

(21) Application No: **1413748.3**
 (22) Date of Filing: **04.08.2014**

(51) INT CL:
G06F 1/16 (2006.01) **E05B 73/00** (2006.01)
F16M 11/04 (2006.01)

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(58) Field of Search:
 INT CL **A47B, B60R, E05B, F16M, G06F, H05K**
 Other: **EPODOC, WPI, TXTE, Internet**

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(54) Title of the Invention: **A mount for a laptop computer**
 Abstract Title: **Expandable laptop mount comprising releasable lockable security elements**

(57) A mount for a laptop computer comprises a mounting structure 2 that is reversibly expandable in both longitudinal and lateral directions to enable laptop computers of different sizes to be mounted. Releasable fastening elements 16 are provided to retain the mounting structure 2 in a desired expanded or contracted configuration. The fastening elements 16 are only accessible for adjustment when the laptop computer is not mounted on the mounting structure 2, as the fastening elements are concealed when the laptop is in place on the mounting structure 2. One or more releasable lockable security elements 56 are provided to prevent unauthorised removal of the laptop computer from the mounting structure 2. The mounting structure 2 may comprise first and second mounting platforms 4, 6 linked by a plurality of linking members 8. Each of the mounting platforms may have a pair of movable arms (22, 46) with formations 30b, 34, 36 for preventing longitudinal and lateral movement of the laptop. The releasable lockable security elements 56 may be secured in place using security screws (59).

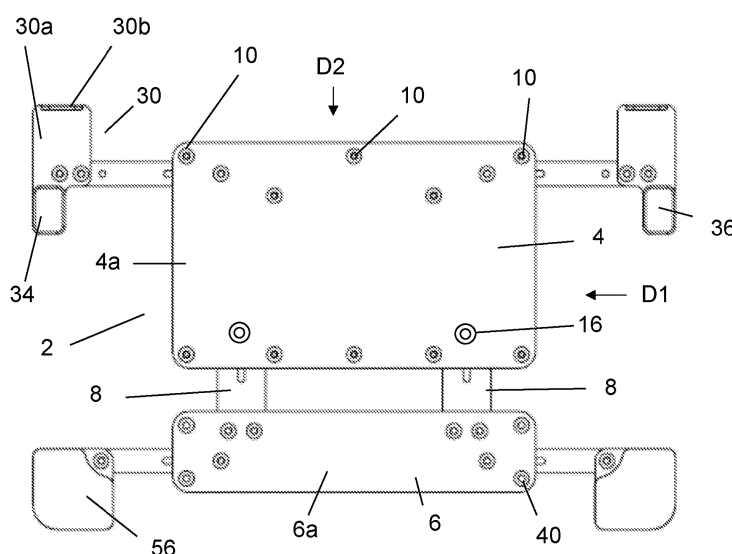


Figure 1

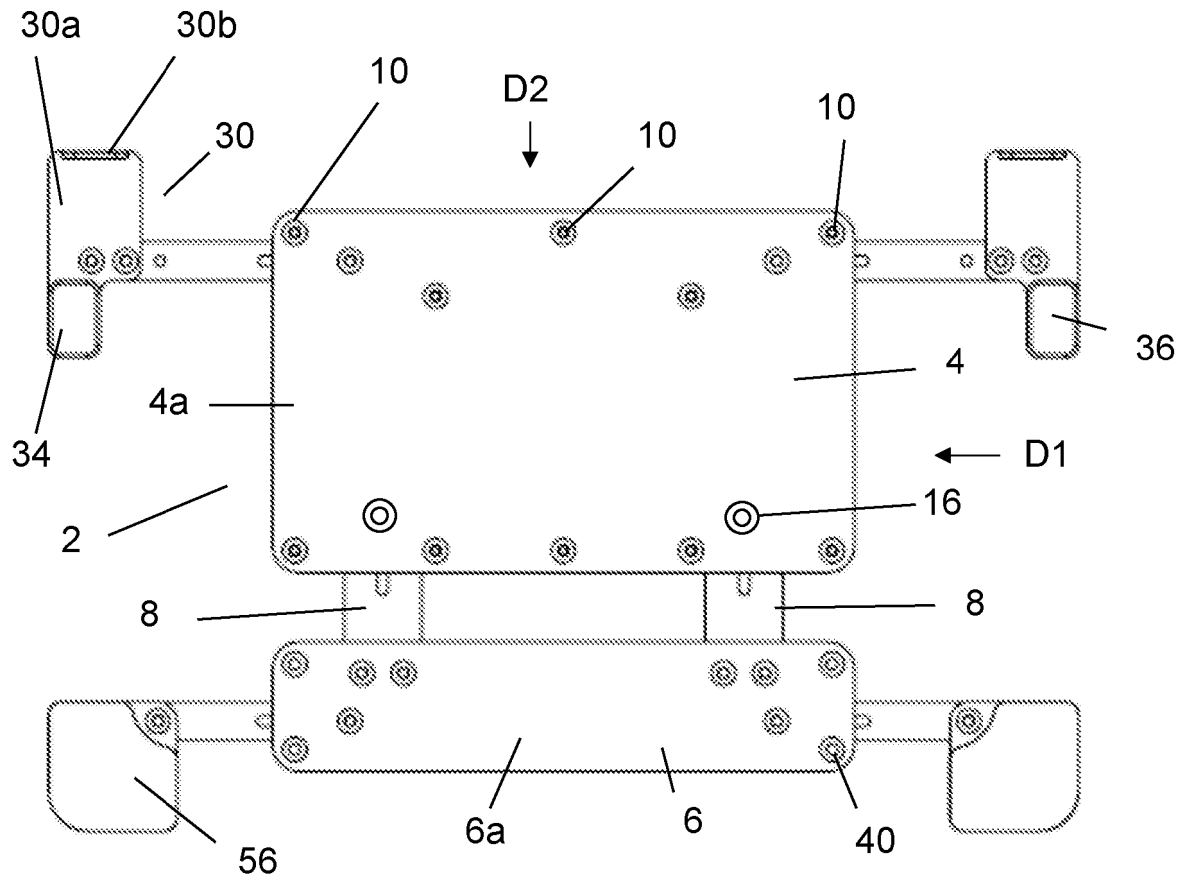


Figure 1

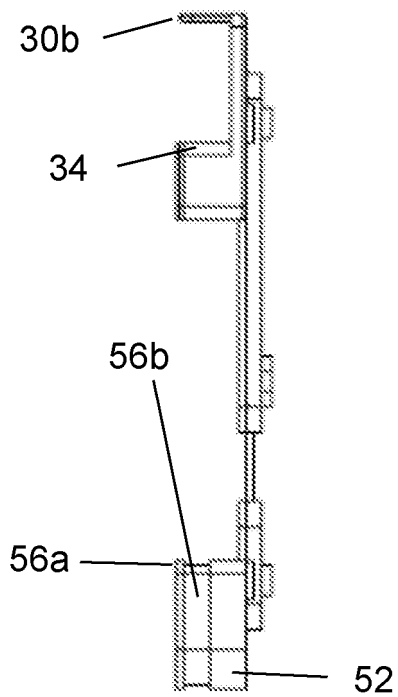


Figure 2

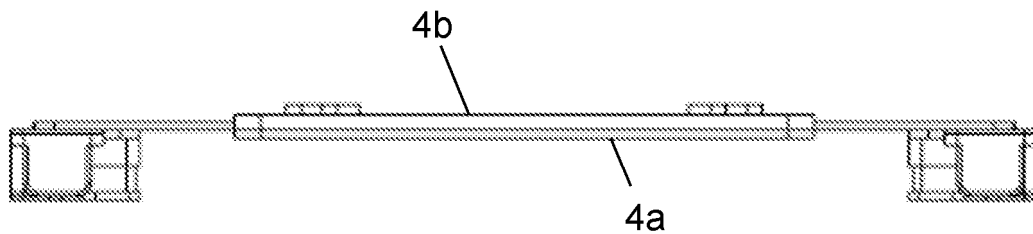


Figure 3

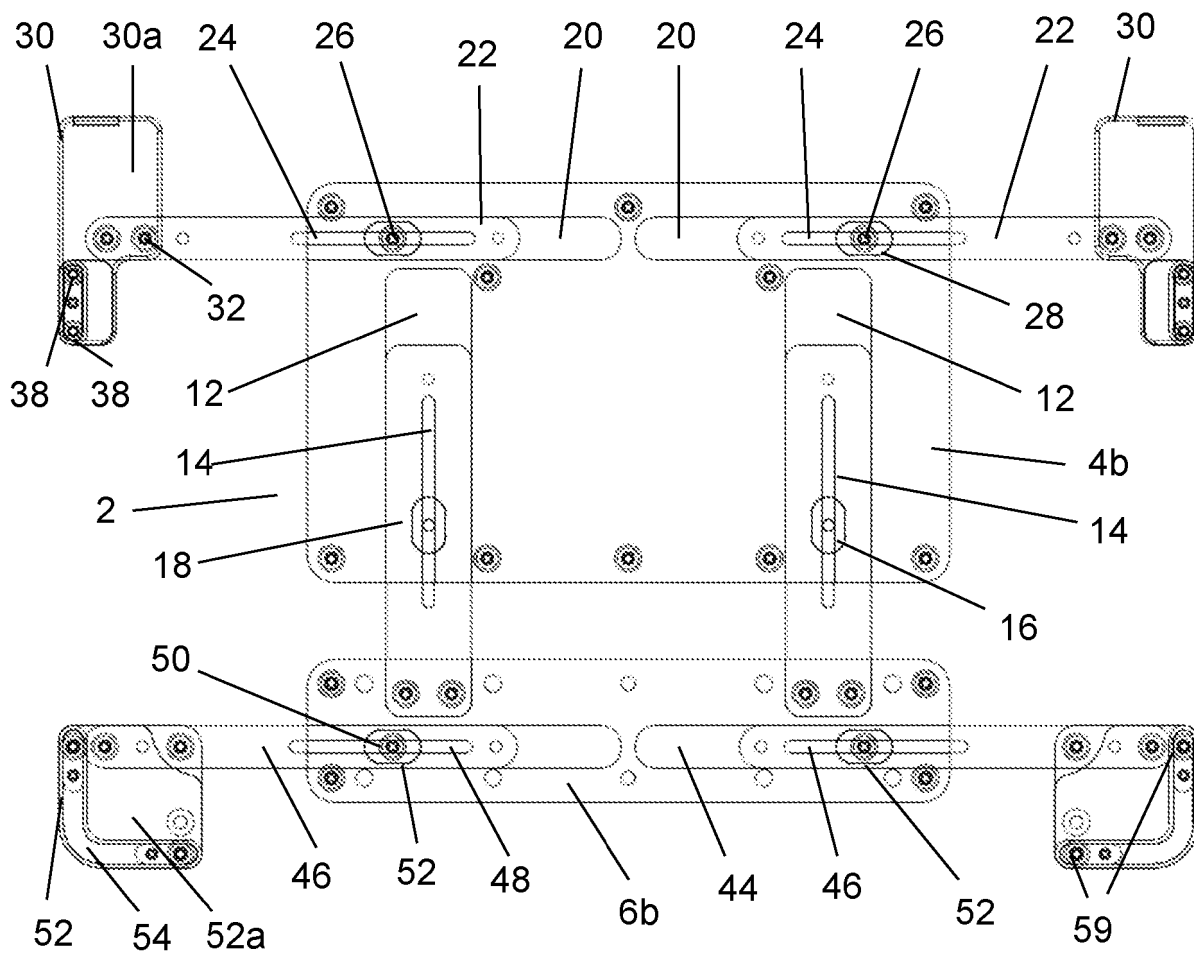


Figure 4

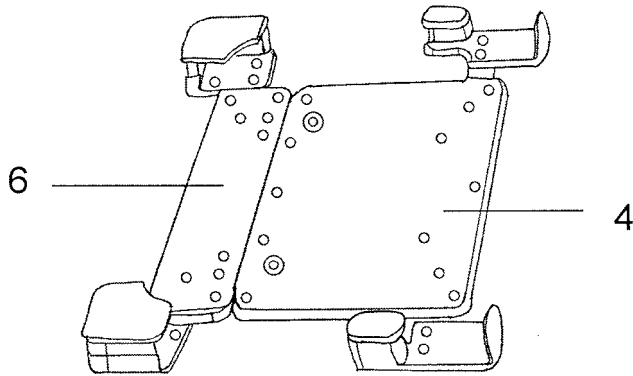


Figure 5A

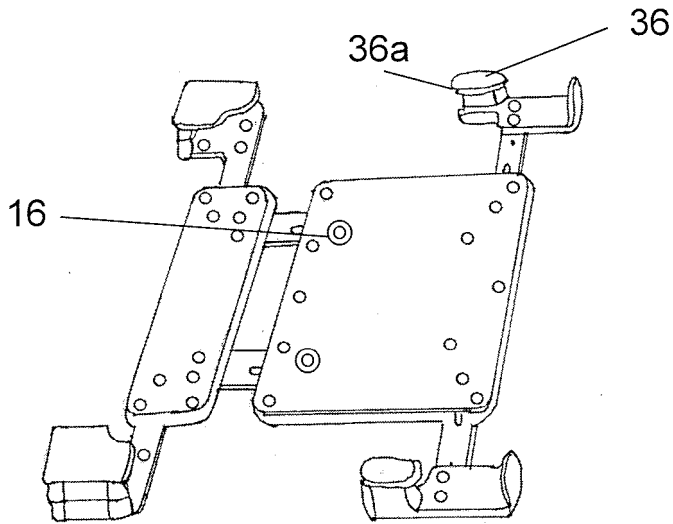


Figure 5B

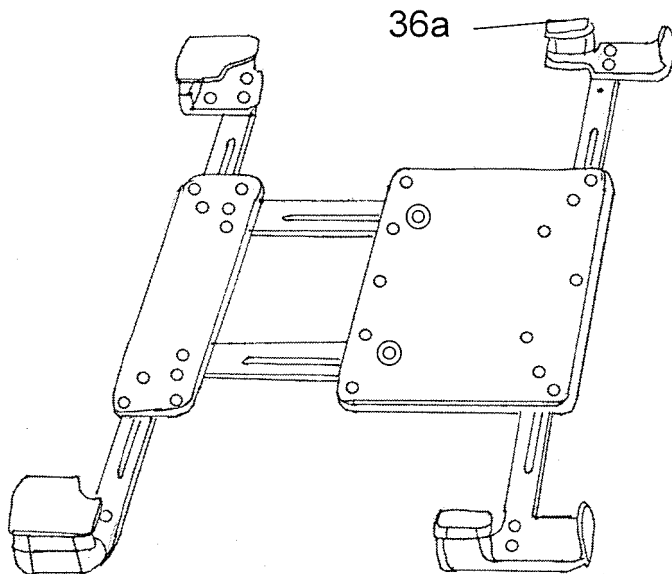


Figure 5C

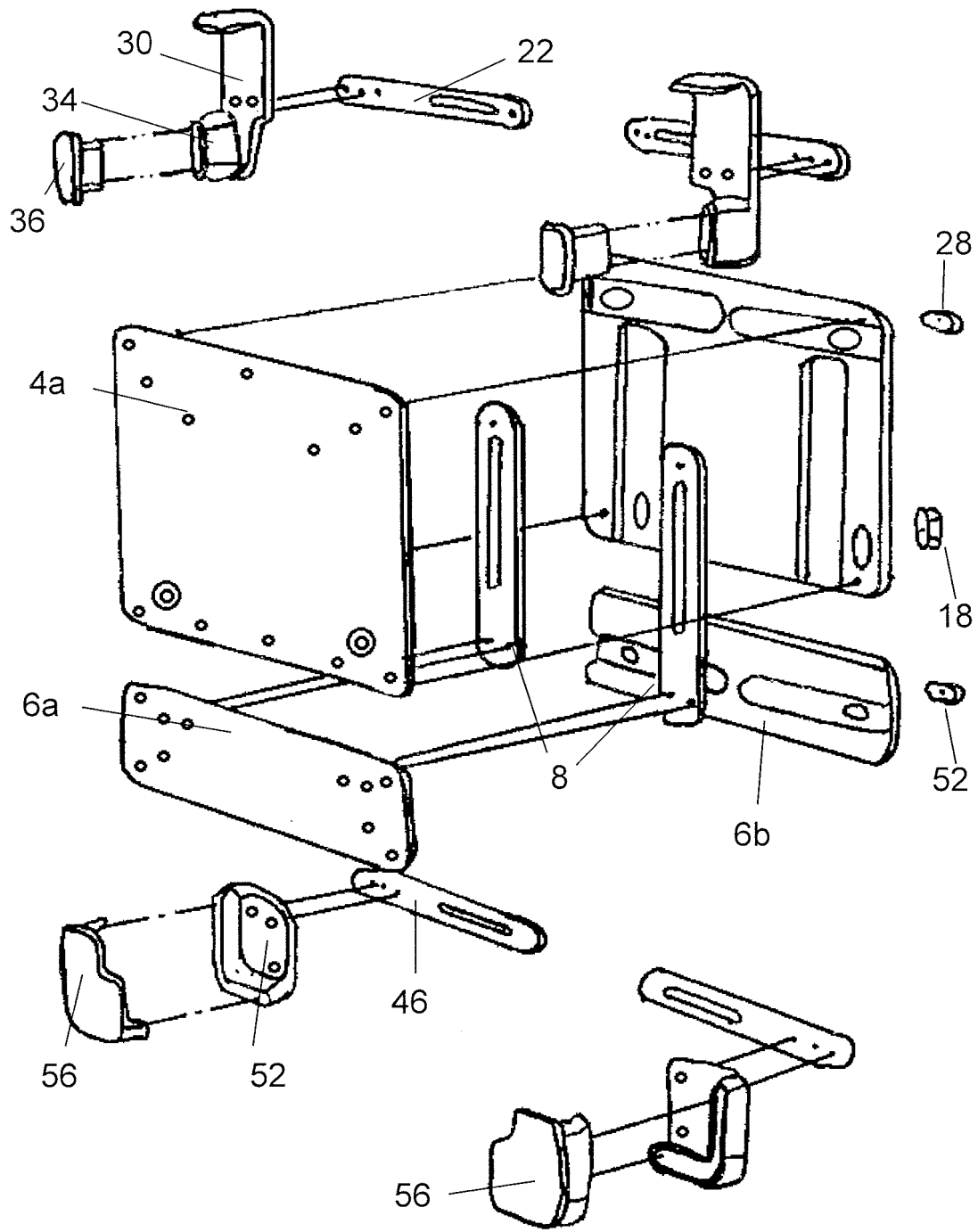


Figure 6

27 07 15

27 07 15

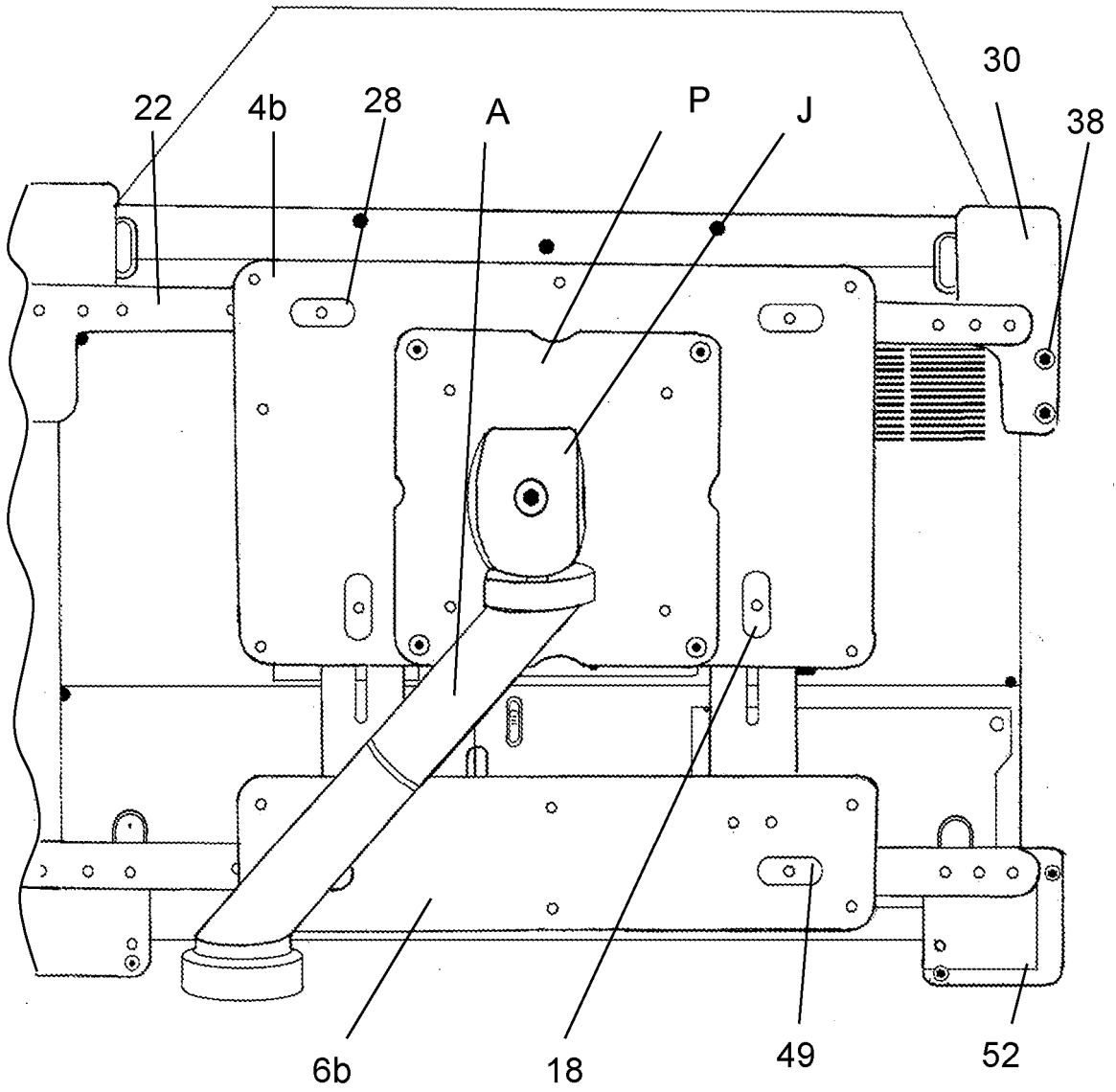


Figure 7

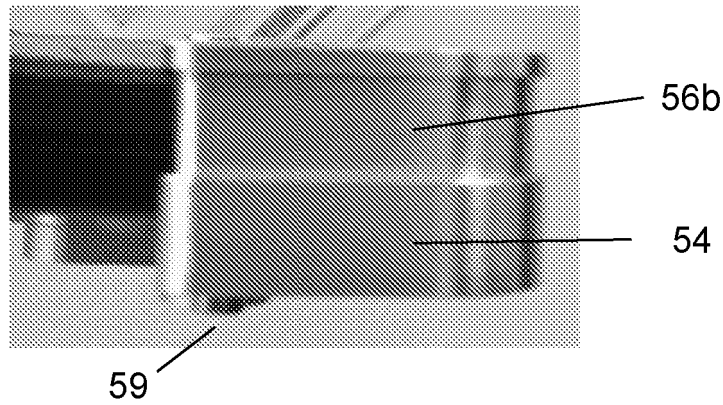


Figure 8

27 07 15

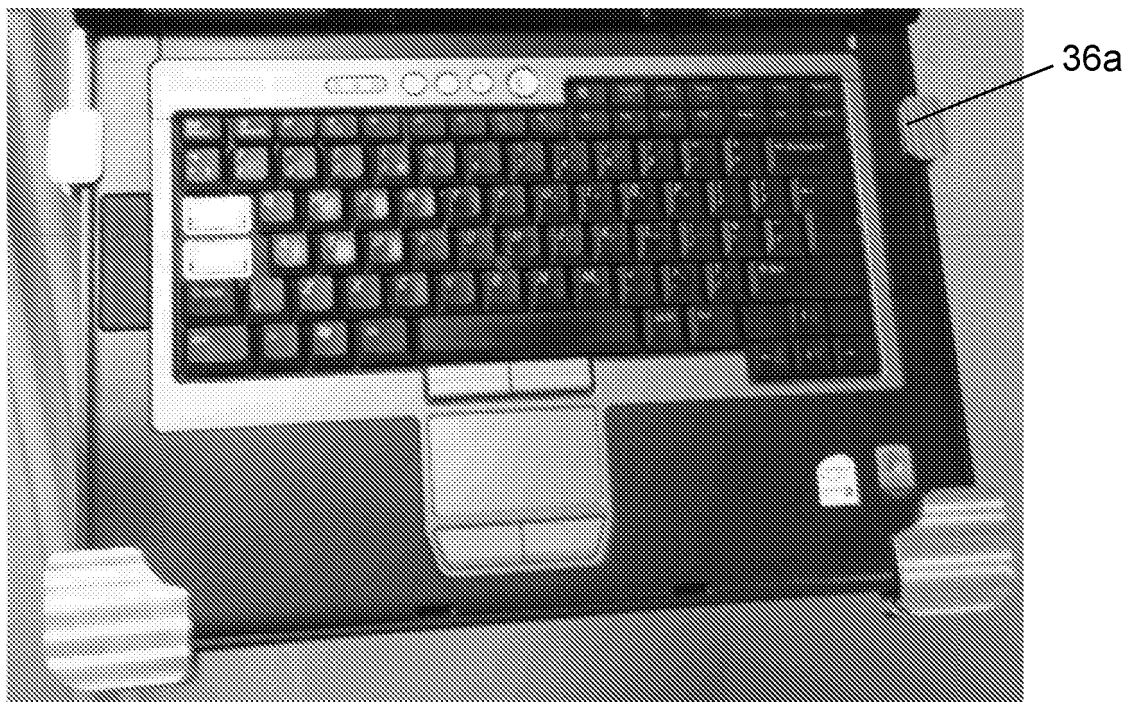


Figure 9

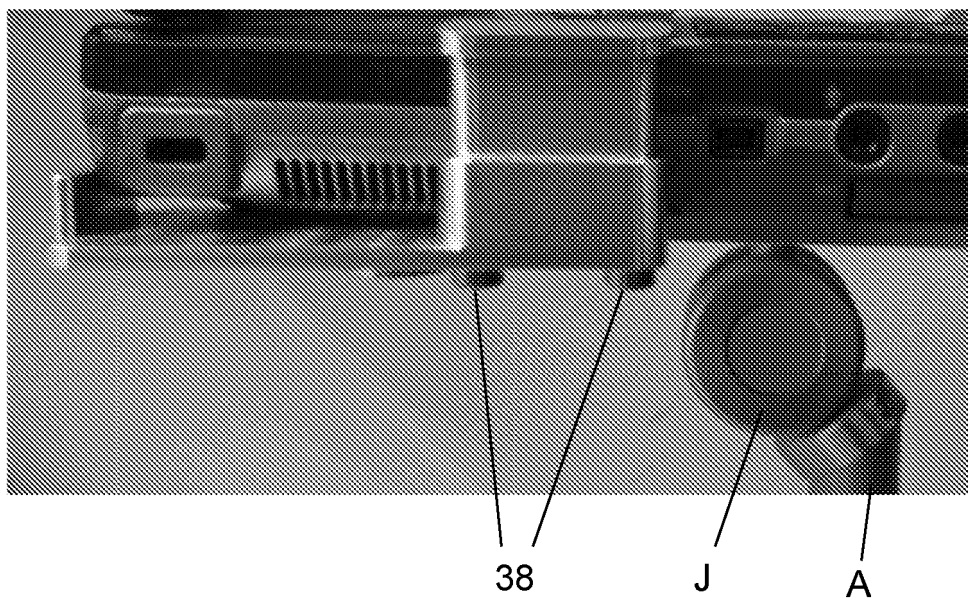


Figure 10

A MOUNT FOR A LAPTOP COMPUTER

This invention relates to a mount for a laptop computer, and more particularly to a mount which is adjustable to enable it to accommodate a range of different laptop computer sizes, and which is provided with means for securing the laptop to the
5 mount to prevent unauthorised removal.

Background of the Invention

Laptop computers are portable computers in which the processor, screen, keyboard and pointing device are all combined in a single unit. Typically, the laptop will have a hinged lid that contains a screen and a main body containing the
10 processor, keyboard, pointing device and associated electronic components, as well as various ports for connection to external devices. The light weight and portability of laptop computers means that they are used widely in "field" settings rather than being confined to use in an office. For example, laptops are widely used in industrial settings, for monitoring or controlling manufacturing processes,
15 and in hospitals and other settings where there is a need to move computers around on a frequent basis. In locations where there is little space available for a desk or table, for example in hospital wards, laptops are often mounted on a suitable supporting structure. The supporting structure can be a mobile structure such as a cart or trolley or a fixed structure such as a supporting arm that can be
20 folded away when not required.

Various types of laptop mounts have previously been proposed and examples include the laptop mounts described in GB2490570, US6491276, US2003/0218113, US2011/0057006, US2001/226931, US2013/013/0193290 and WO2005/055780.

The Invention

The present invention provides an improved mount for a laptop computer which can be expanded both longitudinally and laterally to enable it to accommodate a range of different laptop sizes. In addition, the mount is provided with releasable lockable security elements to prevent unauthorised removal of the laptop computer
30 from the mounting structure

Accordingly, in a first aspect, the invention provides a mount for a laptop computer, the mount comprising a mounting structure upon which the laptop computer can be mounted, the mounting structure having means for attachment to a supporting structure and means for holding the laptop computer in place on the mounting structure;

the mounting structure being reversibly expandable in both longitudinal and lateral directions to enable laptop computers of a plurality of different sizes to be mounted and held thereon;

wherein releasable fastening elements are provided to retain the mounting structure in a desired expanded or contracted configuration, the releasable fastening elements being accessible for adjustment to permit expansion or contraction of the mounting structure when the laptop computer is not mounted on the mounting structure but being concealed and not accessible for adjustment, thereby preventing expansion and contraction of the mounting structure, when the laptop computer is in place on the mounting structure;

and wherein one or more releasable lockable security elements are provided to prevent unauthorised removal of the laptop computer from the mounting structure.

The term "laptop computer" as used herein refers not only to portable computers of the type conventionally known as laptops but also includes other forms of portable computer that share with laptops a generally flat profile and have all of the required operating components (processor and means for inputting commands and data, and typically also a screen) in a single unit. The term therefore also encompasses smaller portable computers such as notebooks and tablets.

According to the invention, the mounting structure can be adjusted to give a desired expanded or contracted configuration to accommodate a laptop of a particular size and then the releasable fastening elements fastened to retain the mounting structure in that configuration. The laptop is then placed on the mounting structure and the releasable lockable security element(s) actuated to lock the laptop in place. Unauthorised removal of the laptop is therefore prevented.

Because the releasable fastening elements are inaccessible once the laptop is locked in place on the mounting structure, it is not possible to remove the laptop from the mounting structure by expanding or contracting the mounting structure.

The mounting structure has means for attachment to a supporting structure. The supporting structure can be, for example, free standing support structure, or a support for attachment to a wall or other upright surface. The supporting structure may comprise means for tilting the mounting structure about one or more axes and/or rotating the mounting structure. By way of example, the supporting structure can comprise a universal joint.

The means for attachment to the supporting structure can comprise a simple structure such as a threaded hole or holes enabling connection to the supporting structure, or one or more socket formations for receiving screws, bolts or other fastening elements associated with the supporting structure. Alternatively, the means for attachment to the supporting structure can be of more substantial construction and can take the form of a connector such as a bracket or clamp or socket, or an arm that can be connected to the supporting structure.

The mounting structure has means for holding the laptop computer in place on the mounting structure. By "holding" is meant more than merely presenting a surface upon which the laptop can be placed. Thus, the means for holding the laptop computer in place is intended to prevent inadvertent detachment from the mount if, for example, the mount is tilted and/or rotated.

The means for holding the laptop in place can comprise one or more walls, edges, ribs, upstands or other formations that restrain the laptop against movement when the mount is tilted or rotated. The means for holding the laptop in place also comprise one or more formations that prevent the laptop from being lifted away from the mounting structure and prevent it from falling out if the mount is inverted.

Thus, the means for holding the laptop in place typically comprises one or more (and preferably a plurality) of formations that restrain the laptop against lateral or longitudinal movement with respect to the mounting structure, and one or more formations that overhang an upper surface of the laptop and thereby prevent movement away from the mounting structure.

The term "longitudinal" used herein refers to movement in a direction from the front edge (the edge opposite the hinge) of a laptop towards the rear edge (the edge where the hinge is located) and movement in the reverse direction, i.e. from the rear edge towards the front edge. The movement may be along a longitudinal axis

that is substantially orthogonal to the front edge of the laptop or at an angle of less than 90° to the front edge of the laptop.

The term "lateral" as used herein refers to movement sideways with the respect to the longitudinal axis. The lateral movement may be in a direction substantially
5 orthogonal (i.e. approximately 90°) to the longitudinal axis or at an angle of less than 90° to the longitudinal axis.

The mounting structure is reversibly expandable in both longitudinal and lateral directions to enable laptop computers of a plurality of different sizes to be mounted and held thereon.

10 The mounting structure may comprise a mounting platform and one or more (typically a plurality) of ancillary platform elements movably (e.g. slidably) linked to the mounting platform so as to provide longitudinal and/or lateral relative movement therebetween.

The ancillary platform elements provide a means by which the mounting structure
15 can be elongated or widened (or, in the reverse direction, contracted) to accommodate laptop computers of differing sizes.

The ancillary platform elements can take the form of, for example, further platform-like elements or arms having surfaces upon which the laptop can rest.

The mounting platform and ancillary platform elements are typically each provided
20 with means for holding the laptop in place.

In one embodiment, the mounting structure comprises first and second mounting platforms and means for enabling the first and second mounting platforms to be slidably moved towards and away from one another, for example along a longitudinal axis.

25 The means for enabling the first and second mounting platforms to be slidably moved towards and away from one another can take the form of one more linking members linking the first and second mounting platforms, each linking member being anchored in one of the first and second mounting platforms and being slidable in the other of the first and second mounting platforms. Typically, there are
30 two or more linking members linking the first and second mounting platforms.

Preferably, the first and second platforms are arranged so that there are no height differences between the upper surfaces thereof; i.e. there is no step between one platform and the other platform.

5 Each platform may comprise a plate upon which the laptop rests. The plate may be provided with one or more holes to permit air to circulate for cooling purposes. Alternatively, one or more of the platforms may have an open framework structure.

10 A platform may comprise upper and lower plates, an upper plate providing a surface upon which the laptop rests and a lower plate having means for attachment to a supporting structure. One or more sliding elements, such as sliding arms or sliding elements linking a platform to adjacent ancillary platform elements, may be mounted in channels formed between the upper and lower plates. For example, one of the plates (e.g. the lower plate) can have one or more machined channels for accommodating a sliding element.

15 Each of the first and second mounting platforms may have one or more (and preferably a plurality) of sliding arms, each of the sliding arms having means for engaging an edge and preferably also an upper surface of a laptop so as to hold the laptop against lateral and/or longitudinal movement.

Preferably, both the first and second mounting platforms have one or more (preferably a plurality) of sliding arms slidably attached thereto.

20 In addition to holding the laptop against lateral and/or movement, the sliding arms may also be provided with formations for preventing the laptop from being lifted away from the mounting structure. The formations may be movable or detachable to enable the laptop to be placed on the mount and movable or re-attachable to enable the laptop to be held in place.

25 In one embodiment, each of the first and second mounting platforms has a pair of sliding arms on opposing sides thereof, each of the sliding arms being arranged for lateral sliding movement with respect to the first or second mounting platforms. In this embodiment, it is preferred that each sliding arm is configured so as to restrain the laptop against longitudinal or lateral movement and to prevent the laptop from
30 being lifted away from the mounting structure.

One or both of the first and second mounting platforms can comprise a sandwich structure in which the linking member(s) are held between two plates. In one embodiment, both the first and second mounting platforms have such a structure. One or both of the two plates in each case can be provided with a channel for receiving the linking members. The linking members can each be fixedly held in a channel in a plate or plates of one of the first and second mounting platforms and slidably held in a channel in a plate or plates of the other of the first and second mounting platforms.

One of the first and second mounting platforms may be larger in a longitudinal direction than the other. The linking members can be slidable in channels of the larger sliding linking member and fixedly held in channels or recesses of the other linking member.

In one embodiment, the first and second mounting platforms are linked by a pair of elongate substantially flat linking members. The linking members may be of substantially rectangular form although they may have radiussed corners or radiussed ends.

The mounting structure is provided with releasable fastening elements to retain the mounting structure in a desired expanded or contracted configuration. The releasable fastening elements are accessible for adjustment to permit expansion or contraction of the mounting structure when the laptop computer is not mounted on the mounting structure. However, when the laptop computer is in place on the mounting structure, the releasable fastening elements are concealed by the laptop and are not accessible for adjustment. Thus expansion and contraction of the mounting structure, when the laptop is in place, is prevented.

The releasable fastening elements can take various forms. They can, for example, take the form of clamping screws or bolts that can be screwed tightly against moving members within or on the mounting structure. Alternatively, they can take the form of screws or bolts that can be tightened to draw a clamping element into contact with moving members in or on the mounting structure. In another embodiment, the releasable fastening elements can take the form of lugs or pegs that can be adjusted so that they move into engagement with or are retracted from holes or recesses or other detent formations in or on moving members within or on

the mounting structure. The lugs or pegs can be, for example, spring loaded and biased into engagement with the detent formation.

The mount is provided with one or more releasable lockable security elements to prevent unauthorised removal of the laptop computer from the mounting structure.

- 5 The lockable security elements can take the form of, for example, a latch or bolt and associated key-operated lock. Alternatively, or additionally, the lockable security elements can take the form of or comprise security screws or bolts that require a special tool to tighten or release them. Such screws and bolts are commercially widely available.
- 10 The lockable security elements may be associated with formations for preventing the laptop from being lifted away from the mounting structure as hereinbefore defined. For example, where the formations are movable or detachable to enable the laptop to be placed on the mount, the lockable security elements may be configured to prevent such movement or detachment.
- 15 In one particular embodiment of the invention, there is provided a mount for a laptop, the mount comprising a mounting structure upon which the laptop computer can be mounted, the mounting structure having means for attachment to a supporting structure and means for holding the laptop computer in place on the mounting structure;
- 20 the mounting structure being reversibly expandable in both longitudinal and lateral directions to enable laptop computers of a plurality of different sizes to be mounted and held thereon;
- wherein the mounting structure comprises first and second mounting platforms linked by a plurality (e.g. two) of linking members, the linking members
- 25 being slidable in channels in one or both of the mounting platforms so that the first and second mounting platforms can be moved together or apart;
- each of the first and second mounting platforms being provided with at least one pair of laterally movable arms, the arms being provided, collectively, with formations for preventing longitudinal and lateral movement of the laptop on the
- 30 mounting structure and preventing the laptop from being lifted off of the mounting structure;
- wherein releasable fastening elements are provided that act upon the said linking members and arms to retain the mounting structure in a desired expanded

or contracted configuration, the releasable fastening elements being accessible for adjustment to permit expansion or contraction of the mounting structure when the laptop computer is not mounted on the mounting structure but being concealed and not accessible for adjustment, thereby preventing expansion and contraction of the mounting structure, when the laptop computer is in place on the mounting structure;

and wherein one or more releasable lockable security elements are provided on the said formations to prevent unauthorised removal of the laptop computer from the mounting structure.

10 In another aspect, the invention provides a mount for a laptop computer as defined herein having a laptop computer attached thereto.

In a further aspect, the invention provides a combination of a mount for a laptop computer as defined herein and a supporting structure for supporting the mount above or away from a surface.

15 Further aspects and embodiments of the invention will be apparent from the specific description below and the drawings.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is a plan view from one side of a laptop mount according to one embodiment of the invention.

20 Figure 2 is a side view from direction D1 in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is an end view from direction D2 in Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a plan view corresponding to Figure 1 but wherein the front plates of the two mounting platforms have been removed to show the interior layouts.

25 Figures 5A to 5C are perspective views showing the mount in various states of expansion or contraction.

Figure 6 is an exploded view showing the component parts of the mount.

Figure 7 is a rear view of the mount showing part of a supporting structure attached to the mount and showing a laptop in place on the mount.

Figure 8 is an enlarged view of a corner of the mount showing a corner block and locking cover plate assembly.

Figure 9 is a view from above showing a laptop in place on the mount.

Figure 10 is an enlarged side view showing a laptop in place on the mount.

5 **Detailed Description of the Invention**

The invention will now be described in more detail, but not limited, by reference to the specific embodiment illustrated in the drawings.

Referring now to the drawings, Figures 1 to 10 show a mount for a laptop according to one embodiment of the invention.

10 The mount comprises a mounting structure 2 upon which the laptop computer can be mounted. The mounting structure comprises a larger first mounting platform 4 and a smaller second mounting platform 6 linked by elongate sliding linking members 8. The first and second mounting platforms 4 and 6 together provide a surface for supporting the laptop computer.

15 The first (and larger) mounting platform 4 comprises a pair of plates 4a and 4b secured together by means of countersunk screws at spaced locations 10 around the perimeter of the platform. The plates 4a and 4b can be formed, for example, from aluminium. As shown in Figure 4, the thicker plate 4b has a pair of parallel machined channels 12 extending from one edge of the platform in a longitudinal
20 direction. The channels are open at one end and closed at the other end. The elongate sliding linking members 8 sit in and can slide along the channels 12.

Each of the linking members 12 has an elongate slot 14 along part of its length. The width of the slot is such as to accommodate the shank of a screw 16 which is set into a countersunk or counterbored hole through the plate 4a. The end of the
25 shank of the screw 16 is received in a threaded bore in an oval-shaped clamping block 18 which is seated in a correspondingly oval shaped hole in the bottom of the channel 12. The clamping block is formed from machined aluminium.

The screw 16 and clamping block 18 together function as a releasable fastening element. Tightening the screw 16 against the clamping block 18 brings the surface

of the clamping block into gripping contact with the surface of the linking member 12 either side of the slot 14 thereby preventing the linking member from moving.

The plate 4b also has a pair of lateral machined channels 20 extending in opposing directions near to the distal end of the plate. Mounted in the channels 20 are
5 sliding arms 22. In an analogous manner to the linking members 12, the sliding arms 22 have elongate slots 24, the width of which is such as to accommodate the shank of a screw 26 which is set into a countersunk or counterbored hole through the plate 4a. The end of the shank of the screw 26 is received in a threaded bore in
10 an oval-shaped clamping block 28 which is seated in a correspondingly oval shaped hole in the bottom of the channel 20. The screw 26 and clamping block together act as releasable fastening means in the same manner as the screw 16 and clamping block 18. Thus the releasable fastening means can be used to hold the sliding arm at a desired location in the channel 20.

To the outer end of each sliding arm 22 is attached a "hand" assembly for holding
15 the laptop in place. The "hand" assembly comprises an aluminium machined element 30 which is secured to the sliding arm 22 by means of screws 32 (although rivets may be used instead). The element 30 has a flat region 30a, an upstanding wall 30b and a socket formation 34. A "plug" 36 is located inside the socket formation 34 and is held in place by security screws 38 through holes in the
20 underside of the element 30. The plug has a flange 36a extending outwardly from its upper end.

When a laptop computer is positioned on the mounting structure, longitudinal and lateral movement are restrained by the upstanding wall 30b and the socket formation 34 respectively. The plug 36 is inserted into the socket formation 34 so
25 that the flange 36a overlies the edge of the upper surface of the computer and is locked in place by means of the security screws. The flange 36a prevents the computer from being lifted away from the mounting structure. Plugs 36 of different lengths can be provided to enable laptop computers of varying depths to be accommodated on the mount.

30 The height of the upstanding wall 30b is less than the typical depth of a laptop computer and therefore does not bear against the hinge of the laptop and restrict movement (e.g. tilting) of the laptop screen. The spacing between the socket

formation 34 and the upstanding wall 30b is designed to provide access to the various connector sockets typically found near to the corners of laptop computers.

The smaller second mounting platform 6 has a similar form of construction to the larger first mounting platform 4 in that it comprises a pair of aluminium plates 6a and 6b fastened together around their peripheries by means of screws or rivets 40. Short longitudinally extending channels or recesses 42 in plate 6b accommodate the ends of the elongate linking members 8. The ends of the linking members 8 are fixed in place by means of fastening screws or rivets (not shown) through aligned holes in the plate 6b and linking member 8.

The plate 6b also has a pair of lateral channels 44 in which are mounted sliding arms 46. In an analogous manner to the sliding arms in the larger first mounting platform, the sliding arms 46 have elongate slots 48, the width of which is such as to accommodate the shank of a screw 50 which is set into a countersunk or counterbored hole through the plate 6a. The end of the shank of the screw 50 is received in a threaded bore in an oval-shaped clamping block 49 which is seated in a correspondingly oval shaped hole in the bottom of the channel 44. The screw 50 and clamping block 49 together act as releasable fastening means in the same manner as the screw 26 and clamping block 28 on the first mounting platform 4.

Attached to the outer end of each arm 46 by means of screws or rivets (not shown) is a metal (e.g. aluminium) corner block 52 which has a flat portion 52a for supporting the corner of a laptop and an L-shaped socket formation 54. Received within the L-shaped socket formation 54 is a corner covering member 56 which has a flat cover plate portion 56a and an L-shaped plug portion 56b. The lower surface of the L-shaped plug portion 56b is provided with a pair of threaded holes (not shown) that are aligned with holes in the bottom of the socket formation 54 of the casting 52. The L-shaped plug portion 56b fits inside the L-shaped socket formation 54 and can be secured in place by security screws 59.

When a laptop computer is placed on the mount, the front corners of the laptop are placed up against the L-shaped socket formation. The walls of the L-shaped socket formation restrain the laptop against lateral and longitudinal movement. The corner covering member 56 is then fitted into the socket formation 54 and the security screws are screwed into place. The cover plate portion 56a prevents the laptop from being lifted away from the mounting structure. Thus, the combination of

corner cover plate and security screws constitutes a releasable lockable security element as defined above.

The underside of the plate 4b of the first mounting platform is provided with an array of threaded holes 58 that enable the mount to be secured to a supporting structure such as a supporting arm. As shown in Figure 7, a plate P of a supporting structure is attached to the underside of the first mounting platform. The plate P is attached through joint J to an arm A which can be part of a free standing supporting structure or can be mounted on a wall or other surface.

In use, the mount is first set up to accommodate a particular laptop computer. Thus, the security screws in the element 30 and corner block 52 and the plugs 36 and corner covering members 56 are removed. The screws 16, 26 and 50 are then loosened so that the linking members 12 and the arms 22 and 46 can slide in their respective channels. The laptop is then placed on the mount, and the first and second mounting platforms and element 30 and corner block 50 are then moved together or apart as necessary so that the corners of the laptop firmly abut against the upstanding walls 30b and socket formations 34 of the element 30 and the walls of the socket formation 54. The laptop is then lifted off of the mount and the screws 16, 26 and 50 re-tightened to hold the mounting structure in the required configuration. Figures 5A, 5B and 5C shown the mount in various degrees of expansion with Figure 5A showing the fully contracted state and Figure 5C showing the fully expanded state.

Once the mount has been configured, the laptop is then placed back on the mounting structure and the plugs 36 and corner covering members 56 refitted. Finally, the security screws are screwed back into the castings 30 and 52 to lock the plugs 36 and corner covering members 56 in place. The laptop cannot then be removed from the mount without using a security key to remove the security screws.

Figures 7, 8, 9 and 10 show the mount with a laptop *in situ*. From Figures 8, 9 and 10 in particular, the manner in which the laptop is held in place on the mount can be seen more clearly.

It will be appreciated from the above description that the laptop mount of the invention provides a secure method of mounting a laptop such that it cannot readily

be removed by unauthorised personnel. The security screws prevent the laptop from being lifted off of the mount and therefore the releasable fastening elements, which are inaccessible because they are covered by the laptop, cannot be loosened to permit the two mounting platforms and/or the arms 22 and 46 to be moved to release the laptop.

Equivalents

It will readily be apparent that numerous modifications and alterations may be made to the specific embodiments of the invention described above without departing from the principles underlying the invention. All such modifications and alterations are intended to be embraced by this application.

CLAIMS

1. A mount for a laptop computer, the mount comprising a mounting structure upon which the laptop computer can be mounted, the mounting structure having means for attachment to a supporting structure and means for
5 holding the laptop computer in place on the mounting structure;
the mounting structure being reversibly expandable in both longitudinal and lateral directions to enable laptop computers of a plurality of different sizes to be mounted and held thereon;
wherein releasable fastening elements are provided to retain the mounting
10 structure in a desired expanded or contracted configuration, the releasable fastening elements being accessible for adjustment to permit expansion or contraction of the mounting structure when the laptop computer is not mounted on the mounting structure but being concealed and not accessible for adjustment, thereby preventing expansion and contraction of the
15 mounting structure, when the laptop computer is in place on the mounting structure;
and wherein one or more releasable lockable security elements are provided to prevent unauthorised removal of the laptop computer from the mounting structure.
- 20 2. A mount for a laptop computer according to claim 1 wherein the mounting structure comprises a mounting platform and one or more ancillary platform elements slidably linked to the mounting platform so as to provide longitudinal and/or lateral relative movement therebetween.
3. A mount for a laptop computer according to claim 2 wherein the mounting
25 structure comprises first and second mounting platforms and means for enabling the first and second mounting platforms to be slidably moved towards and away from one another.
4. A mount for a laptop computer according to claim 3 wherein the first and
30 second mounting platforms are slidably moved towards and away from one another along a longitudinal axis.
5. A mount for a laptop computer according to claim 3 or claim 4 wherein the means for enabling the first and second mounting platforms to be slidably

- 5 moved towards and away from one another takes the form of one more linking members linking the first and second mounting platforms, each linking member being anchored in one of the first and second mounting platforms and being slidable in the other of the first and second mounting platforms.
6. A mount for a laptop computer according to claim 5 wherein there are two or more linking members linking the first and second mounting platforms.
7. A mount for a laptop computer according to any one of claims 3 to 6 wherein each of the first and second mounting platforms has one or more sliding arms, each of the sliding arms having means for engaging an edge and preferably also an upper surface of a laptop so as to hold the laptop against lateral and/or longitudinal movement.
- 10 8. A mount for a laptop computer according to claim 7 wherein each mounting platform has a plurality of sliding arms.
- 15 9. A mount for a laptop computer according to claim 8 wherein each of the first and second mounting platforms has a pair of sliding arms on opposing sides thereof, each of the sliding arms being arranged for lateral sliding movement with respect to the first or second mounting platforms.
- 20 10. A mount for a laptop computer according to claim 9 wherein each sliding arm is configured so as to restrain the laptop against longitudinal or lateral movement and to prevent the laptop from being lifted away from the mounting structure.
- 25 11. A mount for a laptop, the mount comprising a mounting structure upon which the laptop computer can be mounted, the mounting structure having means for attachment to a supporting structure and means for holding the laptop computer in place on the mounting structure;
the mounting structure being reversibly expandable in both longitudinal and lateral directions to enable laptop computers of a plurality of different sizes to be mounted and held thereon;
- 30 wherein the mounting structure comprises first and second mounting platforms linked by a plurality (e.g. two) of linking members, the linking

members being slidable in channels in one or both of the mounting platforms so that the first and second mounting platforms can be moved together or apart;

5 each of the first and second mounting platforms being provided with at least one pair of laterally movable arms, the arms being provided, collectively, with formations for preventing longitudinal and lateral movement of the laptop on the mounting structure and preventing the laptop from being lifted off of the mounting structure;

10 wherein releasable fastening elements are provided that act upon the said linking members and arms to retain the mounting structure in a desired expanded or contracted configuration, the releasable fastening elements being accessible for adjustment to permit expansion or contraction of the mounting structure when the laptop computer is not mounted on the mounting structure but being concealed and not accessible for adjustment, 15 thereby preventing expansion and contraction of the mounting structure, when the laptop computer is in place on the mounting structure;

and wherein one or more releasable lockable security elements are provided on the said formations to prevent unauthorised removal of the laptop computer from the mounting structure.

- 20 12. A mount for a laptop computer substantially as described herein with reference to the accompanying drawings.
13. A mount for a laptop computer as defined in any one of claims 1 to 12 having a laptop computer attached thereto.
14. A combination of a mount for a laptop computer as defined in any one of 25 claims 1 to 12 and a supporting structure for supporting the mount above or away from a surface.



Application No: GB1413748.3

Examiner: Mr Tristan Ballard

Claims searched: 1-14

Date of search: 26 January 2015

Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance
X	1-4, 13	US 2012/0260698 A1 (ALLEN ET AL) See paragraphs [0033]-[0036], [0223]-[0228] and figures 1-6
X	1, 13, 14	EP 2179682 A2 (SONY) See paragraphs [0008], [0010], [0017], [0020] and figures 1-6
X	1	EP 2317044 A2 (INVUE SECURITY PRODUCTS) See paragraphs [0029]-[0032] and figures 1-6
A	-	EP 2019578 A1 (PENN FABRICATION LTD)
A	-	US 2003/0218113 A1 (SULLIVAN)
A	-	WO 2012/137007 A1 (SOLUTIONS DIVERSE LTD)

Categories:

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

Field of Search:

Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKC^X :

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Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC

A47B; B60R; E05B; F16M; G06F; H05K

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report

EPODOC, WPI, TXTE, Internet



International Classification:

Subclass	Subgroup	Valid From
G06F	0001/16	01/01/2006
E05B	0073/00	01/01/2006
F16M	0011/04	01/01/2006