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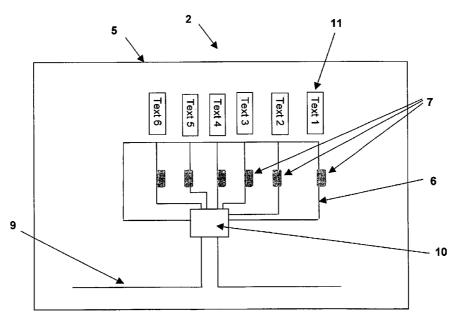
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(54) Title: A DATA INPUT DEVICE



(57) Abstract: A portable data input device (2) comprises a substrate (5) having electrical circuit portions (7) which can be broken by a user to enable information to be input onto the device. The information represented by the broken circuit portions can then be read using the appropriate reading apparatus. The device (2) might be a chip card, RFID (radio frequency identification) device, magnetic strip device or simple printed voucher, and can include text legends (11) printed on the device to indicate a number of choices to the user.



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

Internation Application No PCT/GB 03/03932

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G06K19/067 G06K G06K19/07 G06K19/08 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 **G06K** 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, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. χ US 4 565 922 A (ANDERSON ERIC G) 1,7, 11-13, 21 January 1986 (1986-01-21) 16,17, 20-26 column 2, line 64 -column 4, line 12; figures 1,3,4 X WO 97 15027 A (PHILIPS ELECTRONICS NV 1,4,7, ; PHILIPS NORDEN AB (SE)) 11-13, 24 April 1997 (1997-04-24) 16,17, 22-26 page 3, line 25 -page 4, line 13; figure 1 Х Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. ° Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filling date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to "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) 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 docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "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 Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 19 December 2003 17/03/2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Schauler, M Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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