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(54) Title: CAMERA STAND HAVING MULTIPLE DEGREES OF FREEDOM OF MOTION

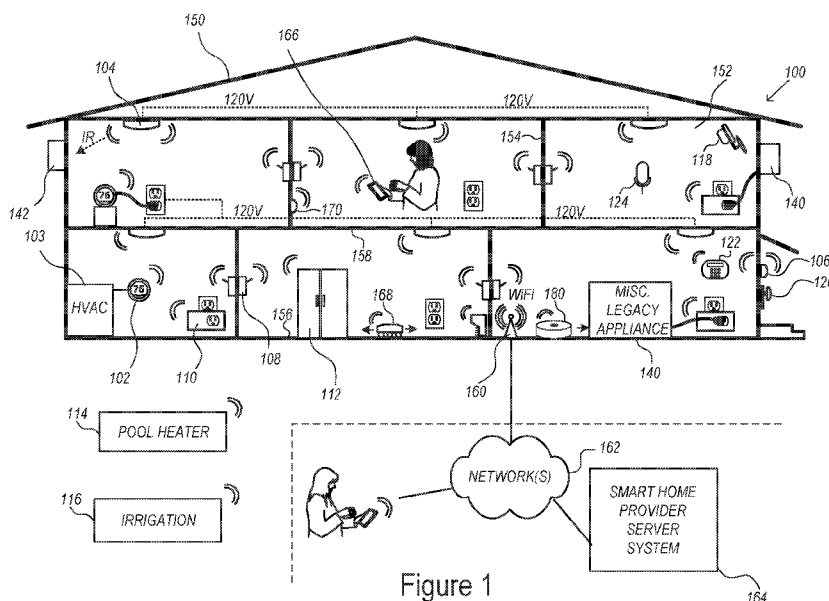


Figure 1

(57) Abstract: This application discloses a stand assembly that includes a receiving element for physically receiving a module, and a base assembly for supporting the receiving element. The receiving element further includes a module holding structure, an extended portion, and a first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion. The base assembly includes a base, and a second fastener structure coupled to the base at a joint and configured to mate with the first fastener structure. The first fastener structure and the joint are configured to respectively provide at least a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base.

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Camera Stand Having Multiple Degrees of Freedom of Motion

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0001] This relates generally to an assembly, including but not limited to methods and systems for mechanically supporting an electronic device and providing one or more degrees of freedom of motion to the electronic device.

BACKGROUND

[0002] A smart home environment is created at a venue by integrating a plurality of smart devices, including intelligent, multi-sensing, network-connected devices, seamlessly with each other in a local area network and/or with a central server or a cloud-computing system to provide a variety of useful smart home functions. Sometimes, the smart home environment includes one or more network-connected cameras that are configured to provide video monitoring and security in the smart home environment. These smart devices (e.g., the network-connected cameras) are normally placed on surfaces or mounted on walls at different locations of the smart home environment. As such, each smart device must include a base that could match and come into contact with different types of surfaces including a desktop, the wall or other surfaces. It would be beneficial to mechanically couple a smart device to its base in a compact and robust manner, while maintaining at least one or more degrees of freedom of motion for the smart device.

SUMMARY

[0003] Accordingly, there is a need for a compact and robust stand assembly that can support an electronic device and provide one or more degrees of freedom of motion to the electronic device. In various implementations of this application, a module (i.e., an electronic device) is mounted on a stand assembly that further includes a receiving element and a base assembly. The receiving element physically receives the module and is mechanically coupled to the base assembly using matching fastener structures. The base assembly further includes a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface, and a joint where one of the matching fastener structures is located. The matching fastener structures and the joint of the stand are configured to provide two independent degrees of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base of the base assembly.

[0004] In accordance with one aspect of this application, a stand assembly includes a receiving element for physically receiving a module, and a base assembly for supporting the receiving element. The receiving element further includes a module holding structure configured to hold the module, an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure, and a first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion located opposite another end of the extended portion that extends from the module holding structure. The base assembly further includes a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface, and a second fastener structure coupled to the base at a joint, and the second fastener structure is configured to mate with the first fastener structure. The first fastener structure and the joint are configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, respectively. The movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion, and the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a second full range of motion associated with the second degree of freedom.

[0005] In accordance with another aspect of this application, a stand assembly includes a receiving element for physically receiving a module, and a base assembly for supporting the receiving element. The receiving element further includes a module holding structure configured to hold the module, an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure, and a first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion located opposite another end of the extended portion that extends from the module holding structure. The base assembly further includes a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface, and a second fastener structure coupled to the base at a joint, and the second fastener structure is configured to mate with the first fastener structure. The first fastener structure and the joint are configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, respectively. The movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, and the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom is limited in a direction of travel associated with the second degree of freedom.

[0006] In some implementations, the first degree of freedom is associated with a reverse direction of travel that is opposite to the first direction of travel associated with the

unlimited movement at the first degree of freedom, and the first and second fastener structures are unfastened when the receiving element moves with respect to the base assembly in the reverse direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom.

[0007] In accordance with an aspect of this application, a method of packaging an assembly includes providing a base assembly that includes a base and a second fastener structure. The second fastener structure is coupled to the base at a joint. The method of packaging the assembly further includes attaching to the base assembly a receiving element that is configured to physically receive a module and includes a first fastener structure. Attaching to the base assembly the receiving element further includes tightening the first fastener structure onto the second fastener structure until the first fastener structure reaches a tightened position. The first fastener structure of the receiving element and the joint of the base assembly are configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base assembly, respectively. The method of packaging the assembly further includes after determining that the first fastener structure reaches the tightened position, rotating the receiving element reversely at the first degree of freedom of motion by a first angle to orient the receiving element to a nominal position. At the nominal position, the receiving element and the module received thereby are configured to face substantially up when they are flipped down via the joint at the second degree of freedom of motion

[0008] In accordance with another aspect of this application, a method of packaging an assembly includes providing a base assembly that includes a base and a second fastener structure. The second fastener structure is coupled to the base at a joint. The method of packaging the assembly further includes attaching to the base assembly a receiving element that is configured to physically receive a module and includes a first fastener structure. The first fastener structure is configured to mate with the second fastener structure and provide a first degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, and the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom of motion. The joint is configured to provide a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base. The method of packaging the assembly further includes rotating the receiving element along the first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom until the receiving element reaches a nominal position. At the nominal position, the

receiving element and the module received thereby are configured to face substantially up when they are flipped down via the joint at the second degree of freedom of motion.

[0009] In accordance with one aspect of this application, a stand assembly includes a receiving element for physically receiving a module, and a base assembly for supporting the receiving element. The receiving element further includes a module holding structure configured to hold the module, an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure, and a first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion located opposite another end of the extended portion that extends from the module holding structure. The base assembly further includes a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface, and a second fastener structure coupled to the base at a joint, and the second fastener structure is configured to mate with the first fastener structure. The first fastener structure and the joint are configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, respectively. The movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion, and the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a second full range of motion associated with the second degree of freedom.

[0010] In accordance with another aspect of this application, a stand assembly includes a receiving element for physically receiving a module, and a base assembly for supporting the receiving element. The receiving element further includes a module holding structure configured to hold the module, an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure, and a first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion located opposite another end of the extended portion that extends from the module holding structure. The base assembly further includes a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface, and a second fastener structure coupled to the base at a joint, and the second fastener structure is configured to mate with the first fastener structure. The first fastener structure and the joint are configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, respectively. The movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, and the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom is limited in a direction of travel associated with the second degree of freedom.

[0011] In some implementations, the first degree of freedom is associated with a reverse direction of travel that is opposite to the first direction of travel associated with the unlimited movement at the first degree of freedom, and the first and second fastener structures are unfastened when the receiving element moves with respect to the base assembly in the reverse direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom.

[0012] In accordance with an aspect of this application, a method of packaging an assembly includes providing a base assembly that includes a base and a second fastener structure. The second fastener structure is coupled to the base at a joint. The method of packaging the assembly further includes attaching to the base assembly a receiving element that is configured to physically receive a module and includes a first fastener structure. Attaching to the base assembly the receiving element further includes tightening the first fastener structure onto the second fastener structure until the first fastener structure reaches a tightened position. The first fastener structure of the receiving element and the joint of the base assembly are configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base assembly, respectively. The method of packaging the assembly further includes after determining that the first fastener structure reaches the tightened position, rotating the receiving element reversely at the first degree of freedom of motion by a first angle to orient the receiving element to a nominal position. At the nominal position, the receiving element and the module received thereby are configured to face substantially up when they are flipped down via the joint at the second degree of freedom of motion

[0013] In accordance with another aspect of this application, a method of packaging an assembly includes providing a base assembly that includes a base and a second fastener structure. The second fastener structure is coupled to the base at a joint. The method of packaging the assembly further includes attaching to the base assembly a receiving element that is configured to physically receive a module and includes a first fastener structure. The first fastener structure is configured to mate with the second fastener structure and provide a first degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, and the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom of motion. The joint is configured to provide a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base. The method of packaging the assembly further includes rotating the receiving element along the first direction of travel associated with the first degree of

freedom until the receiving element reaches a nominal position. At the nominal position, the receiving element and the module received thereby are configured to face substantially up when they are flipped down via the joint at the second degree of freedom of motion.

[0014] In accordance with one aspect of this application, a stand assembly includes a receiving element for physically receiving a module, and a base assembly for supporting the receiving element. The receiving element further includes a module holding structure configured to hold the module, an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure, and a first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion located opposite another end of the extended portion that extends from the module holding structure. The base assembly further includes a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface, and a second fastener structure coupled to the base at a joint, and the second fastener structure is configured to mate with the first fastener structure. The first fastener structure and the joint are configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, respectively. The movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion, and the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a second full range of motion associated with the second degree of freedom.

[0015] In accordance with another aspect of this application, a stand assembly includes a receiving element for physically receiving a module, and a base assembly for supporting the receiving element. The receiving element further includes a module holding structure configured to hold the module, an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure, and a first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion located opposite another end of the extended portion that extends from the module holding structure. The base assembly further includes a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface, and a second fastener structure coupled to the base at a joint, and the second fastener structure is configured to mate with the first fastener structure. The first fastener structure and the joint are configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, respectively. The movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, and the movement of the

receiving element at the second degree of freedom is limited in a direction of travel associated with the second degree of freedom.

[0016] In some implementations, the first degree of freedom is associated with a reverse direction of travel that is opposite to the first direction of travel associated with the unlimited movement at the first degree of freedom, and the first and second fastener structures are unfastened when the receiving element moves with respect to the base assembly in the reverse direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom.

[0017] In accordance with an aspect of this application, a method of packaging an assembly includes providing a base assembly that includes a base and a second fastener structure. The second fastener structure is coupled to the base at a joint. The method of packaging the assembly further includes attaching to the base assembly a receiving element that is configured to physically receive a module and includes a first fastener structure. Attaching to the base assembly the receiving element further includes tightening the first fastener structure onto the second fastener structure until the first fastener structure reaches a tightened position. The first fastener structure of the receiving element and the joint of the base assembly are configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base assembly, respectively. The method of packaging the assembly further includes after determining that the first fastener structure reaches the tightened position, rotating the receiving element reversely at the first degree of freedom of motion by a first angle to orient the receiving element to a nominal position. At the nominal position, the receiving element and the module received thereby are configured to face substantially up when they are flipped down via the joint at the second degree of freedom of motion

[0018] In accordance with another aspect of this application, a method of packaging an assembly includes providing a base assembly that includes a base and a second fastener structure. The second fastener structure is coupled to the base at a joint. The method of packaging the assembly further includes attaching to the base assembly a receiving element that is configured to physically receive a module and includes a first fastener structure. The first fastener structure is configured to mate with the second fastener structure and provide a first degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, and the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom of motion. The joint is configured to provide a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with

respect to the base. The method of packaging the assembly further includes rotating the receiving element along the first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom until the receiving element reaches a nominal position. At the nominal position, the receiving element and the module received thereby are configured to face substantially up when they are flipped down via the joint at the second degree of freedom of motion.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0019] For a better understanding of the various described implementations, reference should be made to the Description of Implementations below, in conjunction with the following drawings in which like reference numerals refer to corresponding parts throughout the figures.

[0020] Figure 1 is an example smart home environment in accordance with some implementations.

[0021] Figure 2A is a perspective view of a camera assembly that includes a stand assembly and a camera module in accordance with some implementations.

[0022] Figure 2B is a block diagram of a camera assembly shown in Figure 2A in accordance with some implementations.

[0023] Figures 3A-3D illustrate a perspective view, a front view, a rear view and a side view of a camera module in accordance with some implementations, respectively.

[0024] Figure 4A is a perspective view of a stand assembly for supporting a module (e.g., a camera module) in accordance with some implementations.

[0025] Figure 4B illustrates a stand assembly that is decoupled to a receiving element and a base assembly in accordance with some implementations.

[0026] Figure 4C illustrates a stand assembly that includes fastener structures for mechanically coupling a receiving element to a base assembly in accordance with some implementations.

[0027] Figure 5 is an exploded view of a stand assembly for supporting a sensor module in accordance with some implementations.

[0028] Figures 6A-6F illustrate three positions of a receiving element when the receiving element is twisted with respect to a base assembly at a first degree of freedom of motion in accordance with some implementation.

[0029] Figure 7A is a side view of a stand assembly in accordance with some implementations.

[0030] Figure 7B is a cross sectional view of cross section A-A' of the stand assembly shown in Figure 7A.

[0031] Figure 7C is an enlarged view of two fastener structures that couple a receiving element to a base assembly in the stand assembly shown in Figures 7A and 7B in accordance with some implementations.

[0032] Figures 7D, 7E and 7F illustrate an exploded view, a cross-sectional view (cross section A-A'), and a side view of a joint of a stand assembly shown in Figure 7B in accordance with some implementations, respectively.

[0033] Figure 8A illustrates another exemplary stand assembly in which movement of a receiving element with respect to a base assembly is unlimited in a direction of travel associated with a first degree of freedom of motion in accordance with some implementations.

[0034] Figure 8B is an exploded view of a receiving element that has an unlimited movement range in a direction of travel associated with a first degree of freedom of motion as shown in Figure 8A in accordance with some implementations.

[0035] Figure 8C is a cross sectional view of fastener structures of a stand assembly that enable an unlimited movement range in a direction of travel associated with a first degree of freedom of motion as shown in Figure 8A in accordance with some implementations.

[0036] Figure 9A illustrate another exemplary stand assembly in which movement of a receiving element with respect to a base assembly is limited at a second degree of freedom of motion in accordance with some implementations.

[0037] Figure 9B is an exploded view of a joint that is assembled onto a hinge carrier to provide to a receiving element a limited movement range at a second degree of freedom of motion shown in Figure 9A in accordance with some implementations.

[0038] Figures 10A and 10B illustrate a process for assembling a stand assembly in accordance with some implementations.

[0039] Figure 11 is an exploded view of a stand assembly that includes a magnet plate in its base assembly in accordance with some implementations.

[0040] Figure 12A illustrates a mount structure or mounting a stand assembly onto a mounting surface in accordance with some implementations.

[0041] Figure 12B illustrates another exemplary mount structure onto which a detachable foam plate is attached in accordance with some implementations.

[0042] Figure 12C is an exploded view of a stand assembly, a detachable foam plate and a mount structure in accordance with some implementations.

[0043] Figure 13A is an exploded view of a stand assembly, a cable guide ring and a mount structure that function together to support a module on a mounting surface in accordance with some implementations.

[0044] Figure 13B illustrates another mount structure in accordance with some implementations.

[0045] Figure 13C illustrates a cable guide ring in accordance with some implementations.

[0046] Figure 14A is a top view of a camera assembly in which a receiving element and a camera module 204 mounted thereon are packaged in accordance with some implementations.

[0047] Figures 14B-14F illustrate a packaging process for packaging a camera assembly as shown in Figure 14A and its accessories in a multilayer shipping package in accordance with some implementations.

[0048] Figure 15 illustrates a receiving element that is mechanically coupled on a standard tripod in accordance with some implementations.

[0049] Figure 16 is a flow chart of a method for packaging a stand assembly configured to support a module (e.g., a camera module) in accordance with some implementations.

[0050] Figure 17 is a flow chart of another exemplary method for packaging a stand assembly configured for supporting a module (e.g., a camera module) in accordance with some implementations.

[0051] Like reference numerals refer to corresponding parts throughout the several views of the drawings.

DESCRIPTION OF IMPLEMENTATIONS

[0052] In accordance with various implementations of the present invention, a stand assembly is applied to support an electronic device at different locations in a smart home

environment. The electronic device includes, but is not limited to, a surveillance camera, a microphone, a speaker, a thermostat, a hazard detector, or other types of smart devices. The stand assembly includes a receiving element for physically receiving the electronic device, and a base assembly for supporting the receiving element and the electronic device mounted thereon. The stand assembly is configured to provide at least two degrees of freedom of motion such that the receiving element and the electronic device mounted thereon can be oriented differently with respect to the base assembly. In some implementations, the two degrees of freedom of motion allow the receiving element and the electronic device mounted thereon to flip down and lie substantially in parallel with a bottom surface of the base assembly, and therefore, the stand assembly and the electronic device can be packaged within a shipping box in a compact, reliable and consistent manner. Also, such consistent packaging ensures that the electronic device when removed from a package will provide an optimal and consistent range of adjustability to reduce customer frustration and improve likelihood of customer success with the product. Further, in some implementations, the stand assembly offers a high aesthetic level in product design by hiding fastener structures used to assemble the stand assembly and rendering them structurally invisible to a user of the electronic device.

[0053] Figure 1 is an example smart home environment 100 in accordance with some implementations. The smart home environment 100 includes a structure 150 (e.g., a house, office building, garage, or mobile home) with various integrated devices. It will be appreciated that devices may also be integrated into a smart home environment 100 that does not include an entire structure 150, such as an apartment, condominium, or office space. Further, the smart home environment 100 may control and/or be coupled to devices outside of the actual structure 150. Indeed, several devices in the smart home environment 100 need not be physically within the structure 150. For example, a device controlling a pool heater 114 or irrigation system 116 may be located outside of the structure 150.

[0054] The depicted structure 150 includes a plurality of rooms 152, separated at least partly from each other via walls 154. The walls 154 may include interior walls or exterior walls. Each room may further include a floor 156 and a ceiling 158. Devices may be mounted on, integrated with and/or supported by a wall 154, floor 156 or ceiling 158.

[0055] In some implementations, the integrated devices of the smart home environment 100 include intelligent, multi-sensing, network-connected devices that integrate seamlessly with each other in a smart home network and/or with a central server or a cloud-computing system to provide a variety of useful smart home functions. The smart home

environment 100 may include one or more intelligent, multi-sensing, network-connected thermostats 102 (hereinafter referred to as “smart thermostats 102”), one or more intelligent, network-connected, multi-sensing hazard detection units 104 (hereinafter referred to as “smart hazard detectors 104”), one or more intelligent, multi-sensing, network-connected entryway interface devices 106 and 120 (hereinafter referred to as “smart doorbells 106” and “smart door locks 120”), and one or more intelligent, multi-sensing, network-connected alarm systems 122 (hereinafter referred to as “smart alarm systems 122”).

[0056] In some implementations, the one or more smart thermostats 102 detect ambient climate characteristics (e.g., temperature and/or humidity) and control a HVAC system 103 accordingly. For example, a respective smart thermostat 102 includes an ambient temperature sensor.

[0057] The one or more smart hazard detectors 104 may include thermal radiation sensors directed at respective heat sources (e.g., a stove, oven, other appliances, a fireplace, etc.). For example, a smart hazard detector 104 in a kitchen 153 includes a thermal radiation sensor directed at a stove/oven 112. A thermal radiation sensor may determine the temperature of the respective heat source (or a portion thereof) at which it is directed and may provide corresponding blackbody radiation data as output.

[0058] The smart doorbell 106 and/or the smart door lock 120 may detect a person’s approach to or departure from a location (e.g., an outer door), control doorbell/door locking functionality (e.g., receive user inputs from a portable electronic device 166-1 to actuate bolt of the smart door lock 120), announce a person’s approach or departure via audio or visual means, and/or control settings on a security system (e.g., to activate or deactivate the security system when occupants go and come).

[0059] The smart alarm system 122 may detect the presence of an individual within close proximity (e.g., using built-in IR sensors), sound an alarm (e.g., through a built-in speaker, or by sending commands to one or more external speakers), and send notifications to entities or users within/outside of the smart home network 100. In some implementations, the smart alarm system 122 also includes one or more input devices or sensors (e.g., keypad, biometric scanner, NFC transceiver, microphone) for verifying the identity of a user, and one or more output devices (e.g., display, speaker). In some implementations, the smart alarm system 122 may also be set to an “armed” mode, such that detection of a trigger condition or event causes the alarm to be sounded unless a disarming action is performed.

[0060] In some implementations, the smart home environment 100 includes one or more intelligent, multi-sensing, network-connected wall switches 108 (hereinafter referred to as “smart wall switches 108”), along with one or more intelligent, multi-sensing, network-connected wall plug interfaces 110 (hereinafter referred to as “smart wall plugs 110”). The smart wall switches 108 may detect ambient lighting conditions, detect room-occupancy states, and control a power and/or dim state of one or more lights. In some instances, smart wall switches 108 may also control a power state or speed of a fan, such as a ceiling fan. The smart wall plugs 110 may detect occupancy of a room or enclosure and control supply of power to one or more wall plugs (e.g., such that power is not supplied to the plug if nobody is at home).

[0061] In some implementations, the smart home environment 100 of Figure 1 includes a plurality of intelligent, multi-sensing, network-connected appliances 112 (hereinafter referred to as “smart appliances 112”), such as refrigerators, stoves, ovens, televisions, washers, dryers, lights, stereos, intercom systems, garage-door openers, floor fans, ceiling fans, wall air conditioners, pool heaters, irrigation systems, security systems, space heaters, window AC units, motorized duct vents, and so forth. In some implementations, when plugged in, an appliance may announce itself to the smart home network, such as by indicating what type of appliance it is, and it may automatically integrate with the controls of the smart home. Such communication by the appliance to the smart home may be facilitated by either a wired or wireless communication protocol. The smart home may also include a variety of non-communicating legacy appliances 140, such as old conventional washer/dryers, refrigerators, and the like, which may be controlled by smart wall plugs 110. The smart home environment 100 may further include a variety of partially communicating legacy appliances 142, such as infrared (“IR”) controlled wall air conditioners or other IR-controlled devices, which may be controlled by IR signals provided by the smart hazard detectors 104 or the smart wall switches 108.

[0062] In some implementations, the smart home environment 100 includes one or more network-connected cameras 118 that are configured to provide video monitoring and security in the smart home environment 100. The cameras 118 may be used to determine occupancy of the structure 150 and/or particular rooms 152 in the structure 150, and thus may act as occupancy sensors. For example, video captured by the cameras 118 may be processed to identify the presence of an occupant in the structure 150 (e.g., in a particular room 152). Specific individuals may be identified based, for example, on their appearance (e.g., height,

face) and/or movement (e.g., their walk/gait). Cameras 118 may additionally include one or more sensors (e.g., IR sensors, motion detectors), input devices (e.g., microphone for capturing audio), and output devices (e.g., speaker for outputting audio).

[0063] Alternatively, in some implementations, the smart home environment 100 includes one or more network-connected microphone device 124 that are configured to capture audio and provide security functions in the smart home environment 100. Optionally, the microphone device 124 is a stand-alone device that is not included in any other smart device, and can be regarded as a type of smart home device in this application. Optionally, the microphone device 124 is part of another client device 502 or another smart electronic device other than the cameras 118. The microphone device 124 may be used to determine occupancy of the structure 150 and/or particular rooms 152 in the structure 150, and thus may act as occupancy sensors. Specifically, audio captured by the microphone device 124 may be processed to identify the presence of an occupant in the structure 150 (e.g., in a particular room 152). Specific individuals may be identified based, for example, on characteristic of their voices.

[0064] In some implementations, audio captured by the microphones in the cameras 118 or the microphone device 124 may also be processed to identify audio features (e.g., a baby sound), and relevant signature events (e.g., a baby cry event) when the audio features meet predetermined criteria.

[0065] The smart home environment 100 may additionally or alternatively include one or more other occupancy sensors (e.g., the smart doorbell 106, smart door locks 120, touch screens, IR sensors, microphones, ambient light sensors, motion detectors, smart nightlights 170, etc.). In some implementations, the smart home environment 100 includes radio-frequency identification (RFID) readers (e.g., in each room 152 or a portion thereof) that determine occupancy based on RFID tags located on or embedded in occupants. For example, RFID readers may be integrated into the smart hazard detectors 104.

[0066] The smart home environment 100 may also include communication with devices outside of the physical home but within a proximate geographical range of the home. For example, the smart home environment 100 may include a pool heater monitor 114 that communicates a current pool temperature to other devices within the smart home environment 100 and/or receives commands for controlling the pool temperature. Similarly, the smart home environment 100 may include an irrigation monitor 116 that communicates

information regarding irrigation systems within the smart home environment 100 and/or receives control information for controlling such irrigation systems.

[0067] By virtue of network connectivity, one or more of the smart home devices of Figure 1 may further allow a user to interact with the device even if the user is not proximate to the device. For example, a user may communicate with a device using a computer (e.g., a desktop computer, laptop computer, or tablet) or other portable electronic device 166 (e.g., a mobile phone, such as a smart phone). A webpage or application may be configured to receive communications from the user and control the device based on the communications and/or to present information about the device's operation to the user. For example, the user may view a current set point temperature for a device (e.g., a stove) and adjust it using a computer. The user may be in the structure during this remote communication or outside the structure.

[0068] As discussed above, users may control smart devices in the smart home environment 100 using a network-connected computer or portable electronic device 166. In some examples, some or all of the occupants (e.g., individuals who live in the home) may register their device 166 with the smart home environment 100. Such registration may be made at a central server to authenticate the occupant and/or the device as being associated with the home and to give permission to the occupant to use the device to control the smart devices in the home. An occupant may use their registered device 166 to remotely control the smart devices of the home, such as when the occupant is at work or on vacation. The occupant may also use their registered device to control the smart devices when the occupant is actually located inside the home, such as when the occupant is sitting on a couch inside the home. It should be appreciated that instead of or in addition to registering devices 166, the smart home environment 100 may make inferences about which individuals live in the home and are therefore occupants and which devices 166 are associated with those individuals. As such, the smart home environment may "learn" who is an occupant and permit the devices 166 associated with those individuals to control the smart devices of the home.

[0069] In some implementations, in addition to containing processing and sensing capabilities, devices 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122 and/or 124 (collectively referred to as "the smart devices") are capable of data communications and information sharing with other smart devices, a central server or cloud-computing system, and/or other devices that are network-connected. Data communications may be carried out using any of a variety of custom or standard wireless protocols (e.g., IEEE 802.15.4, Wi-Fi,

ZigBee, 6LoWPAN, Thread, Z-Wave, Bluetooth Smart, ISA100.11a, WirelessHART, MiWi, etc.) and/or any of a variety of custom or standard wired protocols (e.g., Ethernet, HomePlug, etc.), or any other suitable communication protocol, including communication protocols not yet developed as of the filing date of this document.

[0070] In some implementations, the smart devices serve as wireless or wired repeaters. In some implementations, a first one of the smart devices communicates with a second one of the smart devices via a wireless router. The smart devices may further communicate with each other via a connection (e.g., network interface 160) to a network, such as the Internet 162. Through the Internet 162, the smart devices may communicate with a smart home provider server system 164 (also called a central server system and/or a cloud-computing system herein). The smart home provider server system 164 may be associated with a manufacturer, support entity, or service provider associated with the smart device(s). In some implementations, a user is able to contact customer support using a smart device itself rather than needing to use other communication means, such as a telephone or Internet-connected computer. In some implementations, software updates are automatically sent from the smart home provider server system 164 to smart devices (e.g., when available, when purchased, or at routine intervals).

[0071] In some implementations, the network interface 160 includes a conventional network device (e.g., a router), and the smart home environment 100 of Figure 1 includes a hub device 180 that is communicatively coupled to the network(s) 162 directly or via the network interface 160. The hub device 180 is further communicatively coupled to one or more of the above intelligent, multi-sensing, network-connected devices (e.g., smart devices of the smart home environment 100). Each of these smart devices optionally communicates with the hub device 180 using one or more radio communication networks available at least in the smart home environment 100 (e.g., ZigBee, Z-Wave, Insteon, Bluetooth, Wi-Fi and other radio communication networks). In some implementations, the hub device 180 and devices coupled with/to the hub device can be controlled and/or interacted with via an application running on a smart phone, household controller, laptop, tablet computer, game console or similar electronic device. In some implementations, a user of such controller application can view status of the hub device or coupled smart devices, configure the hub device to interoperate with smart devices newly introduced to the home network, commission new smart devices, and adjust or view settings of connected smart devices, etc. In some implementations the hub device extends capabilities of low capability smart device to match

capabilities of the highly capable smart devices of the same type, integrates functionality of multiple different device types – even across different communication protocols, and is configured to streamline adding of new devices and commissioning of the hub device.

[0072] Figure 2A is a perspective view of a camera assembly 200 that includes a stand assembly 202 and a camera module 204 in accordance with some implementations, and Figure 2B is a block diagram of a camera assembly 200 shown in Figure 2A in accordance with some implementations. Referring to Figure 2B, the stand assembly 202 includes a receiving element 206 for receiving the camera module 204, and a base assembly 208 for supporting the receiving element 206. The base assembly 208 includes a base 210 shaped to rest against a supporting surface, and a joint 212 coupled at the base 210.

[0073] The receiving element 206 further includes a module holding structure 214 that is configured to hold the camera module 204 (Figure 2A). Specifically, in some implementations, the module holding structure 214 includes a cutout opening that has a shape conforming to a contour of the camera module 204, and is configured to hold the camera module 204 when the module is inserted within the cutout opening 204. Alternatively, in some implementations, the cutout opening has a non-conforming shape that is distinct from that associated with the contour of the camera module 204, and the camera module 204 is configured to fit within the non-conforming shape of the cutout opening when the module is inserted within the cutout opening 204. For example, the camera module 204 has a circular contour, and the cutout opening of the module holding structure 214 is associated with a polygon (e.g., a square, a pentagon, a hexagon, etc.) into which the circular contour can fit. In some implementations, the camera module 204 is held onto the receiving element 206 by one or more module fasteners 216 (e.g., a snap). When the module fasteners 216 are depressed, the camera module 204 is removed from the cutout opening of the receiving element 206.

[0074] Referring to Figure 2A, the receiving element 206 and the camera module 204 held thereon have at least two degrees of freedom of motion with respect to the base assembly 208. In accordance with a first degree of freedom of motion, the receiving element 206 and the camera module 204 can be rotated or twisted around a twisting axis 218 that passes through the receiving element 204 and is perpendicular to a planar surface of the base 210 (e.g., a bottom surface of the base 210). In accordance with a second degree of freedom of motion, the receiving element 206 and the camera module 204 can be flipped around a flipping axis 220 that passes through a joint 212 and is laid substantially in parallel to the planar surface of the base 210. In some implementations, when the camera module 204 is

held onto the receiving element 206 by the module fasteners 216, it is configured to rotate within the cutout opening around a self rotation axis 222 that passes through a center of the camera module 204.

[0075] Optionally, the camera assembly 200 is placed on a desktop surface and sits on the bottom surface of the base 210 of the stand assembly 202. Optionally, the camera assembly 200 further includes a mount structure 224 for mounting the camera assembly 200 onto an alternative mounting surface. An example of the mount structure 224 is a wall mount that is configured to be fixed on a wall surface. When the base assembly 208 of the stand assembly 202 is attached to the mount structure 224, the camera is anchored at the location where the mount structure is fixed. In some implementations, the base assembly 208 and the mount structure 224 are attached to each other by a magnetic attraction force. The base assembly 208 can be rotated freely about its central axis with respect to the mounting structure 224 and can be fixed in place at any angle of rotation with respect to the mounting structure 224 (e.g., by using magnetic attraction as described herein, an adhesive, or mechanical attachment).

[0076] Further, in some implementations, the mount structure 224 includes a cable guide structure 226 that is arranged on the edge of the mount structure 224. The cable guide structure 226 is configured to guide a cable 250 or 252 that electrically couples the camera module 204 received in the receiving element 206 to an external power supply 228 or another electronic device 242 (e.g., a computational machine). The camera module 204 is configured to receive power and data from the external power supply 228 and the electronic device 242 using the cables 250 and 252. Alternatively, in some implementations, power is provided by a cable 250, while data is provided wirelessly.

[0077] In accordance with various implementations of the application, the camera module 204 includes one or more of a camera lens 230, image sensors 232, a microphone 234, a speaker 236, wireless transceiver circuit 238 and one or more antennas 240. In some implementations, the camera module 204 includes an HD (e.g., 720p, 1080p, or higher) camera made of the camera lens 230 and one or more high definition image sensors 232. In some implementations, the camera module 204 includes a microphone and a speaker, such that a person reviewing a live video feed from the camera module 204 can talk in-real to someone being filmed by the camera module 204. In some implementations, the camera module 204 includes a connection port (e.g., female adapter) to which a connection plug (e.g., male adapter) is able to be coupled to supply power or transfer data. For example, the

connection port includes a Universal Serial Bus (USB) port, and is used as an input/output interface via which information about a Wi-Fi network is supplied to the camera module 204 (e.g., the name and password of the Wi-Fi network, an encryption key, etc.). Other examples of the connection port include, but are not limited to, an Ethernet port, a High-Definition Multimedia Interface (HDMI) port, and a Power-over-Ethernet (PoE) port. More details on the geometries, the components and the functions of the camera module 204 are explained below with reference to Figures 3A-3D.

[0078] In some implementations, the camera module 204 includes a Wi-Fi antenna and a Wi-Fi transceiver for communicating data (e.g., multimedia data captured by the camera module 204) over a wireless local area network. In some implementations, the camera module 204 includes a Bluetooth antenna and a Bluetooth transceiver coupled to the Bluetooth antenna. The Bluetooth antenna is used to enable communication with a client device (e.g., a mobile phone) for the purposes of provisioning the camera module 204. In some implementations, the camera module 204 includes a radio antenna and a radio transceiver coupled to the radio antenna. The radio antenna transmits and receives signals according to the IEEE 802.15.4 specifications, and is configured to facilitate communication between the camera module 204 and other smart home devices (e.g., the hub device 180 and the thermostats 102).

[0079] In some implementations, the camera module 204 is associated with a software application and a related user interface displayed on a client device. The user interface is optionally an Internet browser application (e.g., Microsoft's Internet Explorer or Mozilla Firefox) running on a computer or a dedicated and/or downloaded application running on a smart phone. A user is able to view video captured by the camera module 204 remotely and/or via a network from the Internet browser application or the dedicated and/or downloaded mobile application.

[0080] It is noted that a stand assembly 202 can be configured to support other electronic devices in the smart home environment 100, such as thermostats 102, hazard detectors 104, doorbells 106, wall switches 108, wall plugs 110, pool heater monitor 114, irrigation monitor 116, alarm systems 122, microphone devices 124, and other occupancy sensors (e.g., IR sensors, ambient light sensors, motion detectors, etc.). Specifically, the module holding structure 214 of the stand assembly 202 is configured to match the dimension and geometry of the electronic device supported by the stand assembly 202.

[0081] Figures 3A-3D illustrate a perspective view, a front view, a rear view and a bottom view of a camera module 204 in accordance with some implementations, respectively. In some implementations, the camera module 204 has a circular contour, and the cutout opening of the receiving element 206 therefore has a circular shape conforming to the contour of the camera module 204 for the purposes of holding the camera module 204.

[0082] In some implementations, the camera module 204 includes a status light 302 that is disposed in the proximity of the camera lens for the purposes of indicating whether the camera module 204 is powered on and/or filming. In some situations, when the status light 302 is in the red color, it indicates that the camera module 204 is powered on but not recording video data, and when the status light 302 is in the green color, it indicates that the camera module 204 is recording video data in real-time. When the status light 302 is powered off, it indicates that the camera module 204 is powered off. It is noted that in some implementations, the power and operation statuses of the camera module 204 are indicated by two or more status lights 302 rather than by the color of a single status light 302.

[0083] In some implementations, the camera module 204 further includes an ambient light detector 308 that senses availability or intensity of ambient light. The resulting information is used to control parameters of the camera lens, enhance image processing of a captured image, or enable alternative illumination modes (e.g., an infrared light illumination mode).

[0084] In some implementations, the back of the camera module 204 is carved with a plurality of grooves 304. The grooves increase friction with the camera module 204 and protect it from slipping to the ground, when the camera module 204 is assembled or disassembled onto the stand assembly 202. Further, in some implementations, the microphone 234 or the speaker 236 is embedded under the carved grooves on the back of the camera module 204. In some implementations, the back of the camera module 204 further includes a reset pin 320. When a user of the camera module 204 presses the reset pin 320, the camera module 204 is reset to its original status that it has when it is shipped out of factory.

[0085] Referring to Figure 3D, in some implementations, the bottom of the camera module 204 further includes a connection port 306 to which a connection plug is able to be coupled to supply power or transfer data. For example, the connection port 306 includes one or more of a USB port, an Ethernet port, a HDMI port, and a PoE port. The connection port 306 is used as an input/output interface via which information about the Wi-Fi network is supplied to the camera module 204 (e.g., the name and password of the Wi-Fi network, an

encryption key, etc.). In another example, the connection port 246 connects to a power cable that electrically couples the camera module 204 to an external power supply. In some implementation, the speaker 236 is disposed on the bottom of the camera module 204.

[0086] It is noted that in the above implementations, the microphone 234, the speaker 236, the reset pin 320 and the connection port 306 are arranged on the back or the bottom of the camera module 204 to render a compact form factor. The locations of these components are not limited by the above arrangements, and can be arranged elsewhere, e.g., on the front or the periphery of the camera module 204.

[0087] As shown in Figure 3D, the camera module 204 has a relatively low profile. When it is flipped down around the flipping axis 220 that passes through the joint 212 of the base assembly 208, the back of the camera module 204 can almost reach a desktop surface or a mounting surface against which the base assembly 208 rests. Under these circumstances, the low profile of the camera module 204 results in a large adjustable angle for the camera module 204, and allows the camera module 204 to be packaged in a shipping box in a compact manner.

[0088] Figure 4A is a perspective view of a stand assembly 202 for supporting a module (e.g., a camera module 204) in accordance with some implementations, and Figure 4B illustrates a stand assembly 202 that is decoupled to a receiving element 206 and a base assembly 208 in accordance with some implementations. Further, Figure 4C illustrates a stand assembly 202 that includes fastener structures 404 and 406 for mechanically coupling a receiving element 206 to a base assembly 208 in accordance with some implementations.

[0089] As explained above, the stand assembly 202 includes the receiving element 206 and the base assembly 208. The receiving element 206 includes a module holding structure 214 and an extended portion 402 that extends from the module holding structure 214. In some implementations, the module holding structure 214 is substantially flat. Here, the camera module 204 is removed from the module holding structure 214 of the receiving element 206. The receiving element 206 further includes a first fastener structure 404 coupled to an end of the extended portion 402 located opposite another end of the extended portion 402 that extends from the module holding structure 214. In some implementations, the first fastener structure 404 is entirely hidden inside the extended portion 402 when the receiving element 206 is assembled onto the base assembly 208.

[0090] In addition to the base 210, the base assembly 208 further includes a second fastener structure 406. As shown in Figure 4B, in some implementations, the second fastener structure 406 is coupled to the base 210 of the base assembly 208 at a joint 212. The second fastener structure 406 is configured to mate with the first fastener structure 404. In a specific example, the first fastener structure 404 includes a screw hole, and the second fastener structure 406 includes a screw structure that matches the screw hole of the first fastener structure 404. When the first fastener structure 404 is entirely hidden inside the extended portion 402, both the fastener structures 404 and 406 are structurally invisible to a user when the receiving element 206 is assembled onto the base assembly 208. As such, in some implementations, the first fastener structure 404 associated with the first degree of freedom of motion is structurally invisible to a user of the stand assembly 202, and the joint 212 associated with the second degree of freedom of motion is structurally visible to the user of the stand assembly 202.

[0091] Figure 5 is an exploded view of a stand assembly 202 for supporting a sensor module in accordance with some implementations. As explained above, the stand assembly 202 includes the receiving element 206 and the base assembly 208. The receiving element 206 includes:

- a module holding structure 214 and an extended portion 402 that are made of a piece of material; and
- a first fastener structure 404.

[0092] The base assembly 208 further includes one or more of the following components:

- a base 210;
- a second fastener structure 406;
- one or more joint fasteners 212A-212D for creating a joint 212 at the base 210;
- a hinge carrier 502 where the joint 212 and a magnet plate 504 are mounted;
- the magnet plate 504 that is integrated in the base assembly 208;
- one or more magnet fasteners 506 that fasten the magnet plate 504 to the hinge carrier 502 or the base 210;
- one or more base fasteners 508 that fasten the hinge carrier 502 to the base 210;
- a cover plate 510 that is attached to a bottom surface of the base 210 for sealing the hinge carrier 502 and the magnet plate 504 inside the base assembly 208; and

- one or more rubber patches 512 that are attached to the bottom surface of the base 210 for increasing friction on the bottom surface.

[0093] In various implementations of the applications, the first fastener structure 404 and the joint 212 are configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element 206 with respect to the base 210, respectively. More details on the methods of assembling the first fastener structure 404 and the joint 212 are explained below with reference to Figures 7A-7F, 8A-8C, 9A, and 9B.

[0094] In some implementations, the stand assembly 202 further includes a mount structure 224 that is configured be attached and fixed onto a mounting surface using mount fasteners (e.g., screws). At least part of the mount structure 224 is made of magnetically attractable material, such that the stand assembly 202 can be mounted onto a mounting surface when the base 210 of the base assembly 208 magnetically adheres onto the mount structure 224. Specifically, in some implementations, the mount structure 224 includes:

- a magnetically attractable plate 514 that is configured to adhere to the magnet plate 504 when they are placed in the proximity to or in contact with each other;
- a mount structure 224 that receives the magnetically attractable plate 514 and is configured for being fixed on a mounting surface; and
- one or more mount fasteners 518 that are applied to fasten the mount structure 224 to a mounting surface.

[0095] In some implementations, the stand assembly 202 further includes a detachable foam plate 520. When the detachable foam plate 520 is disposed between the bottom surface of the base 210 and the mount structure 224, the detachable foam plate 520 increases a distance between the magnet plate 504 of the base assembly 208 and the magnetically attractable plate 514 of the mount structure 224, and therefore reduces a magnetic attraction force between the base assembly 208 and the mount structure 224. In some implementations, the magnetic attraction force is relatively large, and it requires a large force to detach the base assembly 208 from the mount structure 224 once they adhere to each other. This detachable foam plate 520 protects the base assembly 208 from magnetically adhering to the mount structure 224 before the mount structure 224 is fixed on a mounting surface, thereby easing the difficulty of handling the stand assembly 202 for a user of the stand assembly 202.

[0096] Figures 6A-6C illustrate three example positions of a receiving element 206 when the receiving element 206 is rotated/twisted with respect to a base assembly 208 at a first degree of freedom of motion in accordance with some implementation. The base 210 includes a planar surface (e.g., a bottom surface) for resting against a supporting surface, and the first degree of freedom of motion is associated with twisting of the receiving element 206 with respect to a twisting axis 218 that passes through the receiving element and is perpendicular to the planar surface of the base 210. The movement of the receiving element 206 at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion. In a specific example, the first part of the first full range of motion is associated with a twisting angle that is substantially equal to 90 degrees. Stated another way, the receiving element 206 has a nominal position (Figure 6B), and is configured to be twisted up to 45 degrees in either the clockwise or counterclockwise direction to reach two end positions (Figures 6A and 6C).

[0097] Figures 6D and 6E illustrate two example end positions of a receiving element 206 when the receiving element 206 is rotated/flipped with respect to a base assembly 208 at a second degree of freedom of motion in accordance with some implementation. The base 210 includes a planar surface (e.g., a bottom surface) for resting against a supporting surface, and the second degree of freedom of motion that is enabled by a joint 212 is associated with rotating/flipping of the receiving element 206 with respect to a flipping axis 220 that passes through the joint 212 and is substantially parallel to the planar surface of the base 210. The movement of the receiving element 206 at the second degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a second full range of motion associated with the second degree of freedom. In a specific example, the receiving element 206 is configured to flip with respect to the flipping axis 220 by an angle that is substantially equal to 180 degrees. Stated another way, the receiving element 206 starts at a nominal position (Figure 6B), and is configured to be flipped up to 90 degrees in either the forward or backward direction to reach two end positions (Figures 6D and 6E).

[0098] In some implementations, the nominal position is reached when the module holding structure 214 of the receiving element 206 is arranged to align in parallel or overlap with both the twisting axis 218 and the flipping axis 220. When the receiving element 206 is flipped at the second degree of freedom of motion to an end position (Figure 6D or 6E), the receiving element 206 and the camera module 204 mounted there on are laid in a substantially flat position, i.e., substantially in parallel with the planar surface of the base 210.

The back of the camera module 204 can almost reach a desktop surface or a mounting surface against which the base assembly 208 rests. Under these circumstances, if the camera module 204 has a low profile, it would obtain a large adjustable angle at the fully flipped end positions, and can also be packaged in a shipping box in a compact manner (see Figures 14A-14F).

[0099] Figure 6F illustrates a receiving element 206 that is both twisted at the first degree of freedom of motion and rotated at the second degree of freedom of motion in accordance with some implementation. Specifically, in this example, the receiving element 206 is twisted by a first twisting angle in a clockwise direction associated with the first degree of freedom of motion, and flipped by a second flipping angle in a backward direction associated with the second degree of freedom of motion. Optionally, both the first twisting angle and the second flipping angle are measured with reference to the nominal position (Figure 6B). Likewise, the clockwise, counterclockwise, forward and backward directions are also described with reference to the nominal position.

[00100] Figure 7A is a side view of a stand assembly 202 in accordance with some implementations, and Figure 7B is a cross sectional view 702 of a cross section A-A' of the stand assembly 202 shown in Figure 7A. Figure 7C is an enlarged view 704 of a region B shown in Figure 7B in accordance with some implementations. The region B includes two fastener structures that couple a receiving element 206 to a base assembly 208 in the stand assembly 202. Figures 7D, 7E and 7F illustrate an exploded view, a cross-sectional view 706 (cross section A-A'), and a side view 708 of a joint 212 of a stand assembly 202 shown in Figure 7B in accordance with some implementations, respectively.

[00101] As explained above, the receiving element 206 is configured to move with respect to the base 210 at the first degree of freedom of motion when the first fastener structure 404 is fastened onto the second fastener structure 406 of the base assembly 208. In accordance with the enlarged view of the two fastener structures (Figure 7C), the first fastener structure 404 of the receiving element 206 further includes a screw hole 710 and a nylon-like bushing 712 coupled at the end of the screw hole 710. The screw hole 710 matches a screw structure 714 of the second fastener structure 406. The screw hole 710 has a predetermined thread length, and provides a second part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure 404 is fastened onto the second fastener structure 406 via the screw hole 710 and the screw structure 714. The nylon-like bushing 712 has a predetermined bushing depth, and provides the first part of the first full range of motion when the first

fastener structure 404 is fastened onto the second fastener structure 406 via the screw hole 710 and the screw structure 714. The second part of the first full range of motion is distinct from the first part of the first full range of motion. As such, the second fastener structure 406 sequentially passes the second part and the first part of the first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion, when it is fastened into the first fastener structure 404 of the receiving element 206.

[00102] In some implementations, the nylon-like bushing has a first coefficient of friction that is associated with the substantially consistent resistance through the first part of the first full range of motion, and the screw hole has a second coefficient of friction that is associated with alternative resistance through the second part of the first full range of motion. The alternative resistance through the second part of the first full range of motion is distinct from the substantially consistent resistance through the first part of the first full range of motion.

[00103] When the second fastener structure 406 is fully tightened into the screw hole 710 and the nylon-like bushing 712 of the first fastener structure 404, the first fastener structure 404 is coupled to the second fastener structure 406 at its tightened position. The tightened position of the first fastener structure 404 is associated with an end position (Figure 6A or 6C) that the receiving element 206 has within the first part of the first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion.

[00104] As shown in Figure 7D, in some implementations, the second fastener structure 406 of the base assembly 208 is flattened to have two substantially flat surfaces, such that it can fit into a base opening slot 716 on the base assembly 208. The second fastener structure 406 includes a screw structure 714 on its top half and a joint hole 718 on its bottom half. While the top half of the second fastener structure 406 is fastened to the first fastener structure 404, the bottom half of the second fastener structure 406 fits into the base opening slot 716 to form the joint 212 that rotates with respect to the joint hole 718.

[00105] In some implementations, a hinge carrier 720 is used as a platform to create a joint 212. The joint 212 includes a plurality of joint fasteners, e.g., a first bushing 212A, a second bushing 212B, a bevel spring stack 212C and a hinge screw 212D. The joint fasteners 212A-212D together fasten the bottom half of the second fastener structure 406 onto the carrier slot 720 of the hinge carrier 502 to form the joint 212. Specifically, the first and second bushings 212A and 212B are disposed on two sides of the second fastener structure 406, and between the respective side of the second fastener structure 406 and the carrier slot

710 of the hinge carrier 502. The first and second bushings 212A and 212B provide side to side location and smooth bearing surfaces for the joint 212. In addition, the bevel spring stack 212C provides positive tension on the hinge screw 212D, and creates frictional resistance and torque around a hinge axis 730 when the hinge screw 212D is tightened through the joint hole 718 and a screw hole 722 on the hinge carrier 502 to form the joint 212. The hinge axis 730 passes through the center of the joint hole 718 on the second fastener structure 406, and substantially overlaps the flipping axis 220 associated with the second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element 206 with respect to the base assembly 208.

[00106] When the hinge carrier 502 is assembled into the base 210, the screw structure 714 of the second fastener structure 406 extends beyond the base opening slot 716. The second fastener structure 406 is configured to rotate around the hinge axis 730 while being constrained within the base opening slot 716. When the screw structure 714 of the second fastener structure 406 is fastened with the first fastener structure 404, the receiving element 206 is mounted onto the base assembly 208, and therefore can rotate or flip with respect to its flipping axis 220 (i.e., the hinge axis 730) to provide the second degree of freedom of motion for a module mounted onto the module holding structure 214.

[00107] Figure 8A illustrates another exemplary stand assembly 202 in which movement of a receiving element 206 with respect to a base assembly 208 is unlimited in a direction of travel associated with a first degree of freedom of motion in accordance with some implementations. Figure 8B is an exploded view of a receiving element 206 that has an unlimited movement range in a direction of travel associated with a first degree of freedom of motion as shown in Figure 8A in accordance with some implementations. Figure 8C is a cross sectional view of fastener structures of a stand assembly 202 that enable an unlimited movement range in a direction of travel associated with a first degree of freedom of motion as shown in Figure 8A in accordance with some implementations.

[00108] The movement of the receiving element 206 at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction (e.g., a clockwise direction) of travel associated with the first degree of freedom. The first degree of freedom is associated with a reverse direction (e.g., a counterclockwise direction) of travel that is opposite to the first direction of travel associated with the unlimited movement at the first degree of freedom, and the first and second fastener structures 404 and 406 are unfastened when the receiving element 206 moves with respect to the base assembly 208 in the reverse direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom. As such, in some implementations, a user of the stand assembly 202 is required to

adjust the orientation of the module mounted onto the receiving element 206 by twisting the receiving element 206 only in the first direction of travel.

[00109] Referring to Figures 8B and 8C, in some implementations, the first fastener structure 404 further includes a shoulder screw 802, a sleeve bushing 804, a spring washer 806, and a collar 808. The collar 808 is fastened inside the sleeve bushing 804 to provide a screw hole that matches a screw structure of the second fastener structure 406. The screw hole of the collar 808 is configured to be tightened onto the screw structure of the second fastener structure 406 along the first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom. When the receiving element 206 moves further along the first direction of travel, the sleeve bushing 804 and the screw hole of the first fastener structure 404 do not move and therefore are fixed with respect to the second fastener structure 406 of the base assembly 208.

[00110] The extended portion 402 of the receiving element 206 includes a thread locker 812 embedded therein, the shoulder screw 802 is configured to lock into place with the thread locker 812 for the purposes of fastening the first fastener structure 404 to the receiving element 206. As such, the first fastener structure 404 is configured to be loosely suspended within the extended portion 402 of the receiving element 206 via the shoulder screw 802. The spring washer 806 is mounted on the top of the sleeve bushing 804. When the first fastener structure 404 is fastened into the extended portion 402, the spring washer 806 can touch the interior wall of the extended portion 402, and compression of the spring washer 806 defines a torque resistance for rotating the receiving element 206 at the first degree of freedom of motion.

[00111] The receiving element 206 further includes a low friction bushing 810 that is attached onto the interior wall of the extended portion 402. In accordance with the unlimited motion in the direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom of motion, the sleeve bushing 804 of the first fastener structure 404 is tightened onto the second fastener structure 406 and rotates against the surface of the low friction bushing 810 inside the extended portion 402. Stated another way, the low friction bushing 810 wraps around the first fastener structure, and rotates as part of the receiving element 206 with respect to the base assembly 208, and with respect to the first fastener structure 404 when the first fastener structure 404 is tightened onto the second fastener structure 406 of the base assembly 208. The torque resistance associated with the rotation is defined by the spring washer 806 mounted on the top of the sleeve bushing 804. Moreover, the low friction bushing 810 is configured to hug the first fastener structure 404 closely, such that the first fastener structure

404 does not wobble inside the extended portion 402 or cause an unstable support for the module mounted on the stand assembly 202. In some implementations, the low friction bushing 810 is made of elastic rubber material.

[00112] In some implementations, the spring washer 806 renders a substantially consistent resistance for the unlimited movement of the receiving element 206 in the first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom of motion. Further, in some implementations, the unlimited movement of the receiving element at the first direction of travel is associated with a first torque resistance optionally created by the spring washer 806, and the first torque resistance is substantially greater than a second torque resistance that is required to unfasten the receiving element from the base assembly in the reverse direction of travel.

[00113] Figure 9A illustrate another exemplary stand assembly 202 in which movement of a receiving element 206 with respect to a base assembly 208 is limited at a second degree of freedom of motion in accordance with some implementations. The second degree of freedom of motion is associated with flipping of the receiving element 206 at a joint 212 of the base assembly 208 with respect to a flipping axis 220, and the flipping axis 220 passes through the joint 212 and is substantially parallel to a planar surface (e.g., a bottom surface) of the base 210. The movement of the receiving element 206 at the second degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a second full range of motion associated with the second degree of freedom. The second full range of motion is limited. In a specific example, the receiving element 206 is configured to flip with respect to the flipping axis 220 by an angle that is substantially equal to 180 degrees. Stated another way, the receiving element 206 starts at a nominal position (e.g., a vertical position shown in Figure 6B), and is configured to be flipped up to 90 degrees in either the forward or backward direction to reach its end positions of a second full range of motion associated with the second degree of freedom of motion.

[00114] Figure 9B is an exploded view of a joint 212 that is assembled onto a hinge carrier 502 to provide to a receiving element 206 a limited movement range at a second degree of freedom of motion shown in Figure 9A in accordance with some implementations. The second fastener structure 406 includes a screw structure 714 on its top half and a collar 902 on its bottom half, and a joint hole 718 is formed on the collar 902. In some implementations, both the screw structure 714 and the collar 902 are flattened to have two substantially flat surfaces, such that they fit into a base opening slot 716 on the base assembly

208. In some implementations as shown in Figure 9B, the screw structure 714 has a screw diameter that fits into the base opening slot 716, while the collar 902 is flattened for fitting into the base opening slot 716. While the top half of the second fastener structure 406 is fastened into the first fastener structure 404, the bottom half of the second fastener structure 406 is fastened onto a hinge carrier 502 to form the joint 212 that can rotate around the joint hole 718.

[00115] The hinge carrier 720 is used as a platform to create the joint 212. The joint 212 includes a plurality of joint fasteners 212A-212D that further includes a collar bushing 212A, a thrust bushing 212B, a spring washer set 212C and a shoulder screw 212D. The joint fasteners 212A-212D together fasten the bottom half of the second fastener structure 406 onto a carrier slot 720 of a hinge carrier 502. The collar bushing 212A and the thrust bushing 212B provide side to side location and smooth bearing surfaces in contact with the collar 902. Additionally, the spring washer set 212C provides positive tension on the shoulder screw 212D, and creates frictional resistance and/or torque around a hinge axis 730 when the hinge screw 212D is tightened through the joint hole 718 and a screw hole 722 on the hinge carrier 502 to form the joint 212. The hinge axis 730 passes through the center of the joint hole 718 on the second fastener structure 406, and substantially overlaps the flipping axis 220 associated with the second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element 206 with respect to the base assembly 208.

[00116] As explained above with reference to Figures 7E and 7F, when the hinge carrier 502 is assembled into the base 210, the screw structure 714 of the second fastener structure 406 extends beyond the base opening slot 716. The second fastener structure 406 is configured to rotate around the hinge axis 730 while being constrained within the base opening slot 716. When the screw structure 714 of the second fastener structure 406 is fastened with the first fastener structure 404, the receiving element 206 is mounted onto the base assembly 208, and therefore can flip with respect to its flipping axis 220 (i.e., the hinge axis 730) to provide the second degree of freedom of motion for a module mounted onto its module holding structure 214.

[00117] Figures 10A and 10B illustrate a process 1000 for assembling a stand assembly 202 in accordance with some implementations. As shown in Figure 10A, a second fastener structure 406 is mounted on a hinge carrier 502 to provide a joint 212. The hinge carrier 502 is then assembled to a base 210, and fixed thereon via one or more base fasteners 506. In some implementations, as shown in the inset of Figure 10A, the one or more base

fasteners 506 include screws that are fastened through screw holes on a bottom surface of the hinge carrier 502, and anchored onto screw holes inside the base 210. As such, the hinge carrier 502 is fully assembled to the base 210 to provide a base assembly 208 in which the second fastener structure 406 extends from a base opening slot 716 of the base 210.

[00118] In some implementations, a standalone first fastener structure 404 is then tightened onto the exposed second fastener structure 406 of the base assembly 208, until the first fastener structure 404 reaches a tightened position of its full range of motion. It is noted that the tightened position of the first fastener structure is associated with an end position (Figures 6A or 6C) that the receiving element 206 has within a first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom. After the first fastener structure 404 is tightened onto the second fastener structure 406, the module holding structure 214 and the extended portion 402 of the receiving element 206 is pressed onto the first fastener structure 404 to mount the receiving element 206 to the base assembly 208. After the mount press, the first fastener structure 404 is mechanically coupled inside the extended portion 402 of the receiving element 206. In some implementations, the first fastener structure 404 cannot be detached from the receiving element 206 without causing damage to the first fastener structure 404 or the receiving element 206.

[00119] In some implementations, after it is determined that the first fastener structure 404 reaches its tightened position, the receiving element 206 is reversely twisted at the first degree of freedom of motion by a first angle to orient the receiving element 206 to a nominal position (Figure 6B). At the nominal position, the module holding structure 214 of the receiving element 206 is aligned in parallel or overlaps with both the twisting axis 218 and the flipping axis 220, and therefore, the receiving element 206 and a module received thereby are configured to face substantially up when they are flipped down via the joint 212 at the second degree of freedom of motion.

[00120] In some implementations, the first angle is half of a first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion. Stated another way, the nominal position is located substantially in the middle of the first part of the first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion. To obtain such a nominal position, the module holding structure 214 of the receiving element 206 needs to be properly oriented prior to and during the mount press according to the end position associated with the first part of the first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom as shown in Figure 6A. Under some circumstances, the module holding structure 214 of the

receiving element 206 is not properly oriented prior to and during the mount press according to the end position associated with the first degree of freedom as shown in Figure 6A. The first part of the first full range of motion is not centered at the nominal position. The receiving element 206 has a larger range of motion on one of the clockwise and counterclockwise directions than the other of these two directions.

[00121] Alternatively, in some implementations not illustrated in Figures 10A and 10B, the first fastener structure 404 is attached to the receiving element 206 before it is fastened onto the second fastener structure 406 of the base assembly 208. The first fastener structure 404 needs to be aligned to the module holding structure 214 properly, such that when the receiving element 206 is fastened onto the base assembly 208, the resulting stand assembly 202 properly provides the first part of a first full range of motion and the nominal position both associated with the first degree of freedom of motion.

[00122] Figure 11 is an exploded view of a stand assembly 202 that includes a magnet plate 504 in its base assembly 208 in accordance with some implementations. The magnet plate 504 is mechanically coupled to the base 210 such that the magnet plate 502 is adjacent to or forms a portion of a bottom surface of the base 210. The magnet plate 504 has a bottom surface area that is smaller than a surface area of the bottom surface of the base 510. Specifically, in some implementations, the magnet plate 504 is mechanically coupled to the base 210 using one or more magnet fasteners 506. Optionally, the magnet plate 504 is directly coupled to the base 210, or indirectly coupled to the hinge carrier 502 that is configured to fit into and couple to the base 210.

[00123] In some implementations, the base assembly 208 further includes a cover plate 510. Optionally, the cover plate 510 is made of plastic, metal or other materials. The cover plate 510 is glued onto the bottom surface of the base 510 to cover the magnet plate 504 that has been mechanically coupled to the base 510, and the magnet plate 504 is sandwiched between the bottom surface of the base 210 and the cover plate 510. The cover plate 510 has a surface area that is substantially equal to or slightly larger than that of the magnet plate 504 such that the cover plate 510 entirely seals the magnet plate inside the base assembly 208. As such, in some implementations, mechanical fasteners of the base assembly 208 are structurally visible to the user of the stand assembly 202 except the joint 212.

[00124] In some implementations, the base assembly 208 further includes one or more rubber patches 512 that are attached to a bottom surface of the base assembly 208 to provide additional friction between the stand assembly 202 and the supporting surface against which

the base is rested. In an example (Figure 5), the one or more rubber patches 512 includes a rubber ring that is attached to the bottom surface of the base assembly 208 and surrounds the cover plate 510.

[00125] Figure 12A illustrates a mount structure 224 for mounting a stand assembly 202 onto a mounting surface in accordance with some implementations. At least part of the mount structure 224 is made of magnetically attractable material, e.g., iron, steel, copper, and brass. The stand assembly 202 is mounted onto the mounting surface when the base 210 of the base assembly 208 magnetically adheres onto the mount structure 224. In some implementations, the at least part of the mount structure 224 includes a magnetically attractable plate 514 that has been integrated in the mount structure 224 before they are shipped to a user of the stand assembly 202.

[00126] The magnetic attraction force between the base 210 of the stand assembly 202 and the mount structure 226 enables secure attachment of an electronic device module that is mounted onto the mounting surface using the stand assembly 202. Such secure attachment satisfies one or more Underwriters Laboratories (UL) standards that set forth at least safety requirements for mounting the electronic device module onto a mounting surface. An example UL standard is UL 2442 Standard for Wall- and Ceiling-Mounts and Accessories, which applies to devices that provide structural support for the mounting of audio/video equipment, information technology equipment, and similar products, to the building structure and is intended for indoor use only.

[00127] The mount structure 224 has a surface area that is substantially larger than or equal to that of the bottom surface of the base assembly 208, and includes a cable guide structure 226 at the circumference of the mount structure 224. The cable guide structure 226 is configured to guide a power or data cable that electrically couples a module 204 received in the receiving element 206 to an external power supply or another electronic device (e.g., a computational machine). Specifically, one end of the power or data cable is electrically coupled to a connection port 306 of the module 204, while the other end is electrically coupled to the external power supply or the other electronic device. An intermediate node at the power or data cable is held by the cable guide structure 226, thereby protecting the power or data cable from wiggling around and disconnecting from the connection port 206.

[00128] Further, the mount structure 224 includes one or more open slots 1202 each having a respective width that matches a dimension of a head of a mount fastener (e.g., a screw or a nail). The open slots 1202 are configured to receive the mount fasteners 518. The

mount structure 224 can be attached and fixed onto the mounting surface when the mount fasteners 518 are fastened onto the mounting surface via the open slots 202 of the mount structures 224. The open slots 1202 have predetermined lengths configured to accommodate an adjustment of an orientation of the mount structure 224 when the mount fasteners 518 are loosened from the mounting surface. In some implementations, the orientation of the mount structure 224 is adjusted for the purposes of varying the location of the cable guide structure 226 with respect to a module mounted on the mount structure 224 (e.g., the camera module 204). The predetermined lengths of the open slots as presented here are associated with an adjustment angle of 90 degrees for adjusting the orientation of the mount structure 224 and the location of the cable guide structure 226.

[00129] Figure 12B illustrates another exemplary mount structure 224 onto which a detachable foam plate 520 is attached in accordance with some implementations. Specifically, the detachable foam plate 520 is attached onto the magnetically attractable part of the mount structure 224. In some implementations, the detachable foam plate 520 includes a back surface that is sticky, and adheres to the surface of the magnetically attractable part like a sticker. The front surface of the detachable foam plate 520 includes one or more instructions for assembling the stand assembly 202. In this example, the one or more instructions include an arrow that indicates that a user can peel off the detachable foam plate 520 from the mount structure 224. Additionally, the one or more instructions include specific language to guide the user to “screw plate to wall and remove sticker,” and “attach Nest Cam to plate.”

[00130] When the mounting structure 224 is mounted onto a mounting surface, it is arranged according to a preferred orientation such that the cable guide structure 226 is located at a preferred location (e.g., on a bottom rim of the mounting structure 224, or below a module after the module is mounted on the stand assembly 202). In some implementations, the one or more instructions on the detachable foam plate 520 include a notice that reminds the user of orienting the mount structure 224 according to the preferred orientation.

[00131] In some implementations, the detachable foam plate 520 includes a tab 1204. The tab 1204 is oriented according to the preferred orientation of the mounting structure 224, and used to guide the attachment of the mount structure 224 onto the mounting surface. Specifically, the detachable foam plate 520 is attached onto the mounting structure 224 with the tab 1204 aligned to the preferred orientation of the mounting structure 224. When the user mounts the mount structure 224 according to the orientation of the tab 1204, the cable guide structure 226 is disposed at its preferred location. In a specific example, the user orients

the tab 1204 of the mounting structure 224 to an upward direction, and obtains the preferred orientation of the mounting structure 224 and the preferred location of the cable guide structure 226 automatically.

[00132] Figure 12C is an exploded view of a stand assembly 202, a detachable foam plate 520 and a mount structure 224a in accordance with some implementations. After the mount structure 224a is fixed onto the mounting surface with a preferred orientation, the tab 1204 is peeled off, and the stand assembly 202 is placed on top of the mount structure 224a. The stand assembly 202 adheres to the mount structure 224a firmly by way of the magnetic attraction force that exists between the magnet plate 504 sealed inside the base 210 and the magnetically attractable part 514 of the mount structure 224a. In some implementations, the magnetic attraction force satisfies the UL standards for mounting an electronic device onto a mounting surface safely, and the stand assembly 202 would not be easily detached from the mount structure 224a.

[00133] Conversely, the detachable foam plate 520 is applied to reduce the magnetic attraction force between the base 210 and the mount structure 224a, before the mount structure 224 is fully prepared for receiving the stand assembly 202. The detachable foam plate 520 is attached onto the mount structure 224a to increase a distance and thereby reduce the magnetic attraction force between the magnet plate 504 of the base 210 and the magnetically attractable part 514 of the mount structure 224. The reduced magnetic attraction force allows a user to separate the stand assembly 202 from the mount structure 224a conveniently without resorting to any tool, particularly before the mount structure 224a is fixed onto the mounting surface and prepared to receive the stand assembly 202.

[00134] Figure 13A is an exploded view of a stand assembly 202, a cable guide ring 1302 and a mount structure 224b that function together to support a module 204 on a mounting surface in accordance with some implementations. Figure 13B illustrates another mount structure 224b in accordance with some implementations, and Figure 13C illustrates a cable guide ring 1302 in accordance with some implementations. At least part of the mount structure 224b is made of magnetically attractable material, e.g., iron, steel, copper, and brass. The stand assembly 202 is mounted onto the mounting surface when the base 210 of the base assembly 208 magnetically adheres onto the mount structure 224b. The mount structure 224 has a surface area that is substantially smaller than that of the bottom surface of the base assembly 208, and does not include a cable guide structure 226. Rather, the functions of the cable guide structure 226 are provided separately by a cable guide ring 1302.

[00135] The mount structure 224b is substantially flat, and includes a plurality of openings 1304 each having a respective dimension that matches that of a head of a mount fastener 518 (e.g., a screw or a nail). The openings are configured to receive the mount fasteners. The mount structure 224b is attached and fixed onto the mounting surface, when the mount fasteners 518 are fastened onto the mounting surface via the openings 1304 of the mount structure 224b.

[00136] The cable guide ring 1302 has an inner diameter that is substantially larger than a diameter of the mount structure 224b. When the stand assembly 202 is mounted onto the mounting surface, the cable guide ring 1302 surrounds the mount structure 224, comes into contact with the mounting surface, and is thereby sandwiched between the mounting surface and the base 210 of the stand assembly 202. Further, the cable guide ring 1302 has an outer diameter that is substantially larger than or equal to that of the bottom surface of the base assembly 208. The cable guide ring 1302 further includes a cable guide structure 226 located at its outer circumference for fixing a power or data cable. Optionally, the power or data cable is configured to electrically couple the module 204 received at the receiving element 206 of the stand assembly 202 to an external power supply or a separate electronic device.

[00137] In some implementations, the circumference of the mount structure 224 includes a groove, and the mount structure 224b further includes an O-ring 1306. The O-ring 1306 is configured to be seated in the groove of the mount structure 224. The O-ring is compressed and creates a seal at an interface when the cable guide ring 1302 is assembled onto the mount structure 224b. In some implementations, the cable guide ring 1302 includes one or more protrusions 1308 on its surface to increase its friction with the bottom surface of the base 210. The seal provided by the O-ring 1306 and the friction provided by the surface protrusions 1308 prevent the cable guide ring 1302 from wobbling between the stand assembly 202 and the mounting surface, and thereby enable a secure cable guiding function for the power or data cable electrically coupled to the module 204.

[00138] Referring to Figures 13A-13C, the mount structure 224b has a relatively simple form factor, and is easy to manufacture at an affordable cost. In some implementations, the stand assembly 202 is associated with more than one mount structures 224b that can be mounted onto more than one mounting surfaces in a smart home environment. A user of the module 204 can conveniently remove the stand assembly 202 and the cable guide ring 1302

from one mount structure 224b located at a first location, and mount them to another mount structure 224b located at a second location without moving the mount structure 224.

[00139] Figure 14A is a top view of a camera assembly 200 in which a receiving element 206 and a camera module 204 mounted thereon are packaged in accordance with some implementations. The receiving element 206 and the camera module 204 are flipped down to an end position, and face substantially up in the camera assembly 200. As explained above with reference to Figures 6A-6F, the stand assembly 202 is associated with a nominal position at which the module holding structure 214 of the receiving element 206 is arranged to align in parallel or overlap with both the twisting axis 218 (not shown in Figure 14A) and the flipping axis 220. In accordance with a second degree of freedom of motion, the receiving element 206 and the camera module 204 can be flipped around the flipping axis 220 that passes through a joint 212 and lies substantially in parallel with a planar surface of the base 210. As such, the receiving element 206 and the camera module 204 mounted thereon are flipped down and face substantially up (i.e., face opposite to the planar surface of the base 210).

[00140] Figures 14B-14F illustrate a packaging process 1400 for packaging a camera assembly 200 shown in Figure 14A and its accessories in a multilayer shipping package in accordance with some implementations. The multilayer shipping package includes a lid box 1402 and a container box 1404. The container box 1404 is configured to contain the camera assembly 200 and its accessories, and the lid box is configured to cover the container box 1404. The boxes 1402 and 1404 of the multilayer shipping package further include a plurality of packaging layers, e.g., four layers including layers 1406-1412 in this specific example, for organizing the camera assembly 200 and its accessories in a compact, reliable, and user friendly manner.

[00141] When a user opens the shipping package shipped from a retailer or a manufacturer, the user sees that a camera assembly 200 lays flat on a top layer 1406 of the container box 1404 (Figure 14C). The top layer 1406 includes a first recess 1412 that is formed according to a contour of the camera assembly 200 and configured to hold the camera assembly 200 firmly. On the other hand, the lid box 1402 includes a lid layer 1408, and the lid layer 1408 has a lid recess or protrusion 1416 that is also configured at least according to a contour of the receiving element 206 of the camera assembly 200. When the lid box 1402 is flipped over to cover the container box 1404, the camera assembly 200 is securely held

between the lid recess or protrusion 1416 of the lid layer 1408 and the first recess 1412 of the top layer 1406, and thereby protected from some shipping damages that can occur in transit.

[00142] In some implementations, the first recess 1412 of the top layer 1406 includes one or more cutout openings (not shown in Figure 14C). When the camera assembly 200 is removed from the first recess 1412 of the top layer 1406, the one or more cutout openings on the recess allow the user to pull the top layer 1406 out of the container box 1404 easily.

[00143] Further, after the top layer 1406 is removed from the container box 1404, a subset of camera accessories (e.g., a power cord and a power adapter) is exposed. In some implementations, the subset of camera accessories is supported by one or more underlying layers (e.g., a bottom layer 1410 and an intermediate layer 1412). The bottom layer 1410 includes a second recess 1418, and the intermediate layer 1412 is placed inside the second recess 1418 of the bottom layer 1410. A power cord is supported by the intermediate layer 1412 and held within the second recess 1418. The intermediate layer 1412 further includes a cutout opening 1420 that allows the user to pull the intermediate layer 14012 out of the second access 1418 of the bottom layer 1410.

[00144] After the intermediate layer 1412 is removed, a mount structure 224 that lies underneath the intermediate layer 1412 is exposed. The mount structure 224 is disposed at the bottom of the second access 1418 of the bottom layer 1410. In some implementations, the second access 1418 of the bottom layer 1410 is configured to hold one or more mount structures 224 and a card guide ring 1302 as shown in Figures 13A-13C.

[00145] In some implementations, the bottom layer 1410 further includes a third recess 1422 that is configured to hold the power adapter.

[00146] In some implementations, a user manual is disposed under the top layer 1406 and above the accessories that are organized and held by the intermediate and bottom layers 1410 and 1412.

[00147] In some implementations, the packaging layers 1406-1412 packaged inside the shipping package are made of recycled paper, and the recycled paper include at least a threshold amount of starch quantities. In an example, the threshold amount of starch quantities is equal to 40% of the packaging layers in weight.

[00148] Figure 15 illustrates a receiving element 206 that is mechanically coupled on a standard tripod 1502 in accordance with some implementations. Specifically, a first fastener structure 404 includes a threaded screw hole that matches a tripod screw of a standard tripod,

and the receiving element 206 is configured to mount on the standard tripod 1502 when the tripod screw is tightened into the threaded screw hole of the first fastener structure 404. In some implementations, the tripod screw is part of a tripod adaptor. The first fastener structure 404 is fastened to the tripod adaptor, and the tripod adaptor is further fastened onto the standard tripod 1502. In some implementations, to match the tripod screw of a commonly used standard tripod, the threaded screw hole on the first fastener structure 404 is a ¼-20 socket that has a ¼ inch diameter and 20 threads per inch at its screw length.

[00149] Figure 16 is a flow chart of a method 1600 for packaging a stand assembly 202 configured to support a module (e.g., a camera module 204) in accordance with some implementations. The stand assembly packaging method 1600 includes providing (1602) a base assembly 208 that includes a base 210 and a second fastener structure 406, and the second fastener structure 406 is coupled to the base 210 at a joint 212. As shown in Figures 10A and 10B, in some implementations, providing the base assembly 208 further includes: inserting the second fastener structure 406 into a base opening slot 716 on the base assembly 208, and forming the joint 212 by assembling the second fastener structure 406 in the base opening slot 716 using one or more joint fasteners. More details on the methods of providing the base assembly 208 including the joint 212 are explained above with reference to Figures 7D-7F and 9B.

[00150] The stand assembly packaging method 1600 further includes attaching (1604) to the base assembly 208 a receiving element 206. The receiving element 206 includes a first fastener structure 404 and is configured to physically receive the module 204. To attach the receiving element 206 to the base assembly 208, the first fastener structure 404 is tightened onto the second fastener structure 406 until the first fastener structure 404 reaches a tightened position. The first fastener structure 404 of the receiving element 206 and the joint 212 of the base assembly 208 are configured (1606) to provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element 206 with respect to the base assembly 208, respectively.

[00151] In some implementations, the receiving element 206 further includes a module holding structure 214 and an extended portion 402. To attach the receiving element 206 to the base assembly 208, after the first fastener structure 404 is tightened onto the second fastener structure 406, the module holding structure 214 and the extended portion 402 of the receiving element 206 are press mounted onto the first fastener structure 404 to mount the receiving element 206 to the base assembly 208.

[00152] The stand assembly packaging method 1600 further includes after determining that the first fastener structure 404 reaches the tightened position, rotating (1608) the receiving element 206 reversely at the first degree of freedom of motion by a first angle to orient the receiving element to a nominal position. At the nominal position, the receiving element 206 and the module 204 received thereby are configured (1610) to face substantially up when they are flipped down via the joint 212 at the second degree of freedom of motion. In some implementations, the first angle is substantially equal to half of a full range of motion of the first fastener structure 404. In a specific example, the first angle is substantially equal to 45 degrees. More details on the tightened position of the first fastener structure 404 and the nominal position of the receiving element 206 are explained above with reference to Figures 6A-6C.

[00153] In some implementations, the module is assembled (1612) onto the receiving element 206 to form a module assembly. When the module includes a camera module 204, a camera assembly is formed to support the camera module 204 assembled onto the receiving element 206.

[00154] As explained above, in some implementations, the movement of the receiving element 206 at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion, and the movement of the receiving element 206 at the second degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a second full range of motion associated with the second degree of freedom. Further, in some implementations, the first part of the first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion is associated with a twisting angle, and the first angle is substantially equal to half of the twisting angle such that the nominal position is located at the center of the first part of the first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion. In some implementations, the tightened position of the first fastener structure 404 is associated with an end position that the receiving element 206 has within the first part of the first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom. More details on the first and second degrees of freedom of motion of the receiving element 206 are explained above with reference to Figures 6A-6E.

[00155] In some implementations, the first fastener structure 404 of the receiving element 206 further includes a screw hole and a nylon-like bushing coupled at the end of the screw hole. The screw hole matches a screw structure of the second fastener structure 406, and has a predetermined thread length. The screw hole is configured to provide a second part

of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure. The nylon-like bushing has a predetermined bushing depth, and provides the first part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure. , The second part of the first full range of motion is distinct from the first part of the first full range of motion. More details on the first and second fastener structures that enable the stand assembly packaging method 1600 are explained above with reference to Figures 7A-7C.

[00156] In some implementations, the stand assembly packaging method 1600 further includes flipping the receiving element 206 via the joint 212 at the second degree of freedom of motion until the receiving element 206 and the module 204 received thereby face substantially up. After the receiving element 406 is flipped via the joint 212, the assembly is placed within a shipping package. Specifically, the assembly is placed on a packaging layer (e.g., the layer 1406) inside the shipping package with the receiving element 206 and the module 204 received thereby at least partially held in a recess (e.g., the recess 1412) on the packaging layer. More details on a packaging process 1400 for packaging an assembly and its accessories in a multilayer shipping package are explained above with reference to Figures 14A-14F.

[00157] It should be understood that the particular order in which the operations in Figure 16 have been described are merely exemplary and are not intended to indicate that the described order is the only order in which the operations can be performed. One of ordinary skill in the art would recognize various ways to package a stand assembly 202 as described herein. Additionally, it should be noted that details of other processes described herein with respect to method 1600 (e.g., Figure 16) are also applicable in an analogous manner to method 1700 described below with respect to Figure 17. For brevity, these details are not repeated here.

[00158] Figure 17 is a flow chart of another exemplary method 1700 for packaging a stand assembly 202 configured for supporting a module (e.g., a camera module 204) in accordance with some implementations. The stand assembly packaging method 1700 includes providing (1702) a base assembly 208 that includes a base 210 and a second fastener structure 406, and the second fastener structure 406 is coupled to the base 210 at a joint 212.

[00159] The stand assembly packaging method 1700 further includes attaching (1704) to the base assembly 208 a receiving element 206 that includes a first fastener structure 404

and is configured to physically receive the module 204. The first fastener structure 404 of the receiving element 206 is configured (1706) to mate with the second fastener structure 406 and provide a first degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element 206 with respect to the base. The movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom. . The joint 212 is configured (1708) to provide a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element 206 with respect to the base. The movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom is limited in a direction of travel associated with the second degree of freedom. Further, in some implementations, the first degree of freedom is associated with a reverse direction of travel that is opposite to the first direction of travel associated with the unlimited movement at the first degree of freedom, and the first and second fastener structures 406 and 406 are unfastened when the receiving element 206 moves with respect to the base assembly 208 in the reverse direction of travel associate with the first degree of freedom.

[00160] In some implementations, the receiving element 206 is configured to move with respect to the base 210 at the first degree of freedom of motion when the first fastener structure 404 is fastened onto the second fastener structure 406 of the base assembly 208. The first fastener structure 404 of the receiving element 206 further includes a screw hole that matches a screw structure of the second fastener structure. The screw hole has a predetermined thread length, and provides the unlimited movement at the first degree of freedom of motion, when the first fastener structure 404 is fastened onto the second fastener structure 406 via the screw hole and the screw structure.

[00161] In some implementations, the first fastener structure further includes a shoulder screw 802, a sleeve bushing 804, a spring washer 806 and a screw hole, and the first fastener structure 404 is configured to be loosely suspended within the extended portion 402 of the receiving element 206 via the shoulder screw 802.

[00162] In some implementations, an extended portion 402 of the receiving element 206 includes a thread locker 812 embedded therein, and the first fastener structure 404 includes a shoulder screw 802. The shoulder screw 802 is configured to lock into place with the thread locker 812 for the purposes of fastening the first fastener structure 404 to the receiving element 206. Further, in some implementations, a low friction bushing 810 is fixed inside an extended portion 402 of the receiving element 206. In accordance with the unlimited movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom, the low friction bushing 810 wraps around the first fastener structure 404, and rotates as part of the receiving

element 206 with respect to the base assembly 208, and with respect to the first fastener structure 404 when the first fastener structure 404 is tightened onto the second fastener structure 406 of the base assembly 208.

[00163] More details on the first fastener structure 404 that enables the stand assembly packaging method 1700 are explained above with reference to Figures 8B and 8C.

[00164] The stand assembly packaging method 1600 further includes (1710) rotating the receiving element 206 along the first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom until the receiving element 206 reaches a nominal position. At the nominal position, the receiving element 206 and the module 204 received thereby are configured (1712) to face substantially up when they are flipped down via the joint 212 at the second degree of freedom of motion. In some implementations, the module is assembled (1714) onto the receiving element 206 to form a module assembly. When the module includes a camera module 204, a camera assembly is formed to support the camera module 204 assembled onto the receiving element 206.

[00165] In some implementations, the stand assembly packaging method 1600 further includes flipping the receiving element 206 via the joint 212 at the second degree of freedom of motion until the receiving element 206 and the module 204 received thereby face substantially up. After the receiving element 406 is flipped via the joint 212, the assembly is placed within a shipping package. Specifically, the assembly is placed on a packaging layer (e.g., the layer 1406) inside the shipping package with the receiving element 206 and the module 204 received thereby at least partially held in a recess (e.g., the recess 1412) on the packaging layer. More details on a packaging process 1400 for packaging an assembly and its accessories in a multilayer shipping package are explained above with reference to Figures 14A-14F.

[00166] It should be understood that the particular order in which the operations in Figure 17 have been described are merely exemplary and are not intended to indicate that the described order is the only order in which the operations can be performed. One of ordinary skill in the art would recognize various ways to package a stand assembly 202 as described herein. Additionally, it should be noted that details of other processes described herein with respect to method 1700 (e.g., Figure 17) are also applicable in an analogous manner to method 1600 described above with respect to Figure 16. For brevity, these details are not repeated here.

[00167] Although various drawings illustrate a number of logical stages in a particular order, stages that are not order dependent may be reordered and other stages may be combined or broken out. While some reordering or other groupings are specifically mentioned, others will be obvious to those of ordinary skill in the art, so the ordering and groupings presented herein are not an exhaustive list of alternatives. Moreover, it should be recognized that the stages can be implemented in hardware, firmware, software or any combination thereof.

[00168] The foregoing description, for purpose of explanation, has been described with reference to specific implementations. However, the illustrative discussions above are not intended to be exhaustive or to limit the scope of the claims to the precise forms disclosed. Many modifications and variations are possible in view of the above teachings. The implementations were chosen in order to best explain the principles underlying the claims and their practical applications, to thereby enable others skilled in the art to best use the implementations with various modifications as are suited to the particular uses contemplated.

[00169] Reference will now be made in detail to implementations, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings. In the following detailed description, numerous specific details are set forth in order to provide a thorough understanding of the various described implementations. However, it will be apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art that the various described implementations may be practiced without these specific details. In other instances, well-known methods, procedures, components, mechanical structures, circuits, and networks have not been described in detail so as not to unnecessarily obscure aspects of the implementations.

[00170] It will also be understood that, although the terms first, second, etc. are, in some instances, used herein to describe various elements, these elements should not be limited by these terms. These terms are only used to distinguish one element from another. For example, a first fastener structure can be termed a second fastener structure, and, similarly, a second fastener structure can be termed a first fastener structure, without departing from the scope of the various described implementations. The first fastener structure and the second fastener structure are both fastener structures, but they are not the same fastener structure.

[00171] The terminology used in the description of the various described implementations herein is for the purpose of describing particular implementations only and is not intended to be limiting. As used in the description of the various described

implementations and the appended claims, the singular forms “a”, “an” and “the” are intended to include the plural forms as well, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. It will also be understood that the term “and/or” as used herein refers to and encompasses any and all possible combinations of one or more of the associated listed items. It will be further understood that the terms “includes,” “including,” “comprises,” and/or “comprising,” when used in this specification, specify the presence of stated features, integers, steps, operations, elements, components, structures and/or groups, but do not preclude the presence or addition of one or more other features, integers, steps, operations, elements, components, structures, and/or groups thereof.

[00172] As used herein, the term “if” is, optionally, construed to mean “when” or “upon” or “in response to determining” or “in response to detecting” or “in accordance with a determination that,” depending on the context. Similarly, the phrase “if it is determined” or “if [a stated condition or event] is detected” is, optionally, construed to mean “upon determining” or “in response to determining” or “upon detecting [the stated condition or event]” or “in response to detecting [the stated condition or event]” or “in accordance with a determination that [a stated condition or event] is detected,” depending on the context.

[00173] It is to be appreciated that “smart home environments” may refer to smart environments for homes such as a single-family house, but the scope of the present teachings is not so limited. The present teachings are also applicable, without limitation, to duplexes, townhomes, multi-unit apartment buildings, hotels, retail stores, office buildings, industrial buildings, and more generally any living space or work space.

[00174] It is also to be appreciated that while the terms user, customer, installer, homeowner, occupant, guest, tenant, landlord, repair person, and the like may be used to refer to the person or persons acting in the context of some particularly situations described herein, these references do not limit the scope of the present teachings with respect to the person or persons who are performing such actions. Thus, for example, the terms user, customer, purchaser, installer, subscriber, and homeowner may often refer to the same person in the case of a single-family residential dwelling, because the head of the household is often the person who makes the purchasing decision, buys the unit, and installs and configures the unit, and is also one of the users of the unit. However, in other scenarios, such as a landlord-tenant environment, the customer may be the landlord with respect to purchasing the unit, the installer may be a local apartment supervisor, a first user may be the tenant, and a second user may again be the landlord with respect to remote control functionality. Importantly, while the

identity of the person performing the action may be germane to a particular advantage provided by one or more of the implementations, such identity should not be construed in the descriptions that follow as necessarily limiting the scope of the present teachings to those particular individuals having those particular identities.

[00175] It is noted that the stand assemblies described herein are exemplary and are not intended to be limiting. For example, any dimensions, shapes, styles, and/or materials described herein are exemplary and are not intended to be limiting. Drawings are not to scale. For brevity, features or characters described in association with some implementations may not necessarily be repeated or reiterated when describing other implementations. Even though it may not be explicitly described therein, a feature or characteristic described in association with some implementations may be used by other implementations.

A. Camera Stand Having a Constant Resistance for a Portion of a Range of Motion along an Axis of Rotation (I)

Clause 1. A stand assembly, comprising:

a receiving element for physically receiving a module, the receiving element including:

a module holding structure configured to hold the module;

an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure; and

a first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion located opposite another end of the extended portion that extends from the module holding structure; and

a base assembly for supporting the receiving element, the base assembly including:

a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface; and

a second fastener structure coupled to the base at a joint, the second fastener structure being configured to mate with the first fastener structure;

wherein the first fastener structure and the joint are configured to respectively provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, and wherein the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion, and the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a second full range of motion associated with the second degree of freedom.

Clause 2. The stand assembly of clause 1, wherein the receiving element is configured to move with respect to the base at the first degree of freedom of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure of the base assembly, and the first fastener structure of the receiving element further includes:

a screw hole that matches a screw structure of the second fastener structure, wherein the screw hole has a predetermined thread length, and provides a second part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure, and the second part of the first full range of motion is distinct from the first part of the first full range of motion; and

a nylon-like bushing coupled at the end of the screw hole, wherein the nylon-like bushing has a predetermined bushing depth, and provides the first part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure.

Clause 3. The stand assembly of clause 2, wherein the nylon-like bushing has a first coefficient of friction that is associated with the substantially consistent resistance through the first part of the first full range of motion, and the screw hole has a second coefficient of friction that is associated with alternative resistance through the second part of the first full range of motion, and wherein the alternative resistance through the second part of the first full range of motion is distinct from the substantially consistent resistance through the first part of the first full range of motion.

Clause 4. The stand assembly of clause 1, wherein the first part of the first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion is associated with a twisting angle that is substantially equal to 90 degrees.

Clause 5. The stand assembly of clause 1, wherein the module holding structure of the receiving element includes a cutout opening that has a shape conforming to a contour of the module, and is configured to hold the module when the module is inserted within the cutout opening.

Clause 6. The stand assembly of clause 1, wherein the base includes a planar surface for resting against the supporting surface, and the second degree of freedom of motion at the joint is associated with flipping of the receiving element with respect to a flipping axis that passes through the joint and is substantially parallel to the planar surface of the base.

Clause 7. The stand assembly of clause 1, wherein the base includes a planar surface for resting against the supporting surface, and the first degree of freedom of motion is associated with twisting of the receiving element with respect to a twisting axis that passes through the receiving element and is perpendicular to the planar surface of the base.

Clause 8. The stand assembly of clause 1, wherein the first fastener structure includes a threaded screw hole that matches a tripod screw of a standard tripod, and the receiving element is configured to mount on the standard tripod when the tripod screw is tightened into the threaded screw hole.

Clause 9. The stand assembly of any of clauses 1-8, wherein the first fastener structure is fastened to the second fastener structure and provides the first degree of freedom of motion, and the first and second fastener structure are entirely embedded within and covered by the extended structure of the receiving element.

Clause 10. The stand assembly of any of clauses 1-8, wherein the first fastener structure associated with the first degree of freedom of motion is structurally invisible to a user of the stand assembly, and the joint associated with the second degree of freedom of motion is structurally visible to the user of the stand assembly.

Clause 11. The stand assembly of any of clauses 1-8, wherein the base assembly further includes:

a magnet plate, wherein the magnet plate is mechanically attached to the base such that the magnet plate is adjacent to or forms a portion of a bottom surface of the base, and the magnet plate has a bottom surface area that is smaller than a surface area of the bottom surface of the base.

Clause 12. The stand assembly of clause 11, wherein the base assembly further includes:

a cover plate, wherein the cover plate is applied to cover the magnet plate attached to the base, and the magnet plate is sandwiched between the bottom of the base and the cover plate, and wherein the cover plate has a surface area that is substantially equal or slightly larger than that of the magnet plate such that the cover plate entirely seals the magnet plate inside the base assembly.

Clause 13. The stand assembly of any of clauses 1-8, further comprising:

a mount structure that is configured to be attached and fixed onto a mounting surface using one or more mount fasteners, wherein at least part of the mount structure is made of magnetically attractable material, and the assembly is mounted onto the mounting surface when the base of the base assembly magnetically adheres onto the mount structure.

Clause 14. The stand assembly of clause 13, wherein the mount structure further includes a cable guide structure for guiding a cable that electrically couples the module received in the receiving element to an external power supply or a separate electronic device.

Clause 15. The stand assembly of clause 13, further comprising:

a detachable foam plate, wherein when the detachable foam plate is disposed between a bottom surface of the base and the mount structure, the detachable foam plate increases a distance between the bottom surface of the base and the mount structure, and reduces the magnetic attraction force between the base and the mount structure.

Clause 16. The stand assembly of clause 13, wherein the magnetic attraction force between the base of the stand assembly and the mount structure enables secure attachment of the module onto the mounting surface, and the secure attachment satisfies one or more Underwriters Laboratories (UL) standards that set forth at least safety requirements for mounting the module onto a mounting surface.

Clause 17. The stand assembly of clause 13, wherein the mount structure has a smaller surface area than a surface area of a bottom surface of the base, the stand assembly further comprising:

a cable guide ring, wherein the cable guide ring has an interior diameter larger than a diameter of the mount plate, such that when the stand assembly is mounted onto the mounting surface, the cable guide ring surrounds the mount plate and sandwiched between the mounting surface and the base of the stand assembly, and the cable guide ring further includes a cable guide structure to fix a cable that is configured to electrically couple the module received in the receiving element to an external power supply or a separate electronic device.

Clause 18. A system, comprising:

a receiving element for physically receiving a module, the receiving element including:

a module holding structure configured to hold the module;

an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure; and
a first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion located opposite another end of the extended portion that extends from the module holding structure; and
a base assembly for supporting the receiving element, the base assembly including:
a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface; and
a second fastener structure coupled to the base at a joint, the second fastener structure being configured to mate with the first fastener structure;
wherein the first fastener structure and the joint are configured to respectively provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, and wherein the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion, and the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a second full range of motion associated with the second degree of freedom.

Clause 19. A camera assembly, comprising:

a receiving element for physically receiving a camera module, the receiving element including:

a module holding structure configured to hold the camera module;
an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure; and
a first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion located opposite another end of the extended portion that extends from the module holding structure; and

a base assembly for supporting the receiving element, the base assembly including:
a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface; and
a second fastener structure coupled to the base at a joint, the second fastener structure being configured to mate with the first fastener structure;

wherein the first fastener structure and the joint are configured to respectively provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, and wherein the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion, and the

movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a second full range of motion associated with the second degree of freedom.

Clause 20. The camera assembly of clause 19, further comprising the camera module that is held by the module holding structure of the receiving element.

B. Camera Stand Having a Constant Resistance for a Portion of a Range of Motion along an Axis of Rotation (II)

Clause 21. A stand assembly, comprising:
a receiving element for physically receiving a module, the receiving element including:

a module holding structure configured to hold the module;
an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure;

and

a first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion; and
a base assembly for supporting the receiving element, the base assembly

including:

a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface; and
a second fastener structure coupled to the base, the second fastener

structure being configured to mate with the first fastener structure;

wherein the first fastener structure is configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base;

wherein movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion; and

wherein the first fastener structure of the receiving element further includes:

a screw hole that matches a screw structure of the second fastener structure, wherein the screw hole provides a second part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure, and the second part of the first full range of motion is distinct from the first part of the first full range of motion; and

a bushing coupled at the end of the screw hole, wherein the bushing provides the first part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is

fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure and the screw structure engages the bushing.

Clause 22. The stand assembly of clause 21, wherein the bushing has a first coefficient of friction that is associated with the substantially consistent resistance through the first part of the first full range of motion, and the screw hole has a second coefficient of friction that is associated with alternative resistance through the second part of the first full range of motion, and wherein the alternative resistance through the second part of the first full range of motion is distinct from the substantially consistent resistance through the first part of the first full range of motion.

Clause 23. The stand assembly of clause 21, wherein the first part of the first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion is associated with a twisting angle that is substantially equal to 90 degrees.

Clause 24. The stand assembly of clause 21, wherein the module holding structure of the receiving element includes a cutout opening that has a shape conforming to a contour of the module, and is configured to hold the module when the module is inserted within the cutout opening.

Clause 25. The stand assembly of clause 21, wherein the base includes a planar surface for resting against the supporting surface, the second fastener structure is coupled to the base at a joint configured to provide a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a second full range of motion associated with the second degree of freedom, and the second degree of freedom of motion at the joint is associated with flipping of the receiving element with respect to a flipping axis that passes through the joint and is substantially parallel to the planar surface of the base.

Clause 26. The stand assembly of clause 25, wherein the receiving element is configured to flip with respect to the flipping axis by an angle that is substantially equal to 180 degrees.

Clause 27. The stand assembly of clause 21, wherein the base includes a planar surface for resting against the supporting surface, and the first degree of freedom of motion is associated with twisting of the receiving element with respect to a twisting axis that passes through the receiving element and is perpendicular to the planar surface of the base.

Clause 28. The stand assembly of clause 21, wherein the screw hole of the first fastener structure includes a threaded screw hole that matches a tripod screw of a standard tripod, and the receiving element is configured to mount on the standard tripod when the tripod screw is tightened into the threaded screw hole.

Clause 29. The stand assembly of clause 21, wherein the first fastener structure associated with the first degree of freedom of motion is structurally invisible to a user of the stand assembly.

Clause 30. The stand assembly of any of clauses 21-29, wherein the base assembly further includes:

a magnet plate, wherein the magnet plate is mechanically attached to the base such that the magnet plate is adjacent to or forms a portion of a bottom surface of the base, and the magnet plate has a bottom surface area that is smaller than a surface area of the bottom surface of the base.

Clause 31. The stand assembly of clause 30, wherein the base assembly further includes:

a cover plate, wherein the cover plate is applied to cover the magnet plate attached to the base, and the magnet plate is sandwiched between the bottom of the base and the cover plate, and wherein the cover plate has a surface area that is substantially equal or slightly larger than that of the magnet plate such that the cover plate entirely seals the magnet plate inside the base assembly.

Clause 32. The stand assembly of clause 21, wherein the base assembly further includes:

one or more rubber patches, wherein the one or more rubber patches are attached to a bottom surface of the base assembly to provide additional friction between the stand assembly and the supporting surface against which the base is rested.

Clause 33. The stand assembly of any of clauses 21-29 and 32, further comprising:

a mount structure that is configured to be attached and fixed onto a mounting surface using one or more mount fasteners, wherein at least part of the mount structure is made of magnetically attractable material, and the assembly is mounted onto the mounting surface when the base of the base assembly magnetically adheres onto the mount structure.

Clause 34. The stand assembly of clause 33, wherein the mount structure further includes a cable guide structure for guiding a cable that electrically couples the module received in the receiving element to an external power supply or a separate electronic device.

Clause 35. The stand assembly of clause 33, further comprising:
a detachable foam plate, wherein when the detachable foam plate is disposed between a bottom surface of the base and the mount structure, the detachable foam plate increases a distance between the bottom surface of the base and the mount structure, and reduces the magnetic attraction force between the base and the mount structure.

Clause 36. The stand assembly of clause 33, wherein the magnetic attraction force between the base of the stand assembly and the mount structure enables secure attachment of the module onto the mounting surface, and the secure attachment satisfies one or more Underwriters Laboratories (UL) standards that set forth at least safety requirements for mounting the module onto a mounting surface.

Clause 37. The stand assembly of clause 33, wherein the mount structure has a smaller surface area than a surface area of a bottom surface of the base, the stand assembly further comprising:

a cable guide ring, wherein the cable guide ring has an interior diameter larger than a diameter of the mount plate, such that when the stand assembly is mounted onto the mounting surface, the cable guide ring surrounds the mount plate and sandwiched between the mounting surface and the base of the stand assembly, and the cable guide ring further includes a cable guide structure to fix a cable that is configured to electrically couple the module received in the receiving element to an external power supply or a separate electronic device.

Clause 38. A system, comprising:
a receiving element for physically receiving a module, the receiving element including:

a module holding structure configured to hold the module;
an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure;

and

a first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion; and

a base assembly for supporting the receiving element, the base assembly including:

a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface; and

a second fastener structure coupled to the base, the second fastener structure being configured to mate with the first fastener structure;

wherein the first fastener structure is configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base;

wherein movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion; and

wherein the first fastener structure of the receiving element further includes:

a screw hole that matches a screw structure of the second fastener structure, wherein the screw hole provides a second part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure, and the second part of the first full range of motion is distinct from the first part of the first full range of motion; and

a bushing coupled at the end of the screw hole, wherein the bushing provides the first part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure and the screw structure engages the bushing.

Clause 39. A camera assembly, comprising:

a receiving element for physically receiving a camera module, the receiving element including:

a module holding structure configured to hold the camera module;

an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure;

and

a first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion; and

a base assembly for supporting the receiving element, the base assembly including:

a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface; and

a second fastener structure coupled to the base, the second fastener structure being configured to mate with the first fastener structure;

wherein the first fastener structure is configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base;

wherein movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion; and

wherein the first fastener structure of the receiving element further includes:

a screw hole that matches a screw structure of the second fastener structure, wherein the screw hole provides a second part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure, and the second part of the first full range of motion is distinct from the first part of the first full range of motion; and

a bushing coupled at the end of the screw hole, wherein the bushing has a predetermined bushing depth and provides the first part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure and the screw structure engages the bushing.

Clause 40. The camera assembly of clause 39, further comprising the camera module that is held by the module holding structure of the receiving element.

C. Camera Stand Having a Magnetically Coupleable Base

Clause 41. A camera, comprising:

a holding element for physically holding a camera sensor, the holding element including:

a camera portion for holding the camera sensor;

an extended portion that extends from the camera portion; and

a fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion located opposite another end of the extended portion where the camera portion is located; and

a base assembly for supporting the holding element, the base assembly including:

a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface;

a joint structure configured to mate with the fastener structure; and

a magnet configured to magnetically couple the camera to the supporting surface.

Clause 42. The camera of clause 41, wherein the fastener structure and the joint structure are configured to provide at least a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the holding element with respect to the base,

the movement of the holding element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, and

the movement of the holding element at the second degree of freedom is limited in a direction of travel associated with the second degree of freedom.

Clause 43. The camera of clause 41, wherein the camera portion of the holding element includes a cutout opening that has a shape conforming to a contour of the camera sensor, and is configured to hold the camera sensor when the camera sensor is inserted within the cutout opening.

Clause 44. The camera of any of clause 41-43, wherein the camera sensor and the holding element are physically integrated.

Clause 45. The camera of any of clauses 41-43, further comprising:

a mounting structure that is configured to be attached and fixed onto the supporting surface using one or more mounting fasteners, wherein at least part of the mounting structure is made of magnetically attractable material, and the camera is mounted onto the supporting surface when the base of the base assembly magnetically couples to the mounting structure.

Clause 46. The camera of clause 45, wherein the mounting structure has a smaller surface area than a surface area of a bottom surface of the base.

Clause 47. The camera of clause 45, further comprising:

a detachable non-magnetic plate, wherein when the detachable non-magnetic plate is disposed between a bottom surface of the base and the mounting structure, the detachable non-magnetic plate configured to increase a distance between the bottom surface of the base and the mounting structure and reduce the magnetic attraction force between the base and the mounting structure.

Clause 48. The camera of clause 45, wherein the magnetic attraction force between the base of the base assembly and the mounting structure enables secure attachment of the camera sensor onto the supporting surface, and the secure attachment satisfies one or more

Underwriters Laboratories (UL) standards that set forth at least safety requirements for mounting the camera sensor onto the supporting surface.

Clause 49. A system, comprising:

a holding element for physically holding a module, the holding element including:

- a module portion for holding the module;
- an extended portion that extends from the module portion; and
- a fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion located opposite another end of the extended portion where the module is located; and

a base assembly for supporting the holding element, the base assembly including:

- a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface;
- a joint structure configured to mate with the fastener structure; and
- a magnet configured to magnetically couple the module to the supporting surface.

Clause 50. The system of clause 49, wherein the fastener structure and the joint structure are configured to provide at least a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the holding element with respect to the base,

the movement of the holding element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, the first degree of freedom corresponding to a panning movement of the module, and

the movement of the holding element at the second degree of freedom is limited in a direction of travel associated with the second degree of freedom, the second degree of freedom corresponding to a tilting movement of the module.

Clause 51. The system of clause 50, wherein the holding element is configured to reach a flat position after being rotated in both a first direction associated with the first degree of freedom and a second direction associated with the second degree of freedom, and the system is configured to be physically received by a package when the holding element is disposed at the flat position.

Clause 52. The system of clause 51, wherein at the flat position, the holding element is configured to face substantially up and in parallel with the supporting surface when the base rests against the supporting surface.

Clause 53. The system of clause 52, wherein the camera module has a substantially low profile, and when the holding element is disposed at the flat position and the base rests against the supporting surface, the back of the module portion does not touch the supporting surface.

Clause 54. The system of any of clauses 49-53, wherein the magnet is embedded in the base assembly.

Clause 55. The system of clause 54, wherein the magnet includes a magnetic plate, and the magnetic plate is sealed within the base assembly by a cover plate coupled to a bottom surface of the base.

Clause 56. A camera assembly, comprising:

a holding element for physically holding a camera module, the holding element including:

the camera module;

a camera portion for holding the camera sensor;

an extended portion that extends from the camera portion; and

a fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion located opposite another end of the extended portion where the camera module is located; and
a base assembly for supporting the holding element, the base assembly including:

a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface;

a joint structure configured to mate with the fastener structure; and

a magnet configured to magnetically couple the camera to the supporting surface.

Clause 57. The camera system of clause 56, wherein the fastener structure and the joint structure are configured to provide at least a first degree of freedom of motion of the holding element with respect to the base, and the movement of the holding element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, the first degree of freedom corresponding to a panning movement of the camera module.

Clause 58. The camera system of clause 56, wherein the fastener structure and the joint structure are configured to provide at least a second degree of freedom of motion of the holding element with respect to the base, and the movement of the holding element at the

second degree of freedom is limited in a direction of travel associated with the second degree of freedom, the second degree of freedom corresponding to a tilting movement of the camera module.

Clause 59. The camera system of any of clauses 56-58, wherein the camera portion further includes a camera lens and an ambient light detector, and the ambient light detector is configured to sense availability or intensity of ambient light for implementing at least one of a group of operations consisting of: controlling parameters of the camera lens, enhancing image processing of a captured image and enabling an alternative illumination mode.

Clause 60. The camera system of clause 59, wherein the camera module further includes a connection port to which a connection plug is able to be coupled to support power or transfer data.

D. Camera Stand Having an Unlimited Range of Motion along an Axis of Rotation (I)

Clause 61. A stand assembly, comprising:

a receiving element for physically receiving a module, the receiving element including:

a module holding structure that holds the module;

an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure; and

a first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion located opposite another end of the extended portion that extends from the module holding structure; and

a base assembly for supporting the receiving element, the base assembly including:

a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface; and

a second fastener structure coupled to the base at a joint, the second fastener structure being configured to mate with the first fastener structure;

wherein the first fastener structure and the joint are configured to respectively provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, and wherein the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, and the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom is limited in a direction of travel associated with the second degree of freedom, and wherein the first degree of freedom is associated with a reverse direction of travel that is opposite to the first direction of travel associated with the unlimited movement at the first

degree of freedom, and the first and second fastener structures are unfastened when the receiving element moves with respect to the base assembly in the reverse direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom.

Clause 62. The stand assembly of clause 61, wherein at the first degree of freedom of motion, the unlimited movement of the receiving element at the first direction of travel is associated with a first torque resistance, and the first torque resistance is substantially greater than a second torque resistance that is required to unfasten the receiving element from the base assembly in the reverse direction of travel.

Clause 63. The stand assembly of clause 61, wherein the receiving element is configured to move with respect to the base at the first degree of freedom of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure of the base assembly, and the first fastener structure of the receiving element further includes a screw hole that has a predetermined thread length and matches a screw structure of the second fastener structure, and wherein the first fastener structure causes the unlimited movement at the first degree of freedom of motion, after the screw hole of the first fastener structure is tightened onto the screw structure of the second fastener structure.

Clause 64. The stand assembly of clause 61, wherein the first fastener structure further includes a spring washer that is configured to render a substantially consistent resistance for the unlimited movement of the receiving element in the direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom of motion.

Clause 65. The stand assembly of clause 61, wherein the extended portion of the receiving element includes a thread locker embedded therein, and the first fastener structure includes a shoulder screw, and wherein the shoulder screw is configured to lock into place with the thread locker for the purposes of fastening the first fastener structure to the receiving element.

Clause 66. The stand assembly of clause 61, wherein the first fastener structure further includes a shoulder screw, a sleeve bushing, a spring washer and a screw hole, and the first fastener structure is configured to be loosely suspended within the extended portion of the receiving element via the shoulder screw.

Clause 67. The stand assembly of clause 61, wherein the screw hole of the first fastener structure matches a screw structure of the second fastener structure, and is configured to be tightened onto the screw structure along the direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, and when the receiving element moves further along the direction of travel, the sleeve bushing and the screw hole of the first fastener structure are fixed with respect to the second fastener structure of the base assembly.

Clause 68. The stand assembly of clause 66, wherein a low friction bushing is fixed inside the extended portion of the receiving element, and in accordance with the unlimited movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom, the low friction bushing wraps around the first fastener structure, and rotates as part of the receiving element with respect to the base assembly, and with respect to the first fastener structure when the first fastener structure is tightened onto the second fastener structure of the base assembly.

Clause 69. The stand assembly of clause 61, wherein the module holding structure of the receiving element includes a cutout opening that has a shape conforming to a contour of the module, and is configured to hold the module when the module is inserted within the cutout opening.

Clause 70. The stand assembly of clause 61, wherein the base includes a planar surface for resting against the supporting surface, and the second degree of freedom of motion at the joint is associated with flipping of the receiving element with respect to a flipping axis that passes through the joint and is substantially parallel to the planar surface of the base.

Clause 71. The stand assembly of clause 61, wherein the base includes a planar surface for resting against the supporting surface, and the first degree of freedom of motion is associated with twisting of the receiving element with respect to a twisting axis that passes through the receiving element and is perpendicular to the planar surface of the base.

Clause 72. The stand assembly of any of clauses 61-71, wherein the first fastener structure is fastened to the second fastener structure and provides the first degree of freedom of motion, and the first and second fastener structure are entirely embedded within and covered by the extended structure of the receiving element.

Clause 73. The stand assembly of any of clauses 61-71, wherein the first fastener structure associated with the first degree of freedom of motion is structurally invisible to a

user of the stand assembly, and the joint associated with the second degree of freedom of motion is structurally visible to the user of the stand assembly.

Clause 74. The stand assembly of any clauses 61-71, further comprising:

a mount structure that is configured to be attached and fixed onto a mounting surface using one or more mount fasteners, wherein at least part of the mount structure is made of magnetically attractable material, and the assembly is mounted onto the mounting surface when the base of the base assembly magnetically adheres onto the mount structure.

Clause 75. The stand assembly of clause 74, further comprising:

a detachable foam plate, wherein when the detachable foam plate is disposed between a bottom surface of the base and the mount structure, the detachable foam plate increases a distance between the bottom surface of the base and the mount structure, and reduces the magnetic attraction force between the base and the mount structure.

Clause 76. The stand assembly of clause 74, wherein the magnetic attraction force between the base of the stand assembly and the mount structure enables secure attachment of the module onto the mounting surface, and the secure attachment satisfies one or more Underwriters Laboratories (UL) standards that set forth at least safety requirements for mounting the module onto a mounting surface.

Clause 77. The stand assembly of clause 74, wherein the mount structure has a smaller surface area than a surface area of a bottom surface of the base, the stand assembly further comprising:

a cable guide ring, wherein the cable guide ring has an interior diameter larger than a diameter of the mount plate, such that when the stand assembly is mounted onto the mounting surface, the cable guide ring surrounds the mount plate and sandwiched between the mounting surface and the base of the stand assembly, and the cable guide ring further includes a cable guide structure to fix a cable that is configured to electrically couple the module received in the receiving element to an external power supply or a separate electronic device.

Clause 78. A system, comprising:

a receiving element for physically receiving a module, the receiving element including:

a module holding structure that holds the module;

an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure; and
a first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion located opposite another end of the extended portion that extends from the module holding structure; and
a base assembly for supporting the receiving element, the base assembly including:
a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface; and
a second fastener structure coupled to the base at a joint, the second fastener structure being configured to mate with the first fastener structure;
wherein the first fastener structure and the joint are configured to respectively provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, and wherein the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, and the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom is limited in a direction of travel associated with the second degree of freedom, and wherein the first degree of freedom is associated with a reverse direction of travel that is opposite to the first direction of travel associated with the unlimited movement at the first degree of freedom, and the first and second fastener structures are unfastened when the receiving element moves with respect to the base assembly in the reverse direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom.

Clause 79. A camera assembly, comprising:

a receiving element for physically receiving a camera module, the receiving element including:

a module holding structure that holds the camera module;
an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure; and
a first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion located opposite another end of the extended portion that extends from the module holding structure; and
a base assembly for supporting the receiving element, the base assembly including:
a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface; and
a second fastener structure coupled to the base at a joint, the second fastener structure being configured to mate with the first fastener structure;
wherein the first fastener structure and the joint are configured to respectively provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the

receiving element with respect to the base, and wherein the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, and the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom is limited in a direction of travel associated with the second degree of freedom, and wherein the first degree of freedom is associated with a reverse direction of travel that is opposite to the first direction of travel associated with the unlimited movement at the first degree of freedom, and the first and second fastener structures are unfastened when the receiving element moves with respect to the base assembly in the reverse direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom.

Clause 80. The camera assembly of clause 79, further comprising the camera module that is held by the module holding structure of the receiving element.

E. Camera Stand Having an Unlimited Range of Motion along an Axis of Rotation (II)

Clause 81. A stand assembly, comprising:

a receiving element for physically receiving a module, the receiving element including:

a module holding structure that holds the module;

an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure; and

a first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion; and

a base assembly for supporting the receiving element, the base assembly including:

a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface; and

a second fastener structure coupled to the base, the second fastener structure being configured to mate with the first fastener structure;

wherein:

the first fastener structure is configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion with respect to the base;

movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom;

the first degree of freedom is associated with a reverse direction of travel that is opposite to the first direction of travel associated with the unlimited movement at the first degree of freedom, and the first and second fastener structures are unfastened when the receiving element moves with respect to the base assembly in the reverse direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom;

a screw hole of the first fastener structure matches a screw structure of the second fastener structure, and is configured to be tightened onto the screw structure along the direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, and when the receiving element moves further along the direction of travel, the screw hole of the first fastener structure is fixed with respect to the second fastener structure of the base assembly; and

a low friction bushing is fixed inside the extended portion of the receiving element, and in accordance with the unlimited movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom, the low friction bushing wraps around the first fastener structure, and rotates as part of the receiving element with respect to the base assembly, and with respect to the first fastener structure when the first fastener structure is tightened onto the second fastener structure of the base assembly.

Clause 82. The stand assembly of clause 81, wherein at the first degree of freedom of motion, the unlimited movement of the receiving element at the first direction of travel is associated with a first torque resistance, and the first torque resistance is substantially greater than a second torque resistance that is required to unfasten the receiving element from the base assembly in the reverse direction of travel.

Clause 83. The stand assembly of clause 81, wherein the receiving element is configured to move with respect to the base at the first degree of freedom of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure of the base assembly, and the first fastener structure of the receiving element further includes the screw hole having a predetermined thread length, and wherein the first fastener structure causes the unlimited movement at the first degree of freedom of motion, after the screw hole of the first fastener structure is tightened onto the screw structure of the second fastener structure.

Clause 84. The stand assembly of clause 81, wherein the first fastener structure further includes a spring washer that is configured to render a substantially consistent resistance for the unlimited movement of the receiving element in the direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom of motion.

Clause 85. The stand assembly of clause 81, wherein the extended portion of the receiving element includes a thread locker embedded therein, and the first fastener structure includes a shoulder screw, and wherein the shoulder screw is configured to lock into place with the thread locker for the purposes of fastening the first fastener structure to the receiving element.

Clause 86. The stand assembly of clause 81, wherein the module holding structure of the receiving element includes a cutout opening that has a shape conforming to a contour of the module, and is configured to hold the module when the module is inserted within the cutout opening.

Clause 87. The stand assembly of clause 81, wherein the base includes a planar surface for resting against the supporting surface, the second fastener structure is coupled to the base at a joint configured to provide a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a second full range of motion associated with the second degree of freedom, and the second degree of freedom of motion at the joint is associated with flipping of the receiving element with respect to a flipping axis that passes through the joint and is substantially parallel to the planar surface of the base.

Clause 88. The stand assembly of clause 81, wherein the base includes a planar surface for resting against the supporting surface, and the first degree of freedom of motion is associated with twisting of the receiving element with respect to a twisting axis that passes through the receiving element and is perpendicular to the planar surface of the base.

Clause 89. The stand assembly of any of clauses 81- 88, wherein the first fastener structure includes a threaded screw hole that matches a tripod screw of a standard tripod, and the receiving element is configured to mount on the standard tripod when the tripod screw is tightened into the threaded screw hole.

Clause 90. The stand assembly of any of clauses 81- 88, wherein the first fastener structure associated with the first degree of freedom of motion is structurally invisible to a user of the stand assembly.

Clause 91. The stand assembly of any of clauses 81- 88, wherein the base assembly further includes:

a magnet plate, wherein the magnet plate is mechanically attached to the base such that the magnet plate is adjacent to or forms a portion of a bottom surface of the base, and the magnet plate has a bottom surface area that is smaller than a surface area of the bottom surface of the base.

Clause 92. The stand assembly of clause 91, wherein the base assembly further includes:
a cover plate, wherein the cover plate is applied to cover the magnet plate attached to the base, and the magnet plate is sandwiched between the bottom of the base and the cover plate, and wherein the cover plate has a surface area that is substantially equal or slightly larger than that of the magnet plate such that the cover plate entirely seals the magnet plate inside the base assembly.

Clause 93. The stand assembly of any of clauses 81- 88, further comprising:
a mount structure that is configured to be attached and fixed onto a mounting surface using one or more mount fasteners, wherein at least part of the mount structure is made of magnetically attractable material, and the assembly is mounted onto the mounting surface when the base of the base assembly magnetically adheres onto the mount structure.

Clause 94. The stand assembly of clause 92, wherein the mount structure further includes a cable guide structure for guiding a cable that electrically couples the module received in the receiving element to an external power supply or a separate electronic device.

Clause 95. The stand assembly of clause 92, further comprising:
a detachable foam plate, wherein when the detachable foam plate is disposed between a bottom surface of the base and the mount structure, the detachable foam plate increases a distance between the bottom surface of the base and the mount structure, and reduces the magnetic attraction force between the base and the mount structure.

Clause 96. The stand assembly of clause 92, wherein the magnetic attraction force between the base of the stand assembly and the mount structure enables secure attachment of the module onto the mounting surface, and the secure attachment satisfies one or more Underwriters Laboratories (UL) standards that set forth at least safety requirements for mounting the module onto a mounting surface.

Clause 97. The stand assembly of clause 92, wherein the mount structure has a smaller surface area than a surface area of a bottom surface of the base, the stand assembly further comprising:

a cable guide ring, wherein the cable guide ring has an interior diameter larger than a diameter of the mount plate, such that when the stand assembly is mounted onto the mounting surface, the cable guide ring surrounds the mount plate and sandwiched between the mounting surface and the base of the stand assembly, and the cable guide ring further

includes a cable guide structure to fix a cable that is configured to electrically couple the module received in the receiving element to an external power supply or a separate electronic device.

Clause 98. A system, comprising:

a receiving element for physically receiving a module, the receiving element including:

a module holding structure that holds the module;

an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure; and

a first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion; and

a base assembly for supporting the receiving element, the base assembly including:

a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface; and

a second fastener structure coupled to the base, the second fastener structure being configured to mate with the first fastener structure;

wherein:

the first fastener structure is configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion with respect to the base;

the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, and the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom is limited in a direction of travel associated with the second degree of freedom;

the first degree of freedom is associated with a reverse direction of travel that is opposite to the first direction of travel associated with the unlimited movement at the first degree of freedom, and the first and second fastener structures are unfastened when the receiving element moves with respect to the base assembly in the reverse direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom;

a screw hole of the first fastener structure matches a screw structure of the second fastener structure, and is configured to be tightened onto the screw structure along the direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, and when the receiving element moves further along the direction of travel, the screw hole of the first fastener structure is fixed with respect to the second fastener structure of the base assembly; and

a low friction bushing is fixed inside the extended portion of the receiving element, and in accordance with the unlimited movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom, the low friction bushing wraps around the first fastener structure, and

rotates as part of the receiving element with respect to the base assembly, and with respect to the first fastener structure when the first fastener structure is tightened onto the second fastener structure of the base assembly.

Clause 99. A camera assembly, comprising:

a receiving element for physically receiving a camera module, the receiving element including:

a module holding structure that holds the camera module;

an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure; and

a first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion; and

a base assembly for supporting the receiving element, the base assembly including:

a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface; and

a second fastener structure coupled to the base, the second fastener structure being configured to mate with the first fastener structure;

wherein:

the first fastener structure is configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion;

the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, and the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom is limited in a direction of travel associated with the second degree of freedom;

the first degree of freedom is associated with a reverse direction of travel that is opposite to the first direction of travel associated with the unlimited movement at the first degree of freedom, and the first and second fastener structures are unfastened when the receiving element moves with respect to the base assembly in the reverse direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom;

a screw hole of the first fastener structure matches a screw structure of the second fastener structure, and is configured to be tightened onto the screw structure along the direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, and when the receiving element moves further along the direction of travel, the screw hole of the first fastener structure is fixed with respect to the second fastener structure of the base assembly; and

a low friction bushing is fixed inside the extended portion of the receiving element, and in accordance with the unlimited movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom, the low friction bushing wraps around the first fastener structure, and

rotates as part of the receiving element with respect to the base assembly, and with respect to the first fastener structure when the first fastener structure is tightened onto the second fastener structure of the base assembly.

Clause 100. The camera assembly of clause 99, further comprising the camera module that is held by the module holding structure of the receiving element.

F. Camera Stand Having Constant Resistance for a Portion of a Range of Motion along an Axis of Rotation

Clause 101. A camera, comprising:

a holding element for physically holding a camera sensor, the holding element including:

- a camera portion for holding the camera sensor;
- an extended portion that extends from the camera portion; and
- a fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion located opposite another end of the extended portion where the camera module is located; and
- a base assembly for supporting the holding element, the base assembly including:
 - a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface; and
 - a joint structure configured to mate with the fastener structure;

wherein:

the fastener structure and the joint structure are configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion of the holding element with respect to the base and a second degree of freedom of motion of the holding element with respect to the base,

the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, and

the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom is limited in a second direction of travel associated with the second degree of freedom.

Clause 102. The camera of clause 101, wherein the first degree of freedom includes rotation of the holding element with respect to a first axis, and the first axis passes through the extended portion of the holding element and extends in the same direction as the extended portion of the holding element.

Clause 103. The camera of clause 102, wherein the rotation of the holding element with respect to the first axis facilitates panning of the camera sensor.

Clause 104. The camera of any of clauses 101-103, wherein the second degree of freedom includes rotation of the holding element with respect to a second axis, and the second axis passes through the joint structure and extends in a direction perpendicular to the first axis.

Clause 105. The camera of clause 104, wherein the rotation of the holding element with respect to the second axis facilitates tilting of the camera sensor.

Clause 106. The camera of clause 104, wherein the holding element has a first nominal position when the extended portion of the holding element is adjusted to be perpendicular to a bottom surface of the base that is configured to rest against the supporting surface, and in accordance with the second direction of travel associated with the second degree of freedom, the holding element is configured to be rotated up to 90 degrees with respect to the first nominal position to reach a second nominal position.

Clause 107. The camera of clause 106, wherein in accordance with the second nominal position, the holding element and the camera sensor are configured to face substantially in parallel with and opposite to the bottom surface of the base.

Clause 108. A system, comprising:

- a holding element for physically holding a module, the holding element including:

- a module portion for holding the module;

- an extended portion that extends from the module portion; and

- a fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion located opposite another end of the extended portion where the module is located; and

- a base assembly for supporting the holding element, the base assembly including:

- a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface; and

- a joint structure configured to mate with the fastener structure;

wherein:

- the fastener structure and the joint structure are configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion of the holding element with respect to the base and a second degree of freedom of motion of the holding element with respect to the base,

- the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, and

- the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom is limited in a second direction of travel associated with the second degree of freedom.

Clause 109. The system of clause 108, wherein the first degree of freedom includes rotation of the holding element with respect to a first axis, and the first axis passes through the extended portion of the holding element and extends in the same direction as the extended portion of the holding element.

Clause 110. The system of clause 109, wherein the rotation of the holding element with respect to the first axis facilitates panning of the module.

Clause 111. The system of clause 108, wherein the second degree of freedom includes rotation of the holding element with respect to a second axis, and the second axis passes through the joint structure and extends in a direction perpendicular to the first axis.

Clause 112. The system of clause 111, wherein the rotation of the holding element with respect to the second axis facilitates tilting of the module.

Clause 113. The system of any of clauses 108-112, wherein the camera portion of the holding element includes a cutout opening that has a shape conforming to a contour of the camera sensor, and is configured to hold the camera sensor when the camera sensor is inserted within the cutout opening.

Clause 114. The system of any of clauses 108-112, wherein the camera sensor and the holding element are physically integrated.

Clause 115. A camera assembly, comprising:

a holding element for physically holding a camera sensor, the holding element including:

the camera sensor that is integrated on the holding element;

a camera portion for holding the camera sensor;

an extended portion that extends from the camera portion; and

a fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion located opposite another end of the extended portion where the camera module is located; and

a base assembly for supporting the holding element, the base assembly including:

a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface; and

a joint structure configured to mate with the fastener structure;

wherein:

the fastener structure and the joint structure are configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion of the holding element with respect to the base and a second degree of freedom of motion of the holding element with respect to the base,

the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, and

the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom is limited in a second direction of travel associated with the second degree of freedom.

Clause 116. The camera assembly of clause 115, wherein the first degree of freedom includes rotation of the holding element with respect to a first axis, and the first axis passes through the extended portion of the holding element and extends in the same direction as the extended portion of the holding element, and wherein the rotation of the holding element with respect to the first axis facilitates panning of the camera sensor.

Clause 117. The camera assembly of clause 116, wherein the rotation of the holding element with respect to the first axis facilitates panning of the camera sensor.

Clause 118. The camera assembly of clause 115, wherein the camera portion of the holding element includes a cutout opening that has a shape conforming to a contour of the camera sensor, and is configured to hold the camera sensor when the camera sensor is inserted within the cutout opening.

Clause 119. The camera assembly of any of clauses 115-118, wherein the camera sensor and the holding element are physically integrated.

Clause 120. The camera assembly of any of clauses 115-118, wherein the second degree of freedom includes rotation of the holding element with respect to a second axis, and the second axis passes through the joint structure and extends in a direction perpendicular to the first axis.

G. Method of Packaging Camera Facilitating Ease of Installation (I)

Clause 121. A method of preparing an assembly, comprising:

providing a base assembly that includes a base and a second fastener structure, the second fastener structure being coupled to the base at a joint;

attaching to the base assembly a receiving element that is configured to physically receive a module and includes a first fastener structure, wherein the first fastener structure is

configured to mate with the second fastener structure and provide a first degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, and the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom of motion, and wherein the joint is configured to provide a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base; and

rotating the receiving element along the first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom until the receiving element reaches a nominal position, wherein at the nominal position, the receiving element and the module received thereby are configured to face in a direction substantially parallel to the base when they are rotated along the second degree of freedom of motion.

Clause 122. The method of clause 121, wherein the receiving element is attached to the base assembly to form an assembly, further comprising:

rotating the receiving element via the joint at the second degree of freedom of motion until the receiving element and the module received thereby face in a direction substantially parallel to the base; and

after rotating the receiving element via the joint, placing the assembly within a shipping package, including placing the assembly on a packaging layer inside the shipping package with the receiving element and the module received thereby at least partially held in a recess on the packaging layer.

Clause 123. The method of clause 121, wherein the first degree of freedom is associated with a reverse direction of travel that is opposite to the first direction of travel associated with the unlimited movement at the first degree of freedom, and the first and second fastener structures are unfastened when the receiving element moves with respect to the base assembly in the reverse direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom.

Clause 124. The method of clause 121, wherein an extended portion of the receiving element includes a thread locker embedded therein, and the first fastener structure includes a shoulder screw, and wherein the shoulder screw is configured to lock into place with the thread locker for the purposes of fastening the first fastener structure to the receiving element.

Clause 125. The method of clause 121, wherein the first fastener structure further includes a shoulder screw, a sleeve bushing, a spring washer and a screw hole, and the first fastener

structure is configured to be loosely suspended within the extended portion of the receiving element via the shoulder screw.

Clause 126. The method of clause 121, wherein a low friction bushing is fixed inside an extended portion of the receiving element, and in accordance with the unlimited movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom, the low friction bushing wraps around the first fastener structure, and rotates as part of the receiving element with respect to the base assembly, and with respect to the first fastener structure when the first fastener structure is tightened onto the second fastener structure of the base assembly.

Clause 127. The method of clause 121, wherein the receiving element is configured to move with respect to the base at the first degree of freedom of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure of the base assembly, and the first fastener structure of the receiving element further includes a screw hole that has a predetermined thread length and matches a screw structure of the second fastener structure, and wherein the first fastener structure causes the unlimited movement at the first degree of freedom of motion, after the screw hole of the first fastener structure is tightened onto the screw structure of the second fastener structure.

Clause 128. The method of clause 121, wherein the module is one of a group consisting of a camera, a microphone and a smart sensor device.

Clause 129. The method of any of clauses 121-128, wherein the receiving element is attached to the base assembly to form the assembly, and the assembly is associated with a mount structure, and wherein the mount structure is configured for attaching and fixing onto a mounting surface using one or more mount fasteners, wherein at least part of the mount structure is made of magnetically attractable material, and the assembly is mounted onto the mounting surface when the base of the base assembly magnetically adheres onto the mount structure.

Clause 130. The method of clause 129, wherein the mount structure has a smaller surface area than a surface area of a bottom surface of the base, and is associated with a cable guide ring that is configured to be placed around the mount structure, and wherein the cable guide ring has an interior diameter larger than a diameter of the mount plate, such that when the assembly is mounted onto the mounting surface, the cable guide ring surrounds the mount plate and sandwiched between the mounting surface and the base of the assembly, and the

cable guide ring further includes a cable guide structure to fix a cable that is configured to electrically couples the module received in the receiving element to an external power supply or a separate electronic device.

Clause 131. The method of any of clauses 121-128, wherein the first fastener structure associated with the first degree of freedom of motion is structurally invisible to a user of the stand assembly, and the joint associated with the second degree of freedom of motion is structurally visible to the user of the stand assembly.

Clause 132. A method of preparing a camera assembly, comprising:

providing a base assembly that includes a base and a second fastener structure, the second fastener structure being coupled to the base at a joint;

attaching to the base assembly a receiving element that is configured to physically receive a camera module and includes a first fastener structure, wherein the first fastener structure is configured to mate with the second fastener structure and provide a first degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, and the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom of motion, and wherein the joint is configured to provide a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base; and

rotating the receiving element along the first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom until the receiving element reaches a nominal position, wherein at the nominal position, the receiving element and the camera module received thereby are configured to face in a direction substantially parallel to the base when they are rotated along the second degree of freedom of motion.

Clause 133. The method of clause 132, wherein the receiving element is attached to the base assembly to form an assembly, further comprising:

rotating the receiving element via the joint at the second degree of freedom of motion until the receiving element and the camera module received thereby face in a direction substantially parallel to the base; and

after rotating the receiving element via the joint, placing the assembly within a shipping package, including placing the assembly on a packaging layer inside the shipping package with the receiving element and the camera module received thereby at least partially held in a recess on the packaging layer.

Clause 134. The method of clause 132, wherein the first degree of freedom is associated with a reverse direction of travel that is opposite to the first direction of travel associated with the unlimited movement at the first degree of freedom, and the first and second fastener structures are unfastened when the receiving element moves with respect to the base assembly in the reverse direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom.

Clause 135. The method of clause 132, wherein an extended portion of the receiving element includes a thread locker embedded therein, and the first fastener structure includes a shoulder screw, and wherein the shoulder screw is configured to lock into place with the thread locker for the purposes of fastening the first fastener structure to the receiving element.

Clause 136. The method of clause 132, wherein the first fastener structure further includes a shoulder screw, a sleeve bushing, a spring washer and a screw hole, and the first fastener structure is configured to be loosely suspended within the extended portion of the receiving element via the shoulder screw.

Clause 137. The method of any of clauses 132-136, wherein a low friction bushing is fixed inside an extended portion of the receiving element, and in accordance with the unlimited movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom, the low friction bushing wraps around the first fastener structure, and rotates as part of the receiving element with respect to the base assembly, and with respect to the first fastener structure when the first fastener structure is tightened onto the second fastener structure of the base assembly.

Clause 138. A method of packaging a module assembly, comprising:

- providing a base assembly that includes a base and a second fastener structure, the second fastener structure being coupled to the base at a joint;

- attaching to the base assembly a receiving element that is configured to physically receive a module and includes a first fastener structure, wherein the first fastener structure is configured to mate with the second fastener structure and provide a first degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, and the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom of motion, and wherein the joint is configured to provide a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base;

- rotating the receiving element along the first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom until the receiving element reaches a nominal position, wherein at the

nominal position, the receiving element and the module received thereby are configured to face in a direction substantially parallel to the base when they are rotated along the second degree of freedom of motion;

assembling the module onto the receiving element, wherein the module assembly is formed to include the receiving element, the base assembly and the module;

rotating the receiving element via the joint at the second degree of freedom of motion until the receiving element and the module received thereby face in a direction substantially parallel to the base; and

after flipping the receiving element via the joint, placing the assembly within a shipping package, including placing the assembly on a packaging layer inside the shipping package with the receiving element and the module received thereby at least partially held in a recess on the packaging layer.

Clause 139. The method of clause 138, wherein the module is one of a group consisting of a camera, a microphone and a smart sensor device.

Clause 140. The method of clause 138 or 139, wherein the first fastener structure associated with the first degree of freedom of motion is structurally invisible to a user of the stand assembly, and the joint associated with the second degree of freedom of motion is structurally visible to the user of the stand assembly.

H. Method of Packaging Camera Facilitating Ease of Installation (II)

Clause 141. A method of preparing an assembly, comprising:

providing a base assembly that includes a base and a second fastener structure, the second fastener structure being coupled to the base at a joint;

attaching to the base assembly a receiving element that is configured to physically receive a module and includes a first fastener structure, including: rotating, in a first direction, the first fastener structure onto the second fastener structure until the first fastener structure reaches a tightened position, wherein the first fastener structure of the receiving element and the joint of the base assembly are configured to respectively provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base assembly; and

after the first fastener structure of the receiving element reaches the tightened position, rotating, in a second direction opposite the first direction, the first fastener structure by a first amount until the receiving element reaches a nominal position, wherein at the

nominal position, the receiving element and the module received thereby are configured to face a direction substantially parallel to the base when they are rotated along the second degree of freedom of motion.

Clause 142. The method of clause 141, wherein the receiving element further includes a module holding structure and an extended portion, and attaching to the base assembly the receiving element further includes:

after tightening the first fastener structure onto the second fastener structure, pressing the module holding structure and the extended portion of the receiving element onto the first fastener structure to mount the receiving element to the base assembly.

Clause 143. The method of clause 141, wherein the receiving element is attached to the base assembly to form an assembly, further comprising:

rotating the receiving element via the joint at the second degree of freedom of motion until the receiving element and the module received thereby face a direction substantially parallel to the base; and

after rotating the receiving element via the joint, placing the assembly within a shipping package, including placing the assembly on a packaging layer inside the shipping package with the receiving element and the module received thereby at least partially held in a recess on the packaging layer.

Clause 144. The method of clause 141, wherein the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion, and the tightened position of the first fastener structure is associated with an end position that the receiving element has within the first part of the first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom.

Clause 145. The method of clause 141, wherein providing the base assembly further includes:

inserting the second fastener structure into a base opening slot on the base assembly; and

forming the joint by assembling the second fastener structure in the base opening slot using one or more joint fasteners.

Clause 146. The method of clause 141, wherein the first angle is substantially equal to 45 degrees.

Clause 147. The method of clause 141, wherein the first angle is substantially equal to half of a full range of motion of the first fastener structure.

Clause 148. The method of any of clauses 141-147, wherein the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion, and the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a second full range of motion associated with the second degree of freedom.

Clause 149. The method of clause 148, wherein the first part of the first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion is associated with a twisting angle, and the first angle is substantially equal to half of the twisting angle such that the nominal position is located at the center of the first part of the first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion.

Clause 150. The method of clause 148, wherein the receiving element is configured to move with respect to the base at the first degree of freedom of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure of the base assembly, and the first fastener structure of the receiving element further includes:

a screw hole that matches a screw structure of the second fastener structure, wherein the screw hole has a predetermined thread length, and provides a second part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure, and the second part of the first full range of motion is distinct from the first part of the first full range of motion; and

a nylon-like bushing coupled at the end of the screw hole, wherein the nylon-like bushing has a predetermined bushing depth, and provides the first part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure.

Clause 151. The method of any of clauses 141-147, wherein the module is one of a group consisting of a camera, a microphone and a smart sensor device.

Clause 152. A method of preparing a camera assembly, comprising:

providing a base assembly that includes a base and a second fastener structure, the second fastener structure being coupled to the base at a joint;

attaching to the base assembly a receiving element that is configured to physically receive a camera module and includes a first fastener structure, including: rotating, in a first direction, the first fastener structure onto the second fastener structure until the first fastener structure reaches a tightened position, wherein the first fastener structure of the receiving element and the joint of the base assembly are configured to respectively provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base assembly; and

after that the first fastener structure of the receiving element reaches the tightened position, rotating, in a second direction opposite the first direction, the first fastener structure by a first amount until the receiving element reaches a nominal position, wherein at the nominal position, the receiving element and the camera module received thereby are configured to face a direction substantially parallel to the base when they are rotated along a second degree of freedom of motion.

Clause 153. The method of clause 152, wherein attaching to the base assembly the receiving element further includes:

after tightening the first fastener structure onto the second fastener structure, pressing the camera module holding structure and the extended portion of the receiving element onto the first fastener structure to mount the receiving element to the base assembly.

Clause 154. The method of clause 152 or 153, wherein the receiving element is attached to the base assembly to form an assembly, further comprising:

rotating the receiving element via the joint at the second degree of freedom of motion until the receiving element and the camera module received thereby face a direction substantially parallel to the base; and

after rotating the receiving element via the joint, placing the assembly within a shipping package, including placing the assembly on a packaging layer inside the shipping package with the receiving element and the camera module received thereby at least partially held in a recess on the packaging layer.

Clause 155. The method of clause 152 or 153, wherein the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through first part

of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion, and the tightened position of the first fastener structure is associated with an end position that the receiving element has within the first part of the first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom.

Clause 156. The method of clause 152, wherein providing the base assembly further includes:

- inserting the second fastener structure into a base opening slot on the base assembly;
- and

- forming the joint by assembling the second fastener structure in the base opening slot using one or more joint fasteners.

Clause 157. The method of clause 152, 153 or 156, wherein the first angle is substantially equal to 45 degrees.

Clause 158. A method of packaging a module assembly, comprising:

- providing a base assembly that includes a base and a second fastener structure, the second fastener structure being coupled to the base at a joint;

- attaching to the base assembly a receiving element that is configured to physically receive a module and includes a first fastener structure, including: rotating, in a first direction, the first fastener structure onto the second fastener structure until the first fastener structure reaches a tightened position, wherein the first fastener structure of the receiving element and the joint of the base assembly are configured to respectively provide a first degree of freedom of motion and a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base assembly; and

- after the first fastener structure of the receiving element reaches the tightened position, rotating, in a second direction opposite the first direction, the first fastener structure by a first amount until the receiving element and the module received thereby are configured to face in a direction substantially parallel to the base when they are rotated via the joint at the second degree of freedom of motion;

- rotating the receiving element via the joint at the second degree of freedom of motion until the receiving element and the module received thereby face in a direction substantially parallel to the base; and

- after rotating the receiving element via the joint, placing the module assembly within a shipping package, including placing the assembly on a packaging layer inside the shipping

package with the receiving element and the module received thereby at least partially held in a recess on the packaging layer.

Clause 159. The method of clause 158, wherein attaching to the base assembly the receiving element further includes:

after tightening the first fastener structure onto the second fastener structure, pressing the module holding structure and the extended portion of the receiving element onto the first fastener structure to mount the receiving element to the base assembly.

Clause 160. The method of clause 158 or 159, wherein the module is one of a group consisting of a camera, a microphone and a smart sensor device.

I. Method of Packaging Camera Facilitating Ease of Installation (III)

Clause 161. A method of packaging a camera product, comprising:

providing a base assembly that includes a base and a base fastener structure;

attaching to the base assembly a holding element that is configured to physically hold a camera and includes a holding element fastener structure, the holding element fastener structure being configured to mate with the base fastener structure, wherein the base fastener structure and the holding element fastener structure, when mated, are configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion for the holding element relative to the base and a second degree of freedom of motion for the holding element relative to the base;

rotating the holding element in a first direction via the first degree of freedom until the holding element reaches a first nominal position, wherein at the nominal position, the holding element is configured to face in a direction substantially parallel to the base when they are rotated along the second degree of freedom of motion;

rotating the holding element in a second direction via the second degree of freedom until the holding element reaches a second nominal position; and

after attaching the holding element to the base assembly and rotating the holding element in the first direction and the second direction, providing the base assembly and the holding element to a package physically configured to receive the camera product.

Clause 162. The method of clause 161, wherein the holding element further includes an extended portion coupled to the holding element fastener structure, and wherein the first degree of freedom of motion includes rotation of the holding element with respect to a first

axis that extends in the same direction as the extended portion, and is configured to facilitate panning of the camera.

Clause 163. The method of clause 161, wherein the rotation of the holding element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in at least one direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom of motion.

Clause 164. The method of clause 161, wherein the second degree of freedom of motion includes rotation of the holding element with respect to a second axis that extends in a direction perpendicular to the first axis, and is configured to facilitate tilting of the camera.

Clause 165. The method of clause 161, wherein the rotation of the holding element at the second degree of freedom is limited.

Clause 166. The method of clause 161, wherein the holding element and the camera are physically integrated.

Clause 167. The method of any of clauses 161-166, wherein the camera product includes a camera puck, and the camera puck further includes a camera lens and image sensors.

Clause 168. The method of clause 167, wherein the holding element and the camera puck have the same shape.

Clause 169. The method of clause 167, wherein the holding element includes a cutout opening that physically receives the camera puck.

Clause 170. The method of any of clauses 161-166, wherein the holding element is attached to the base assembly to form an assembly, and providing the base assembly and the holding element to the package further comprises:

placing the assembly on a packaging layer inside the package with the holding element at least partially held in a recess on the packaging layer.

Clause 171. The method of any of clauses 161-166, wherein the base assembly is configured for attaching and fixing onto a mounting surface using a mounting structure at least partially made of magnetically attractable material, and the holding element and the base assembly are mounted onto the mounting surface when the base of the base assembly magnetically adheres onto the mount structure.

Clause 172. A method of preparing a camera product, comprising:

providing a base assembly that includes a base and a base fastener structure;

attaching to the base assembly a holding element that is configured to physically hold a camera and includes a holding element fastener structure, the holding element fastener structure being configured to mate with the base fastener structure, wherein the base fastener structure and the holding element fastener structure, when mated, are configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion for the holding element relative to the base and a second degree of freedom of motion for the holding element relative to the base;

rotating the holding element in a first direction via the first degree of freedom until the holding element reaches a first nominal position, wherein at the nominal position, the holding element is configured to face in a direction substantially parallel to the base when they are rotated along the second degree of freedom of motion; and

rotating the holding element in a second direction via the second degree of freedom until the holding element reaches a second nominal position.

Clause 173. The method of clause 172, wherein the holding element further includes an extended portion coupled to the holding element fastener structure, and wherein the first degree of freedom of motion includes rotation of the holding element with respect to a first axis that extends in the same direction as the extended portion, and is configured to facilitate panning of the camera.

Clause 174. The method of clause 172, wherein the rotation of the holding element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in at least one direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom of motion.

Clause 175. The method of clause 172, wherein the holding element and the camera are physically integrated.

Clause 176. The method of any of clauses 172-175, wherein the camera product includes a camera puck, and the camera puck further includes a camera lens and image sensors, and wherein the holding element and the camera puck have the same shape.

Clause 177. A method of packaging a module assembly, comprising:

providing a base assembly that includes a base and a base fastener structure;

attaching to the base assembly a holding element that is configured to physically hold a module device and includes a holding element fastener structure, the holding element

fastener structure being configured to mate with the base fastener structure, wherein the base fastener structure and the holding element fastener structure, when mated, are configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion for the holding element relative to the base and a second degree of freedom of motion for the holding element relative to the base;

rotating the holding element in a first direction via the first degree of freedom until the holding element reaches a first nominal position, wherein at the first nominal position, the holding element is configured to face in a direction substantially parallel to the base when they are rotated along the second degree of freedom of motion;

rotating the holding element in a second direction via the second degree of freedom until the holding element reaches a second nominal position; and

after attaching the holding element to the base assembly and rotating the holding element in the first direction and the second direction, providing the base assembly and the holding element to a package physically configured to receive the module device.

Clause 178. The method of clause 177, wherein the holding element further includes an extended portion coupled to the holding element fastener structure, and wherein the first degree of freedom of motion includes rotation of the holding element with respect to a first axis that extends in the same direction as the extended portion.

Clause 179. The method of clause 177 or 178, wherein the rotation of the holding element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in at least one direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom of motion.

Clause 180. The method of clause 179, wherein the base assembly is configured for attaching and fixing onto a mounting surface using a mounting structure at least partially made of magnetically attractable material, and the holding element and the base assembly are mounted onto the mounting surface when the base of the base assembly magnetically adheres onto the mount structure.

J. Camera Stand Having a Constant Resistance for a Portion of a Range of Motion along an Axis of Rotation (III)

Clause 181. A mechanical assembly, comprising:

a first fastener structure including a screw hole, the screw hole including a threaded portion and a non-threaded portion, the first fastener structure including a bushing fixed within the non-threaded portion; and

a second fastener structure including a screw structure, the screw structure including a threaded portion and a non-threaded portion, the second fastener structure being configured to mate with the first fastener structure;

wherein the screw hole and the screw structure are threaded to mate with one another, and the screw hole and the screw structure are configured such that, when mated with one another, the bushing physically engages the non-threaded portion of the screw structure while the threaded portion of the screw hole physically engages the threaded portion of the screw structure.

Clause 182. The mechanical assembly of clause 181, wherein the first fastener structure is configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion with respect to the second fastener structure, and movement of the first fastener structure at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion, and wherein the screw hole provides a second part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure, and the second part of the first full range of motion is distinct from the first part of the first full range of motion.

Clause 183. The mechanical assembly of clause 182, wherein the bushing has a first coefficient of friction that is associated with the substantially consistent resistance through the first part of the first full range of motion, and the screw hole has a second coefficient of friction that is associated with alternative resistance through the second part of the first full range of motion, and wherein the alternative resistance through the second part of the first full range of motion is distinct from the substantially consistent resistance through the first part of the first full range of motion.

Clause 184. The mechanical assembly of clause 182, wherein the first part of the first full range of motion is associated with a twisting angle that is substantially equal to 90 degrees.

Clause 185. The mechanical assembly of clause 182, wherein the base includes a planar surface for resting against the supporting surface, and the first full range of motion is associated with twisting of the receiving element with respect to a twisting axis that passes through the receiving element and is perpendicular to the planar surface of the base.

Clause 186. The mechanical assembly of any of clauses 181-185, wherein the threaded screw hole that matches a tripod screw of a standard tripod, and the mechanical assembly is

configured to mount on the standard tripod when the tripod screw is tightened into the threaded screw hole.

Clause 187. The mechanical assembly of any of clauses 181-185, wherein the first fastener structure is structurally invisible to a user of the mechanical assembly.

Clause 188. The mechanical assembly of clause 181, comprising:

a receiving element for physically receiving a module, the receiving element including a module holding structure configured to hold the module and an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure, wherein a first fastener structure is coupled to an end of the extended portion; and

a base assembly for supporting the receiving element, the base assembly including a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface, wherein the second fastener structure coupled to the base;

wherein the first fastener structure is configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base;

wherein movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion; and

wherein the screw hole provides a second part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure, and the second part of the first full range of motion is distinct from the first part of the first full range of motion; and

wherein the bushing is coupled at the end of the screw hole, and provides the first part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure, and the screw structure engages the bushing.

Clause 189. The mechanical assembly of clause 188, wherein the module holding structure of the receiving element includes a cutout opening that has a shape conforming to a contour of the module, and is configured to hold the module when the module is inserted within the cutout opening.

Clause 190. The mechanical assembly of clause 188, wherein the base includes a planar surface for resting against the supporting surface, the second fastener structure is coupled to

the base at a joint configured to provide a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a second full range of motion associated with the second degree of freedom, and the second degree of freedom of motion at the joint is associated with flipping of the receiving element with respect to a flipping axis that passes through the joint and is substantially parallel to the planar surface of the base.

Clause 191. The mechanical assembly of clause 190, wherein the receiving element is configured to flip with respect to the flipping axis by an angle that is substantially equal to 180 degrees.

Clause 192. The mechanical assembly of any of clauses 188-191, wherein the base assembly further includes:

a magnet plate, wherein the magnet plate is mechanically attached to the base such that the magnet plate is adjacent to or forms a portion of a bottom surface of the base, and the magnet plate has a bottom surface area that is smaller than a surface area of the bottom surface of the base.

Clause 193. The mechanical assembly of any of clauses 188-191, further comprising:

a mount structure that is configured to be attached and fixed onto a mounting surface using one or more mount fasteners, wherein at least part of the mount structure is made of magnetically attractable material, and the assembly is mounted onto the mounting surface when the base of the base assembly magnetically adheres onto the mount structure.

Clause 194. A system, comprising:

a first fastener structure including a screw hole, the screw hole including a threaded portion and a non-threaded portion, the first fastener structure including a bushing fixed within the non-threaded portion; and

a second fastener structure including a screw structure, the screw structure including a threaded portion and a non-threaded portion, the second fastener structure being configured to mate with the first fastener structure;

wherein the screw hole and the screw structure are threaded to mate with one another, and the screw hole and the screw structure are configured such that, when mated

with one another, the bushing physically engages the non-threaded portion of the screw structure while the threaded portion of the screw hole physically engages the threaded portion of the screw structure.

Clause 195. The system of clause 194, wherein the threaded screw hole that matches a tripod screw of a standard tripod, and the system is configured to mount on the standard tripod when the tripod screw is tightened into the threaded screw hole..

Clause 196. The system of clause 194 or 195, wherein the first fastener structure is configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion with respect to the second fastener structure, and movement of the first fastener structure at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion, and wherein the screw hole provides a second part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure, and the second part of the first full range of motion is distinct from the first part of the first full range of motion.

Clause 197. The system of clause 196, wherein the bushing has a first coefficient of friction that is associated with the substantially consistent resistance through the first part of the first full range of motion, and the screw hole has a second coefficient of friction that is associated with alternative resistance through the second part of the first full range of motion, and wherein the alternative resistance through the second part of the first full range of motion is distinct from the substantially consistent resistance through the first part of the first full range of motion.

Clause 198. The system of clause 196, wherein the first part of the first full range of motion is associated with a twisting angle that is substantially equal to 90 degrees.

Clause 199. The system of clause 194, further comprising:

a receiving element for physically receiving a module, the receiving element including a module holding structure configured to hold the module and an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure, wherein the first fastener structure is coupled to an end of the extended portion; and

a base assembly for supporting the receiving element, the base assembly including a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface, wherein the second fastener structure is coupled to the base;

wherein the first fastener structure is configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base;

wherein movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion; and

wherein the first fastener structure of the receiving element further includes:

a screw hole that matches a screw structure of the second fastener structure, wherein the screw hole provides a second part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure, and the second part of the first full range of motion is distinct from the first part of the first full range of motion; and

a bushing coupled at the end of the screw hole, wherein the bushing provides the first part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure and the screw structure engages the bushing.

Clause 200. The system of clause 199, wherein the module holding structure of the receiving element includes a cutout opening that has a shape conforming to a contour of the module, and is configured to hold the module when the module is inserted within the cutout opening.

Clause 201. The system of clause 199 or 200, further comprising:

a mount structure that is configured to be attached and fixed onto a mounting surface using one or more mount fasteners, wherein at least part of the mount structure is made of magnetically attractable material, and the assembly is mounted onto the mounting surface when the base of the base assembly magnetically adheres onto the mount structure.

Clause 202. A camera assembly, comprising:

a first fastener structure including a screw hole, the screw hole including a threaded portion and a non-threaded portion, the first fastener structure including a bushing fixed within the non-threaded portion; and

a second fastener structure including a screw structure, the screw structure including a threaded portion and a non-threaded portion, the second fastener structure being configured to mate with the first fastener structure;

wherein the screw hole and the screw structure are threaded to mate with one another, and the screw hole and the screw structure are configured such that, when mated with one another, the bushing physically engages the non-threaded portion of the screw structure while the threaded portion of the screw hole physically engages the threaded portion of the screw structure.

Clause 203. The camera assembly of clause 202, wherein the first part of the first full range of motion is associated with a twisting angle that is substantially equal to 90 degrees.

Clause 204. The camera assembly of clause 202, wherein the threaded screw hole that matches a tripod screw of a standard tripod, and the camera assembly is configured to mount on the standard tripod when the tripod screw is tightened into the threaded screw hole.

Clause 205. The camera assembly of any of clauses 202-204, further comprising a camera module.

Clause 206. The camera assembly of any of clauses 202-204, wherein the first fastener structure is configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion with respect to the second fastener structure, and movement of the first fastener structure at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion, and wherein the screw hole provides a second part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure, and the second part of the first full range of motion is distinct from the first part of the first full range of motion.

Clause 207. The camera assembly of clause 206, wherein the bushing has a first coefficient of friction that is associated with the substantially consistent resistance through the first part of the first full range of motion, and the screw hole has a second coefficient of friction that is associated with alternative resistance through the second part of the first full range of motion, and wherein the alternative resistance through the second part of the first full range of motion is distinct from the substantially consistent resistance through the first part of the first full range of motion.

Clause 208. The camera assembly of clause 202, further comprising:

a receiving element for physically receiving a camera module, the receiving element including a module holding structure configured to hold the camera module and an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure, wherein the first fastener structure coupled to an end of the extended portion; and

a base assembly for supporting the receiving element, the base assembly including a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface, wherein the second fastener structure is coupled to the base;

wherein the first fastener structure is configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base;

wherein movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a first part of a first full range of motion associated with the first degree of freedom of motion; and

wherein the first fastener structure of the receiving element further includes:

a screw hole that matches a screw structure of the second fastener structure, wherein the screw hole provides a second part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure, and the second part of the first full range of motion is distinct from the first part of the first full range of motion; and

a bushing coupled at the end of the screw hole, wherein the bushing has a predetermined bushing depth and provides the first part of the first full range of motion when the first fastener structure is fastened onto the second fastener structure via the screw hole and the screw structure and the screw structure engages the bushing.

Clause 209. The camera assembly of clause 208, wherein the module holding structure of the receiving element includes a cutout opening that has a shape conforming to a contour of the module, and is configured to hold the module when the module is inserted within the cutout opening.

Clause 210. The camera assembly of clause 208 or 209, further comprising:

a mount structure that is configured to be attached and fixed onto a mounting surface using one or more mount fasteners, wherein at least part of the mount structure is made of magnetically attractable material, and the assembly is mounted onto the mounting surface when the base of the base assembly magnetically adheres onto the mount structure.

K. Camera Stand Having an Unlimited Range of Motion along an Axis of Rotation (III)

Clause 211. A mechanical assembly, comprising:

- a first fastener structure including a screw hole, the screw hole including at least a threaded portion having a non-threaded outer surface;

- a second fastener structure including a screw structure, the second fastener structure being configured to mate with the first fastener structure, the screw structure including at least a threaded portion; and

- a low friction bushing that wraps around the first fastener structure;

wherein the screw hole of the first fastener structure and the screw structure of the second fastener structure are threaded to mate with each other, and are configured such that, when mated with one another, the low friction bushing rotates with respect to the non-threaded outer surface of the threaded portion of the screw hole after the threaded portion of the screw hole is substantially tightened onto the threaded portion of the screw structure.

Clause 212. The mechanical assembly of clause 211, wherein the screw hole of the first fastener structure matches a tripod screw of a standard tripod, and the mechanical assembly is configured to mount on the standard tripod when the tripod screw is tightened into the threaded screw hole.

Clause 213. The mechanical assembly of clause 211, wherein the first fastener structure is structurally invisible to a user of the mechanical assembly.

Clause 214. The mechanical assembly of any of clauses 211-213, wherein:

- the first fastener structure is configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion with respect to the second fastener structure; and

- after the first fastener structure is tightened to the second fastener structure, the low friction bushing is configured to move with respect to the tightened first and second fastener structures at the first degree of movement, and movement of the low friction bushing at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom.

Clause 215. The mechanical assembly of clause 214, wherein at the first degree of freedom of motion, the unlimited movement of the low friction bushing at the first direction of travel is associated with a first torque resistance, and the first torque resistance is substantially

greater than a second torque resistance that is required to unfasten the first fastener structure from the second fastener structure in the reverse direction of travel.

Clause 216. The mechanical assembly of clause 214, wherein the first fastener structure further includes a spring washer that is configured to render a substantially consistent resistance for the unlimited movement of the low friction bushing in the first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom of motion.

Clause 217. The mechanical assembly of clause 211, further comprising:

- a receiving element for physically receiving a module, the receiving element including a module holding structure that holds the module and an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure, wherein the first fastener structure is coupled to an end of the extended portion; and

- a base assembly for supporting the receiving element, the base assembly including a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface, wherein the second fastener structure is coupled to the base;

- wherein:

- the first fastener structure is configured to provide to the receiving element a first degree of freedom of motion with respect to the base;

- while the first fastener structure is tightened to the second fastener structure, movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom;

- the first degree of freedom is associated with a reverse direction of travel that is opposite to the first direction of travel associated with the unlimited movement at the first degree of freedom, and the first and second fastener structures are unfastened when the receiving element moves with respect to the base assembly in the reverse direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom;

- the screw hole of the first fastener structure is configured to be tightened onto the screw structure along the direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, and when the receiving element moves further along the direction of travel, the screw hole of the first fastener structure is fixed with respect to the second fastener structure of the base assembly; and

- the low friction bushing is fixed inside the extended portion of the receiving element, and in accordance with the unlimited movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom, the low friction bushing wraps around the first fastener structure, and rotates as part

of the receiving element with respect to the base assembly, and with respect to the first fastener structure when the first fastener structure is tightened onto the second fastener structure of the base assembly.

Clause 218. The mechanical assembly of clause 217, wherein the extended portion of the receiving element includes a thread locker embedded therein, and the first fastener structure includes a shoulder screw, and wherein the shoulder screw is configured to lock into place with the thread locker for the purposes of fastening the first fastener structure to the receiving element.

Clause 219. The mechanical assembly of clause 217, wherein the module holding structure of the receiving element includes a cutout opening that has a shape conforming to a contour of the module, and is configured to hold the module when the module is inserted within the cutout opening.

Clause 220. The mechanical assembly of clause 217, wherein the base includes a planar surface for resting against the supporting surface, the second fastener structure is coupled to the base at a joint configured to provide a second degree of freedom of motion of the receiving element with respect to the base, the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom has substantially consistent resistance through a second full range of motion associated with the second degree of freedom, and the second degree of freedom of motion at the joint is associated with flipping of the receiving element with respect to a flipping axis that passes through the joint and is substantially parallel to the planar surface of the base.

Clause 221. The mechanical assembly of clause 217, wherein the base includes a planar surface for resting against the supporting surface, and the first degree of freedom of motion is associated with twisting of the receiving element with respect to a twisting axis that passes through the receiving element and is perpendicular to the planar surface of the base.

Clause 222. The mechanical assembly of any of clauses 217-221, wherein the base assembly further includes:

a magnet plate, wherein the magnet plate is mechanically attached to the base such that the magnet plate is adjacent to or forms a portion of a bottom surface of the base, and the magnet plate has a bottom surface area that is smaller than a surface area of the bottom surface of the base.

Clause 223. The mechanical assembly of any of clauses 217-221, further comprising:

a mount structure that is configured to be attached and fixed onto a mounting surface using one or more mount fasteners, wherein at least part of the mount structure is made of magnetically attractable material, and the assembly is mounted onto the mounting surface when the base of the base assembly magnetically adheres onto the mount structure.

Clause 224. The mechanical assembly of clause 223, wherein the mount structure further includes a cable guide structure for guiding a cable that electrically couples the module received in the receiving element to an external power supply or a separate electronic device.

Clause 225. The mechanical assembly of clause 223, wherein the magnetic attraction force between the base of the stand assembly and the mount structure enables secure attachment of the module onto the mounting surface, and the secure attachment satisfies one or more Underwriters Laboratories (UL) standards that set forth at least safety requirements for mounting the module onto a mounting surface.

Clause 226. A system, comprising:

a first fastener structure including a screw hole, the screw hole including at least a threaded portion having a non-threaded outer surface;

a second fastener structure including a screw structure, the second fastener structure being configured to mate with the first fastener structure, the screw structure including at least a threaded portion; and

a low friction bushing that wraps around the first fastener structure;

wherein the screw hole of the first fastener structure and the screw structure of the second fastener structure are threaded to mate with each other, and are configured such that, when mated with one another, the low friction bushing rotates with respect to the non-threaded outer surface of the threaded portion of the screw hole after the threaded portion of the screw hole is substantially tightened onto the threaded portion of the screw structure.

Clause 227. The system of clause 226, wherein the threaded screw hole that matches a tripod screw of a standard tripod, and the system is configured to mount on the standard tripod when the tripod screw is tightened into the threaded screw hole.

Clause 228. The system of clause 226, wherein:

the first fastener structure is configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion with respect to the second fastener structure; and

after the first fastener structure is tightened to the second fastener structure, the low friction bushing is configured to move with respect to the tightened first and second fastener structures at the first degree of movement, and movement of the low friction bushing at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom.

Clause 229. The system of clause 228, wherein at the first degree of freedom of motion, the unlimited movement of the low friction bushing at the first direction of travel is associated with a first torque resistance, and the first torque resistance is substantially greater than a second torque resistance that is required to unfasten the first fastener structure from the second fastener structure in the reverse direction of travel.

Clause 230. The system of any of clauses 226-229, further comprising:

a receiving element for physically receiving a module, the receiving element including a module holding structure that holds the module, and an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure, wherein the first fastener structure is coupled to an end of the extended portion; and

a base assembly for supporting the receiving element, the base assembly including a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface, wherein the second fastener structure is coupled to the base;

wherein:

the first fastener structure is configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion with respect to the base;

while the first fastener structure is tightened to the second fastener structure, the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom;

the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom is limited in a direction of travel associated with the second degree of freedom;

the first degree of freedom is associated with a reverse direction of travel that is opposite to the first direction of travel associated with the unlimited movement at the first degree of freedom, and the first and second fastener structures are unfastened when the receiving element moves with respect to the base assembly in the reverse direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom;

the screw hole of the first fastener structure matches the screw structure of the second fastener structure, and is configured to be tightened onto the screw structure along the

direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, and when the receiving element moves further along the direction of travel, the screw hole of the first fastener structure is fixed with respect to the second fastener structure of the base assembly; and

the low friction bushing is fixed inside the extended portion of the receiving element, and in accordance with the unlimited movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom, the low friction bushing wraps around the first fastener structure, and rotates as part of the receiving element with respect to the base assembly, and with respect to the first fastener structure when the first fastener structure is tightened onto the second fastener structure of the base assembly.

Clause 231. The system of clause 230, wherein the module holding structure of the receiving element includes a cutout opening that has a shape conforming to a contour of the module, and is configured to hold the module when the module is inserted within the cutout opening.

Clause 232. The system of clause 230, further comprising:

a mount structure that is configured to be attached and fixed onto a mounting surface using one or more mount fasteners, wherein at least part of the mount structure is made of magnetically attractable material, and the assembly is mounted onto the mounting surface when the base of the base assembly magnetically adheres onto the mount structure.

Clause 233. A camera assembly, comprising:

a first fastener structure including a screw hole, the screw hole including at least a threaded portion having a non-threaded outer surface;

a second fastener structure including a screw structure, the second fastener structure being configured to mate with the first fastener structure, the screw structure including at least a threaded portion; and

a low friction bushing that wraps around the first fastener structure;

wherein the screw hole of the first fastener structure and the screw structure of the second fastener structure are threaded to mate with each other, and are configured such that, when mated with one another, the low friction bushing rotates with respect to the non-threaded outer surface of the threaded portion of the screw hole after the threaded portion of the screw hole is substantially tightened onto the threaded portion of the screw structure.

Clause 234. The camera assembly of clause 233, further comprising a camera module.

Clause 235. The camera assembly of clause 233, wherein the threaded screw hole matches a tripod screw of a standard tripod, and the camera assembly is configured to mount on the standard tripod when the tripod screw is tightened into the threaded screw hole.

Clause 236. The camera assembly of any of clauses 233-235, wherein:

the first fastener structure is configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion with respect to the second fastener structure; and

after the first fastener structure is tightened to the second fastener structure, the low friction bushing is configured to move with respect to the tightened first and second fastener structures at the first degree of movement, and movement of the low friction bushing at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom.

Clause 237. The camera assembly of clause 236, wherein at the first degree of freedom of motion, the unlimited movement of the low friction bushing at the first direction of travel is associated with a first torque resistance, and the first torque resistance is substantially greater than a second torque resistance that is required to unfasten the first fastener structure from the second fastener structure in the reverse direction of travel.

Clause 238. The camera assembly of clause 233, further comprising:

a receiving element for physically receiving a camera module, the receiving element including a module holding structure that holds the camera module and an extended portion that extends from the module holding structure, wherein the first fastener structure is coupled to an end of the extended portion; and

a base assembly for supporting the receiving element, the base assembly including a base shaped to rest against a supporting surface, wherein the second fastener structure is coupled to the base;

wherein:

the first fastener structure is configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion;

while the first fastener structure is tightened to the second fastener structure, the movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in a first direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom;

the movement of the receiving element at the second degree of freedom is limited in a direction of travel associated with the second degree of freedom;

the first degree of freedom is associated with a reverse direction of travel that is opposite to the first direction of travel associated with the unlimited movement at the first degree of freedom, and the first and second fastener structures are unfastened when the receiving element moves with respect to the base assembly in the reverse direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom;

the screw hole of the first fastener structure matches the screw structure of the second fastener structure, and is configured to be tightened onto the screw structure along the direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom, and when the receiving element moves further along the direction of travel, the screw hole of the first fastener structure is fixed with respect to the second fastener structure of the base assembly; and

the low friction bushing is fixed inside the extended portion of the receiving element, and in accordance with the unlimited movement of the receiving element at the first degree of freedom, the low friction bushing wraps around the first fastener structure, and rotates as part of the receiving element with respect to the base assembly, and with respect to the first fastener structure when the first fastener structure is tightened onto the second fastener structure of the base assembly.

Clause 239. The camera assembly of clause 238, wherein the module holding structure of the receiving element includes a cutout opening that has a shape conforming to a contour of the module, and is configured to hold the module when the module is inserted within the cutout opening.

Clause 240. The camera assembly of clause 238 or 239, further comprising:

a mount structure that is configured to be attached and fixed onto a mounting surface using one or more mount fasteners, wherein at least part of the mount structure is made of magnetically attractable material, and the assembly is mounted onto the mounting surface when the base of the base assembly magnetically adheres onto the mount structure.

What is claimed is:

1. A method of packaging a camera product, comprising:
providing a base assembly that includes a base and a base fastener structure;
attaching to the base assembly a holding element that is configured to physically hold a camera and includes a holding element fastener structure, the holding element fastener structure being configured to mate with the base fastener structure, wherein the base fastener structure and the holding element fastener structure, when mated, are configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion for the holding element relative to the base and a second degree of freedom of motion for the holding element relative to the base;
rotating the holding element in a first direction via the first degree of freedom until the holding element reaches a first nominal position, wherein at the nominal position, the holding element is configured to face in a direction substantially parallel to the base when they are rotated along the second degree of freedom of motion;
rotating the holding element in a second direction via the second degree of freedom until the holding element reaches a second nominal position; and
after attaching the holding element to the base assembly and rotating the holding element in the first direction and the second direction, providing the base assembly and the holding element to a package physically configured to receive the camera product.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the holding element further includes an extended portion coupled to the holding element fastener structure, and wherein the first degree of freedom of motion includes rotation of the holding element with respect to a first axis that extends in the same direction as the extended portion, and is configured to facilitate panning of the camera.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the rotation of the holding element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in at least one direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom of motion.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the second degree of freedom of motion includes rotation of the holding element with respect to a second axis that extends in a direction perpendicular to the first axis, and is configured to facilitate tilting of the camera.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the rotation of the holding element at the second degree of freedom is limited.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the holding element and the camera are physically integrated.
7. The method of any of claims 1-6, wherein the camera product includes a camera puck, and the camera puck further includes a camera lens and image sensors.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein the holding element and the camera puck have the same shape.
9. The method of claim 7, wherein the holding element includes a cutout opening that physically receives the camera puck.
10. The method of any of claims 1-6, wherein the holding element is attached to the base assembly to form an assembly, and providing the base assembly and the holding element to the package further comprises:
 - placing the assembly on a packaging layer inside the package with the holding element at least partially held in a recess on the packaging layer.
11. The method of any of claims 1-6, wherein the base assembly is configured for attaching and fixing onto a mounting surface using a mounting structure at least partially made of magnetically attractable material, and the holding element and the base assembly are mounted onto the mounting surface when the base of the base assembly magnetically adheres onto the mount structure.
12. A method of preparing a camera product, comprising:
 - providing a base assembly that includes a base and a base fastener structure;
 - attaching to the base assembly a holding element that is configured to physically hold a camera and includes a holding element fastener structure, the holding element fastener structure being configured to mate with the base fastener structure, wherein the base fastener structure and the holding element fastener structure, when mated, are configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion for the holding element relative to the base and a second degree of freedom of motion for the holding element relative to the base;
 - rotating the holding element in a first direction via the first degree of freedom until the holding element reaches a first nominal position, wherein at the nominal position, the holding element is configured to face in a direction substantially parallel to the base when they are rotated along the second degree of freedom of motion; and

rotating the holding element in a second direction via the second degree of freedom until the holding element reaches a second nominal position.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the holding element further includes an extended portion coupled to the holding element fastener structure, and wherein the first degree of freedom of motion includes rotation of the holding element with respect to a first axis that extends in the same direction as the extended portion, and is configured to facilitate panning of the camera.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein the rotation of the holding element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in at least one direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom of motion.

15. The method of claim 12, wherein the holding element and the camera are physically integrated.

16. The method of any of claims 12-15, wherein the camera product includes a camera puck, and the camera puck further includes a camera lens and image sensors, and wherein the holding element and the camera puck have the same shape.

17. A method of packaging a module assembly, comprising:

providing a base assembly that includes a base and a base fastener structure;

attaching to the base assembly a holding element that is configured to physically hold a module device and includes a holding element fastener structure, the holding element fastener structure being configured to mate with the base fastener structure, wherein the base fastener structure and the holding element fastener structure, when mated, are configured to provide a first degree of freedom of motion for the holding element relative to the base and a second degree of freedom of motion for the holding element relative to the base;

rotating the holding element in a first direction via the first degree of freedom until the holding element reaches a first nominal position, wherein at the first nominal position, the holding element is configured to face in a direction substantially parallel to the base when they are rotated along the second degree of freedom of motion;

rotating the holding element in a second direction via the second degree of freedom until the holding element reaches a second nominal position; and

after attaching the holding element to the base assembly and rotating the holding element in the first direction and the second direction, providing the base assembly and the holding element to a package physically configured to receive the module device.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the holding element further includes an extended portion coupled to the holding element fastener structure, and wherein the first degree of freedom of motion includes rotation of the holding element with respect to a first axis that extends in the same direction as the extended portion.

19. The method of claim 17 or 18, wherein the rotation of the holding element at the first degree of freedom is unlimited in at least one direction of travel associated with the first degree of freedom of motion.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the base assembly is configured for attaching and fixing onto a mounting surface using a mounting structure at least partially made of magnetically attractable material, and the holding element and the base assembly are mounted onto the mounting surface when the base of the base assembly magnetically adheres onto the mount structure.

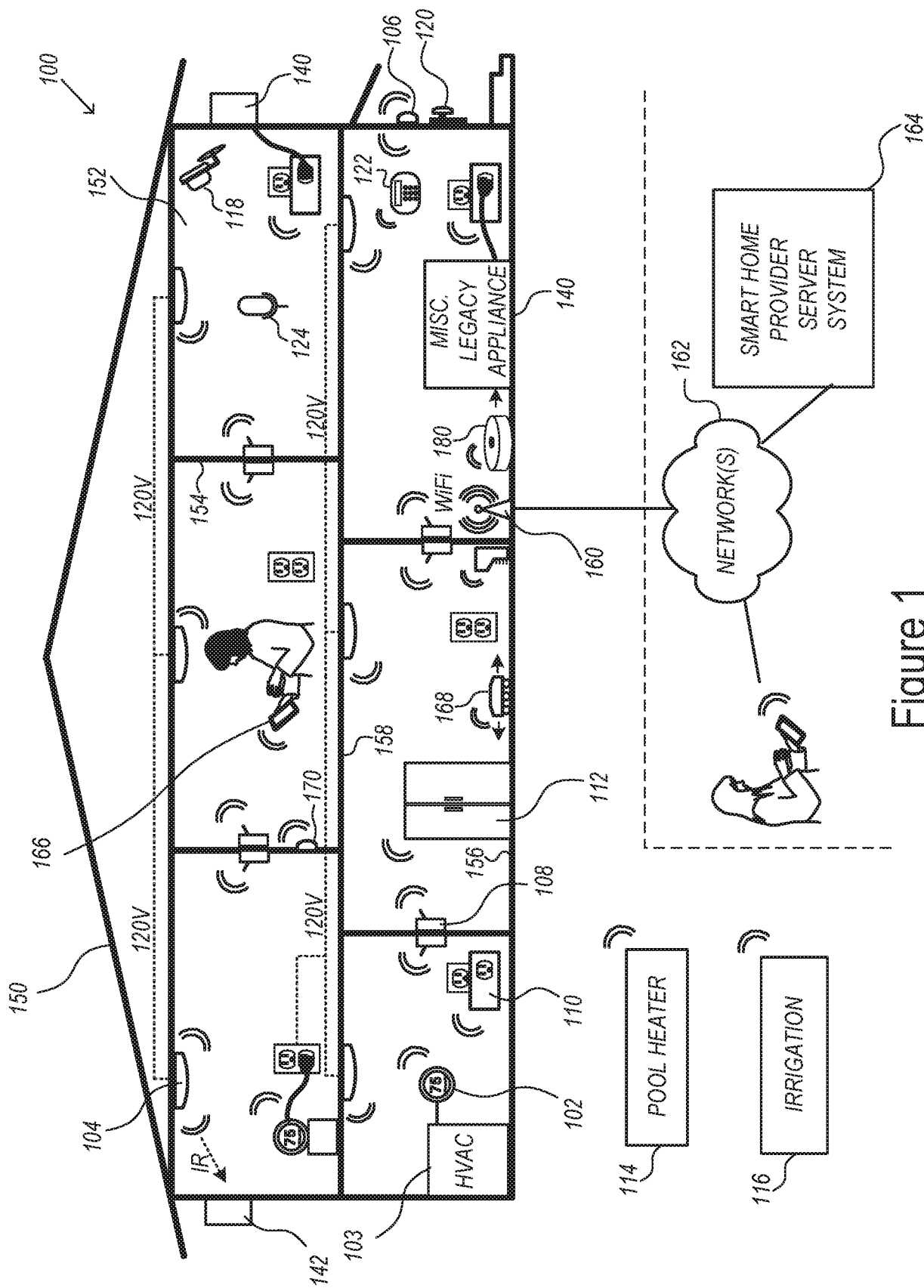


Figure 1

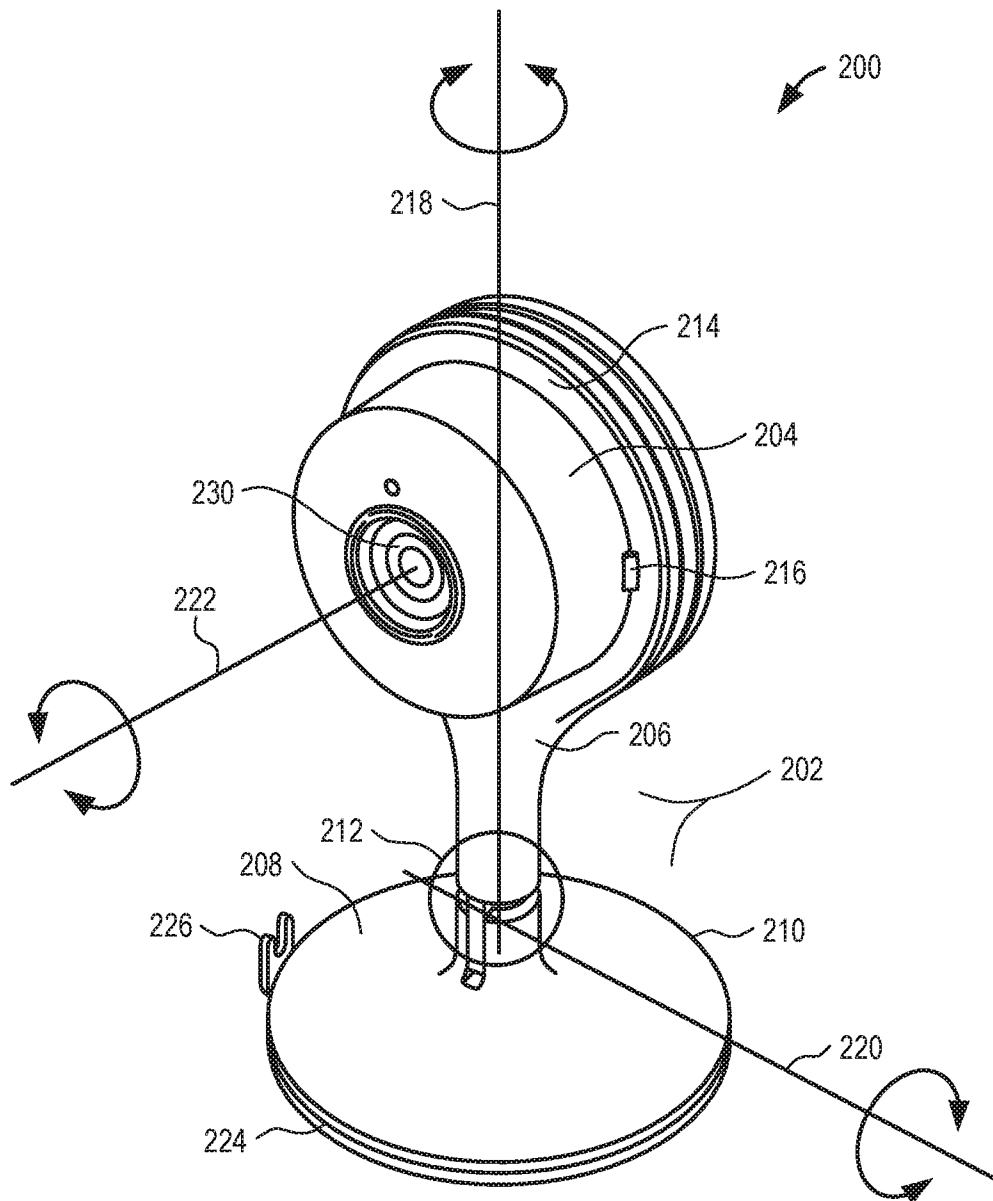


Figure 2A

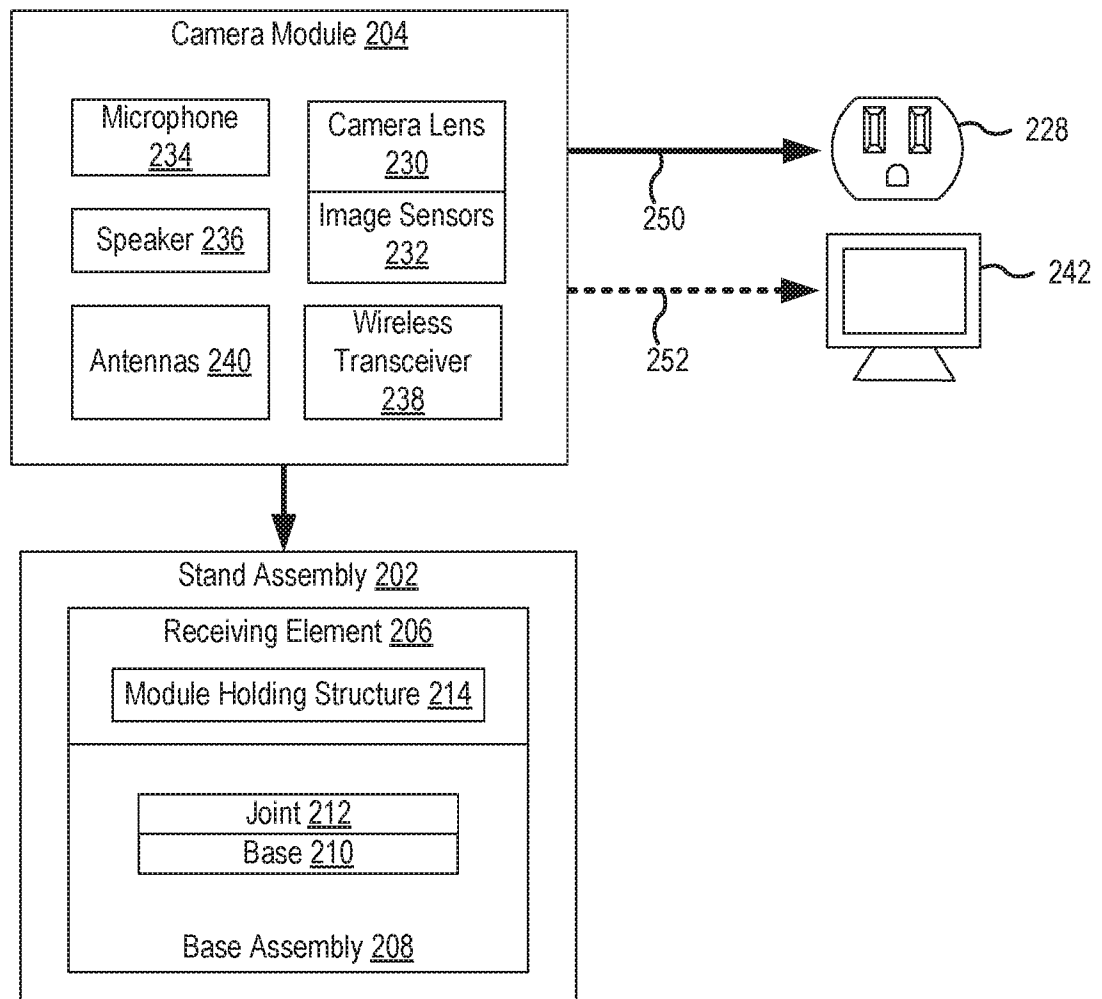
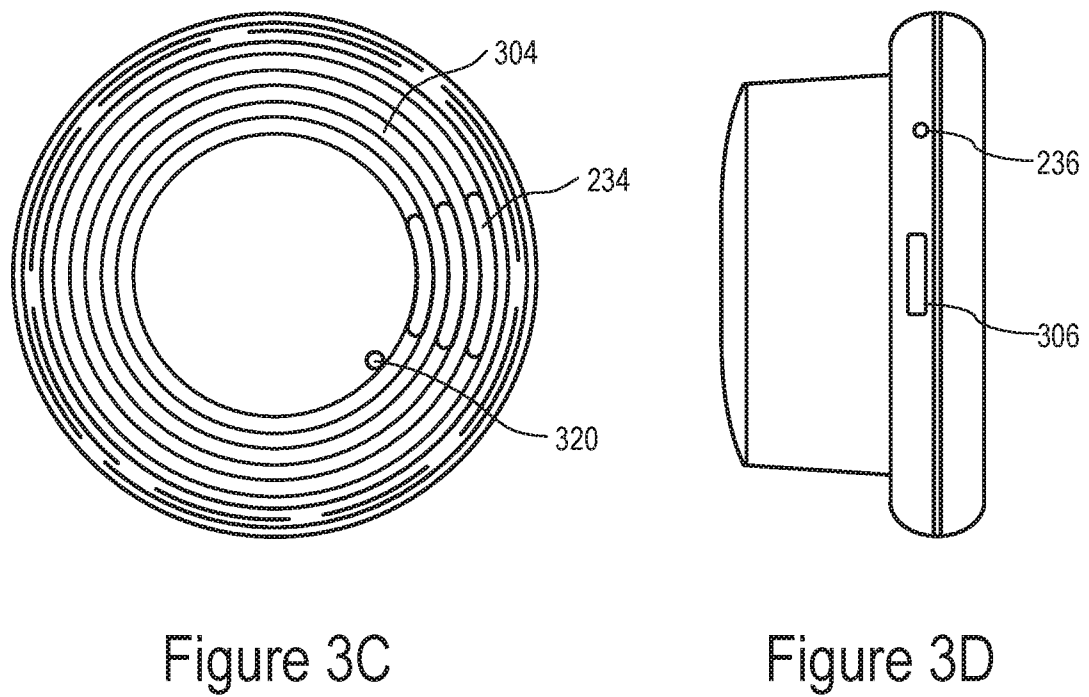
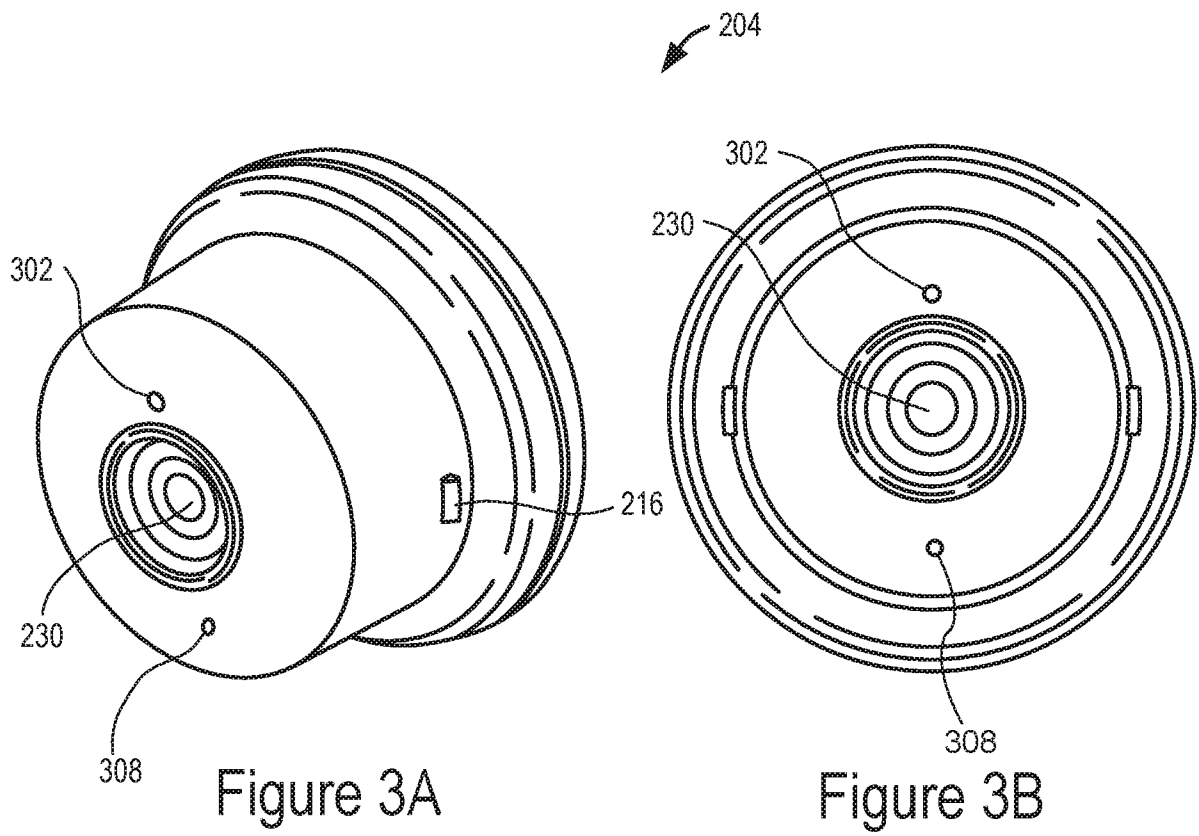


Figure 2B



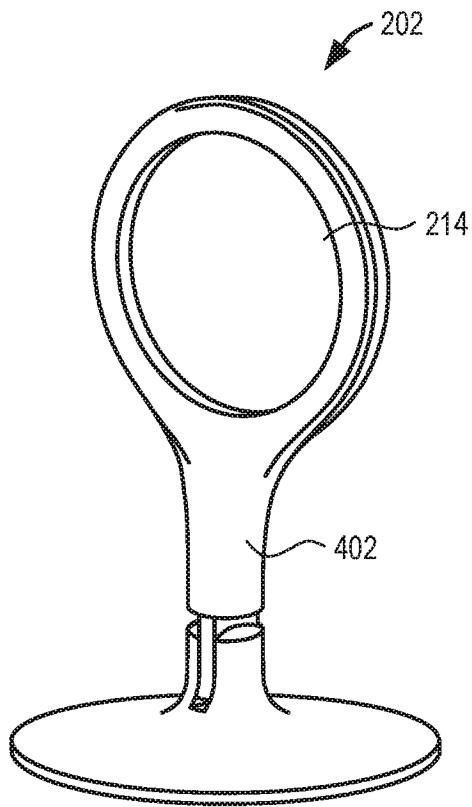


Figure 4A

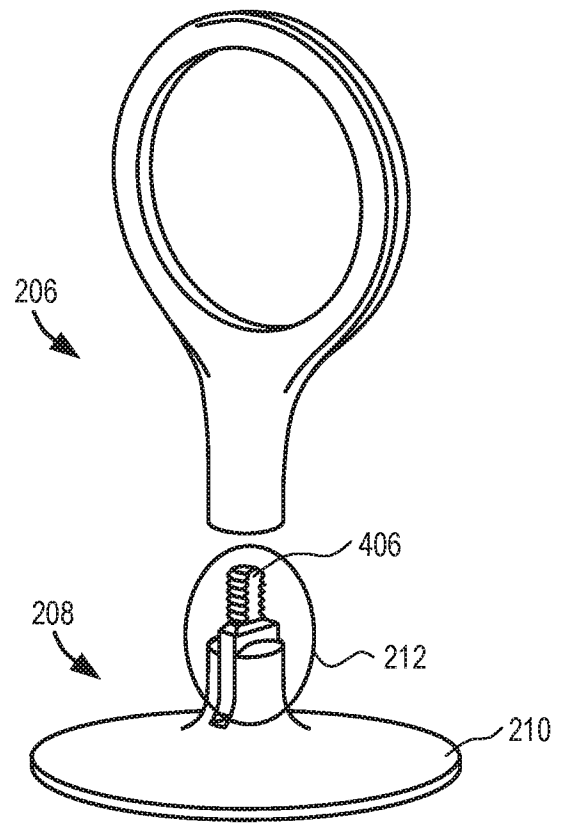


Figure 4B

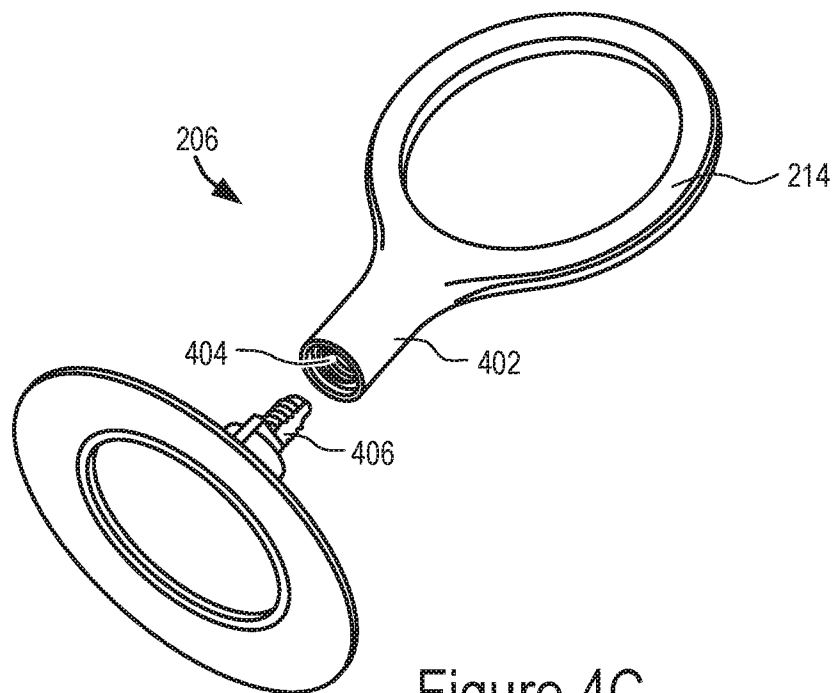


Figure 4C

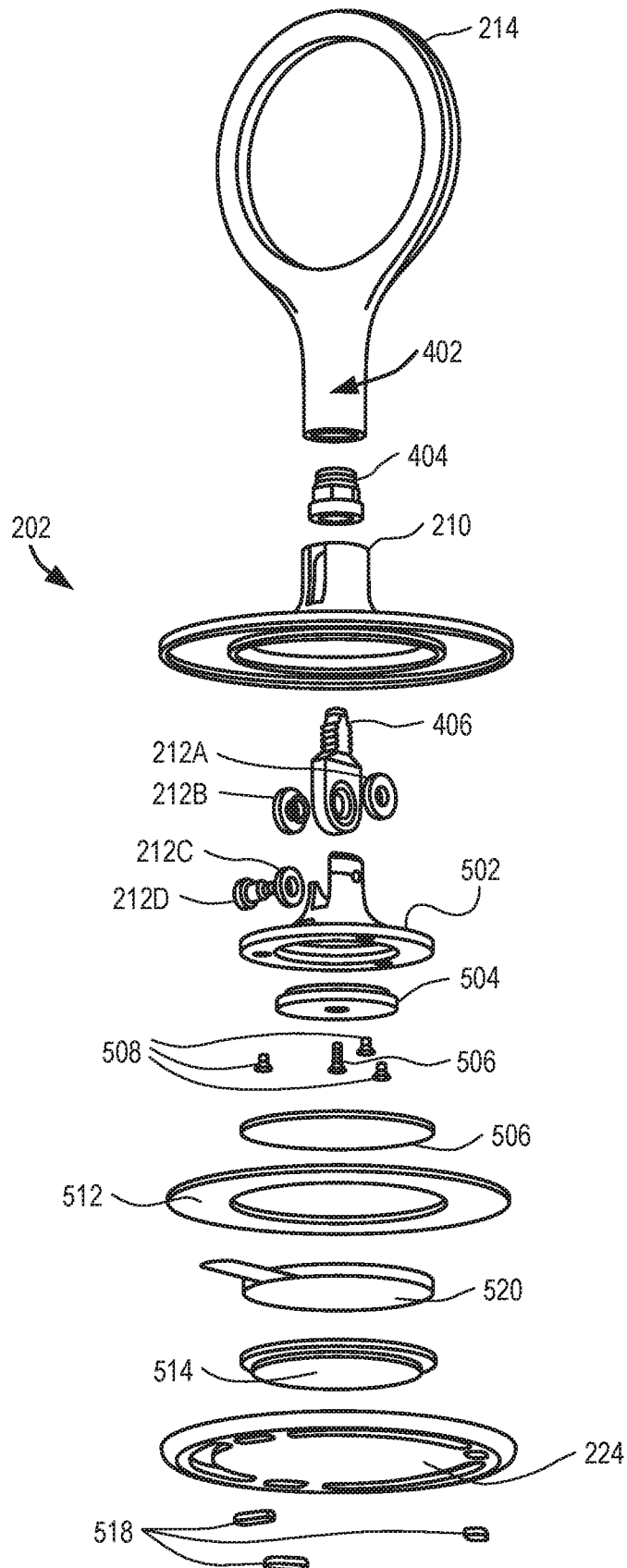


Figure 5

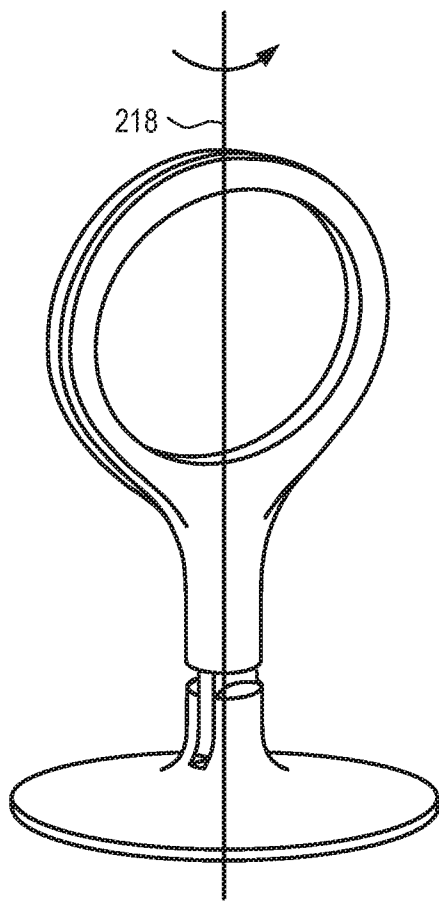


Figure 6A

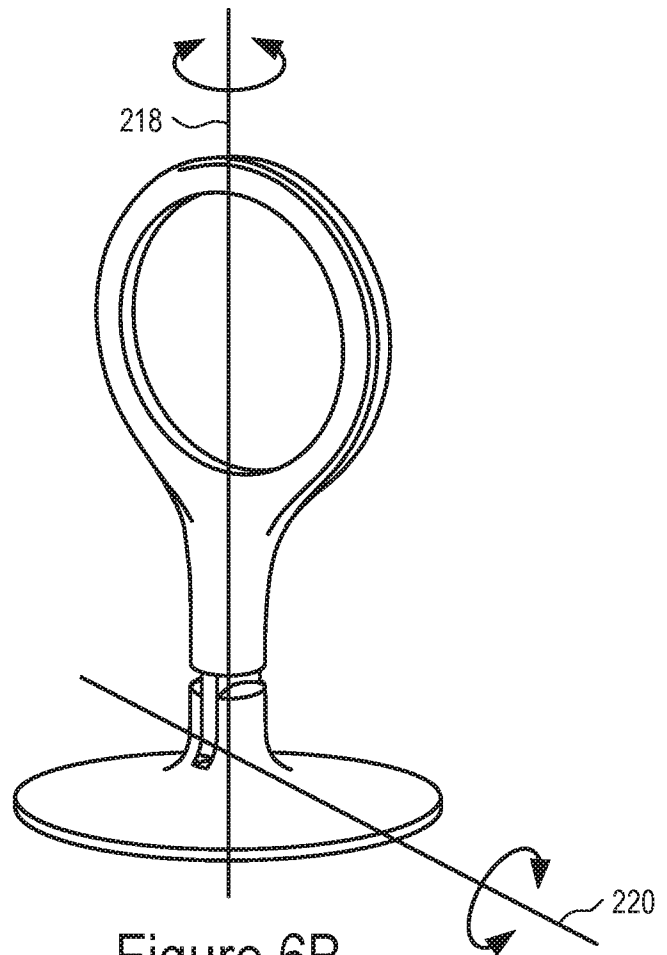


Figure 6B

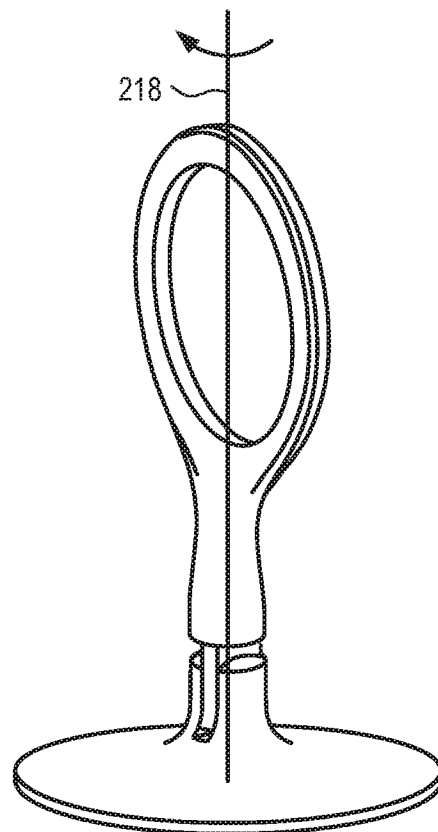


Figure 6C

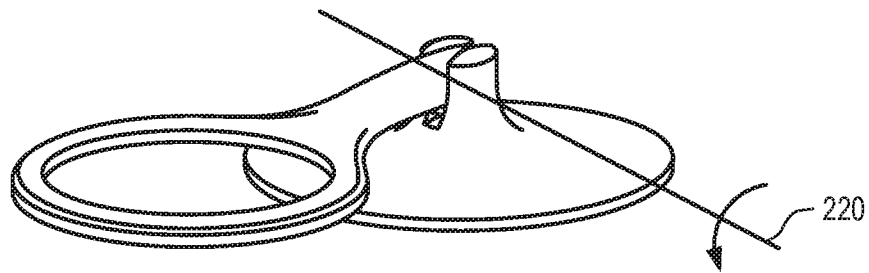


Figure 6D

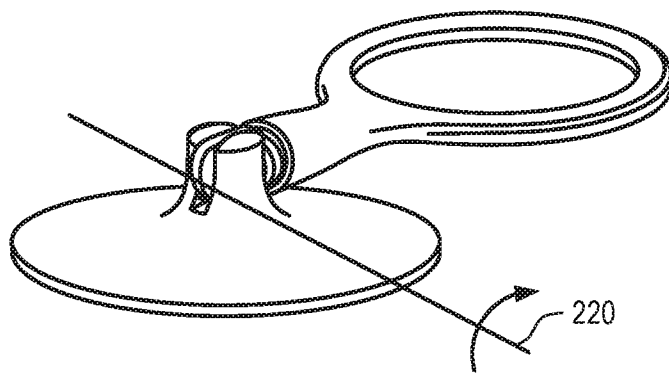


Figure 6E

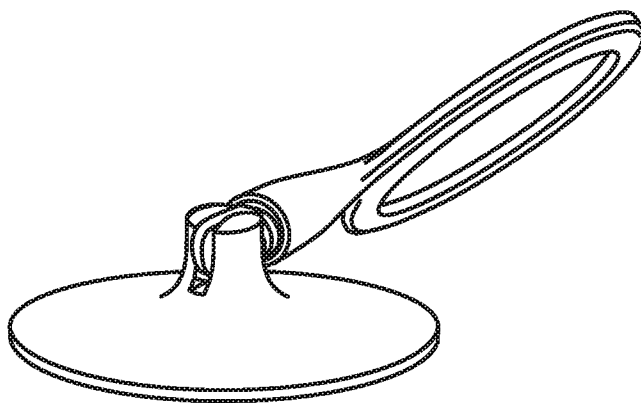


Figure 6F

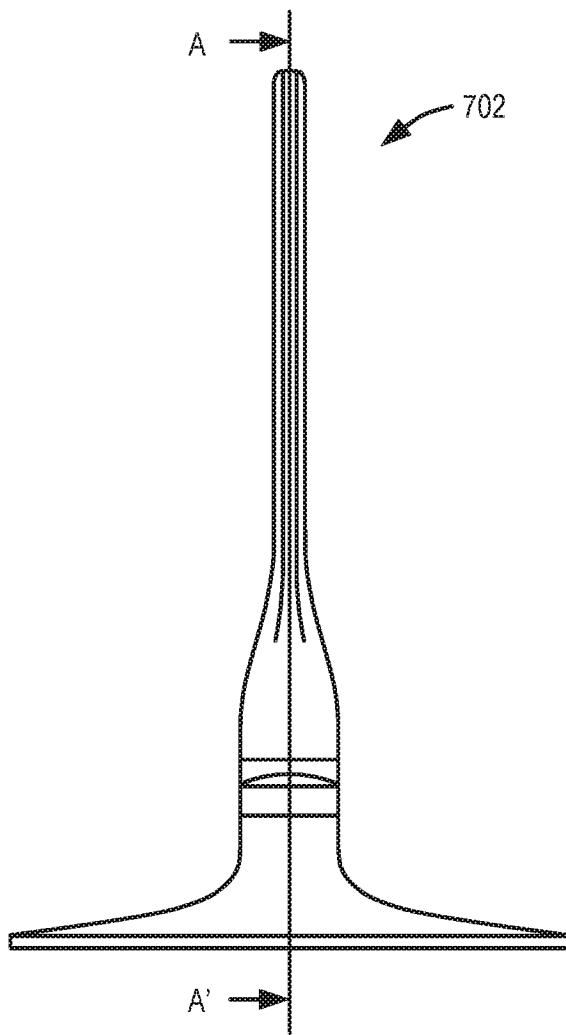


Figure 7A

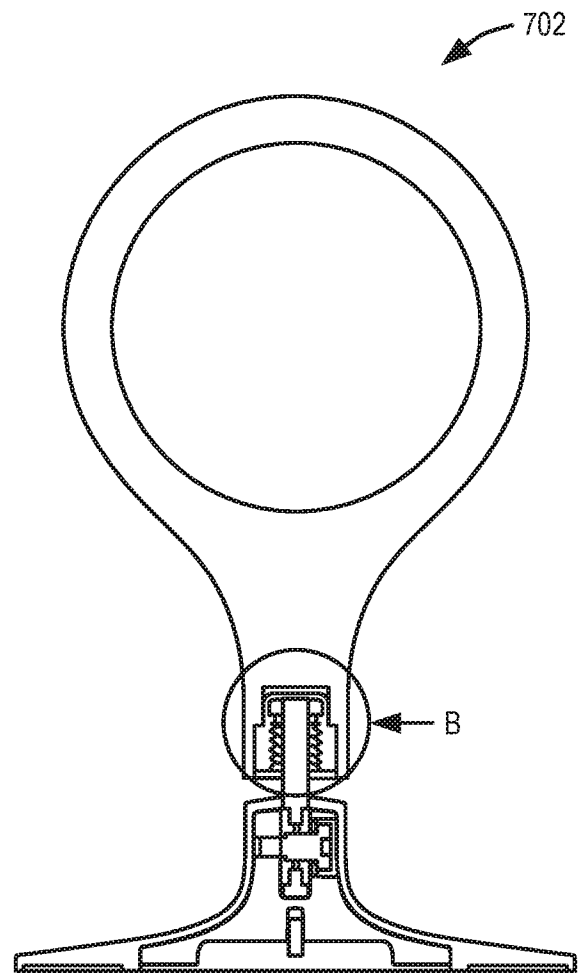


Figure 7B

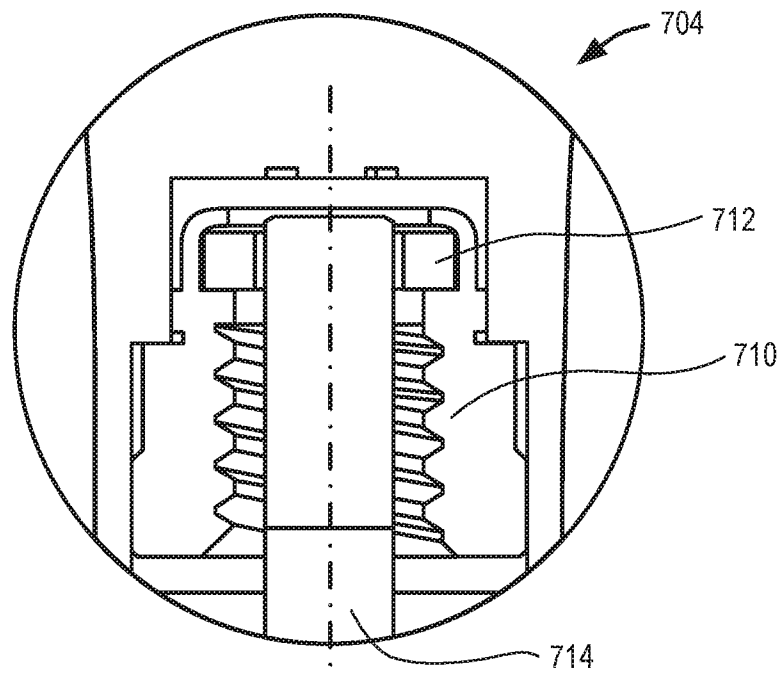


Figure 7C

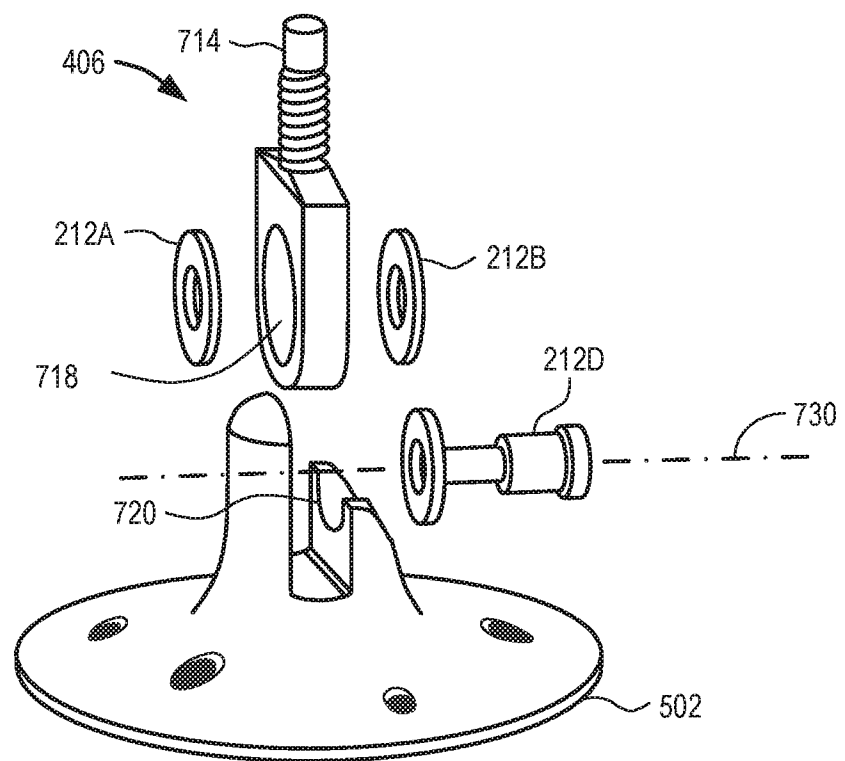


Figure 7D

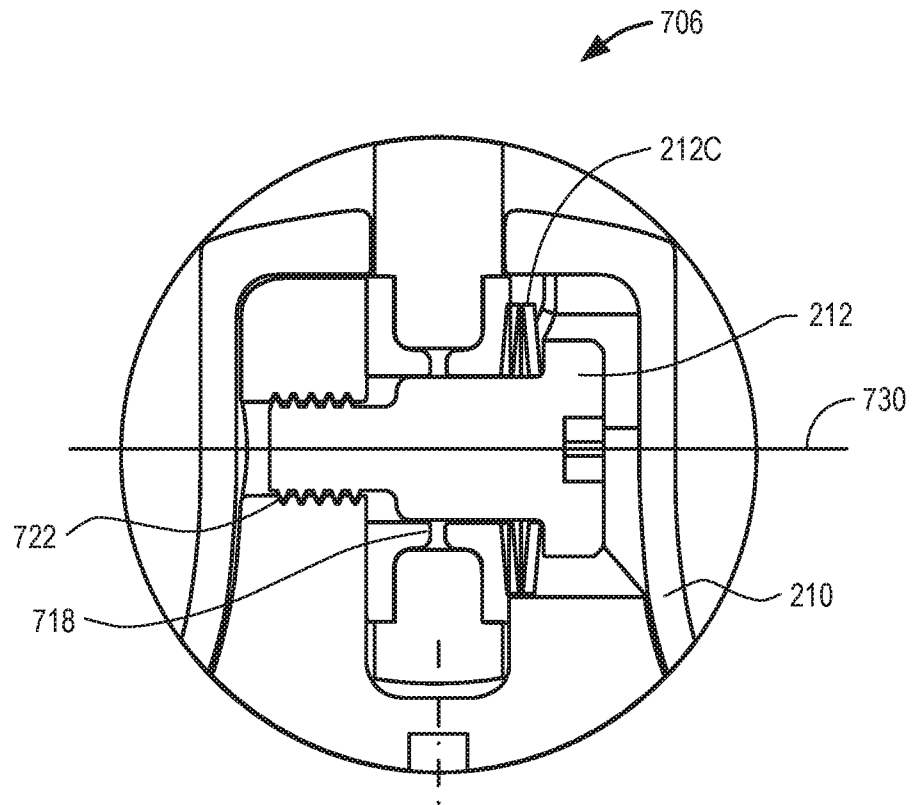


Figure 7E

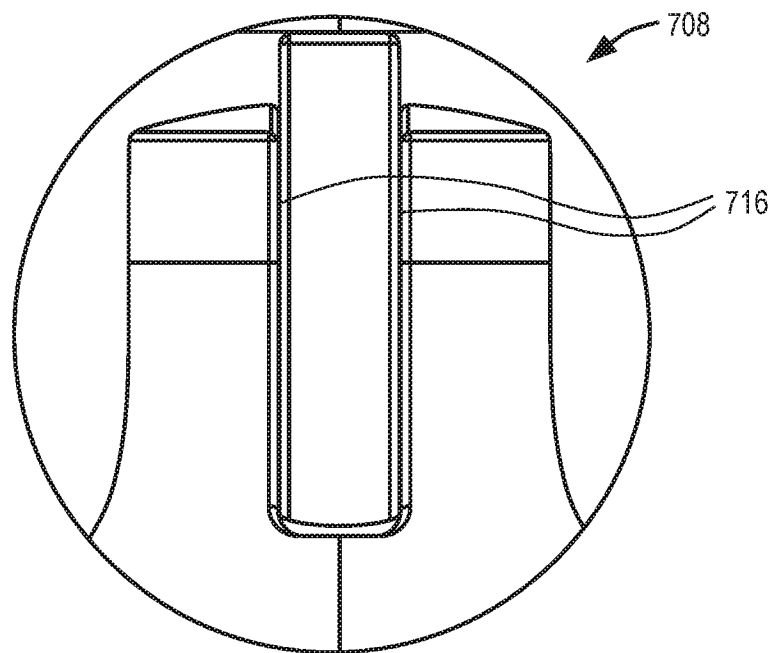


Figure 7F

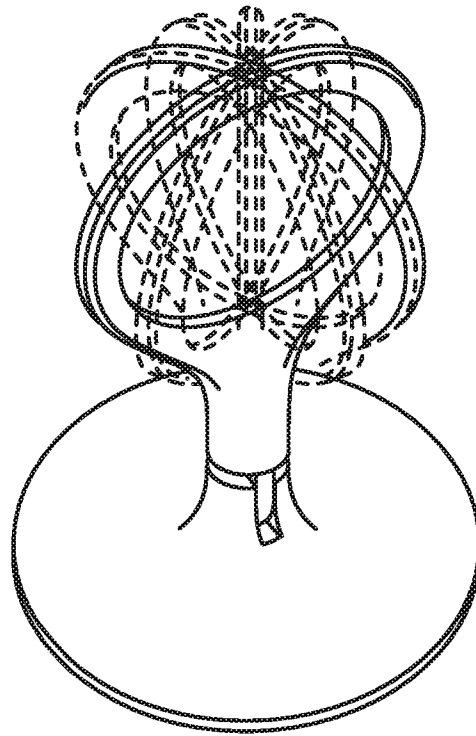


Figure 8A

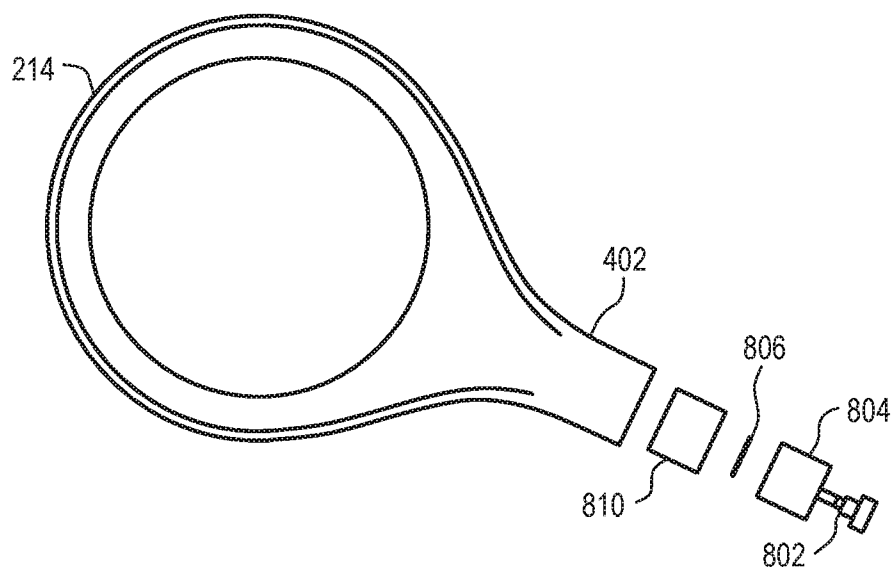


Figure 8B

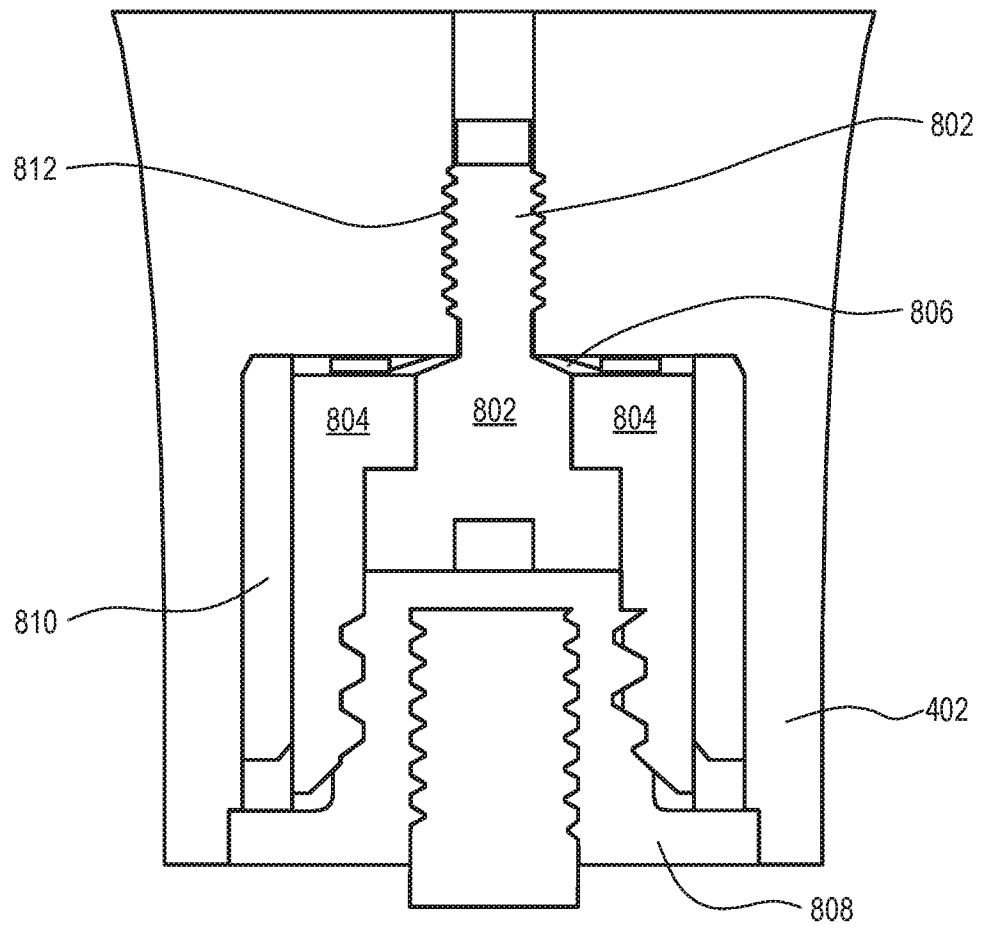


Figure 8C

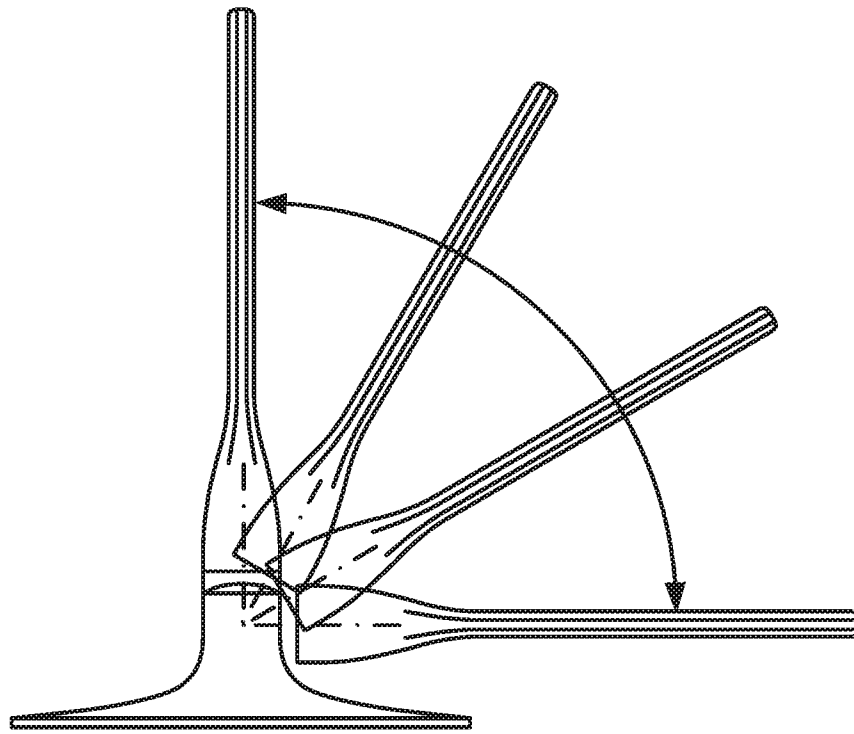


Figure 9A

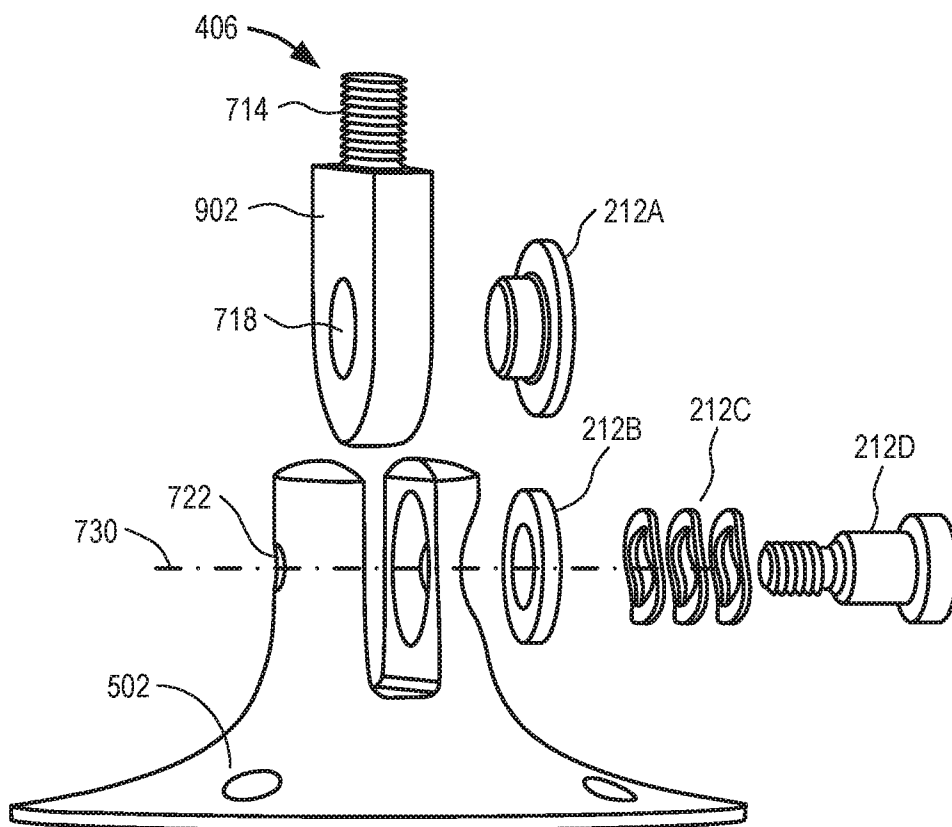


Figure 9B

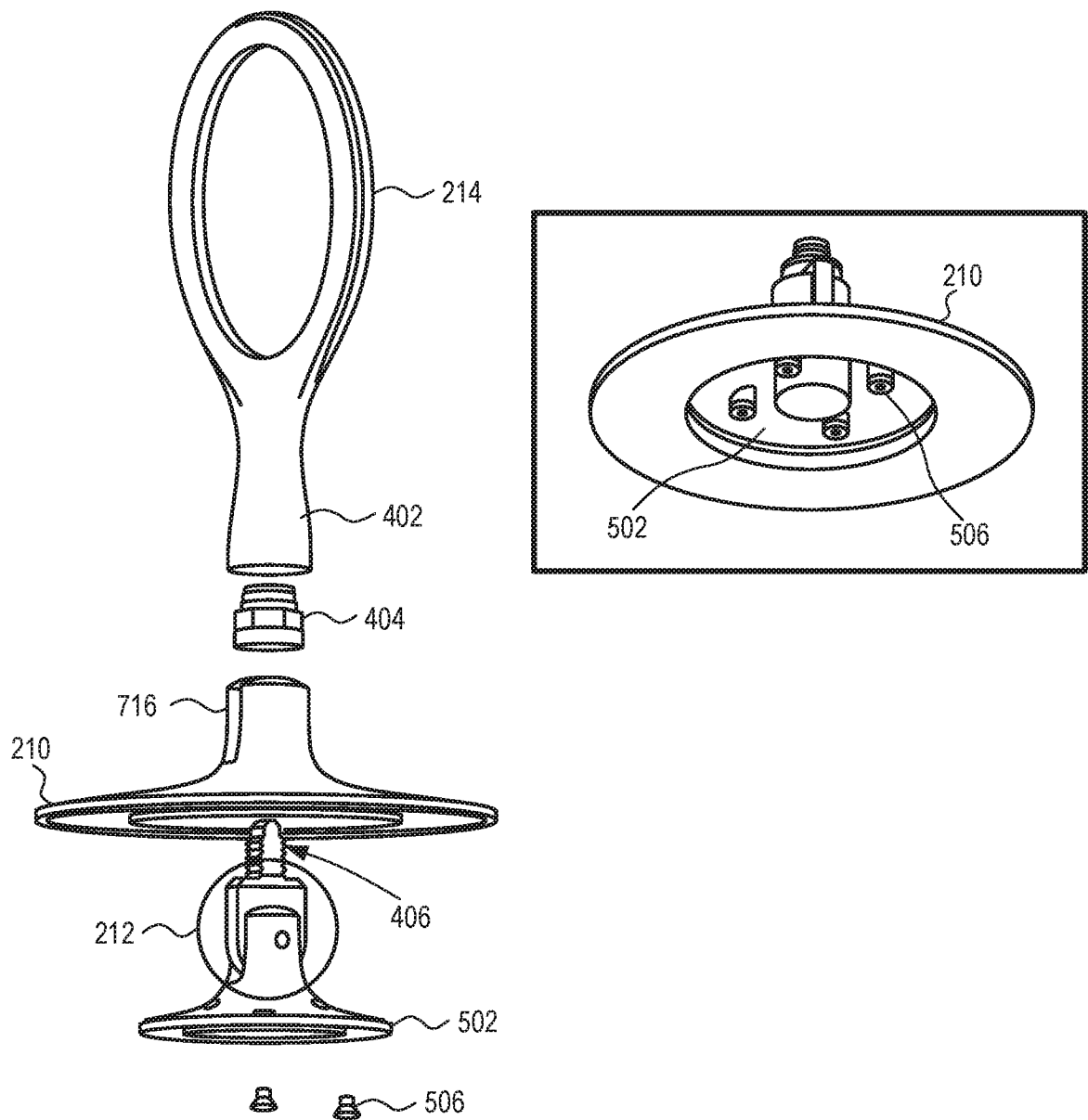


Figure 10A

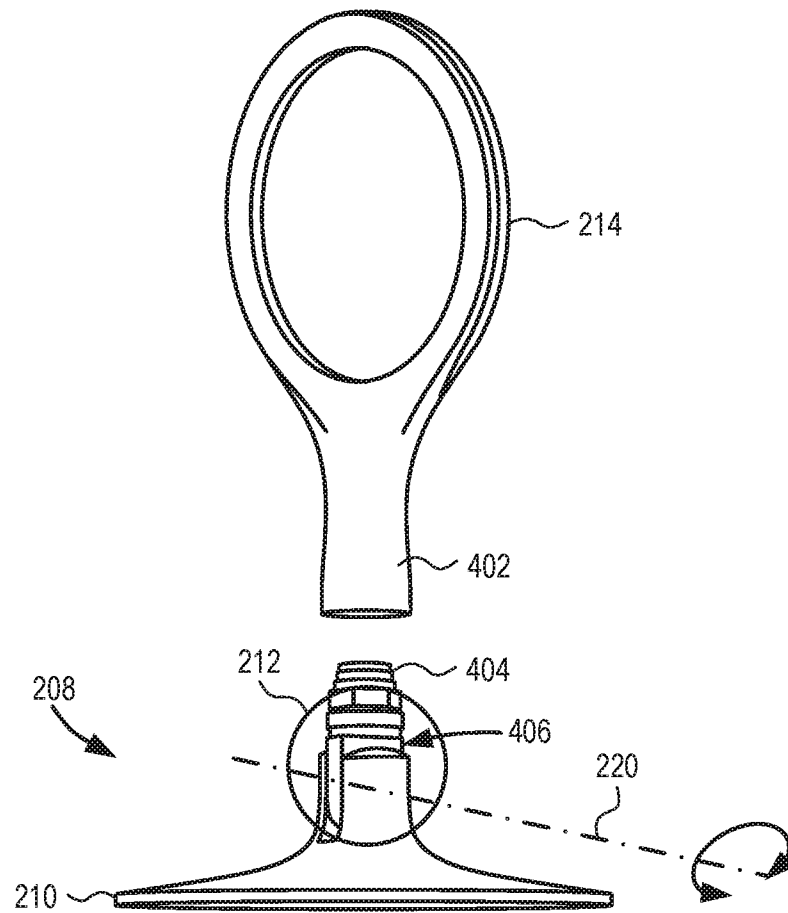


Figure 10B

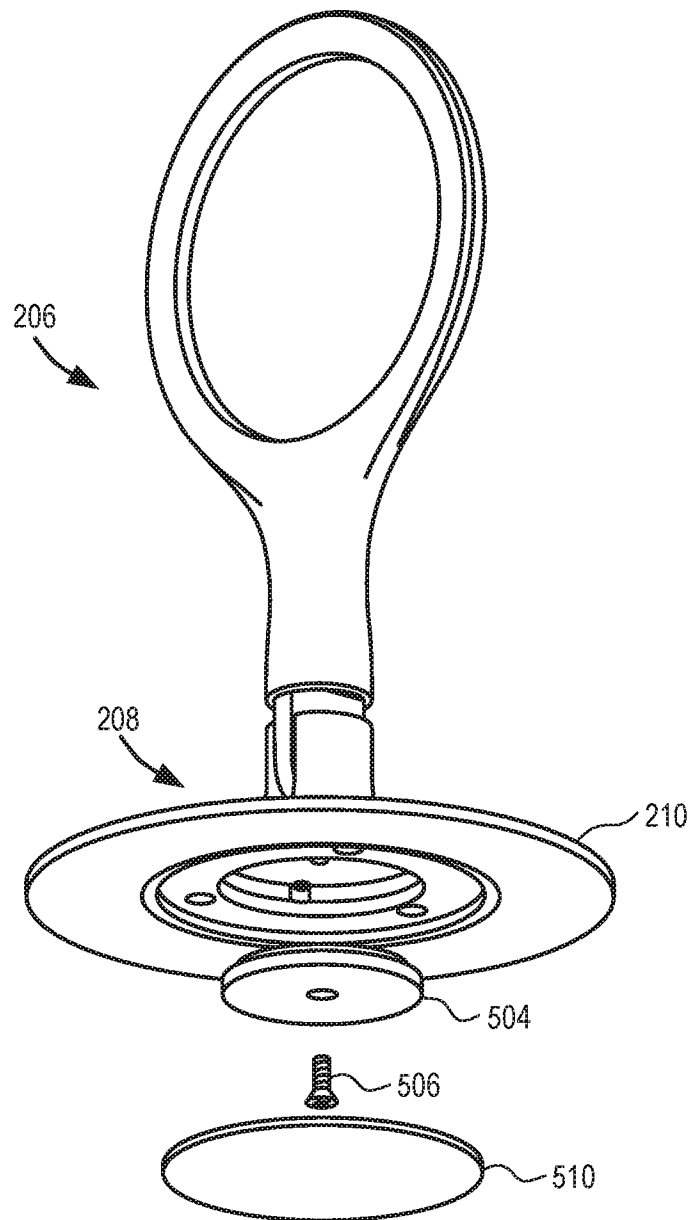


Figure 11

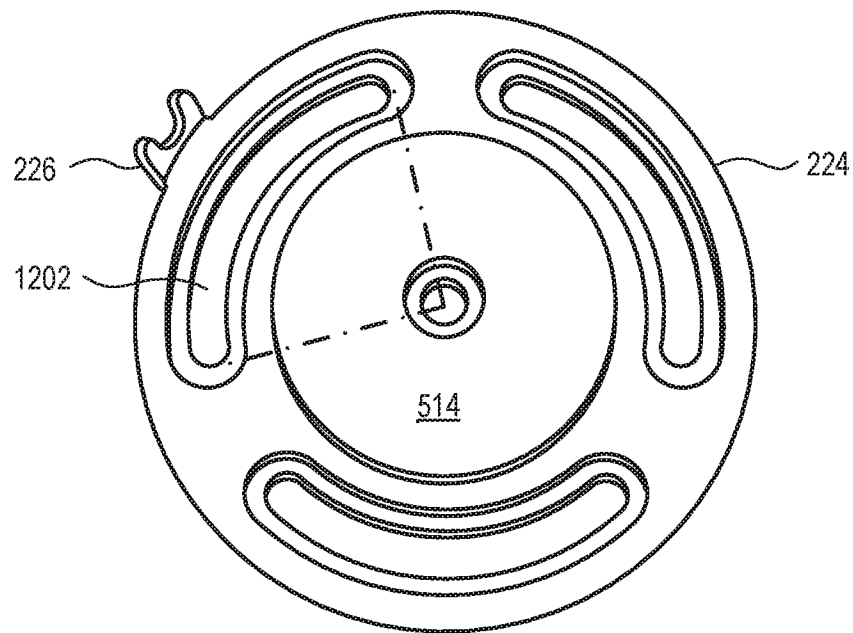


Figure 12A

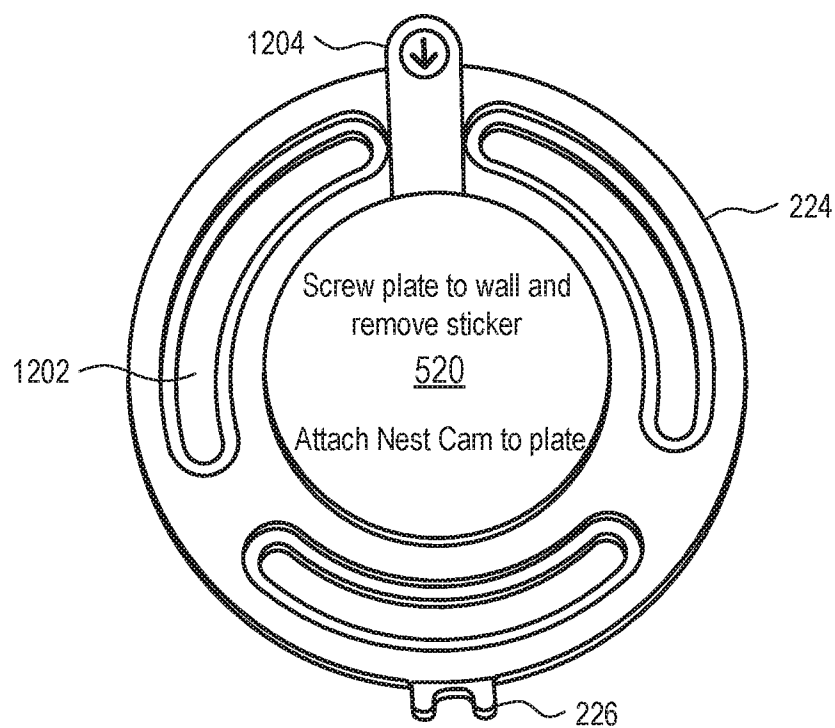


Figure 12B

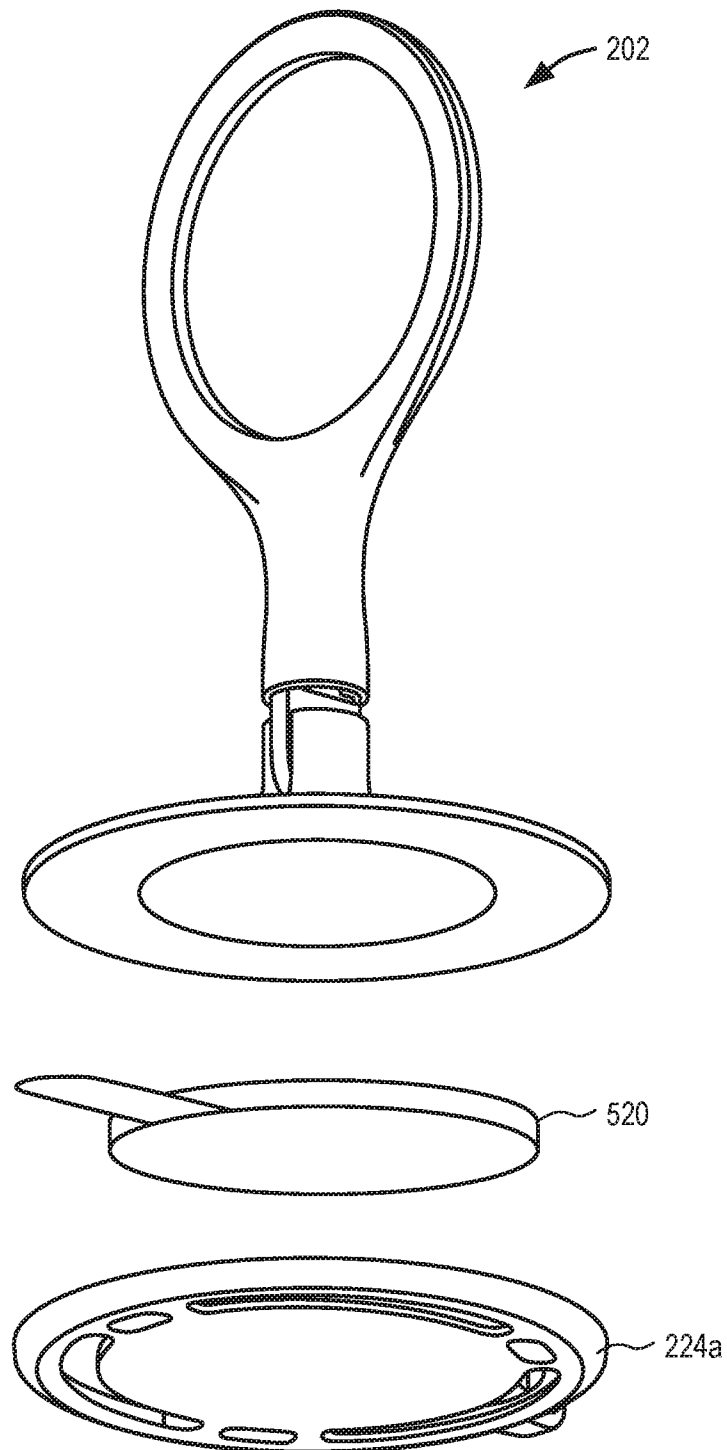


Figure 12C

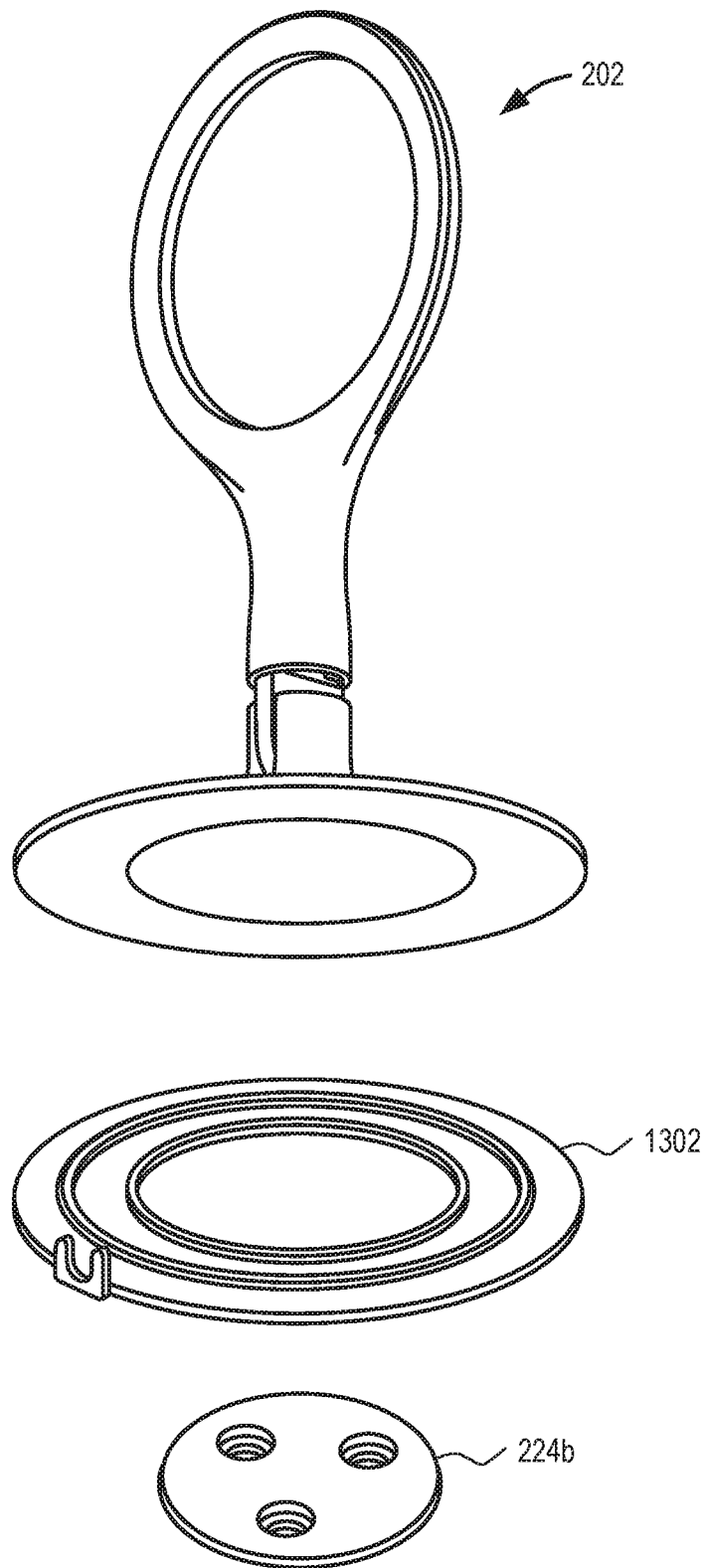


Figure 13A

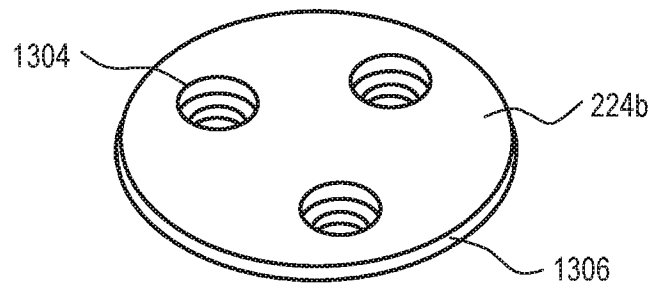


Figure 13B

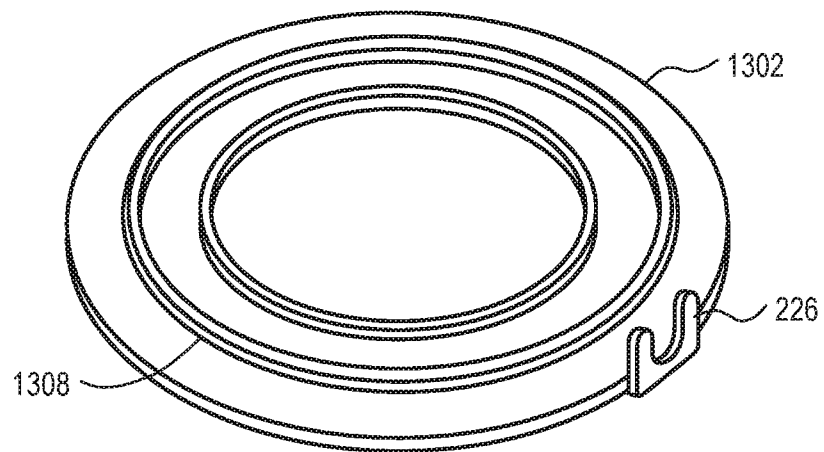


Figure 13C

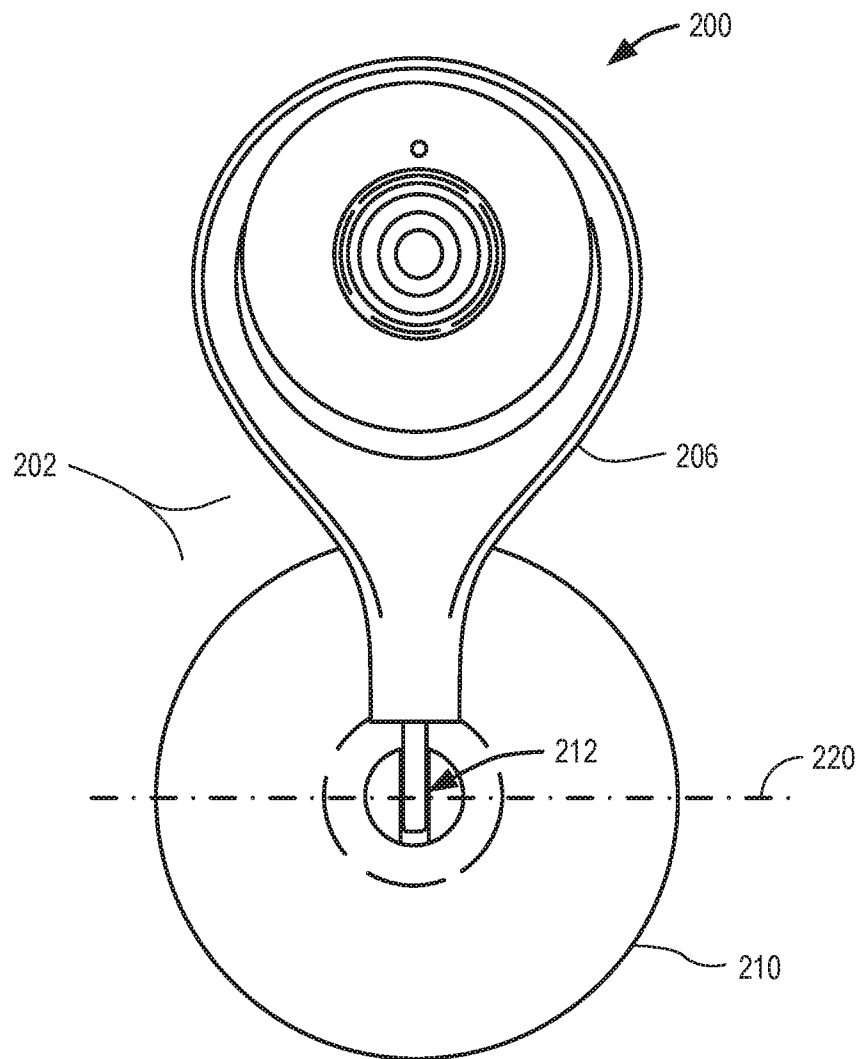


Figure 14A

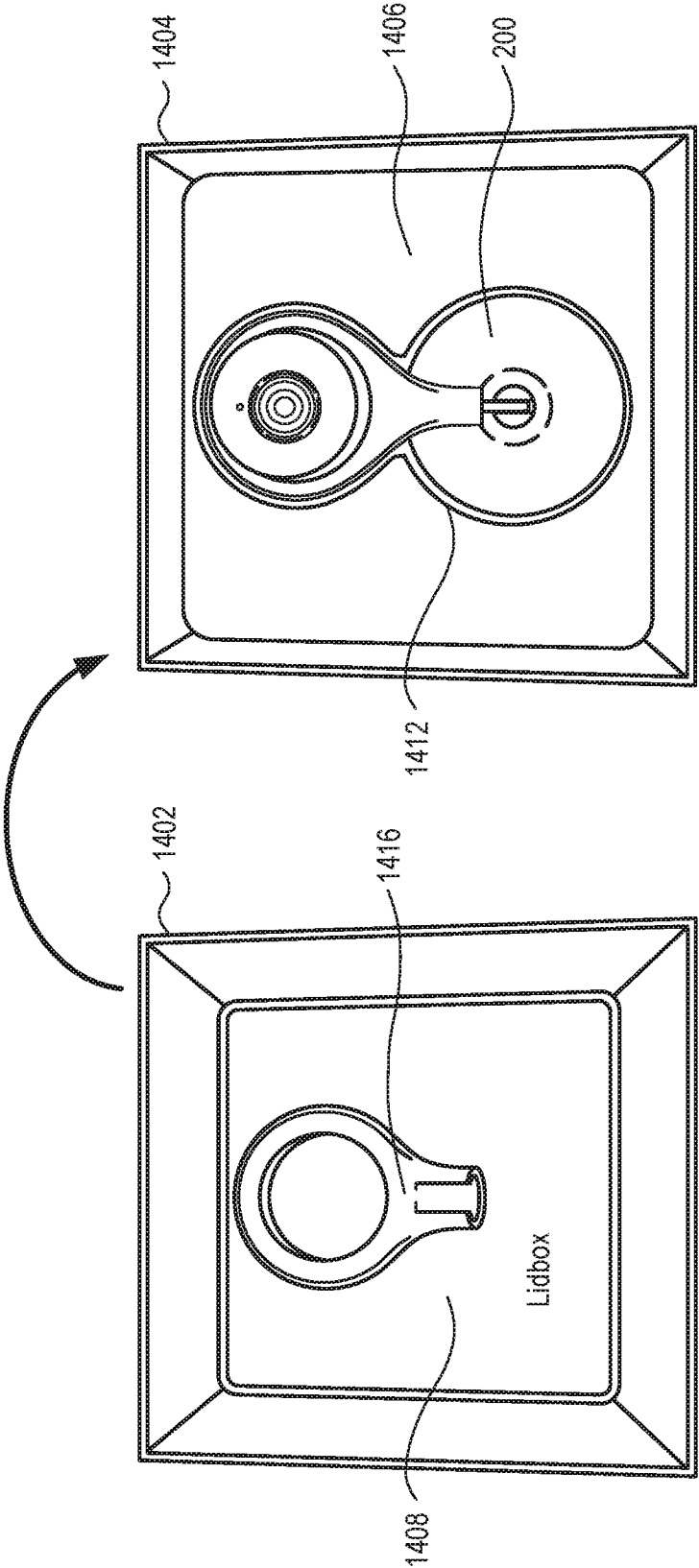


Figure 14C

Figure 14B

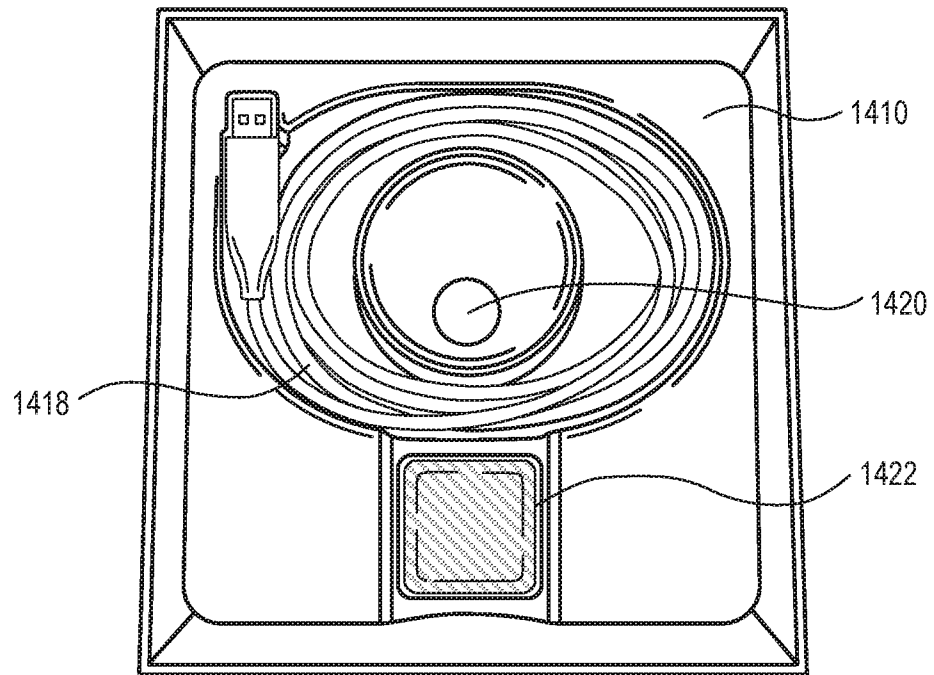


Figure 14D

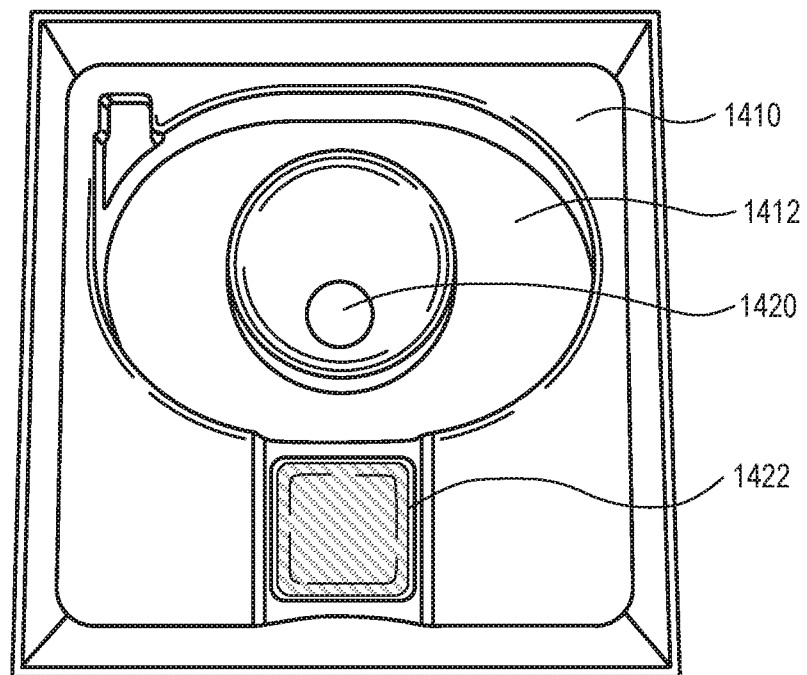


Figure 14E

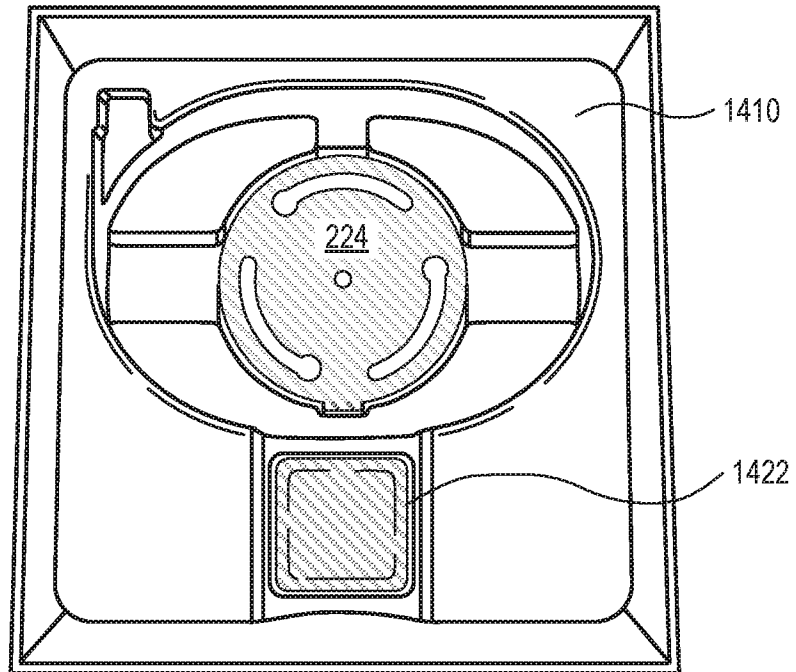


Figure 14F

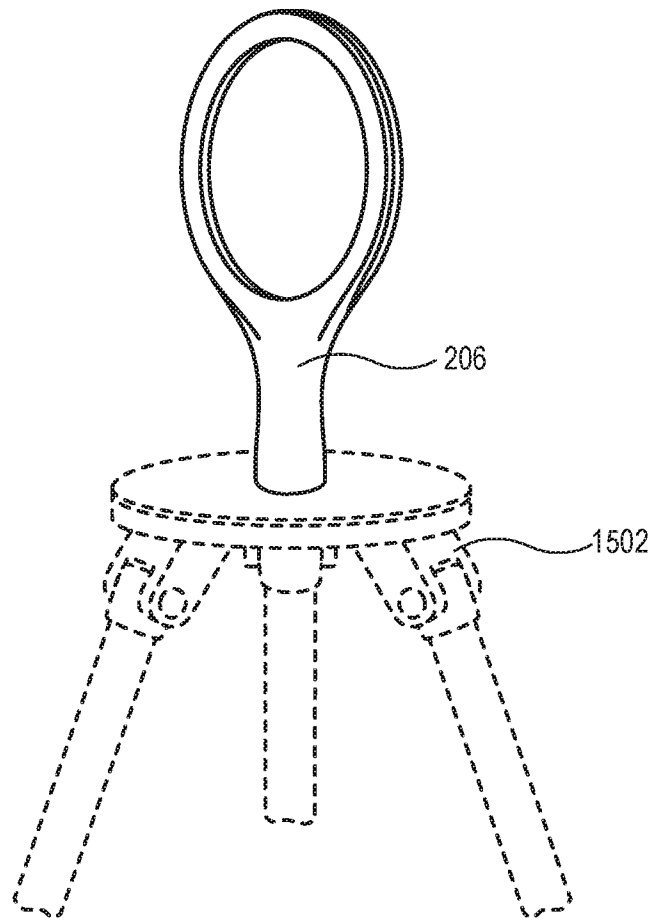


Figure 15

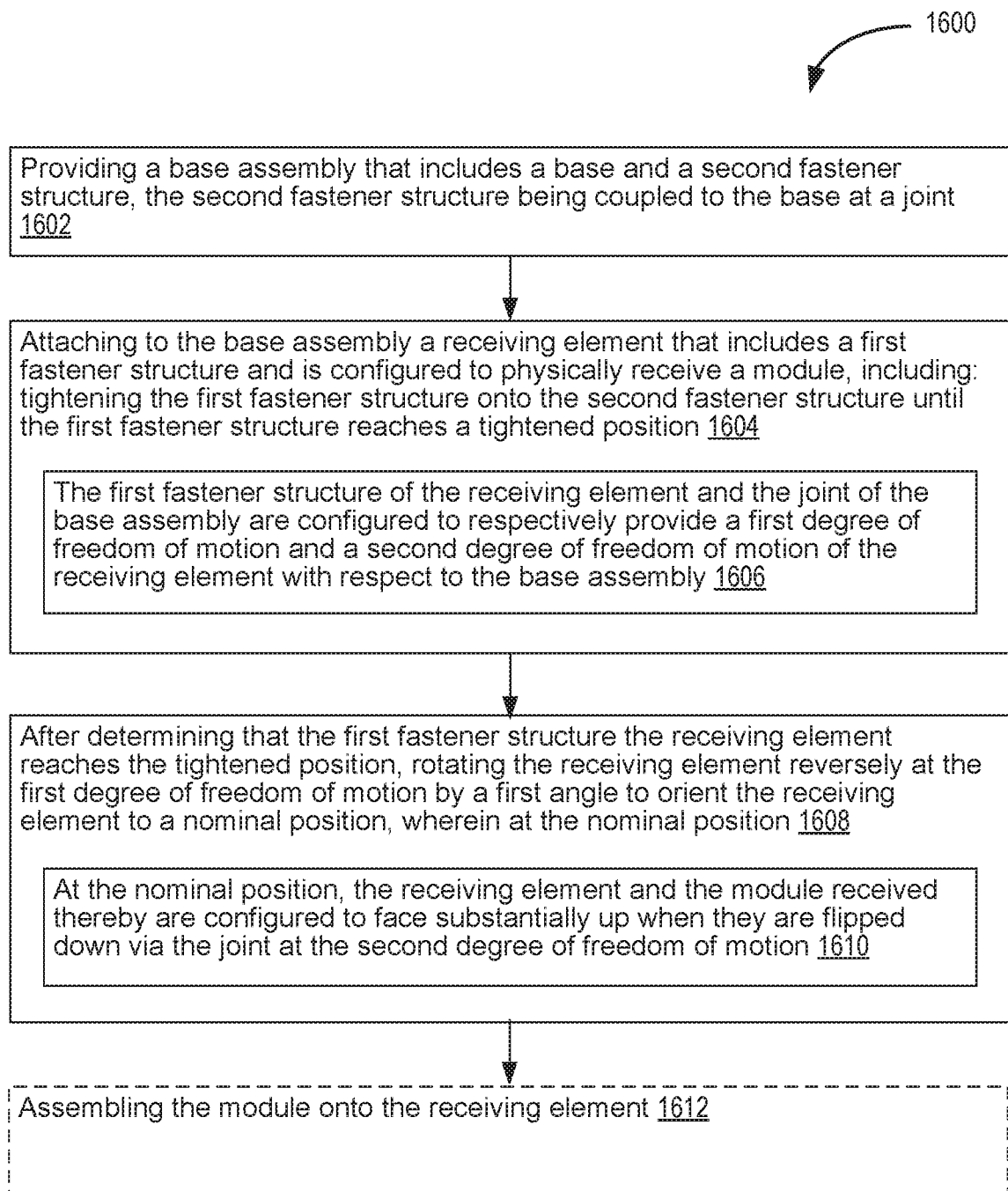


Figure 16

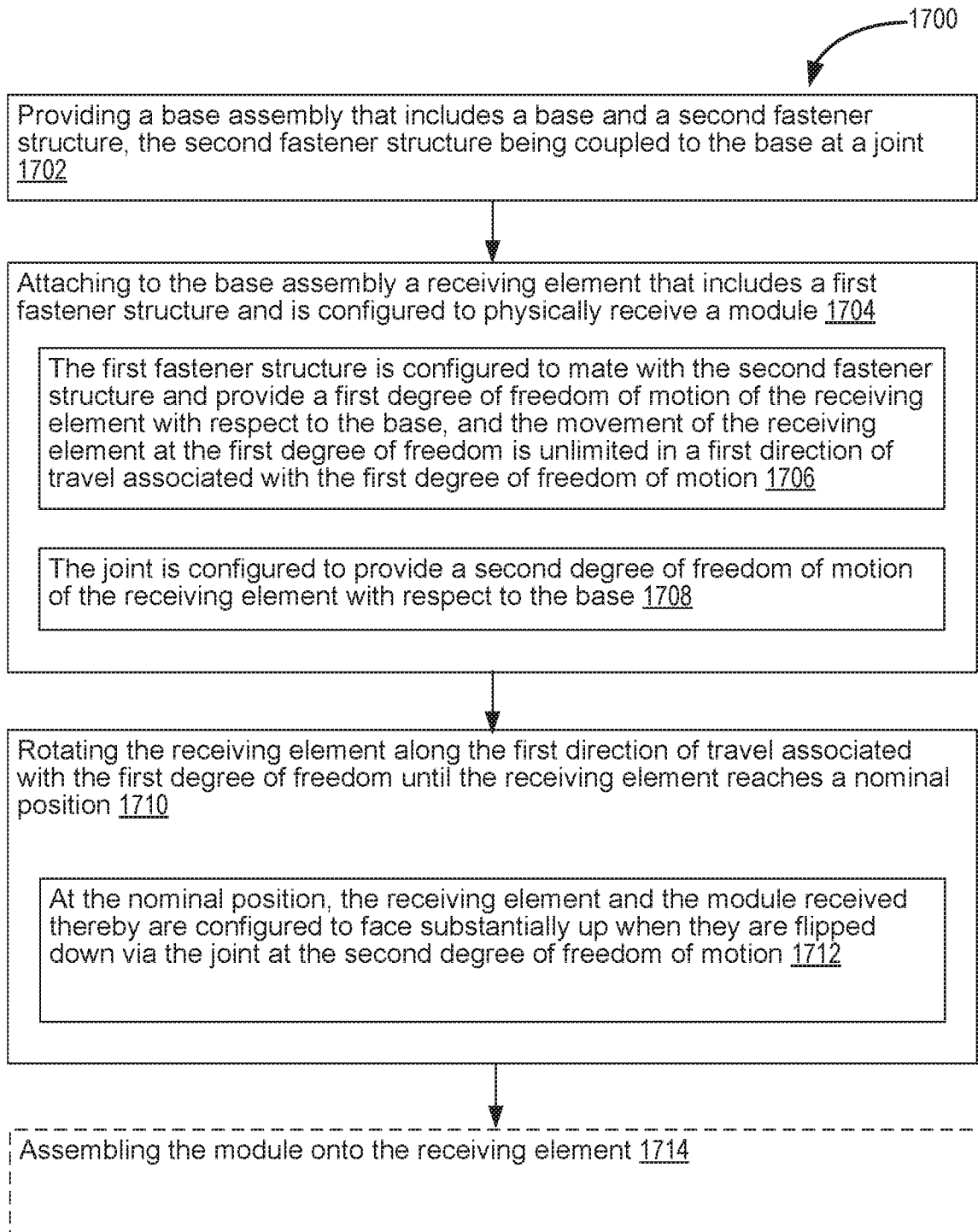


Figure 17

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2016/037266

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
INV. F16M11/10	B65D81/07	F16M11/20 F16M11/38 F16M13/02
ADD.		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) F16M B65D		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 1 292 126 A1 (SARUHASHI NOZOMU [JP]) 12 March 2003 (2003-03-12) paragraph [0034] - paragraph [0043]; figures 10-16	1-20
X	WO 2015/021695 A1 (EQUES TECHNOLOGY CO LTD [CN]) 19 February 2015 (2015-02-19) figures 1-5	12-16
A	CN 201 054 654 Y (HUA HUANG [CN]) 30 April 2008 (2008-04-30) figures 1-6	1-20
A	US 2013/148017 A1 (FURUSAWA HIROYUKI [JP] ET AL) 13 June 2013 (2013-06-13) figures 1-19	1,12,17
	-/-	
☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☒ See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents : "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art "&" document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 15 September 2016		Date of mailing of the international search report 23/09/2016
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016		Authorized officer Simens, Mark Phil

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2016/037266

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
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