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(54) Title: VEHICLE INTERFACE

(57) Abstract: The engagement system of the preferred embodiments functions to engage or support the user in the vehicle. In a first variation, the engagement system 110 supports at least a portion of the weight of the user, engages at least two appendages of the user, and includes at least two of the following: a handbase 120, a footbase 130, and a seat 140. In another variation, the engagement system 110 engages the torso of the user and includes at least two of the following: a seat back 142, a seat bottom 144, and side bolsters 146 and 148. In another variation, the engagement system 110 also includes a handbase 120, such as a steering wheel.

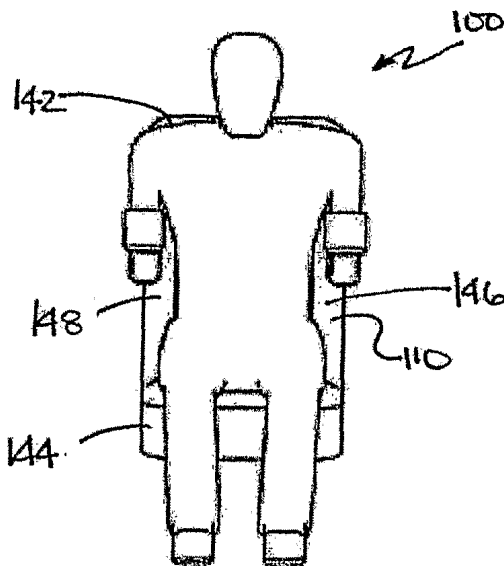


FIGURE 5A

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US06/38255

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC: **B60K 26/00(2006.01)**

USPC: 180/315
 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)
 U.S. : 180/315,326,329;701/1

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)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5,792,031 (Alton et al.) 11 Aug. 1998 (11.08.1998) Figs. 1-5, Col. 9 and 10.	1-2, 6, 11-13
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Y		3-5, 7-10, and 14-20
Y	US 4,632,408 Olpp et al. 30 Dec. 1986 (30.12.1986) Figs. 1-11	3-5, 7-10, and 14-20
Y	US 6,032,299 (Welsh) 7 Mar. 2000 (07.03.2000)	8
A	US 5,971,091 (Kamen et al.) 26 Oct. 1999 (26.10.1999) Col. 9, Lines 16-22.	1-20
A	US 6,471,586 B1 (Aiki et al.) 29 Oct. 2002 (29.10.2002) Fig. 1	1-20


Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

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"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
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"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	"&"	document member of the same patent family

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