth-pairing distance limits. A laser-based non-contact sensor module scans the operating theater by transmitting laser light pulses, receiving laser light pulses that bounce off the perimeter walls of the operating theater, and comparing the phase of the transmitted pulse to the received pulse to determine the size of the operating theater and to adjust Bluetooth pairing distance limits, for example.

[0247] The computer system **210** comprises a processor **244** and a network interface **245**. The processor **244** is coupled to a communication module **247**, storage **248**, memory **249**, non-volatile memory **250**, and input/output interface **251** via a system bus. The system bus can be any of several types of bus structure(s) including the memory bus or memory controller, a peripheral bus or external bus, and/or a local bus using any variety of available bus architectures including, but not limited to, 9-bit bus, Industrial Standard Architecture (ISA), Micro-Charmel Architecture (MSA), Extended ISA (EISA), Intelligent Drive Electronics (IDE), VESA Local Bus (VLB), Peripheral Component Interconnect (PCI), USB, Advanced Graphics Port (AGP), Personal Computer Memory Card International Association bus (PCMCIA), Small Computer Systems Interface (SCSI), or any other proprietary bus.

[0248] The processor **244** may be any single-core or multicore processor such as those known under the trade name ARM Cortex by Texas Instruments. In one aspect, the processor may be an LM4F230H5QR ARM Cortex-M4F Processor Core, available from Texas Instruments, for example, comprising an on-chip memory of 256 KB single-cycle flash memory, or other non-volatile memory, up to 40 MHz, a prefetch buffer to improve performance above 40 MHz, a 32 KB single-cycle serial random access memory (SRAM), an internal read-only memory (ROM) loaded with StellarisWare® software, a 2 KB electrically erasable programmable read-only memory (EEPROM), and/or one or more pulse width modulation (PWM) modules, one or more quadrature encoder inputs (QEI) analogs, one or more 12-bit analog-to-digital converters (ADCs) with 12 analog input channels, details of which are available for the product datasheet.

[0249] In one aspect, the processor **244** may comprise a safety controller comprising two controller-based families such as TMS570 and RM4x, known under the trade name Hercules ARM Cortex R4, also by Texas Instruments. The safety controller may be configured specifically for IEC 61508 and ISO 26262 safety critical applications, among others, to provide advanced integrated safety features while delivering scalable performance, connectivity, and memory options.

[0250] The system memory includes volatile memory and non-volatile memory. The basic input/output system (BIOS), containing the basic routines to transfer information between

elements within the computer system, such as during start-up, is stored in non-volatile memory. For example, the non-volatile memory can include ROM, programmable ROM (PROM), electrically programmable ROM (EPROM), EEPROM, or flash memory. Volatile memory includes random-access memory (RAM), which acts as external cache memory. Moreover, RAM is available in many forms such as SRAM, dynamic RAM (DRAM), synchronous DRAM (SDRAM), double data rate SDRAM (DDR SDRAM), enhanced SDRAM (ESDRAM), Synchlink DRAM (SLDRAM), and direct Rambus RAM (DRRAM).

[0251] The computer system **210** also includes removable/non-removable, volatile/non-volatile computer storage media, such as for example disk storage. The disk storage includes, but is not limited to, devices like a magnetic disk drive, floppy disk drive, tape drive, Jaz drive, Zip drive, LS-60 drive, flash memory card, or memory stick. In addition, the disk storage can include storage media separately or in combination with other storage media including, but not limited to, an optical disc drive such as a compact disc ROM device (CD-ROM), compact disc recordable drive (CD-R Drive), compact disc rewritable drive (CD-RW Drive), or a digital versatile disc ROM drive (DVD-ROM). To facilitate the connection of the disk storage devices to the system bus, a removable or non-removable interface may be employed.

[0252] It is to be appreciated that the computer system **210** includes software that acts as an intermediary between users and the basic computer resources described in a suitable operating environment. Such software includes an operating system. The operating system, which can be stored on the disk storage, acts to control and allocate resources of the computer system. System applications take advantage of the management of resources by the operating system through program modules and program data stored either in the system memory or on the disk storage. It is to be appreciated that various components described herein can be implemented with various operating systems or combinations of operating systems.

[0253] A user enters commands or information into the computer system **210** through input device(s) coupled to the I/O interface **251**. The input devices include, but are not limited to, a pointing device such as a mouse, trackball, stylus, touch pad, keyboard, microphone, joystick, game pad, satellite dish, scanner, TV tuner card, digital camera, digital video camera, web camera, and the like. These and other input devices connect to the processor through the system bus via interface port(s). The interface port(s) include, for example, a serial port, a parallel port, a game port, and a USB. The output device(s) use some of the same types of ports as input device(s). Thus, for example, a USB port may be used to provide input to the computer system and to output information from the computer system to an output device. An output adapter is provided to illustrate that there are some output devices like monitors, displays, speakers, and printers, among other output devices that require special adapters. The output adapters include, by way of illustration and not limitation, video and sound cards that provide a means of connection between the output device and the system bus. It should be noted that other devices and/or systems of devices, such as remote computer(s), provide both input and output capabilities.

[0254] The computer system **210** can operate in a networked environment using logical connections to one or more remote computers, such as cloud computer(s), or local

computers. The remote cloud computer(s) can be a personal computer, server, router, network PC, workstation, micro-processor-based appliance, peer device, or other common network node, and the like, and typically includes many or all of the elements described relative to the computer system. For purposes of brevity, only a memory storage device is illustrated with the remote computer(s). The remote computer(s) is logically connected to the computer system through a network interface and then physically connected via a communication connection. The network interface encompasses communication networks such as local area networks (LANs) and wide area networks (WANs). LAN technologies include Fiber Distributed Data Interface (FDDI), Copper Distributed Data Interface (CDDI), Ethernet/IEEE 802.3, Token Ring/IEEE 802.5 and the like. WAN technologies include, but are not limited to, point-to-point links, circuit-switching networks like Integrated Services Digital Networks (ISDN) and variations thereon, packet-switching networks, and Digital Subscriber Lines (DSL).

[0255] In various aspects, the computer system **210** of FIG. **10**, the imaging module **238** and/or visualization system **208**, and/or the processor module **232** of FIGS. **9-10**, may comprise an image processor, image-processing engine, media processor, or any specialized digital signal processor (DSP) used for the processing of digital images. The image processor may employ parallel computing with single instruction, multiple data (SIMD) or multiple instruction, multiple data (MIMD) technologies to increase speed and efficiency. The digital image-processing engine can perform a range of tasks. The image processor may be a system on a chip with multicore processor architecture.

[0256] The communication connection(s) refers to the hardware/software employed to connect the network interface to the bus. While the communication connection is shown for illustrative clarity inside the computer system, it can also be external to the computer system **210**. The hardware/software necessary for connection to the network interface includes, for illustrative purposes only, internal and external technologies such as modems, including regular telephone-grade modems, cable modems, and DSL modems, ISDN adapters, and Ethernet cards.

[0257] In various aspects, the devices/instruments **235** described with reference to FIGS. **9-10**, may be implemented as the surgical device **214002** (FIGS. **16-18**), the display screen (FIG. **16**), the wearable devices **214100**, **214102**, **214200**, **214202** (FIGS. **19-21**), and the display **214400** (FIGS. **22A** and **22B**). Accordingly, the surgical device **214002** (FIGS. **16-18**), the display screen (FIG. **16**), the wearable devices **214100**, **214102**, **214200**, **214202** (FIGS. **19-21**), and the display **214400** (FIGS. **22A** and **22B**) are configured to interface with the modular control tower **236** and the surgical hub **206**. Once connected to the surgical hub **206**, the surgical device **214002** (FIGS. **16-18**), the display screen (FIG. **16**), the wearable devices **214100**, **214102**, **214200**, **214202** (FIGS. **19-21**), and the display **214400** (FIGS. **22A** and **22B**) are configured to interface with the cloud **204**, the server **213**, other hub connected instruments, the hub display **215**, or the visualization system **209**, or combinations thereof. Further, once connected to hub **206**, the surgical device **214002** (FIGS. **16-18**), the display screen (FIG. **16**), the wearable devices **214100**, **214102**, **214200**, **214202** (FIGS. **19-21**), and the display

214400 (FIGS. 22A and 22B) may utilize the processing circuits available in the hub local computer system **210**.

[0258] FIG. 11 illustrates a functional block diagram of one aspect of a USB network hub **300** device, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure. In the illustrated aspect, the USB network hub device **300** employs a TUSB2036 integrated circuit hub by Texas Instruments. The USB network hub **300** is a CMOS device that provides an upstream USB transceiver port **302** and up to three downstream USB transceiver ports **304**, **306**, **308** in compliance with the USB 2.0 specification. The upstream USB transceiver port **302** is a differential root data port comprising a differential data minus (DM0) input paired with a differential data plus (DP0) input. The three downstream USB transceiver ports **304**, **306**, **308** are differential data ports where each port includes differential data plus (DP1-DP3) outputs paired with differential data minus (DM1-DM3) outputs.

[0259] The USB network hub **300** device is implemented with a digital state machine instead of a microcontroller, and no firmware programming is required. Fully compliant USB transceivers are integrated into the circuit for the upstream USB transceiver port **302** and all downstream USB transceiver ports **304**, **306**, **308**. The downstream USB transceiver ports **304**, **306**, **308** support both full-speed and low-speed devices by automatically setting the slew rate according to the speed of the device attached to the ports. The USB network hub **300** device may be configured either in bus-powered or self-powered mode and includes a hub power logic **312** to manage power.

[0260] The USB network hub **300** device includes a serial interface engine **310** (SIE). The SIE **310** is the front end of the USB network hub **300** hardware and handles most of the protocol described in chapter 8 of the USB specification. The SIE **310** typically comprehends signaling up to the transaction level. The functions that it handles could include: packet recognition, transaction sequencing, SOP, EOP, RESET, and RESUME signal detection/generation, clock/data separation, non-return-to-zero invert (NRZI) data encoding/decoding and bit-stuffing, CRC generation and checking (token and data), packet ID (PID) generation and checking/decoding, and/or serial-parallel/parallel-serial conversion. The **310** receives a clock input **314** and is coupled to a suspend/resume logic and frame timer **316** circuit and a hub repeater circuit **318** to control communication between the upstream USB transceiver port **302** and the downstream USB transceiver ports **304**, **306**, **308** through port logic circuits **320**, **322**, **324**. The SIE **310** is coupled to a command decoder **326** via interface logic **328** to control commands from a serial EEPROM via a serial EEPROM interface **330**.

[0261] In various aspects, the USB network hub **300** can connect **127** functions configured in up to six logical layers (tiers) to a single computer. Further, the USB network hub **300** can connect to all peripherals using a standardized four-wire cable that provides both communication and power distribution. The power configurations are bus-powered and self-powered modes. The USB network hub **300** may be configured to support four modes of power management: a bus-powered hub, with either individual-port power management or ganged-port power management, and the self-powered hub, with either individual-port power management or ganged-port power management. In one aspect, using a USB cable, the USB network hub **300**, the upstream USB transceiver port **302** is plugged into a USB

host controller, and the downstream USB transceiver ports **304**, **306**, **308** are exposed for connecting USB compatible devices, and so forth.

[0262] Additional details regarding the structure and function of the surgical hub and/or surgical hub networks can be found in U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/659,900, titled METHOD OF HUB COMMUNICATION, filed Apr. 19, 2018, which is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

Cloud System Hardware and Functional Modules

[0263] FIG. 12 is a block diagram of the computer-implemented interactive surgical system, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure. In one aspect, the computer-implemented interactive surgical system is configured to monitor and analyze data related to the operation of various surgical systems that include surgical hubs, surgical instruments, robotic devices and operating theaters or healthcare facilities. The computer-implemented interactive surgical system comprises a cloud-based analytics system. Although the cloud-based analytics system is described as a surgical system, it is not necessarily limited as such and could be a cloud-based medical system generally. As illustrated in FIG. 12, the cloud-based analytics system comprises a plurality of surgical instruments **7012** (may be the same or similar to instruments **112**), a plurality of surgical hubs **7006** (may be the same or similar to hubs **106**), and a surgical data network **7001** (may be the same or similar to network **201**) to couple the surgical hubs **7006** to the cloud **7004** (may be the same or similar to cloud **204**). Each of the plurality of surgical hubs **7006** is communicatively coupled to one or more surgical instruments **7012**. The hubs **7006** are also communicatively coupled to the cloud **7004** of the computer-implemented interactive surgical system via the network **7001**. The cloud **7004** is a remote centralized source of hardware and software for storing, manipulating, and communicating data generated based on the operation of various surgical systems. As shown in FIG. 12, access to the cloud **7004** is achieved via the network **7001**, which may be the Internet or some other suitable computer network. Surgical hubs **7006** that are coupled to the cloud **7004** can be considered the client side of the cloud computing system (i.e., cloud-based analytics system). Surgical instruments **7012** are paired with the surgical hubs **7006** for control and implementation of various surgical procedures or operations as described herein.

[0264] In addition, surgical instruments **7012** may comprise transceivers for data transmission to and from their corresponding surgical hubs **7006** (which may also comprise transceivers). Combinations of surgical instruments **7012** and corresponding hubs **7006** may indicate particular locations, such as operating theaters in healthcare facilities (e.g., hospitals), for providing medical operations. For example, the memory of a surgical hub **7006** may store location data. As shown in FIG. 12, the cloud **7004** comprises central servers **7013** (which may be same or similar to remote server **113** in FIG. 1 and/or remote server **213** in FIG. 9), hub application servers **7002**, data analytics modules **7034**, and an input/output ("I/O") interface **7007**. The central servers **7013** of the cloud **7004** collectively administer the cloud computing system, which includes monitoring requests by client surgical hubs **7006** and managing the processing capacity of the cloud **7004** for executing the requests. Each of the central servers **7013** comprises one or more proces-

sors **7008** coupled to suitable memory devices **7010** which can include volatile memory such as random-access memory (RAM) and non-volatile memory such as magnetic storage devices. The memory devices **7010** may comprise machine executable instructions that when executed cause the processors **7008** to execute the data analytics modules **7034** for the cloud-based data analysis, operations, recommendations and other operations described below. Moreover, the processors **7008** can execute the data analytics modules **7034** independently or in conjunction with hub applications independently executed by the hubs **7006**. The central servers **7013** also comprise aggregated medical data databases **2212**, which can reside in the memory **2210**.

[0265] Based on connections to various surgical hubs **7006** via the network **7001**, the cloud **7004** can aggregate data from specific data generated by various surgical instruments **7012** and their corresponding hubs **7006**. Such aggregated data may be stored within the aggregated medical databases **7011** of the cloud **7004**. In particular, the cloud **7004** may advantageously perform data analysis and operations on the aggregated data to yield insights and/or perform functions that individual hubs **7006** could not achieve on their own. To this end, as shown in FIG. 12, the cloud **7004** and the surgical hubs **7006** are communicatively coupled to transmit and receive information. The I/O interface **7007** is connected to the plurality of surgical hubs **7006** via the network **7001**. In this way, the I/O interface **7007** can be configured to transfer information between the surgical hubs **7006** and the aggregated medical data databases **7011**. Accordingly, the I/O interface **7007** may facilitate read/write operations of the cloud-based analytics system. Such read/write operations may be executed in response to requests from hubs **7006**. These requests could be transmitted to the hubs **7006** through the hub applications. The I/O interface **7007** may include one or more high speed data ports, which may include universal serial bus (USB) ports, IEEE 1394 ports, as well as W-Fi and Bluetooth I/O interfaces for connecting the cloud **7004** to hubs **7006**. The hub application servers **7002** of the cloud **7004** are configured to host and supply shared capabilities to software applications (e.g. hub applications) executed by surgical hubs **7006**. For example, the hub application servers **7002** may manage requests made by the hub applications through the hubs **7006**, control access to the aggregated medical data databases **7011**, and perform load balancing. The data analytics modules **7034** are described in further detail with reference to FIG. 13.

[0266] The particular cloud computing system configuration described in the present disclosure is specifically designed to address various issues arising in the context of medical operations and procedures performed using medical devices, such as the surgical instruments **7012**, **112**. In particular, the surgical instruments **7012** may be digital surgical devices configured to interact with the cloud **7004** for implementing techniques to improve the performance of surgical operations. Various surgical instruments **7012** and/or surgical hubs **7006** may comprise touch controlled user interfaces such that clinicians may control aspects of interaction between the surgical instruments **7012** and the cloud **7004**. Other suitable user interfaces for control such as auditory controlled user interfaces can also be used.

[0267] FIG. 13 is a block diagram which illustrates the functional architecture of the computer-implemented interactive surgical system, in accordance with at least one aspect

of the present disclosure. The cloud-based analytics system includes a plurality of data analytics modules **7034** that may be executed by the processors **7008** of the cloud **7004** for providing data analytic solutions to problems specifically arising in the medical field. As shown in FIG. 13, the functions of the cloud-based data analytics modules **7034** may be assisted via hub applications **7014** hosted by the hub application servers **7002** that may be accessed on surgical hubs **7006**. The cloud processors **7008** and hub applications **7014** may operate in conjunction to execute the data analytics modules **7034**. Application program interfaces (APIs) **7016** define the set of protocols and routines corresponding to the hub applications **7014**. Additionally, the APIs **7016** manage the storing and retrieval of data into and from the aggregated medical data databases **7011** for the operations of the applications **7014**. The caches **7018** also store data (e.g., temporarily) and are coupled to the APIs **7016** for more efficient retrieval of data used by the applications **7014**. The data analytics modules **7034** in FIG. 13 include modules for resource optimization **7020**, data collection and aggregation **7022**, authorization and security **7024**, control program updating **7026**, patient outcome analysis **7028**, recommendations **7030**, and data sorting and prioritization **7032**. Other suitable data analytics modules could also be implemented by the cloud **7004**, according to some aspects. In one aspect, the data analytics modules are used for specific recommendations based on analyzing trends, outcomes, and other data.

[0268] For example, the data collection and aggregation module **7022** could be used to generate self-describing data (e.g., metadata) including identification of notable features or configuration (e.g., trends), management of redundant data sets, and storage of the data in paired data sets which can be grouped by surgery but not necessarily keyed to actual surgical dates and surgeons. In particular, pair data sets generated from operations of surgical instruments **7012** can comprise applying a binary classification, e.g., a bleeding or a non-bleeding event. More generally, the binary classification may be characterized as either a desirable event (e.g., a successful surgical procedure) or an undesirable event (e.g., a misfired or misused surgical instrument **7012**). The aggregated self-describing data may correspond to individual data received from various groups or sub-groups of surgical hubs **7006**. Accordingly, the data collection and aggregation module **7022** can generate aggregated metadata or other organized data based on raw data received from the surgical hubs **7006**. To this end, the processors **7008** can be operationally coupled to the hub applications **7014** and aggregated medical data databases **7011** for executing the data analytics modules **7034**. The data collection and aggregation module **7022** may store the aggregated organized data into the aggregated medical data databases **2212**.

[0269] The resource optimization module **7020** can be configured to analyze this aggregated data to determine an optimal usage of resources for a particular or group of healthcare facilities. For example, the resource optimization module **7020** may determine an optimal order point of surgical stapling instruments **7012** for a group of healthcare facilities based on corresponding predicted demand of such instruments **7012**. The resource optimization module **7020** might also assess the resource usage or other operational configurations of various healthcare facilities to determine whether resource usage could be improved. Similarly, the recommendations module **7030** can be configured to analyze

aggregated organized data from the data collection and aggregation module 7022 to provide recommendations. For example, the recommendations module 7030 could recommend to healthcare facilities (e.g., medical service providers such as hospitals) that a particular surgical instrument 7012 should be upgraded to an improved version based on a higher than expected error rate, for example. Additionally, the recommendations module 7030 and/or resource optimization module 7020 could recommend better supply chain parameters such as product reorder points and provide suggestions of different surgical instrument 7012, uses thereof, or procedure steps to improve surgical outcomes. The healthcare facilities can receive such recommendations via corresponding surgical hubs 7006. More specific recommendations regarding parameters or configurations of various surgical instruments 7012 can also be provided. Hubs 7006 and/or surgical instruments 7012 each could also have display screens that display data or recommendations provided by the cloud 7004.

[0270] The patient outcome analysis module 7028 can analyze surgical outcomes associated with currently used operational parameters of surgical instruments 7012. The patient outcome analysis module 7028 may also analyze and assess other potential operational parameters. In this connection, the recommendations module 7030 could recommend using these other potential operational parameters based on yielding better surgical outcomes, such as better sealing or less bleeding. For example, the recommendations module 7030 could transmit recommendations to a surgical hub 7006 regarding when to use a particular cartridge for a corresponding stapling surgical instrument 7012. Thus, the cloud-based analytics system, while controlling for common variables, may be configured to analyze the large collection of raw data and to provide centralized recommendations over multiple healthcare facilities (advantageously determined based on aggregated data). For example, the cloud-based analytics system could analyze, evaluate, and/or aggregate data based on type of medical practice, type of patient, number of patients, geographic similarity between medical providers, which medical providers/facilities use similar types of instruments, etc., in a way that no single healthcare facility alone would be able to analyze independently.

[0271] The control program updating module 7026 could be configured to implement various surgical instrument 7012 recommendations when corresponding control programs are updated. For example, the patient outcome analysis module 7028 could identify correlations linking specific control parameters with successful (or unsuccessful) results. Such correlations may be addressed when updated control programs are transmitted to surgical instruments 7012 via the control program updating module 7026. Updates to instruments 7012 that are transmitted via a corresponding hub 7006 may incorporate aggregated performance data that was gathered and analyzed by the data collection and aggregation module 7022 of the cloud 7004. Additionally, the patient outcome analysis module 7028 and recommendations module 7030 could identify improved methods of using instruments 7012 based on aggregated performance data.

[0272] The cloud-based analytics system may include security features implemented by the cloud 7004. These security features may be managed by the authorization and security module 7024. Each surgical hub 7006 can have

associated unique credentials such as username, password, and other suitable security credentials. These credentials could be stored in the memory 7010 and be associated with a permitted cloud access level. For example, based on providing accurate credentials, a surgical hub 7006 may be granted access to communicate with the cloud to a predetermined extent (e.g., may only engage in transmitting or receiving certain defined types of information). To this end, the aggregated medical data databases 7011 of the cloud 7004 may comprise a database of authorized credentials for verifying the accuracy of provided credentials. Different credentials may be associated with varying levels of permission for interaction with the cloud 7004, such as a predetermined access level for receiving the data analytics generated by the cloud 7004.

[0273] Furthermore, for security purposes, the cloud could maintain a database of hubs 7006, instruments 7012, and other devices that may comprise a “black list” of prohibited devices. In particular, a surgical hub 7006 listed on the black list may not be permitted to interact with the cloud, while surgical instruments 7012 listed on the black list may not have functional access to a corresponding hub 7006 and/or may be prevented from fully functioning when paired to its corresponding hub 7006. Additionally or alternatively, the cloud 7004 may flag instruments 7012 based on incompatibility or other specified criteria. In this manner, counterfeit medical devices and improper reuse of such devices throughout the cloud-based analytics system can be identified and addressed.

[0274] The surgical instruments 7012 may use wireless transceivers to transmit wireless signals that may represent, for example, authorization credentials for access to corresponding hubs 7006 and the cloud 7004. Wired transceivers may also be used to transmit signals. Such authorization credentials can be stored in the respective memory devices of the surgical instruments 7012. The authorization and security module 7024 can determine whether the authorization credentials are accurate or counterfeit. The authorization and security module 7024 may also dynamically generate authorization credentials for enhanced security. The credentials could also be encrypted, such as by using hash based encryption. Upon transmitting proper authorization, the surgical instruments 7012 may transmit a signal to the corresponding hubs 7006 and ultimately the cloud 7004 to indicate that the instruments 7012 are ready to obtain and transmit medical data. In response, the cloud 7004 may transition into a state enabled for receiving medical data for storage into the aggregated medical data databases 7011. This data transmission readiness could be indicated by a light indicator on the instruments 7012, for example. The cloud 7004 can also transmit signals to surgical instruments 7012 for updating their associated control programs. The cloud 7004 can transmit signals that are directed to a particular class of surgical instruments 7012 (e.g., electro-surgical instruments) so that software updates to control programs are only transmitted to the appropriate surgical instruments 7012. Moreover, the cloud 7004 could be used to implement system wide solutions to address local or global problems based on selective data transmission and authorization credentials. For example, if a group of surgical instruments 7012 are identified as having a common manufacturing defect, the cloud 7004 may change the authorization credentials corresponding to this group to implement an operational lockout of the group.

[0275] The cloud-based analytics system may allow for monitoring multiple healthcare facilities (e.g., medical facilities like hospitals) to determine improved practices and recommend changes (via the recommendations module 2030, for example) accordingly. Thus, the processors 7008 of the cloud 7004 can analyze data associated with an individual healthcare facility to identify the facility and aggregate the data with other data associated with other healthcare facilities in a group. Groups could be defined based on similar operating practices or geographical location, for example. In this way, the cloud 7004 may provide healthcare facility group wide analysis and recommendations. The cloud-based analytics system could also be used for enhanced situational awareness. For example, the processors 7008 may predictively model the effects of recommendations on the cost and effectiveness for a particular facility (relative to overall operations and/or various medical procedures). The cost and effectiveness associated with that particular facility can also be compared to a corresponding local region of other facilities or any other comparable facilities.

[0276] The data sorting and prioritization module 7032 may prioritize and sort data based on criticality (e.g., the severity of a medical event associated with the data, unexpectedness, suspiciousness). This sorting and prioritization may be used in conjunction with the functions of the other data analytics modules 7034 described above to improve the cloud-based analytics and operations described herein. For example, the data sorting and prioritization module 7032 can assign a priority to the data analysis performed by the data collection and aggregation module 7022 and patient outcome analysis modules 7028. Different prioritization levels can result in particular responses from the cloud 7004 (corresponding to a level of urgency) such as escalation for an expedited response, special processing, exclusion from the aggregated medical data databases 7011, or other suitable responses. Moreover, if necessary, the cloud 7004 can transmit a request (e.g. a push message) through the hub application servers for additional data from corresponding surgical instruments 7012. The push message can result in a notification displayed on the corresponding hubs 7006 for requesting supporting or additional data. This push message may be required in situations in which the cloud detects a significant irregularity or outlier and the cloud cannot determine the cause of the irregularity. The central servers 7013 may be programmed to trigger this push message in certain significant circumstances, such as when data is determined to be different from an expected value beyond a predetermined threshold or when it appears security has been compromised, for example.

[0277] In various aspects, the surgical instrument(s) 7012 described above with reference to FIGS. 12 and 13, may be implemented as the surgical device 214002 (FIGS. 16-18), the display screen (FIG. 16), the wearable devices 214100, 214102, 214200, 214202 (FIGS. 19-21), and the display 214400 (FIGS. 22A and 22B). Accordingly, the surgical device 214002 (FIGS. 16-18), the display screen (FIG. 16), the wearable devices 214100, 214102, 214200, 214202 (FIGS. 19-21), and the display 214400 (FIGS. 22A and 22B) are configured to interface with the surgical hub 7006 and the network 2001, which is configured to interface with cloud 7004. Accordingly, the processing power provided by the central servers 7013 and the data analytics module 7034 are configured to process information (e.g., data and control)

from the surgical device 214002 (FIGS. 16-18), the display screen (FIG. 16), the wearable devices 214100, 214102, 214200, 214202 (FIGS. 19-21), and the display 214400 (FIGS. 22A and 22B).

[0278] Additional details regarding the cloud analysis system can be found in U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/659,900, titled METHOD OF HUB COMMUNICATION, filed Apr. 19, 2018, which is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

Situational Awareness

[0279] Although an “intelligent” device including control algorithms that respond to sensed data can be an improvement over a “dumb” device that operates without accounting for sensed data, some sensed data can be incomplete or inconclusive when considered in isolation, i.e., without the context of the type of surgical procedure being performed or the type of tissue that is being operated on. Without knowing the procedural context (e.g., knowing the type of tissue being operated on or the type of procedure being performed), the control algorithm may control the modular device incorrectly or suboptimally given the particular context-free sensed data. For example, the optimal manner for a control algorithm to control a surgical instrument in response to a particular sensed parameter can vary according to the particular tissue type being operated on. This is due to the fact that different tissue types have different properties (e.g., resistance to tearing) and thus respond differently to actions taken by surgical instruments. Therefore, it may be desirable for a surgical instrument to take different actions even when the same measurement for a particular parameter is sensed. As one specific example, the optimal manner in which to control a surgical stapling and cutting instrument in response to the instrument sensing an unexpectedly high force to close its end effector will vary depending upon whether the tissue type is susceptible or resistant to tearing. For tissues that are susceptible to tearing, such as lung tissue, the instrument’s control algorithm would optimally ramp down the motor in response to an unexpectedly high force to close to avoid tearing the tissue. For tissues that are resistant to tearing, such as stomach tissue, the instrument’s control algorithm would optimally ramp up the motor in response to an unexpectedly high force to close to ensure that the end effector is clamped properly on the tissue. Without knowing whether lung or stomach tissue has been clamped, the control algorithm may make a suboptimal decision.

[0280] One solution utilizes a surgical hub including a system that is configured to derive information about the surgical procedure being performed based on data received from various data sources and then control the paired modular devices accordingly. In other words, the surgical hub is configured to infer information about the surgical procedure from received data and then control the modular devices paired to the surgical hub based upon the inferred context of the surgical procedure. FIG. 14 illustrates a diagram of a situationally aware surgical system 5100, in accordance with at least one aspect of the present disclosure. In some exemplifications, the data sources 5126 include, for example, the modular devices 5102 (which can include sensors configured to detect parameters associated with the patient and/or the modular device itself), databases 5122 (e.g., an EMR database containing patient records), and patient monitoring devices 5124 (e.g., a blood pressure (BP) monitor and an electrocardiography (EKG) monitor).

[0281] A surgical hub 5104, which may be similar to the hub 106 in many respects, can be configured to derive the contextual information pertaining to the surgical procedure from the data based upon, for example, the particular combination(s) of received data or the particular order in which the data is received from the data sources 5126. The contextual information inferred from the received data can include, for example, the type of surgical procedure being performed, the particular step of the surgical procedure that the surgeon is performing, the type of tissue being operated on, or the body cavity that is the subject of the procedure. This ability by some aspects of the surgical hub 5104 to derive or infer information related to the surgical procedure from received data can be referred to as “situational awareness.” In one exemplification, the surgical hub 5104 can incorporate a situational awareness system, which is the hardware and/or programming associated with the surgical hub 5104 that derives contextual information pertaining to the surgical procedure from the received data.

[0282] The situational awareness system of the surgical hub 5104 can be configured to derive the contextual information from the data received from the data sources 5126 in a variety of different ways. In one exemplification, the situational awareness system includes a pattern recognition system, or machine learning system (e.g., an artificial neural network), that has been trained on training data to correlate various inputs (e.g., data from databases 5122, patient monitoring devices 5124, and/or modular devices 5102) to corresponding contextual information regarding a surgical procedure. In other words, a machine learning system can be trained to accurately derive contextual information regarding a surgical procedure from the provided inputs. In another exemplification, the situational awareness system can include a lookup table storing pre-characterized contextual information regarding a surgical procedure in association with one or more inputs (or ranges of inputs) corresponding to the contextual information. In response to a query with one or more inputs, the lookup table can return the corresponding contextual information for the situational awareness system for controlling the modular devices 5102. In one exemplification, the contextual information received by the situational awareness system of the surgical hub 5104 is associated with a particular control adjustment or set of control adjustments for one or more modular devices 5102. In another exemplification, the situational awareness system includes a further machine learning system, lookup table, or other such system, which generates or retrieves one or more control adjustments for one or more modular devices 5102 when provided the contextual information as input.

[0283] A surgical hub 5104 incorporating a situational awareness system provides a number of benefits for the surgical system 5100. One benefit includes improving the interpretation of sensed and collected data, which would in turn improve the processing accuracy and/or the usage of the data during the course of a surgical procedure. To return to a previous example, a situationally aware surgical hub 5104 could determine what type of tissue was being operated on; therefore, when an unexpectedly high force to close the surgical instrument’s end effector is detected, the situationally aware surgical hub 5104 could correctly ramp up or ramp down the motor of the surgical instrument for the type of tissue.

[0284] As another example, the type of tissue being operated can affect the adjustments that are made to the com-

pression rate and load thresholds of a surgical stapling and cutting instrument for a particular tissue gap measurement. A situationally aware surgical hub 5104 could infer whether a surgical procedure being performed is a thoracic or an abdominal procedure, allowing the surgical hub 5104 to determine whether the tissue clamped by an end effector of the surgical stapling and cutting instrument is lung (for a thoracic procedure) or stomach (for an abdominal procedure) tissue. The surgical hub 5104 could then adjust the compression rate and load thresholds of the surgical stapling and cutting instrument appropriately for the type of tissue.

[0285] As yet another example, the type of body cavity being operated in during an insufflation procedure can affect the function of a smoke evacuator. A situationally aware surgical hub 5104 could determine whether the surgical site is under pressure (by determining that the surgical procedure is utilizing insufflation) and determine the procedure type. As a procedure type is generally performed in a specific body cavity, the surgical hub 5104 could then control the motor rate of the smoke evacuator appropriately for the body cavity being operated in. Thus, a situationally aware surgical hub 5104 could provide a consistent amount of smoke evacuation for both thoracic and abdominal procedures.

[0286] As yet another example, the type of procedure being performed can affect the optimal energy level for an ultrasonic surgical instrument or radio frequency (RF) electrosurgical instrument to operate at. Arthroscopic procedures, for example, require higher energy levels because the end effector of the ultrasonic surgical instrument or RF electrosurgical instrument is immersed in fluid. A situationally aware surgical hub 5104 could determine whether the surgical procedure is an arthroscopic procedure. The surgical hub 5104 could then adjust the RF power level or the ultrasonic amplitude of the generator (i.e., “energy level”) to compensate for the fluid filled environment. Relatedly, the type of tissue being operated on can affect the optimal energy level for an ultrasonic surgical instrument or RF electrosurgical instrument to operate at. A situationally aware surgical hub 5104 could determine what type of surgical procedure is being performed and then customize the energy level for the ultrasonic surgical instrument or RF electrosurgical instrument, respectively, according to the expected tissue profile for the surgical procedure. Furthermore, a situationally aware surgical hub 5104 can be configured to adjust the energy level for the ultrasonic surgical instrument or RF electrosurgical instrument throughout the course of a surgical procedure, rather than just on a procedure-by-procedure basis. A situationally aware surgical hub 5104 could determine what step of the surgical procedure is being performed or will subsequently be performed and then update the control algorithms for the generator and/or ultrasonic surgical instrument or RF electrosurgical instrument to set the energy level at a value appropriate for the expected tissue type according to the surgical procedure step.

[0287] As yet another example, data can be drawn from additional data sources 5126 to improve the conclusions that the surgical hub 5104 draws from one data source 5126. A situationally aware surgical hub 5104 could augment data that it receives from the modular devices 5102 with contextual information that it has built up regarding the surgical procedure from other data sources 5126. For example, a situationally aware surgical hub 5104 can be configured to determine whether hemostasis has occurred (i.e., whether bleeding at a surgical site has stopped) according to video or

image data received from a medical imaging device. However, in some cases the video or image data can be inconclusive. Therefore, in one exemplification, the surgical hub **5104** can be further configured to compare a physiologic measurement (e.g., blood pressure sensed by a BP monitor communicably connected to the surgical hub **5104**) with the visual or image data of hemostasis (e.g., from a medical imaging device **124** (FIG. 2) communicably coupled to the surgical hub **5104**) to make a determination on the integrity of the staple line or tissue weld. In other words, the situational awareness system of the surgical hub **5104** can consider the physiological measurement data to provide additional context in analyzing the visualization data. The additional context can be useful when the visualization data may be inconclusive or incomplete on its own.

[0288] Another benefit includes proactively and automatically controlling the paired modular devices **5102** according to the particular step of the surgical procedure that is being performed to reduce the number of times that medical personnel are required to interact with or control the surgical system **5100** during the course of a surgical procedure. For example, a situationally aware surgical hub **5104** could proactively activate the generator to which an RF electro-surgical instrument is connected if it determines that a subsequent step of the procedure requires the use of the instrument. Proactively activating the energy source allows the instrument to be ready for use as soon as the preceding step of the procedure is completed.

[0289] As another example, a situationally aware surgical hub **5104** could determine whether the current or subsequent step of the surgical procedure requires a different view or degree of magnification on the display according to the feature(s) at the surgical site that the surgeon is expected to need to view. The surgical hub **5104** could then proactively change the displayed view (supplied by, e.g., a medical imaging device for the visualization system **108**) accordingly so that the display automatically adjusts throughout the surgical procedure.

[0290] As yet another example, a situationally aware surgical hub **5104** could determine which step of the surgical procedure is being performed or will subsequently be performed and whether particular data or comparisons between data will be required for that step of the surgical procedure. The surgical hub **5104** can be configured to automatically call up data screens based upon the step of the surgical procedure being performed, without waiting for the surgeon to ask for the particular information.

[0291] Another benefit includes checking for errors during the setup of the surgical procedure or during the course of the surgical procedure. For example, a situationally aware surgical hub **5104** could determine whether the operating theater is setup properly or optimally for the surgical procedure to be performed. The surgical hub **5104** can be configured to determine the type of surgical procedure being performed, retrieve the corresponding checklists, product location, or setup needs (e.g., from a memory), and then compare the current operating theater layout to the standard layout for the type of surgical procedure that the surgical hub **5104** determines is being performed. In one exemplification, the surgical hub **5104** can be configured to compare the list of items for the procedure scanned by a suitable scanner, for example, and/or a list of devices paired with the surgical hub **5104** to a recommended or anticipated manifest of items and/or devices for the given surgical procedure. If there are

any discontinuities between the lists, the surgical hub **5104** can be configured to provide an alert indicating that a particular modular device **5102**, patient monitoring device **5124**, and/or other surgical item is missing. In one exemplification, the surgical hub **5104** can be configured to determine the relative distance or position of the modular devices **5102** and patient monitoring devices **5124** via proximity sensors, for example. The surgical hub **5104** can compare the relative positions of the devices to a recommended or anticipated layout for the particular surgical procedure. If there are any discontinuities between the layouts, the surgical hub **5104** can be configured to provide an alert indicating that the current layout for the surgical procedure deviates from the recommended layout.

[0292] As another example, a situationally aware surgical hub **5104** could determine whether the surgeon (or other medical personnel) was making an error or otherwise deviating from the expected course of action during the course of a surgical procedure. For example, the surgical hub **5104** can be configured to determine the type of surgical procedure being performed, retrieve the corresponding list of steps or order of equipment usage (e.g., from a memory), and then compare the steps being performed or the equipment being used during the course of the surgical procedure to the expected steps or equipment for the type of surgical procedure that the surgical hub **5104** determined is being performed. In one exemplification, the surgical hub **5104** can be configured to provide an alert indicating that an unexpected action is being performed or an unexpected device is being utilized at the particular step in the surgical procedure.

[0293] Overall, the situational awareness system for the surgical hub **5104** improves surgical procedure outcomes by adjusting the surgical instruments (and other modular devices **5102**) for the particular context of each surgical procedure (such as adjusting to different tissue types) and validating actions during a surgical procedure. The situational awareness system also improves surgeons' efficiency in performing surgical procedures by automatically suggesting next steps, providing data, and adjusting displays and other modular devices **5102** in the surgical theater according to the specific context of the procedure.

[0294] In one aspect, as described hereinbelow with reference to FIGS. 24-40, the modular device **5102** is implemented as the surgical device **214002** (FIGS. 16-18), the display screen (FIG. 16), the wearable devices **214100**, **214102**, **214200**, **214202** (FIGS. 19-21), and the display **214400** (FIGS. 22A and 22B). Accordingly, the modular device **5102** implemented as the surgical device **214002** (FIGS. 16-18), the display screen (FIG. 16), the wearable devices **214100**, **214102**, **214200**, **214202** (FIGS. 19-21), or the display **214400** (FIGS. 22A and 22B) is configured to operate as a data source **5126** and to interact with the database **5122** and patient monitoring devices **5124**. The modular device **5102** implemented as the surgical device **214002** (FIGS. 16-18), the display screen (FIG. 16), the wearable devices **214100**, **214102**, **214200**, **214202** (FIGS. 19-21), and the display **214400** (FIGS. 22A and 22B) is further configured to interact with the surgical hub **5104** to provide information (e.g., data and control) to the surgical hub **5104** and receive information (e.g., data and control) from the surgical hub **5104**.

[0295] Referring now to FIG. 15, a timeline **5200** depicting situational awareness of a hub, such as the surgical hub

106 or **206** (FIGS. 1-11), for example, is depicted. The timeline **5200** is an illustrative surgical procedure and the contextual information that the surgical hub **106, 206** can derive from the data received from the data sources at each step in the surgical procedure. The timeline **5200** depicts the typical steps that would be taken by the nurses, surgeons, and other medical personnel during the course of a lung segmentectomy procedure, beginning with setting up the operating theater and ending with transferring the patient to a post-operative recovery room.

[0296] The situationally aware surgical hub **106, 206** receives data from the data sources throughout the course of the surgical procedure, including data generated each time medical personnel utilize a modular device that is paired with the surgical hub **106, 206**. The surgical hub **106, 206** can receive this data from the paired modular devices and other data sources and continually derive inferences (i.e., contextual information) about the ongoing procedure as new data is received, such as which step of the procedure is being performed at any given time. The situational awareness system of the surgical hub **106, 206** is able to, for example, record data pertaining to the procedure for generating reports, verify the steps being taken by the medical personnel, provide data or prompts (e.g., via a display screen) that may be pertinent for the particular procedural step, adjust modular devices based on the context (e.g., activate monitors, adjust the field of view (FOV) of the medical imaging device, or change the energy level of an ultrasonic surgical instrument or RF electrosurgical instrument), and take any other such action described above.

[0297] As the first step **5202** in this illustrative procedure, the hospital staff members retrieve the patient's EMR from the hospital's EMR database. Based on select patient data in the EMR, the surgical hub **106, 206** determines that the procedure to be performed is a thoracic procedure.

[0298] Second step **5204**, the staff members scan the incoming medical supplies for the procedure. The surgical hub **106, 206** cross-references the scanned supplies with a list of supplies that are utilized in various types of procedures and confirms that the mix of supplies corresponds to a thoracic procedure. Further, the surgical hub **106, 206** is also able to determine that the procedure is not a wedge procedure (because the incoming supplies either lack certain supplies that are necessary for a thoracic wedge procedure or do not otherwise correspond to a thoracic wedge procedure).

[0299] Third step **5206**, the medical personnel scan the patient band via a scanner that is communicably connected to the surgical hub **106, 206**. The surgical hub **106, 206** can then confirm the patient's identity based on the scanned data.

[0300] Fourth step **5208**, the medical staff turns on the auxiliary equipment. The auxiliary equipment being utilized can vary according to the type of surgical procedure and the techniques to be used by the surgeon, but in this illustrative case they include a smoke evacuator, insufflator, and medical imaging device. When activated, the auxiliary equipment that are modular devices can automatically pair with the surgical hub **106, 206** that is located within a particular vicinity of the modular devices as part of their initialization process. The surgical hub **106, 206** can then derive contextual information about the surgical procedure by detecting the types of modular devices that pair with it during this pre-operative or initialization phase. In this particular example, the surgical hub **106, 206** determines that the surgical procedure is a VATS procedure based on this

particular combination of paired modular devices. Based on the combination of the data from the patient's EMR, the list of medical supplies to be used in the procedure, and the type of modular devices that connect to the hub, the surgical hub **106, 206** can generally infer the specific procedure that the surgical team will be performing. Once the surgical hub **106, 206** knows what specific procedure is being performed, the surgical hub **106, 206** can then retrieve the steps of that procedure from a memory or from the cloud and then cross-reference the data it subsequently receives from the connected data sources (e.g., modular devices and patient monitoring devices) to infer what step of the surgical procedure the surgical team is performing.

[0301] Fifth step **5210**, the staff members attach the EKG electrodes and other patient monitoring devices to the patient. The EKG electrodes and other patient monitoring devices are able to pair with the surgical hub **106, 206**. As the surgical hub **106, 206** begins receiving data from the patient monitoring devices, the surgical hub **106, 206** thus confirms that the patient is in the operating theater.

[0302] Sixth step **5212**, the medical personnel induce anesthesia in the patient. The surgical hub **106, 206** can infer that the patient is under anesthesia based on data from the modular devices and/or patient monitoring devices, including EKG data, blood pressure data, ventilator data, or combinations thereof, for example. Upon completion of the sixth step **5212**, the pre-operative portion of the lung segmentectomy procedure is completed and the operative portion begins.

[0303] Seventh step **5214**, the patient's lung that is being operated on is collapsed (while ventilation is switched to the contralateral lung). The surgical hub **106, 206** can infer from the ventilator data that the patient's lung has been collapsed, for example. The surgical hub **106, 206** can infer that the operative portion of the procedure has commenced as it can compare the detection of the patient's lung collapsing to the expected steps of the procedure (which can be accessed or retrieved previously) and thereby determine that collapsing the lung is the first operative step in this particular procedure.

[0304] Eighth step **5216**, the medical imaging device (e.g., a scope) is inserted and video from the medical imaging device is initiated. The surgical hub **106, 206** receives the medical imaging device data (i.e., video or image data) through its connection to the medical imaging device. Upon receipt of the medical imaging device data, the surgical hub **106, 206** can determine that the laparoscopic portion of the surgical procedure has commenced. Further, the surgical hub **106, 206** can determine that the particular procedure being performed is a segmentectomy, as opposed to a lobectomy (note that a wedge procedure has already been discounted by the surgical hub **106, 206** based on data received at the second step **5204** of the procedure). The data from the medical imaging device **124** (FIG. 2) can be utilized to determine contextual information regarding the type of procedure being performed in a number of different ways, including by determining the angle at which the medical imaging device is oriented with respect to the visualization of the patient's anatomy, monitoring the number or medical imaging devices being utilized (i.e., that are activated and paired with the surgical hub **106, 206**), and monitoring the types of visualization devices utilized. For example, one technique for performing a VATS lobectomy places the camera in the lower anterior corner of the patient's chest

cavity above the diaphragm, whereas one technique for performing a VATS segmentectomy places the camera in an anterior intercostal position relative to the segmental fissure. Using pattern recognition or machine learning techniques, for example, the situational awareness system can be trained to recognize the positioning of the medical imaging device according to the visualization of the patient's anatomy. As another example, one technique for performing a VATS lobectomy utilizes a single medical imaging device, whereas another technique for performing a VATS segmentectomy utilizes multiple cameras. As yet another example, one technique for performing a VATS segmentectomy utilizes an infrared light source (which can be communicably coupled to the surgical hub **106, 206** as part of the visualization system) to visualize the segmental fissure, which is not utilized in a VATS lobectomy. By tracking any or all of this data from the medical imaging device, the surgical hub **106, 206** can thereby determine the specific type of surgical procedure being performed and/or the technique being used for a particular type of surgical procedure.

[0305] Ninth step **5218**, the surgical team begins the dissection step of the procedure. The surgical hub **106, 206** can infer that the surgeon is in the process of dissecting to mobilize the patient's lung because it receives data from the RF or ultrasonic generator indicating that an energy instrument is being fired. The surgical hub **106, 206** can cross-reference the received data with the retrieved steps of the surgical procedure to determine that an energy instrument being fired at this point in the process (i.e., after the completion of the previously discussed steps of the procedure) corresponds to the dissection step. In certain instances, the energy instrument can be an energy tool mounted to a robotic arm of a robotic surgical system.

[0306] Tenth step **5220**, the surgical team proceeds to the ligation step of the procedure. The surgical hub **106, 206** can infer that the surgeon is ligating arteries and veins because it receives data from the surgical stapling and cutting instrument indicating that the instrument is being fired. Similarly to the prior step, the surgical hub **106, 206** can derive this inference by cross-referencing the receipt of data from the surgical stapling and cutting instrument with the retrieved steps in the process. In certain instances, the surgical instrument can be a surgical tool mounted to a robotic arm of a robotic surgical system.

[0307] Eleventh step **5222**, the segmentectomy portion of the procedure is performed. The surgical hub **106, 206** can infer that the surgeon is transecting the parenchyma based on data from the surgical stapling and cutting instrument, including data from its cartridge. The cartridge data can correspond to the size or type of staple being fired by the instrument, for example. As different types of staples are utilized for different types of tissues, the cartridge data can thus indicate the type of tissue being stapled and/or transected. In this case, the type of staple being fired is utilized for parenchyma (or other similar tissue types), which allows the surgical hub **106, 206** to infer that the segmentectomy portion of the procedure is being performed.

[0308] Twelfth step **5224**, the node dissection step is then performed. The surgical hub **106, 206** can infer that the surgical team is dissecting the node and performing a leak test based on data received from the generator indicating that an RF or ultrasonic instrument is being fired. For this particular procedure, an RF or ultrasonic instrument being utilized after parenchyma was transected corresponds to the

node dissection step, which allows the surgical hub **106, 206** to make this inference. It should be noted that surgeons regularly switch back and forth between surgical stapling/cutting instruments and surgical energy (i.e., RF or ultrasonic) instruments depending upon the particular step in the procedure because different instruments are better adapted for particular tasks. Therefore, the particular sequence in which the stapling/cutting instruments and surgical energy instruments are used can indicate what step of the procedure the surgeon is performing. Moreover, in certain instances, robotic tools can be utilized for one or more steps in a surgical procedure and/or handheld surgical instruments can be utilized for one or more steps in the surgical procedure. The surgeon(s) can alternate between robotic tools and handheld surgical instruments and/or can use the devices concurrently, for example. Upon completion of the twelfth step **5224**, the incisions are closed up and the post-operative portion of the procedure begins.

[0309] Thirteenth step **5226**, the patient's anesthesia is reversed. The surgical hub **106, 206** can infer that the patient is emerging from the anesthesia based on the ventilator data (i.e., the patient's breathing rate begins increasing), for example.

[0310] Lastly, the fourteenth step **5228** is that the medical personnel remove the various patient monitoring devices from the patient. The surgical hub **106, 206** can thus infer that the patient is being transferred to a recovery room when the hub loses EKG, BP, and other data from the patient monitoring devices. As can be seen from the description of this illustrative procedure, the surgical hub **106, 206** can determine or infer when each step of a given surgical procedure is taking place according to data received from the various data sources that are communicably coupled to the surgical hub **106, 206**.

[0311] In various aspects, the surgical device **214002** (FIGS. **16-18**), the display screen (FIG. **16**), the wearable devices **214100, 214102, 214200, 214202** (FIGS. **19-21**), and the display **214400** (FIGS. **22A** and **22B**) are configured to operate in a situational awareness in a hub environment, such as the surgical hub **106** or **206** (FIGS. **1-11**), for example, as depicted by the timeline **5200**. Situational awareness is further described in U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/659,900, titled METHOD OF HUB COMMUNICATION, filed Apr. 19, 2018, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety. In certain instances, operation of a robotic surgical system, including the various robotic surgical systems disclosed herein, for example, can be controlled by the hub **106, 206** based on its situational awareness and/or feedback from the components thereof and/or based on information from the cloud **104**.

Control Through Surgical Barriers

[0312] In various instances, digital surgical devices can be controlled through one or more surgical barriers. Surgical barriers include physical sterile barriers, intangible sterile barriers, and the walls of a patient's body. In one aspect, a first operating room system located within a sterile field can be indirectly commanded and controlled through the use of a second operating room system, which can have a primary operating mode and a secondary operating mode, which is designed for interacting with the first operating room system to provide commands and control. For example, in the primary operating mode, the second operating room system can effect a primary surgical function. In the secondary

operating mode, the primary surgical function can be disabled. Moreover, in the secondary operating mode, the second operating room system can command and control the first operating room system. For example, a surgical instrument can be configured to effect tissue in the first operating mode and to command and control an imaging system and/or a display thereof in the second operating mode.

[0313] In certain instances, a clinician may want to provide input to a remote surgical system and/or to a surgical hub communicatively coupled to the remote surgical system from within the sterile field. For example, a clinician holding a first operating room system (e.g. a surgical device) may want to provide commands or inputs to another operating room system (e.g. an imaging or visualization system and/or display thereof) positioned outside the sterile field. In certain instances, it can be desirable to utilize the first operating room system to communicate or interact with the other operating room system through a surgical barrier, such as the boundary of the sterile field and/or a patient's body.

[0314] To facilitate such an interaction, the first operating room system can include a plurality of operating modes including a primary mode and a secondary mode. The first operating room system can switch between operating modes to selectively interact with the second operating room system. In such instances, the clinician can interact with the second operating room system without handing off or setting down the first operating room system and/or without removing the first operating room system from the surgical site.

[0315] For example, a surgical system can include a first device comprising a first control circuit and a second device configured to effect a surgical function, wherein the second device comprises a second control circuit in signal communication with the first control circuit, and wherein the second control circuit is configured to selectively toggle the second device between a secondary operating mode, in which the second device is configured to indirectly control the first device, and a primary operating mode, in which the second device is configured to control the surgical function. Each control circuit can include a processor and a memory communicatively coupled with the processor, wherein the memory stores instructions executable by the processor to receive an input signal. In response to the input signal, the second control circuit can switch between the primary operating mode and the secondary operating mode. In the primary operating mode, the second control circuit can actuate a surgical function, for example. When in the secondary operating mode, the second control circuit can control a display screen, for example. In various instances, a non-tangible computer readable medium can store computer readable instructions which, when executed, causes a surgical device to receive an input signal. In response to the input signal, the second control circuit can switch between the primary operating mode and the secondary operating mode. In the primary operating mode, the second control circuit can actuate a surgical function, for example. When in the secondary operating mode, the second control circuit can control a display screen, for example.

[0316] In one aspect, a surgical device can interface with a primary display to adjust and/or control the primary display. For example, the primary display can be controlled through a visual interface using a secondary control function of the surgical tool. Stated differently, the surgical device can be depicted on the primary display and can act as a cursor or indicator on the display to interact with a user

interface of the display. Moreover, inputs to the surgical device can be inputs to the display and/or a surgical hub including the display. In such instances, the surgical device can be an input device for an interaction technique, user interface technique or input technique, which uses a combination of hardware and software to allow a computer (or control circuit thereof) to perform a task. The output can be displayed on the primary display and/or communicated to a surgical hub, as output resulting from a mouse click and/or selection provides an input command, which can be displayed or otherwise communicated via a computer monitor, for example.

[0317] Referring to FIGS. 16-18, a surgical system **214000** includes a surgical device **214002** and a display screen **214004**. The display screen **214004** (FIG. 16) can be incorporated into an imaging system. For example, the imaging system can include an endoscope housing an endoscopic camera and the display screen **214004**, which is configured to display the images obtained by the endoscopic camera. An endoscope is further described in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 11/277,290, titled DISPOSABLE ENDOSCOPE DEVICES, filed Mar. 23, 2006, now U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2007/0225556, which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety. Reusable endoscopes are also contemplated.

[0318] In various instances, the display screen **214004** can be a video monitor, which is operably configured to display a live-feed of images from the surgical site. The display screen **214004** can depict a live, real-time video of the surgical site during a surgical procedure. Additionally or alternatively, the display screen **214004** can be configured to display an augmented reality view of the surgical site. For example, the display screen **214004** can depict hidden anatomical structures and/or hidden surgical devices. Such an augmented reality view can be toggled on and off, for example. The display screen **214004** also includes a graphical user interface. An operator can interact with the graphical user interface to provide input commands or controls to the display system and/or a surgical system communicatively coupled to the display system, as further described herein.

[0319] The surgical device **214002** is a handheld surgical instrument including a handle **214006**, an elongate shaft **214008** extending distally from the handle **214006**, and an end effector **214010** extending distally from the elongate shaft **214008**. The end effector **214010** is configured to effect tissue. In one instance, the handheld surgical device can be an ultrasonic device. In such instances, the end effector **214010** can include an ultrasonic blade. A clamp arm can be positioned opposite the ultrasonic blade to facilitate clamping of tissue against the ultrasonic blade in various instances. Additionally or alternatively, the end effector **214010** can include tissue-contacting electrodes that are configured to deliver RF current to the tissue. In certain instances, the end effector **214010** can include a reciprocating knife, stapler, clip applier, and/or grasper, for example. In certain instances, the surgical device **214002** can include a housing that can be releasably coupled to a robotic arm. In such instances, the surgical device **214002** can be controlled by a clinician at a surgeon's console for the robotic surgical system.

[0320] The surgical device **214002** is configured to switch between a first mode and a second mode. The first mode can be an operational mode in which the surgical device **214002** is configured to perform a surgical function. For example, in

the first mode, the surgical device **214002** can be configured to apply vibrational energy to tissue. The second mode can be a cursor mode or control mode, in which the surgical device **214002** can be configured to provide inputs to the display screen **214004**. The inputs can be configured to adjust the information displayed on the display screen **214004** and/or provide inputs to a connected surgical system, such as a surgical hub like the surgical hubs **106** and **206** (FIGS. **1-11**), the surgical hub **7006** (FIGS. **12** and **13**), and the surgical hub **5104** (FIG. **14**), for example.

[0321] Referring primarily to FIG. **17**, the surgical device **214002** extends through a surgical barrier **214012** into the surgical site. The surgical barrier **214012** is an anatomical wall of a patient. The surgical device **214002** can also extend through a sterile field boundary that forms another surgical barrier. At the surgical site, an imaging system is configured to obtain views of the surgical site and the surgical device **214002**. For example, a distal portion of the surgical device **214002**, i.e. the grasping tips/jaws of the end effector **214010** and a portion of the shaft **214008**, appear on the display screen **214004**. In a first mode, the end effector **214010** can perform a surgical function, such as engaging, effecting, and/or treating tissue. The first mode can be considered a primary mode in that the end effector **214010** is performing its primary function as a surgical tool (e.g. a grasper can grasp tissue, an energy device can apply energy to tissue, a stapler can staple tissue, and so on). In the primary mode, the end effector **214010** is configured to directly effect tissue.

[0322] The end effector **214010** can toggle or switch between the primary mode and the second mode, which can be referred to as a secondary mode. The selected mode can be displayed on the display screen **214004**. For example, the display screen **214004** in FIG. **16** shows a cursor mode icon **214052** to indicate that the end effector **214010** is acting as a cursor in a secondary mode. In the secondary mode, the end effector **214010** can be used to interact with the display screen **214004** and indirectly control the visualization system or a surgical system communicatively coupled thereto. The end effector **214010** shown on the display screen **214004** can function as a pointer or cursor for the graphical interface shown on the display screen **214004**. In such instances, the clinician does not have to take his or her hands off of the surgical device **214002** or remove the surgical device **214002** from the patient's body to engage the display screen **214004** and provide input to the display screen **214004**. In various instances, the camera of the imaging device (e.g. a laparoscopic camera) can be configured to track movement of the surgical devices at the surgical site. For example, the camera can scan or otherwise adjust its field of view to follow one or more surgical devices (or portions thereof) around the surgical site. In various instances, the clinician can select which surgical device(s) and/or portion(s) thereof are tracked by the camera. In such instances, the camera can track the end effector **214010**, which can ensure the end effector **214010** is depicted on the display screen **214004** when the surgical device **214002** is in the secondary mode.

[0323] In the secondary mode, the surgical device **214002** can be used as an input device like a computer mouse or joystick, for example, to move a cursor around the interface on the display screen **214004** to manipulate the functions shown on the display screen **214004**. When the displayed portion of the device is utilized as a cursor, the device tip

(i.e., "cursor") can press buttons on the display screen **214004**, and drag and drop display items, circle and/or highlight a portion of the video (e.g., point out the tumor or unique anatomical features) to be referenced later. For example, the device tip can select a home screen icon **214040** to return to a home screen, a play icon **214042** to play a video of the surgical procedure obtained by an endoscope, a pause icon **214044** to pause the video, a rewind icon **214046** to re-watch or replay a portion of the video, a record icon **214048** to record a new portion of the surgical procedure, and/or a setting icon **214050** to adjust a setting and/or view on the display screen **214004**. In one aspect, activating the secondary mode (or cursor control mode) can change the way the tool functions while in this mode. For example, button(s), trigger(s) and/or other actuator(s) can have different functions in different modes.

[0324] The operating mode of the surgical device **214002** can be selected by the clinician. For example, the clinician can selectively toggle or switch the surgical device **214002** between the primary mode and the secondary mode. In one instance, the secondary mode can be activated by a voice command. In another instance, a tactile action by a clinician can activate the secondary mode. Referring primarily to FIG. **18**, the surgical device **214002** includes a manual switch **214018**, which can enable the clinician to switch between operating modes. A first position of the manual switch **214018** can correspond to the primary mode, and a second position of the manual switch **214018** can correspond to the secondary mode. The clinician can move the manual switch **214018** to toggle the surgical device **214002** between operating modes.

[0325] In one example, the surgical device **214002** is an ultrasonic surgical instrument like the HARMONIC ACE® shears by Ethicon Endo-Surgery, LLC. Such an ultrasonic surgical instrument can include a plurality of input actuators, such as maximum and minimum power buttons **214020** and **214022**. The maximum power button **214020** can generate ultrasonic energy at a first energy level, or within a first range, in the primary mode, and the minimum power button **214022** can generate ultrasonic energy at a second energy level, or in a second range, in the primary mode. The second energy level, or second range, can be less than the first energy level, or first range. In various instances, the buttons **214020**, **214022** can define a range of positions corresponding to different levels and/or can detect the operator's force and adjust the energy level accordingly. For example, at least one of the buttons **214020**, **214022** can define a rotary element to scroll between levels and/or selections, similar to a rotary wheel on a computer mouse, for example.

[0326] In the secondary mode, the ultrasonic sealing and cutting function can be disabled and the maximum and minimum power buttons **214020** and **214022** on the surgical device **214002** can act like buttons of a computer mouse. The clinician can point the tip of the surgical device **214002** (as displayed on the display screen **214004**) at something displayed on the display screen **214004** and the buttons can then interact with the display screen **214004**, as described above. The dual-button input features of the surgical device **214002** can be intuitive to a clinician familiar with a two-button computer mouse, for example. In various instances, the two-buttons can be used to select icons, drag and drop icons, and/or adjust and interact with various features of the display screen **214004**, as further described herein.

[0327] In various instances, the display screen **214004** is communicatively coupled to a surgical hub, such as the surgical hubs **106** or **206** (FIGS. 1-11), the surgical hub **7006** (FIGS. 12 and 13), or the surgical hub **5104** (FIG. 14), for example. In one instance, the primary display **119** for the visualization system **108** (see FIG. 2) can be the display screen **214004**. In such instances, the visualization system **108** and the display screen **214004** thereof can be coupled to the imaging module **138** (see FIG. 3) of the surgical hub **106**. Moreover, the situational awareness of the surgical hub **106** can be configured to implement intelligent adjustments and/or recommendations to a clinician during a surgical procedure. For example, a situational awareness module of the surgical hub **106** can suggest that a clinician confirm a complete tissue seal, staple line alignment, and/or tumor removal, and, in response to the recommendation, the clinician can switch the surgical device **214002** from the primary mode to the secondary mode to interact with the display screen **214004**. The clinician may interact with the display screen **214004** by zooming in on the tissue seal, augmenting the view on the display screen **214004** to check the tissue seal, and/or selecting a measurement tool from the graphical interface to measure the length of the tissue seal and/or another anatomical structure/landmark distance, for example. The clinician can respond to the surgical hub's prompt/recommendation without removing the surgical device **214002** from the surgical site and without taking his or her hands off the surgical device **214002**.

[0328] In various instances, the clinician can interact with the display screen **214004** to control and/or provide input to the surgical hub. In instances in which the display screen **214004** is positioned outside of the sterile field, like the primary display **119** in FIG. 2, for example, the clinician can exercise control of the display screen **214004** outside of the sterile field through various surgical barriers, including the sterile field boundary and the patient's body. In other words, the clinician can indirectly control and/or command a second operating room system outside the sterile field with a first operating room system from completely within the sterile field.

[0329] In various aspects, a wearable device, i.e. a "wearable", can be configured to facilitate interaction with one or more communicatively coupled devices. For example, a clinician's wearable device within a sterile field can be used to interact with a surgical system outside of the sterile field. The wearable device can be an interactive device that is configured to interact with a remote system. In various instances, the wearable device can identify the wearer, i.e. the clinician wearing the device, and can identify surgical device(s) within a range of positions around the wearable device. Such a wearable device can determine if and how a clinician is holding a particular surgical device, for example. A wrist-worn wearable **214100** is shown in FIG. 20, and a finger-worn wearable **214102** is shown in FIG. 21. The wrist-worn wearable **214100** can be attached to the clinician's wrist "W" like a watch or a bracelet, for example. The finger-worn wearable **214102** can be attached to the clinician's thumb "T" or a finger "F" on the clinician's hand like a ring, for example.

[0330] The wearables **214100**, **214102** each include a communication module **214104**, which facilitates communication between the wearable **214100**, **214102** and another surgical system. The communication modules **214104** can enable RFID tagging and/or near-field communication. The

communications modules **214104** can emit a wireless signal **214106** indicative of a command or control from the clinician. For example, the wearables **214100** and **214102** can include a graphical user interface and/or a touchscreen. The clinician can engage the touchscreen or otherwise provide inputs to the graphical user interface to implement an adjustment to another surgical device. In one instance, the wearables **214100** and/or **214102** can be in signal communication with a visualization system and/or a display screen thereof. For example, the clinician can engage arrows **214110** on the user interface to pan the view on a primary display in a surgical theater, can adjust a zoom feature **214112** (FIG. 20) or **214113** (FIG. 21) to enlarge or reduce a view on the primary display, and/or select one or more icons **214114**, **214116** on the user interface to adjust a view and/or data displayed on the display screen. Alternative graphics and input features are contemplated.

[0331] In one aspect, wearable devices can assist the clinician in interacting with displays, such as a primary display like the primary display **119** (FIG. 2) located outside the sterile field. For example, a wearable device can allow input from a surgeon to select, advance, re-size, and gesture with respect to a graphical user interface on the wearable device to adjust or control the primary display. For example, inputting a zoom-in operation on the wearable device can enlarge a portion of the video feed on the primary display. In one instance, the wearable device can include a simplified and/or minimized version of the information on the primary display, similar to a mobile device page displaying a simplified and/or minimized version of the information available on a desktop site. The wearable device can include a graphical user interface and a touchscreen, such that inputs to the graphical user interface on the touchscreen can be communicated to the primary display. In one such implementation, a clinician can interact with a sealed capacitive interactive surface on the wearable device, which can be worn like a watch of a wristband, with capacitive-infused latex gloves, for example.

[0332] In various instances, the wearable device can be tracked with image and/or object recognition techniques. For example, the image and/or video data can be processed utilizing a variety of machine vision, image processing, object recognition, and optical tracking techniques to track characteristics, properties, actions, and movements of the wearable device. For example, the wearable device can be recognized from images captured by the one or more cameras in the surgical theater utilizing a variety of image and/or object recognition techniques, including appearance and feature-based techniques. For example, the captured images can be processed utilizing an edge detection algorithm (e.g., a Canny edge detector algorithm) to generate outlines of the various objects within each image. An algorithm can then compare the templates of target objects (e.g. the target wearable device(s)) to the images containing the outlined objects to determine whether any of the target objects are located within the images. As another example, an algorithm can extract features from the captured images. The extracted features can be then be fed to a machine learning model (e.g., an artificial neural network or a support vector machine) trained via supervised or unsupervised learning techniques to correlate a feature vector to the targets. The features can include edges (extracted via a Canny edge detector algorithm, for example), curvature, corners (extracted via a Harris & Stephens corner detector algorithm,

for example), and so on. Object recognition and tracking are further described in contemporaneously-filed U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled USAGE AND TECHNIQUE ANALYSIS OF SURGEON/STAFF PERFORMANCE AGAINST A BASELINE TO OPTIMIZE DEVICE UTILIZATION AND PERFORMANCE FOR BOTH CURRENT AND FUTURE PROCEDURES, Attorney Docket No. END9018USNP2/180517-2, and in contemporaneously-filed U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled IMAGE CAPTURING OF THE AREAS OUTSIDE THE ABDOMEN TO IMPROVE PLACEMENT AND CONTROL OF A SURGICAL DEVICE IN USE, Attorney Docket No. END9018USNP3/180517-3, which are incorporated by reference herein in their respective entireties.

[0333] In certain instances, the wearable device can include an array of magnetics, which can be detected by a sensor within the surgical theater. Based on the position(s) of the wearable device detected by the sensor, the surgical system can determine movement of the wearable device. The movement can correspond to gestures by the clinician, for example. In such instances, the surgical system can determine one or more gestures by the clinician and, in various instances, such gestures can be communicated to another surgical system, such as an imaging system. For example, the gestures can correspond to input commands to a display screen of the imaging system. Magnetic sensing arrays are further described in contemporaneously-filed U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled IMAGE CAPTURING OF THE AREAS OUTSIDE THE ABDOMEN TO IMPROVE PLACEMENT AND CONTROL OF A SURGICAL DEVICE IN USE, Attorney Docket No. END9018USNP3/180517-3, which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

[0334] As another example, a wearable device can enable tracking of surgical devices by pairing with the surgical devices during a hand-off, such as when a handheld surgical instrument is picked up and/or handed to a clinician, for example. Referring primarily to FIG. 19, a clinician C is wearing two wearable devices—a first wearable device 214200 is on the clinician's right wrist RW, and a second wearable device 214202 is on the clinician's left wrist LW. The wearable devices 214200, 214202 can be configured to determine which surgical device is positioned in which hand of the clinician. For example, the first wearable device 214200 can pair with a first surgical device 214210 in the clinician's right hand, and the second wearable device 214202 can pair with a second surgical device 214212 when the second surgical device 214212 is handed to the clinician. In one implementation, the wearable device 214200 and/or 214202 can include a built-in RFID tag or near-field communication device that allows a handle within the hand of the clinician to recognize which clinician is holding the surgical device such that the surgical device can be automatically paired or repaired to the clinician. For example, the clinician's desired settings and/or most-frequently used features/adjustments specific to that particular surgical device can appear on the screen of the wearable device and/or be highlighted on the screen. Although wrist-worn devices are shown in FIG. 19, the reader will appreciate that alternative devices, such as rings and/or gloves, for example, are contemplated. Moreover, in certain instances, the clinician may only wear a wearable device on one wrist, such as the wrist of his dominant side, for example. In various

instances, the wearable device can determine the orientation of the surgical tool with respect to the wearable device and, thus, with respect to the clinician's hand. In such instances, the surgical system may adjust the displays and controls based on the detected orientation of the surgical device in the clinician's hand.

[0335] For example, a first arrangement of controls and/or selections can be used for a right-handed clinician and a second, different arrangement of controls and/or selections can be used for a left-handed clinician. Additionally or alternatively, the arrangement of controls and/or availability of certain controls can depend on whether the surgical device is positioned in the clinician's dominant hand or non-dominant hand and/or based on the situational awareness from a surgical hub. In various instances, a wearable device can identify the clinician for example, and thus, include clinician-customized settings, including identification of the clinician's dominant hand, for example.

[0336] In various instances, the control of a surgical device can be shared by different control devices and/or the control of the surgical device can switch between multiple control devices. For example, a surgical device can include an autonomous control mode, in which the control inputs are provided by the device itself. For example, a clinician can engage an actuator on the surgical device (e.g. a button, switch, toggle, trigger, etc.) to actuate a surgical function (e.g. energy activation, clamping, firing, etc.) of the surgical device. Handheld surgical tools and robotic surgical tools can operate in an autonomous control mode, for example. For robotic surgical tools, the input control(s) can be at the surgeon's control console. For a handheld surgical tool, the input control(s) can be on the handle, for example.

[0337] In certain instances, the surgical device can be controlled and/or subjugated by another surgical device, which can selectively issue control inputs to the surgical device. In such instances, the surgical device can be referred to as a "controlled surgical device" and the other surgical device can be referred to as a "controlling surgical device." In one aspect, a mobile device having wireless communication features, such as a smart phone or tablet, for example, can be a controlling surgical device, which is selectively configured to provide control inputs to a controlled surgical device. Such a mobile device can be positioned in the sterile field. Additionally or alternatively, a wearable device can be a controlling surgical device, which is configured to provide control inputs to a controlled surgical device, as further described herein. In still other instances, a controlling surgical device, which can be paired and/or communicatively coupled to a controlled surgical device via a surgical hub, for example, can be configured to provide input controls to the controlled surgical device. In other instances, a display screen can be a controlling surgical device, which is configured to provide input controls to a controlled surgical device and/or a controlling surgical device can interact with a visualization system (e.g. as a cursor on a display screen) to provide input controls to the visualization system and/or another connected surgical device, i.e. the controlled surgical device(s). In the foregoing examples, the controlled surgical device can maintain at least some degree of autonomous control while the controlling surgical device(s) selectively exercise varying degrees of control over the controlled surgical instrument as well. In other instances, the input controls of the controlled surgical device can be disabled when control by a controlling surgical device is enabled

and/or activated. In various instances, multiple surgical devices (including the controlled surgical device itself in certain instances) can simultaneously share control over the controlled surgical device. The reader will appreciate that various interactions of control interactions are contemplated in instances in which a surgical hub couples multiple surgical devices together into a cooperative surgical system.

[0338] In instances in which multiple surgical devices share control and/or alternative between control functionalities, a clinician may want to know which controlling surgical devices have control over a controlled surgical device at a particular time during the surgical procedure. For example, a surgical system can provide tactile, audible and/or visual indications to the clinician regarding the control mode.

[0339] In one aspect, the surgical system can provide various tactile, audio, and/or visual cues to the clinicians via a user interface, for example. The surgical system can highlight, emphasize, or otherwise bring attention to display cues on the user interface. Additionally or alternatively, the surgical system can nest or overlay data and key information. For example, certain information can be provided with an augmented reality view on the user interface and/or over a live feed of images, video, or other real-time data obtained by the surgical system. In another aspect, the surgical system can provide reinforced indication of a control function and/or a limitation thereof. For example, when control by a surgical device is disabled or otherwise not viable, the surgical device, control, or display can vibrate to communicate that the control input is not accepted.

[0340] As an example, if situational awareness indicates that a gross motor step is being performed during a surgical procedure, a clinician within the sterile field can be enabled to manipulate the position of a controlled surgical instrument via a controlling surgical device from within the sterile field, such as with a mobile tablet computer or wearable device located within the sterile field. However, if situational awareness indicates that a fine motor step is being performed during the surgical procedure, the control functionality of the controlling surgical device can be disabled such that only a clinician operating the surgical device, such as the clinician at the surgeon's console, for example, can provide input controls to the controlled surgical device. In such instances, the controlling surgical device can provide a tactile, auditory, and/or visual notice to the clinician within the sterile field to indicate that such control features are disabled. For example, the controlling surgical device can simply enter a "sleep" mode such that inputs cannot be provided by the sterile field clinician. In certain instances, the controlling surgical device can provide a verbal notice and/or beep, for example, to communicate that the desired control functionality is not viable. Additionally or alternatively, the controlling surgical device can vibrate or otherwise provide haptic feedback when the clinician in the sterile field attempts to provide a non-viable control input.

[0341] As another example, autonomous control of a surgical device can override control of the surgical device by another surgical device in various instances. For example, if a clinician at the surgeon's console is actively controlling a robotic tool, then a secondary control, such as the control input(s) provided by a clinician within the sterile field via a controlling surgical device, can be ignored. However, when the clinician at the surgeon's console stops actively controlling the robotic tool, the control inputs from the controlling

surgical device within the sterile field can control the robotic tool. When the robotic tool is being controlled by the controlling surgical device within the sterile field, a user interface at the robotic console can utilize tactile, auditory, and/or visual cues to communicate that control is being shared with a controlling surgical device. Similarly, when the robotic tool is being controlled by the clinician at the surgeon's console, a user interface on the controlling surgical tool can indicate that its control functionality is disabled.

[0342] In various instances, controls for a surgical device can be configured to interface with one or more display(s) to communicate the interaction between the various controls. For example, a controlling surgical device can be configured to provide secondary control functionality over a controlled surgical device. Moreover, one or more indications can indicate or otherwise communicate the paired control function between the controlled surgical device and the controlling surgical devices. Such indications can be provided on one or more displays, such as the non-sterile displays 107 and 109, the primary display 119, the hub display 135, and/or a display in the surgeon's console 118 as depicted in FIGS. 2 and 3, for example. In one aspect, a touchscreen on a surgical device can be used by a clinician to interact with a primary surgical hub display. For example, a surgical device in the sterile field can include a capacitive touchscreen display. Surgical devices such as handheld surgical instruments, robotic tools, wearables, and display screens can include a touchscreen within the sterile field. In various instances, a clinician in the sterile field can slide, scroll, and/or otherwise configure a primary surgical hub display from the touchscreen within the surgical field. For example, by scanning, zooming, or otherwise adjusting the view on the touchscreen within the sterile field, the clinician can scan, zoom, or otherwise adjust the primary display for the surgical hub.

[0343] In various instances, a secondary device can contain controls that are only pairable with other devices to link command and control functions. For example, the secondary device can be a controller for controlling one or more other surgical devices. In various instances, the secondary device, or controlling surgical device, can be a screen located within the sterile field. For example, the secondary device can be a mobile device, such as a tablet or mobile phone, for example, that includes a screen. The screen can be a touchscreen, for example, which is configured to receive control input from a clinician in the sterile field. Additionally or alternatively, the display can include an embedded LED that highlights the control functionality in a way that pairs or connects the control functionality to a particular controlled surgical device.

[0344] Referring to FIGS. 22A and 22B, a display 214400 is shown. The display 214400 depicts a first plurality of information 214402 in FIG. 22A and a second plurality of information 214404 in FIG. 22B. A user can switch between the different views of FIGS. 22A and 22B by interacting with the display 214400. For example, the display 214400 includes a capacitive screen. In various instances, the clinician can interact with the display 214400 by touching an interface portion thereof. The display 214400 is configured to communicate different types of information to the clinician. For example, the display 214400 can communicate patient-specific information by selecting the PATIENT icon 214410, procedure-specific information by selecting the PROCEDURE icon 214412, and device-specific informa-

tion by selecting the DEVICE icon **214414**. The DEVICE icon **214414** has been selected in FIGS. **22A** and **22B**, as indicated with the highlighting around the DEVICE icon **214414**. In other instances, the selected icon **214410**, **214412**, **214414** can be communicated in another manner, such as showing the selected icon **214410**, **214412**, **214414** in a different size, in a different position, in a different color, in a different style, and/or with another identifier such as an arrow or symbol relative thereto. Because the DEVICE icon **214414** is selected in FIGS. **22A** and **22B**, the device-specific information is portrayed. For example, the surgical devices being utilized during the surgical procedure are listed. In various instances, the display **214400** can selectively provide input commands to one or more of the surgical devices during the surgical procedure.

[0345] The listed surgical devices are a combination energy surgical device indicated with the first icon **214420**, a surgical stapler indicated with the second icon **214422**, and a suction/irrigation device indicated with the third icon **214424**. The icons **214420**, **214422**, **214424** are textual words in FIGS. **22A** and **22B**; however, in other instances, the icons **214420**, **214422**, and **214424** can include graphics and/or can be symbols, such as a symbolic representation of the surgical device, for example. In certain instances, less than three or more than three surgical devices can be listed. In certain instances, only controllable surgical devices can be listed. In other instances, all of the surgical devices used during a surgical procedure can be listed; however, a clinician may only be able to select the controllable surgical devices from the list. Alternative surgical devices (e.g. an ultrasonic device, an electrosurgical device, a clip applier, a grasper, a knife, etc.) are contemplated.

[0346] The icon **214420** corresponding to the combination energy surgical device has been selected in FIG. **22A**, and the icon **214422** corresponding to the stapler has been selected in FIG. **22B**, as indicated with the highlighting around the respective icon **214420**, **214422**. In other instances, the selected icon **214420**, **214422**, **214424** can be communicated in another manner, such as showing the selected icon **214420**, **214422**, **214424** in a different size, in a different position, in a different color, in a different style, and/or with another identifier such as an arrow or symbol relative thereto. Because the icon **214420** corresponding to the combination energy surgical device has been selected in FIG. **22A**, the available input commands correspond to commands for the combination energy surgical device. For example, a clinician can select a mode from the following list of modes **214430**: ultrasonic, monopolar, bipolar, and blended. Alternative modes are also contemplated. The clinician can select the mode to control the energy modality applied by the combination energy surgical device. In other instances, additional adjustments can be controlled from the display **214400**, such as the power level, duration, frequency, and so on. In various instances, the user input to the display **214400** can be communicated to the surgical hub by one or the various communication protocols described herein. Similarly, the surgical hub can relay the user input to the combination energy surgical device.

[0347] Referring now to FIG. **22B**, because the icon **214422** corresponding to the surgical stapler has been selected, the available input commands correspond to commands for the surgical stapler. For example, a clinician can select a surgical function from a plurality of modes **214432** like a clamping mode and a firing mode. In various

instances, the modes **214432** can include additional sub-categories or adjustments, which can be selected from a menu. For example, clamping and/or firing can be performed manually or automatically, and/or the speed can be selected from a number of speeds, such as slow, medium, and fast. Alternative modes are also contemplated. The clinician can select the mode to control the surgical function of the surgical stapler. In various instances, the user input to the display **214400** can be communicated to the surgical hub by one or the various communication protocols described herein. Similarly, the surgical hub can relay the user input to the surgical stapler.

[0348] In various instances, pairing(s) between the display **214400** and the surgical device(s) can be communicated to the clinician. For example, the display **214400** can include at least one embedded LED that can be illuminated in a color that matches a color of a controlled surgical device and/or a color identifier on the controlled surgical device. In one aspect, the controlled surgical device can include a similar LED color identifier, for example. The embedded LED in the display **214400** can be illuminated in red, and a red LED on the paired surgical device can be illuminated to indicate pairing. In various instances, the display **214400** can be configured to control multiple surgical devices and, in such instances, multiple colors can be displayed on the display **214400** and the corresponding colors can be provided on respective identifiers throughout the surgical theater. For example, when the clinician has selected the first icon **214420** (FIG. **22A**) corresponding to the combination energy surgical device, a portion of the display **214400** (e.g. the first icon **214420**) can be illuminated in a particular color and an LED on the combination energy surgical device can be illuminated in the same color. Similarly, when the clinician has selected the second icon **214422** (FIG. **22B**) corresponding to the surgical stapler, a portion of the display **214400** (e.g. the second icon **214422**) can be illuminated in a particular color and an LED on the surgical stapler can be illuminated in the same color. Different colors can be assigned to different surgical devices. In various instances, the icons **214420**, **214422**, **214424** on the display can be illuminated in different colors and/or the icons can be highlighted with different colors. For example, the shapes around the selected icon **214420**, **214422**, **214424** can be a particular color that corresponds to an indicator on the paired surgical device.

[0349] The identifier on a controlled surgical device (e.g. the combination energy surgical device, surgical stapler, or suction/irrigation device) can be displayed in different ways or styles to communicate different control states. For example, when control by the display **214400** is disabled, the identifier can display a first pattern or style (e.g. the identifier can be a non-illuminated LED). When control by the secondary device is enabled, the identifier can display a second pattern or style (e.g. the identifier can be an illuminated LED), and/or when the secondary device is pairing with the controlled surgical device, the identifier can display a third pattern or style (e.g. the identifier can be a flashing LED). As described above, the color of the LED can correspond to the color on the display **214400**.

[0350] In various instances, one control interface can be used for activation of a surgical function and the other control interface can be used for sequencing through the instrument's modes. For example, a single trigger on the surgical device can effect different surgical functions, and

the particular surgical function can be determined by the control interface on the display **214400**. More specifically, with respect to FIG. **22A**, a trigger or actuator on a combination energy surgical device can apply ultrasonic energy to tissue; however, if another mode was selected by the clinician, the same trigger or actuator would apply a different energy modularity to the tissue. In various instances, energy modalities and/or power levels can be controlled by the display **214400**. Referring now to FIG. **22B**, a trigger or actuator on the surgical stapler can be configured to clamp when the clamp function is selected on the display **214400**, and the trigger can be configured to fire when the fire function is selected on the display **214400**. Additionally adjustments (e.g. manual or automatic, clamping speed, firing speed, etc.) can be adjusted on the display **214400**.

[0351] In other instances, multiple control devices can have activation capabilities for the same surgical device. For example, the display **214400** can include an activation control, which activates the surgical function on the surgical device. In certain instances, the power level for each activation can differ between the different control devices.

[0352] In one aspect, control of a secondary function can allow fine control from one controller and gross control from another controller. Secondary functions can include articulation of an end effector and distal head rotation, for example. In such instances, when gross control is desired, an integral or built-in device control, e.g. an autonomous control on the surgical device, can control the function. When fine control is desired, a secondary controller, such as the display **214400** can control the function. For example, when a clinician is utilizing another aspect of a surgical device, such as gripping a trigger for example, the fine control functionality can still be implemented with the secondary controller that is paired to the surgical device to create fine movements of the secondary function. In certain instances, certain functions like articulation and distal head rotation can be locked out when another function, like energy activation, clamping, or firing, is in operation. However, when the secondary controller for the secondary function is activated by another clinician or by another hand of the same clinician, the fine adjustment can be permitted though the clinician is using another control to operate the other function. In this mode of operation, the secondary function can have a limited operational envelope to ensure that the forces it applies and/or the rate at which it is operated are limited to produce the desired fine control or fine precision. Additionally or alternatively, it may override certain threshold limits to some extent because it is being directly controlled.

Examples

[0353] Various aspects of the subject matter described herein are set out in the following numbered examples:

Example 1

[0354] A surgical system comprising a first device comprising a first control circuit and a second device configured to effect a surgical function. The second device comprises a second control circuit in signal communication with the first control circuit. The second control circuit is configured to selectively toggle the second device between a secondary operating mode, in which the second device is configured to

control the first device, and a primary operating mode, in which the second device is configured to control the surgical function.

Example 2

[0355] The surgical system of Example 1, wherein the first device comprises a display, wherein the second device comprises an end effector positioned within a sterile field, and wherein the end effector is viewable on the display.

Example 3

[0356] The surgical system of Examples 1 or 2, wherein the secondary operating mode comprises a cursor mode, and wherein the primary operating mode comprises a tissue treatment mode.

Example 4

[0357] The surgical system of any one of Examples 1-3, wherein the second device comprises a handle comprising an input switch movable between a first position and a second position, and wherein the first position corresponds to the primary operating mode and the second position corresponds to the secondary operating mode.

Example 5

[0358] The surgical system of any one of Examples 1-4, wherein the second control circuit is configured to toggle between the primary operating mode and the secondary operating mode in response to an audible command by a clinician.

Example 6

[0359] The surgical system of Example 3, wherein the end effector is configured to drag and drop an icon across the display in the cursor mode.

Example 7

[0360] The surgical system of Examples 3 or 6, wherein the end effector is configured to select an anatomical feature on the display in the cursor mode.

Example 8

[0361] The surgical system of any one of Examples 1-7, wherein the second device comprises an ultrasonic instrument configured to apply ultrasonic vibrations to tissue, wherein the ultrasonic instrument comprises a first actuation button and a second actuation button, wherein, in the primary operating mode, the first actuation button is configured to actuate a first energy level and the second actuation button is configured to actuate a second energy level, and wherein, in the secondary operating mode, the first actuation button comprises a first cursor button and the second actuation button comprises a second cursor button.

Example 9

[0362] A surgical system comprising an imaging system comprising a camera and a display screen. The surgical system further comprises a surgical device configured to effect a surgical function. The surgical device comprises a control circuit comprising a processor and a memory communicatively coupled to the processor, the memory storing

instructions executable by the processor to receive an input signal, in response to the input signal, switch between a first operational mode and a second operational mode, in the first operational mode, actuate the surgical function, and in the second operational mode, control the display screen.

Example 10

[0363] The surgical system of Example 9, wherein the surgical device is configured to control the display screen through a surgical barrier.

Example 11

[0364] The surgical system of Examples 9 or 10, wherein the display screen comprises a video monitor in an operating room, and wherein the surgical device comprises a laparoscopic device comprising an end effector positioned in a patient in the operating room.

Example 12

[0365] The surgical system of Example 11, wherein the surgical device comprises an end effector, and wherein the camera is configured to track the end effector in the patient.

Example 13

[0366] The surgical system of Examples 11 or 12, wherein, in the second operational mode, the end effector is configured to interact with one or more icons on the video monitor as a cursor.

Example 14

[0367] The surgical system of any one of Examples 11-13, wherein, in the second operational mode, the end effector is configured to interact as a cursor with a video feed on the video monitor.

Example 15

[0368] The surgical system of any one of Examples 9-14, wherein the surgical device comprises a handle comprising an input switch movable between a first position and a second position, and wherein the first position corresponds to the first operational mode and the second position corresponds to the second operational mode.

Example 16

[0369] The surgical system of any one of Examples 9-14, wherein the control circuit is configured to toggle between the first operational mode and the second operational mode in response to an audible command by a clinician.

Example 17

[0370] A non-transitory computer readable medium storing computer readable instructions which, when executed, causes a surgical system to receive an input signal, in response to the input signal, switch between a first operational mode and a second operational mode, in the first operational mode, actuate a surgical function, and in the second operational mode, interact with a display screen through a surgical barrier.

Example 18

[0371] The non-transitory computer readable medium of Example 17, wherein the surgical system is configured to interact with the display screen through the surgical barrier by clicking on an icon on the display screen.

Example 19

[0372] The non-transitory computer readable medium of Examples 17 or 18, wherein the surgical system is configured to interact with the display screen through the surgical barrier by dragging and dropping an icon on the display screen.

Example 20

[0373] The non-transitory computer readable medium of any one of Examples 17-19, wherein the surgical system is configured to interact with the display screen through the surgical barrier by selecting a portion of a video.

[0374] While several forms have been illustrated and described, it is not the intention of Applicant to restrict or limit the scope of the appended claims to such detail. Numerous modifications, variations, changes, substitutions, combinations, and equivalents to those forms may be implemented and will occur to those skilled in the art without departing from the scope of the present disclosure. Moreover, the structure of each element associated with the described forms can be alternatively described as a means for providing the function performed by the element. Also, where materials are disclosed for certain components, other materials may be used. It is therefore to be understood that the foregoing description and the appended claims are intended to cover all such modifications, combinations, and variations as falling within the scope of the disclosed forms. The appended claims are intended to cover all such modifications, variations, changes, substitutions, modifications, and equivalents.

[0375] The foregoing detailed description has set forth various forms of the devices and/or processes via the use of block diagrams, flowcharts, and/or examples. Insofar as such block diagrams, flowcharts, and/or examples contain one or more functions and/or operations, it will be understood by those within the art that each function and/or operation within such block diagrams, flowcharts, and/or examples can be implemented, individually and/or collectively, by a wide range of hardware, software, firmware, or virtually any combination thereof. Those skilled in the art will recognize that some aspects of the forms disclosed herein, in whole or in part, can be equivalently implemented in integrated circuits, as one or more computer programs running on one or more computers (e.g., as one or more programs running on one or more computer systems), as one or more programs running on one or more processors (e.g., as one or more programs running on one or more microprocessors), as firmware, or as virtually any combination thereof, and that designing the circuitry and/or writing the code for the software and/or firmware would be well within the skill of one of skill in the art in light of this disclosure. In addition, those skilled in the art will appreciate that the mechanisms of the subject matter described herein are capable of being distributed as one or more program products in a variety of forms, and that an illustrative form of the

subject matter described herein applies regardless of the particular type of signal bearing medium used to actually carry out the distribution.

[0376] Instructions used to program logic to perform various disclosed aspects can be stored within a memory in the system, such as dynamic random access memory (DRAM), cache, flash memory, or other storage. Furthermore, the instructions can be distributed via a network or by way of other computer readable media. Thus a machine-readable medium may include any mechanism for storing or transmitting information in a form readable by a machine (e.g., a computer), but is not limited to, floppy diskettes, optical disks, compact disc, read-only memory (CD-ROMs), and magneto-optical disks, read-only memory (ROMs), random access memory (RAM), erasable programmable read-only memory (EPROM), electrically erasable programmable read-only memory (EEPROM), magnetic or optical cards, flash memory, or a tangible, machine-readable storage used in the transmission of information over the Internet via electrical, optical, acoustical or other forms of propagated signals (e.g., carrier waves, infrared signals, digital signals, etc.). Accordingly, the non-transitory computer-readable medium includes any type of tangible machine-readable medium suitable for storing or transmitting electronic instructions or information in a form readable by a machine (e.g., a computer).

[0377] As used in any aspect herein, the term “control circuit” may refer to, for example, hardwired circuitry, programmable circuitry (e.g., a computer processor including one or more individual instruction processing cores, processing unit, processor, microcontroller, microcontroller unit, controller, digital signal processor (DSP), programmable logic device (PLD), programmable logic array (PLA), or field programmable gate array (FPGA)), state machine circuitry, firmware that stores instructions executed by programmable circuitry, and any combination thereof. The control circuit may, collectively or individually, be embodied as circuitry that forms part of a larger system, for example, an integrated circuit (IC), an application-specific integrated circuit (ASIC), a system on-chip (SoC), desktop computers, laptop computers, tablet computers, servers, smart phones, etc. Accordingly, as used herein “control circuit” includes, but is not limited to, electrical circuitry having at least one discrete electrical circuit, electrical circuitry having at least one integrated circuit, electrical circuitry having at least one application specific integrated circuit, electrical circuitry forming a general purpose computing device configured by a computer program (e.g., a general purpose computer configured by a computer program which at least partially carries out processes and/or devices described herein, or a microprocessor configured by a computer program which at least partially carries out processes and/or devices described herein), electrical circuitry forming a memory device (e.g., forms of random access memory), and/or electrical circuitry forming a communications device (e.g., a modem, communications switch, or optical-electrical equipment). Those having skill in the art will recognize that the subject matter described herein may be implemented in an analog or digital fashion or some combination thereof.

[0378] As used in any aspect herein, the term “logic” may refer to an app, software, firmware and/or circuitry configured to perform any of the aforementioned operations. Software may be embodied as a software package, code,

instructions, instruction sets and/or data recorded on non-transitory computer readable storage medium. Firmware may be embodied as code, instructions or instruction sets and/or data that are hard-coded (e.g., nonvolatile) in memory devices.

[0379] As used in any aspect herein, the terms “component,” “system,” “module” and the like can refer to a computer-related entity, either hardware, a combination of hardware and software, software, or software in execution.

[0380] As used in any aspect herein, an “algorithm” refers to a self-consistent sequence of steps leading to a desired result, where a “step” refers to a manipulation of physical quantities and/or logic states which may, though need not necessarily, take the form of electrical or magnetic signals capable of being stored, transferred, combined, compared, and otherwise manipulated. It is common usage to refer to these signals as bits, values, elements, symbols, characters, terms, numbers, or the like. These and similar terms may be associated with the appropriate physical quantities and are merely convenient labels applied to these quantities and/or states.

[0381] A network may include a packet switched network. The communication devices may be capable of communicating with each other using a selected packet switched network communications protocol. One example communications protocol may include an Ethernet communications protocol which may be capable permitting communication using a Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP). The Ethernet protocol may comply or be compatible with the Ethernet standard published by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) titled “IEEE 802.3 Standard”, published in December, 2008 and/or later versions of this standard. Alternatively or additionally, the communication devices may be capable of communicating with each other using an X.25 communications protocol. The X.25 communications protocol may comply or be compatible with a standard promulgated by the International Telecommunication Union-Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T). Alternatively or additionally, the communication devices may be capable of communicating with each other using a frame relay communications protocol. The frame relay communications protocol may comply or be compatible with a standard promulgated by Consultative Committee for International Telegraph and Telephone (CCITT) and/or the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). Alternatively or additionally, the transceivers may be capable of communicating with each other using an Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) communications protocol. The ATM communications protocol may comply or be compatible with an ATM standard published by the ATM Forum titled “ATM-MPLS Network Interworking 2.0” published August 2001, and/or later versions of this standard. Of course, different and/or after-developed connection-oriented network communication protocols are equally contemplated herein.

[0382] Unless specifically stated otherwise as apparent from the foregoing disclosure, it is appreciated that, throughout the foregoing disclosure, discussions using terms such as “processing,” “computing,” “calculating,” “determining,” “displaying,” or the like, refer to the action and processes of a computer system, or similar electronic computing device, that manipulates and transforms data represented as physical (electronic) quantities within the computer system’s registers and memories into other data similarly represented as

physical quantities within the computer system memories or registers or other such information storage, transmission or display devices.

[0383] One or more components may be referred to herein as “configured to,” “configurable to,” “operable/operative to,” “adapted/adaptable,” “able to,” “conformable/conformed to,” etc. Those skilled in the art will recognize that “configured to” can generally encompass active-state components and/or inactive-state components and/or standby-state components, unless context requires otherwise.

[0384] The terms “proximal” and “distal” are used herein with reference to a clinician manipulating the handle portion of the surgical instrument. The term “proximal” refers to the portion closest to the clinician and the term “distal” refers to the portion located away from the clinician. It will be further appreciated that, for convenience and clarity, spatial terms such as “vertical,” “horizontal,” “up,” and “down” may be used herein with respect to the drawings. However, surgical instruments are used in many orientations and positions, and these terms are not intended to be limiting and/or absolute.

[0385] Those skilled in the art will recognize that, in general, terms used herein, and especially in the appended claims (e.g., bodies of the appended claims) are generally intended as “open” terms (e.g., the term “including” should be interpreted as “including but not limited to,” the term “having” should be interpreted as “having at least,” the term “includes” should be interpreted as “includes but is not limited to,” etc.). It will be further understood by those within the art that if a specific number of an introduced claim recitation is intended, such an intent will be explicitly recited in the claim, and in the absence of such recitation no such intent is present. For example, as an aid to understanding, the following appended claims may contain usage of the introductory phrases “at least one” and “one or more” to introduce claim recitations. However, the use of such phrases should not be construed to imply that the introduction of a claim recitation by the indefinite articles “a” or “an” limits any particular claim containing such introduced claim recitation to claims containing only one such recitation, even when the same claim includes the introductory phrases “one or more” or “at least one” and indefinite articles such as “a” or “an” (e.g., “a” and/or “an” should typically be interpreted to mean “at least one” or “one or more”); the same holds true for the use of definite articles used to introduce claim recitations.

[0386] In addition, even if a specific number of an introduced claim recitation is explicitly recited, those skilled in the art will recognize that such recitation should typically be interpreted to mean at least the recited number (e.g., the bare recitation of “two recitations,” without other modifiers, typically means at least two recitations, or two or more recitations). Furthermore, in those instances where a convention analogous to “at least one of A, B, and C, etc.” is used, in general such a construction is intended in the sense one having skill in the art would understand the convention (e.g., “a system having at least one of A, B, and C” would include but not be limited to systems that have A alone, B alone, C alone, A and B together, A and C together, B and C together, and/or A, B, and C together, etc.). In those instances where a convention analogous to “at least one of A, B, or C, etc.” is used, in general such a construction is intended in the sense one having skill in the art would understand the convention (e.g., “a system having at least one of A, B, or C” would include but not be limited to

systems that have A alone, B alone, C alone, A and B together, A and C together, B and C together, and/or A, B, and C together, etc.). It will be further understood by those within the art that typically a disjunctive word and/or phrase presenting two or more alternative terms, whether in the description, claims, or drawings, should be understood to contemplate the possibilities of including one of the terms, either of the terms, or both terms unless context dictates otherwise. For example, the phrase “A or B” will be typically understood to include the possibilities of “A” or “B” or “A and B.”

[0387] With respect to the appended claims, those skilled in the art will appreciate that recited operations therein may generally be performed in any order. Also, although various operational flow diagrams are presented in a sequence(s), it should be understood that the various operations may be performed in other orders than those which are illustrated, or may be performed concurrently. Examples of such alternate orderings may include overlapping, interleaved, interrupted, reordered, incremental, preparatory, supplemental, simultaneous, reverse, or other variant orderings, unless context dictates otherwise. Furthermore, terms like “responsive to,” “related to,” or other past-tense adjectives are generally not intended to exclude such variants, unless context dictates otherwise.

[0388] It is worthy to note that any reference to “one aspect,” “an aspect,” “an exemplification,” “one exemplification,” and the like means that a particular feature, structure, or characteristic described in connection with the aspect is included in at least one aspect. Thus, appearances of the phrases “in one aspect,” “in an aspect,” “in an exemplification,” and “in one exemplification” in various places throughout the specification are not necessarily all referring to the same aspect. Furthermore, the particular features, structures or characteristics may be combined in any suitable manner in one or more aspects.

[0389] Any patent application, patent, non-patent publication, or other disclosure material referred to in this specification and/or listed in any Application Data Sheet is incorporated by reference herein, to the extent that the incorporated materials is not inconsistent herewith. As such, and to the extent necessary, the disclosure as explicitly set forth herein supersedes any conflicting material incorporated herein by reference. Any material, or portion thereof, that is said to be incorporated by reference herein, but which conflicts with existing definitions, statements, or other disclosure material set forth herein will only be incorporated to the extent that no conflict arises between that incorporated material and the existing disclosure material.

[0390] In summary, numerous benefits have been described which result from employing the concepts described herein. The foregoing description of the one or more forms has been presented for purposes of illustration and description. It is not intended to be exhaustive or limiting to the precise form disclosed. Modifications or variations are possible in light of the above teachings. The one or more forms were chosen and described in order to illustrate principles and practical application to thereby enable one of ordinary skill in the art to utilize the various forms and with various modifications as are suited to the particular use contemplated. It is intended that the claims submitted herewith define the overall scope.

What is claimed is:

1. A surgical system, comprising:
a first device comprising a first control circuit; and
a second device configured to effect a surgical function, wherein the second device comprises a second control circuit in signal communication with the first control circuit, and wherein the second control circuit is configured to selectively toggle the second device between a secondary operating mode, in which the second device is configured to control the first device, and a primary operating mode, in which the second device is configured to control the surgical function.
2. The surgical system of claim 1, wherein the first device comprises a display, wherein the second device comprises an end effector positioned within a sterile field, and wherein the end effector is viewable on the display.
3. The surgical system of claim 2, wherein the secondary operating mode comprises a cursor mode, and wherein the primary operating mode comprises a tissue treatment mode.
4. The surgical system of claim 3, wherein the second device comprises a handle comprising an input switch movable between a first position and a second position, and wherein the first position corresponds to the primary operating mode and the second position corresponds to the secondary operating mode.
5. The surgical system of claim 3, wherein the second control circuit is configured to toggle between the primary operating mode and the secondary operating mode in response to an audible command by a clinician.
6. The surgical system of claim 3, wherein the end effector is configured to drag and drop an icon across the display in the cursor mode.
7. The surgical system of claim 3, wherein the end effector is configured to select an anatomical feature on the display in the cursor mode.
8. The surgical system of claim 3, wherein the second device comprises an ultrasonic instrument configured to apply ultrasonic vibrations to tissue, wherein the ultrasonic instrument comprises a first actuation button and a second actuation button, wherein, in the primary operating mode, the first actuation button is configured to actuate a first energy level and the second actuation button is configured to actuate a second energy level, and wherein, in the secondary operating mode, the first actuation button comprises a first cursor button and the second actuation button comprises a second cursor button.
9. A surgical system, comprising:
an imaging system comprising a camera and a display screen; and
a surgical device configured to effect a surgical function, wherein the surgical device comprises a control circuit comprising a processor and a memory communicatively coupled to the processor, the memory storing instructions executable by the processor to:
receive an input signal;
in response to the input signal, switch between a first operational mode and a second operational mode;
in the first operational mode, actuate the surgical function; and
in the second operational mode, control the display screen.
10. The surgical system of claim 9, wherein the surgical device is configured to control the display screen through a surgical barrier.
11. The surgical system of claim 9, wherein the display screen comprises a video monitor in an operating room, and wherein the surgical device comprises a laparoscopic device comprising an end effector positioned in a patient in the operating room.
12. The surgical system of claim 11, wherein the camera is configured to track the end effector in the patient.
13. The surgical system of claim 12, wherein, in the second operational mode, the end effector is configured to interact with one or more icons on the video monitor as a cursor.
14. The surgical system of claim 12, wherein, in the second operational mode, the end effector is configured to interact as a cursor with a video feed on the video monitor.
15. The surgical system of claim 9, wherein the surgical device comprises a handle comprising an input switch movable between a first position and a second position, and wherein the first position corresponds to the first operational mode and the second position corresponds to the second operational mode.
16. The surgical system of claim 9, wherein the control circuit is configured to toggle between the first operational mode and the second operational mode in response to an audible command by a clinician.
17. A non-transitory computer readable medium storing computer readable instructions which, when executed, causes a surgical system to:
receive an input signal;
in response to the input signal, switch between a first operational mode and a second operational mode;
in the first operational mode, actuate a surgical function; and
in the second operational mode, interact with a display screen through a surgical barrier.
18. The non-transitory computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein the surgical system is configured to interact with the display screen through the surgical barrier by clicking on an icon on the display screen.
19. The non-transitory computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein the surgical system is configured to interact with the display screen through the surgical barrier by dragging and dropping an icon on the display screen.
20. The non-transitory computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein the surgical system is configured to interact with the display screen through the surgical barrier by selecting a portion of a video.

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摘要(译)

公开了一种手术系统组件。手术系统组件包括第一手术系统和连接到第一手术系统的第二手术系统。第二手术系统包括控制电路。控制电路被配置为在第一模式或第二模式下操作，并且当第二手术系统处于第二模式时控制第一手术系统的一个或多个功能。

