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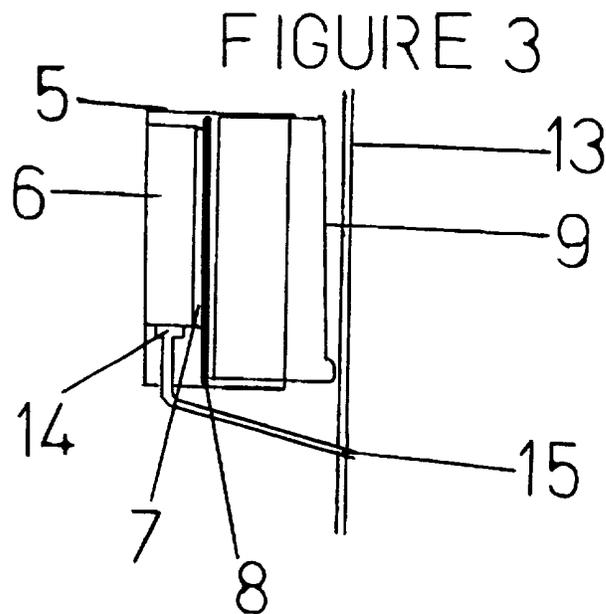
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(56) Documents Cited
GB 2340389 A GB 2294798 A GB 2282691 A
DE 019708764 A1 FR 002770362 A1 US 4630821 A
US 4584603 A

(58) Field of Search
UK CL (Edition R) A4L LAAA LAAJ LAAL LAAT LAF
INT CL⁷ B60N 2/00 2/24 2/30 3/00
Online: EPODOC, JAPIO, WPI

(54) Abstract Title
Taxi tip-up seat with flat screen monitor on its underside

(57) By rebuilding a flip seat frame it is possible to secure all the necessary fixings to hold the monitor or screen 6 in place. This then creates a new use for flip seats in all licensed Hackney Carriages. The seat with seating portion 9, when in an upright position, will display a screen monitor 6 to the passenger in the rear seat of the Taxi Cab, thus giving a visual display.



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FIGURE 1

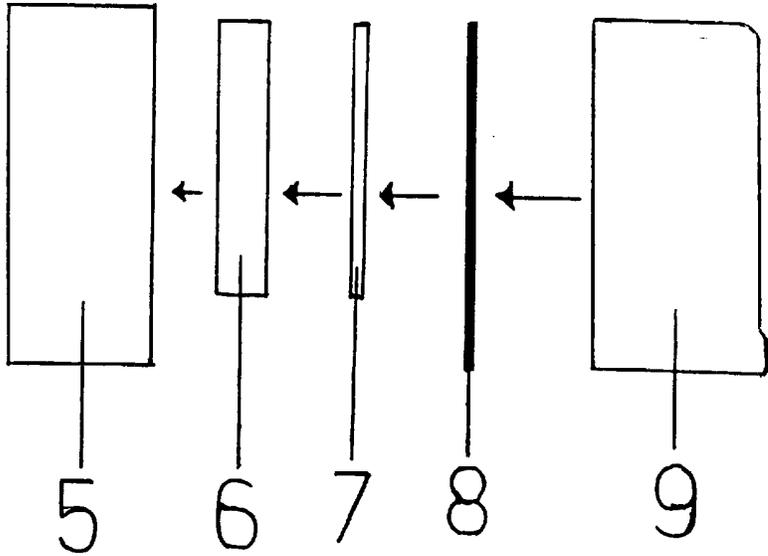
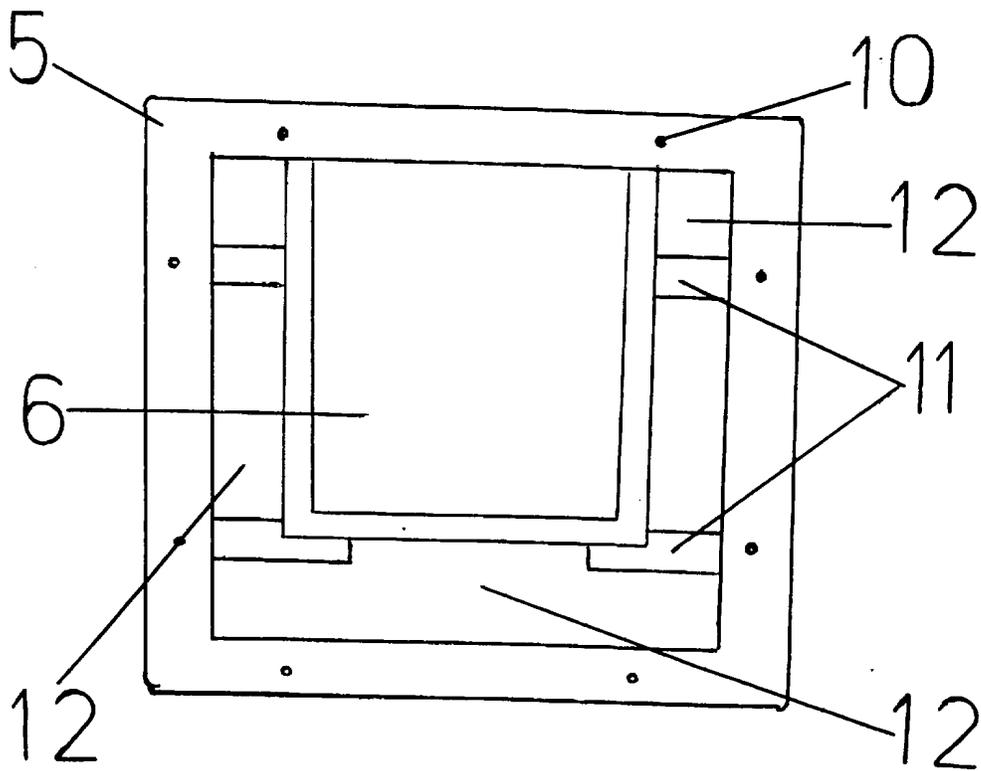
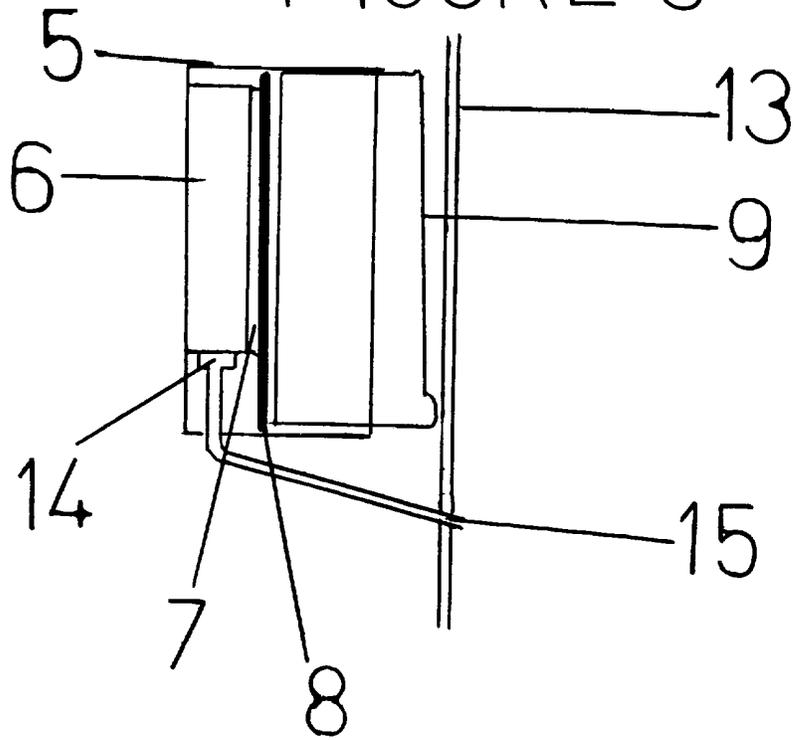


FIGURE 2



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FIGURE 3



FLIP SEAT VISUAL AID

Technical Field

The invention relates to a flip seat in a purpose-built licensed Hackney Carriage Taxi Cab, and the securing of a flat screen monitor within the seat which is connected to a laptop placed within the driver's compartment.

Background

All purpose-built taxi cabs i.e. Fairway, Driver, Metrocab and TX1 have flip seats installed in the passenger compartment of the vehicle. By redesigning and constructing a new flip seat frame it is possible to adapt and fit a flat screen monitor i.e. T.F.T. (thin film transistor), L.C.D. (liquid crystal display) or a plasma screen within the frame to produce a visual display in the passenger area of the vehicle.

Essential Technical Features

The frame of the flip seat would have to be rebuilt to hold the necessary counterpart securely in place. This enables the seat to be used as normal and, more importantly, will not compromise passenger safety. The power supply would run from a video link located at the bottom of the screen, through the bottom and back face of the frame, through the partition and into the driver's luggage compartment.

Examples

Figure 1 illustrates a cross-section of items secured within the flip seat frame.

Figure 2 illustrates the flip seat in an upright position as seen from the rear seat in the back of the taxi cab.

Figure 3 illustrates a clear side view of the flip seat frame in an upright position.

With reference to **Figure 1**, the flip seat frame **5** will have to be produced in order that the screen or monitor **6** can be securely put in place. The frame **5** will also house the screen cushioning **7**, a metal strengthening sheet **8** and the actual seat **9**. The power supply **15** will run beneath the strengthening metal sheet to ensure no contact with the passenger.

With reference to **Figure 2**, the screen will be placed into brackets **11** which will be welded to the frame **5**. These brackets and surrounding adjacent areas **12** will not be seen by the passenger. They will be covered by Public Carriage Office approved material i.e. carpet or plastic sheeting.

With reference to Page 2/2, **Figure 3** illustrates how the video link **14** and the power cable **15** will run inside the frame of the flip seat and out of the way of the passenger. The cable will exit out of the back face of the seat frame and through the partition **13** into the driver's compartment.

Note: Drawing not to scale.

Claims

1. A flip seat visual aid is specially designed to incorporate internal modifications so as to comply with the stringent regulations of the Public Carriage Office.
2. A flip seat visual aid has been designed for the use of flat screen monitors or notebooks that may be secured within.
3. A flip seat visual aid comprises of a redesigned flip seat frame to incorporate all its necessary counterparts.
4. A flip seat visual aid is designed for the sole use in Hackney Carriage Taxi Cabs that have flip seats.
5. A flip seat visual aid is designed to give the passenger in the rear seat of the vehicle a visual display whilst the flip seat is in an upright position.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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Claims searched: 1-5

Examiner: N Franklin
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Patents Act 1977 Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:
UK Cl (Ed.R): A4L (LAAA, LA AJ, LAAL, LAAT, LAF)
Int Cl (Ed.7): B60N 2/00, 2/24, 2/30, 2/44, 3/00
Other: Online: EPODOC, JAPIO, WPI

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
Y	GB 2340389A (MILE HIGH) See display screen 21 in Figures	1-5
Y	GB 2294798A (TAXI MEDIA LIMITED) Optical display device for the underside of a taxi tip-up seat	1-5
Y	GB 2282691A (TAXI MEDIA LIMITED) Seat underside display unit for a taxi tip-up seat	1-5
Y	DE 19708764A1 (MAN) See display screen 3 in Figure 1	1-5
Y	FR 2770362A1 (VIR) See video screen 8 in Figure 1	1-5
Y	US 4630821 (GREENWALD) See display panel 20 in Figure 3	1-5
Y	US 4584603 (HARRISON) See video display 16 in Figures	1-5

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.