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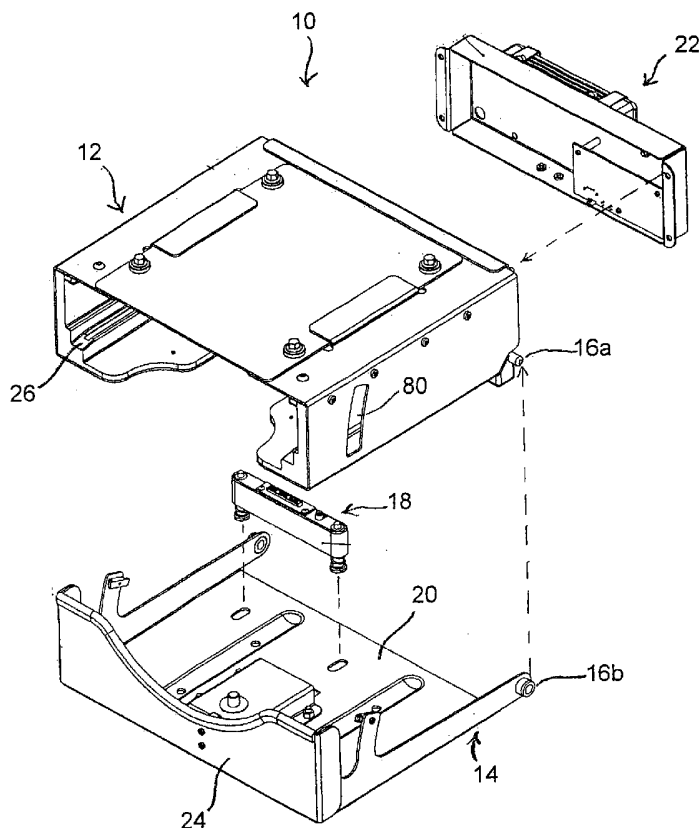
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- Published:  
— with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: DOCKING STATION



(57) Abstract: A computer docking apparatus for use with a portable computer, particularly in vehicles, comprising a cradle member suitable for receiving a portable computer and a closure member; an electrical connector assembly that operably makes power and/or data-transfer connections to the computer; the connector assembly being attached to the closure member the position of which may be changed such that the computer may be inserted into or removed from the cradle when the closure member is in the a first position and moving the closure member from this first position to a second position causes the electrical connector assembly to engage the computer to allow power and/or data-transfer connections between the docking apparatus and the computer.

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**(88) Date of publication of the international search report:**

2 March 2006

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/GB2005/001095

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC 7 G06F1/16 B60R11/02

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)  
 IPC 7 G06F B60R

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 practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, IBM-TDB

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 169 655 B1 (HELOT JACQUES H) 2 January 2001 (2001-01-02) column 3, line 10 - column 7, line 67; figures 1-10	1-17
X	US 6 264 488 B1 (HELOT JACQUES H ET AL) 24 July 2001 (2001-07-24) column 4, line 11 - column 5, line 19 column 5, line 44 - column 6, line 47 figures 3,4A,4B	1-17
X	US 6 280 212 B1 (NGUYEN MINH H ET AL) 28 August 2001 (2001-08-28) column 4, line 14 - column 6, line 51; figures 1,3-7,3A	1,2,6-8, 12,14-18
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in 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 document 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

28 October 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

07/11/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/GB2005/001095

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6 042 414 A (KUNERT ET AL) 28 March 2000 (2000-03-28) column 1, line 19 - column 5, line 8; figures 1A,1B,8A,8B -----	1,18
A	EP 0 795 437 A (HARNESS SYSTEM TECHNOLOGIES RESEARCH, LTD; SUMITOMO WIRING SYSTEMS, LT) 17 September 1997 (1997-09-17) column 3, line 20 - line 40; figures 1-3 column 5, line 18 - line 32; figure 7A -----	1,18
A	US 2002/048982 A1 (GU HAO ET AL) 25 April 2002 (2002-04-25) the whole document -----	10,11

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/GB2005/001095

## Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2.  Claims Nos.: 19  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:  
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
  
3.  Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
  
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
  
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
  
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

### Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 19

Claim 19 relies, in respect of its technical features, only on references to the whole description and drawings. Therefore, the extent of its subject-matter can neither be precisely defined, nor compared to the prior-art.

The extent of the search was consequently limited to claims 1-18, which appear to comprise a reasonable definition of what is understood to be the invention for which protection is sought (see Rule 6.2(a) and Guidelines, 16.27).

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/GB2005/001095

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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			JP	2000010658 A	14-01-2000
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