



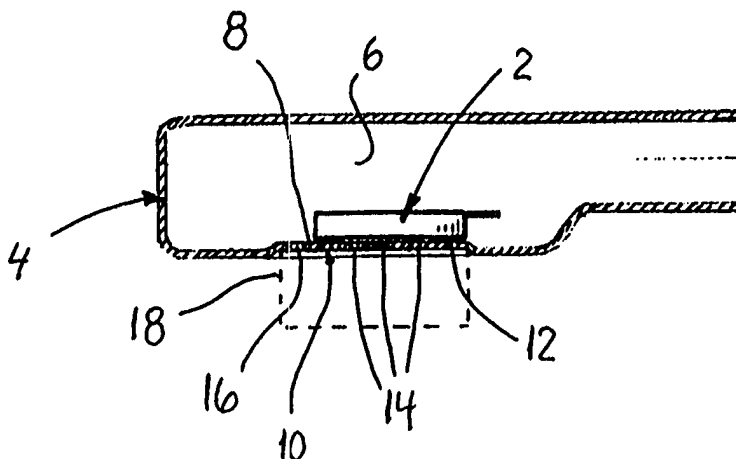
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(21) International Application Number: PCT/DK97/00545 (22) International Filing Date: 28 November 1997 (28.11.97) (30) Priority Data: 1357/96 28 November 1996 (28.11.96) DK 0271/97 13 March 1997 (13.03.97) DK (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): KIRK ACOUSTICS A/S [DK/DK]; Fuglevangsvej 45, DK-8700 Horsens (DK). (72) Inventor; and (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): ANDERSEN, Morten, Kjeldsen [DK/DK]; Saloparken 51, DK-8300 Odder (DK). (74) Agent: HOFMAN-BANG & BOUTARD, LEHMAN & REE A/S; Ryesgade 3, P.O. Box 367, DK-8100 Århus C. (DK).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AT (Utility model), AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, CZ (Utility model), DE, DE (Utility model), DK, DK (Utility model), EE, EE (Utility model), ES, FI, FI (Utility model), GB, GE, GH, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK (Utility model), SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>With amended claims.</i>

(54) Title: TELEPHONE HANDSET, CORDLESS TELEPHONE OR MOBILE TELEPHONE

(57) Abstract

A telephone handset, a cordless telephone or a mobile telephone (4) comprising a transducer (2) provided as a circular capsule (2), which along a ring-shaped front side by means of a ring-shaped gasket is connected to an inner wall of an earcap plane or an earpiece (10), which in front of the front side of the transducer diaphragm has a number of apertures (14), and where a number of acoustic connections (16) to an interior cavity (6) and occurring leakages of the handset or the telephone are provided in said earcap plane or earpiece (10) in such a manner, that said connections (16) are positioned outside the ring-shaped gasket (12) and preferably outside the circumference of the transducer (2) but inside a diameter determined by the ear represented by a standardized measuring ear, that is inside a diameter of preferably 25 mm.



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Telephone handset, cordless telephone or mobile telephone.

The present invention relates to a telephone handset for a standard corded telephone (in the following designated telephone handset), a cordless telephone or a mobile telephone of the type described in the introductory part of claim 1.

Telephone handsets, cordless telephones and especially mobile telephones have gradually become so small and compact that sound problems very often occur, in particular in the low frequency range, that is below about 1 kHz. This is caused by the fact that it for the user of small, compact telephones, where the earcap plane or earpiece often do not have the most ideal shape, it may be difficult to avoid reduced sound quality, because the bass range is liable to disappear, if the earpiece is not held close against the ear, that is if too big leakages occur between the ear and the telephone or the telephone handset, respectively.

In general telephone handsets or similar acoustic apparatuses, which are acoustically connected to the surroundings in order to obtain independency of the variable acoustic leakage, must necessarily have a considerable lower acoustic impedance in the acoustic connection between the ear and the surroundings than that of the variations of the acoustic leakages in order to ballance these. On the other hand this also causes a considerable lower acoustic impedance against external noise sources.

The invention has for its purpose to provide a telephone handset, a cordless telephone or a mobile telephone, by which it by means of simple provisions becomes possible to compensate for the said sound problems in the low frequency range caused by the normal occuring leakages between the ear and the telephone or the telephone handset, respectively.

The telephone handset, the cordless telephone or the mobile telephone according to the invention is distinctive in that a number of acoustic connections to an interior cavity and further on to normal occuring leakages of the handset or the telephone are provided in

said earcap plane or earpiece in such a manner, that said connections are positioned - **outside** the ring-shaped gasket and preferably outside the circumference of the transducer but **inside** a diameter determined by the ear represented by a standardized measuring ear, that is inside a diameter of preferably 25 mm. By simple provisions possibility to compensate for leakages between the ear and the telephone or the telephone handset, respectively, is hereby obtained, so that it becomes possible as well during measuring and in use to obtain a low acoustic output-impedance by an interaction between a transducer with adjusted frequency characteristic and an earcap plane or an earpiece with said acoustic connections to the interior cavity of the telephone handset, the cordless telephone or preferably the mobile telephone.

It should be pointed out that the current configuration of said connections, holes or apertures in the earcap plane or the earpiece to the interior cavity of the handset, the cordless telephone or the mobile telephone may be chosen quite arbitrary. It should furthermore be mentioned that in connection with future type approvals of mobile telephones as a demand may be measured with a new type 3.2 measuring ear instead of the present type IEC 318 measuring ear. However, for both measuring ears apply that use are made of coupling pieces with a diameter of 25 mm to form the connection to the earpiece.

In that period where both types of measuring ears in the principle may be required used by the type approval of a certain telephone handset, a certain cordless telephone or a certain mobile telephone it may be actual to use two different variants of transducers and two different designs of earpieces - but of course in principle with the same construction.

Appropriately the handset, the cordless telephone or the mobile telephone according to the invention is such provided, that said acoustic connections in the earcap plane or the earpiece consist of circular apertures.

Or the telephone handset, the cordless telephone or the mobile telephone according to invention may advantageously be such modified that said acoustic connections in the earcap plane or the earpiece consist of narrow rectilinear and/or arched slits, which may form logo of a certain manufacturer.

Preferably the telephone handset, the cordless telephone or the mobile telephone according to the invention is furthermore such modified that said acoustic connections are made resistive (ohmic) preferably by application a netting (mesh) onto said inner wall of the earcap plane or the earpiece. In a particular simple manner a quite resistive acoustic connection between the earpiece and the interior cavity of the telephone handset, the cordless telephone or the mobile telephone - with that purpose to obtain a more optimized frequency characteristic - is hereby obtained.

With particular advantage the telephone handset, the cordless telephone or the mobile telephone according to the invention in addition may be such modified that said acoustic connections and/or sound apertures of the earcap plane or the earpiece are provided in shape or pattern together with recesses in such a manner, that connections, apertures and recesses preferably in general form company logos of manufacturers of telephone handsets, cordless telephones or mobile telephones.

Alternatively the telephone handset, the cordless telephone or the mobile telephone according to the invention may be of the type where the earcap plane or the earpiece is placed on the internal side of a turnable flap, which from a closed inactive position, where the flap for instance covers the keyboard and the display, and which flap being adapted to be turned out to an active position, where the earcap plane or the earpiece may be pressed against the ear, said telephone handset, cordless telephone or mobile telephone being distinctive in that the transducer is built-in in the flap in such a manner, that the back of the transducer has one or more acoustic connections out through the back of the flap.

By this alternative embodiment it may in particular be appropriate, if the transducer is built-in in the flap in such a manner, that a passage through the flap to the open air is provided in the earcap plane or the earpiece outside the transducer but within said diameter represented by said standardized measuring ear.

The invention is described in the following in more details in connection with the drawing, in which:-

Fig. 1 shows a side view - partly in section - of an embodiment for a cordless telephone or a mobile telephone according to the invention with an earpiece and a transducer,

Fig. 2 shows a plane partial view of an embodiment of a mobile telephone according to the invention - seen from the outside thereof, and

Fig. 3 shows a corresponding partial view of the mobile telephone shown in Fig. 2 - seen from the rearside thereof, while

Fig. 4 shows a partial view - partly in section - of a modified embodiment for a mobile telephone with a flap according to the invention.

In Fig. 1 is shown how a transducer 2 is built-in in a mobile telephone 4 in a such manner that the rearside of the transducer 2 turns against and utilizes the interior cavity or volume and occuring leakages of the mobile telephone 4. The transducer 2 is along a ring-shaped front side part secured to an inner wall 8 of an earpiece 10 by means of a ring-shaped gasket or a ring 12 of a double-sided adhesive tape.

In front of the central part of the front side of the transducer 2 the earpiece 10 is provided with a number of sound holes 14 and a connection hole 16 positioned inside a diameter corresponding to the diameter of coupling piece 18 to a measuring ear shown with dotted lines.

Figs. 2 and 3 show an uppermost part of a front part of a mobile telephone 4 with an earpiece 10, in the outside of which three straight recesses or depressions 22, 23, 24 are provided. In one end of the uppermost depression 22 an oblong sound aperture 14 is provided while in the opposite ends of all three depressions 22, 23, 24 oblong connection apertures 16 are provided to the interior volume 6 of the mobile telephone 4 also comprising a display 26.

As shown in Fig. 2 the sound aperture 14 and the connection apertures 16 are positioned inside the measuring ear diameter 18 - and it is clearly seen that the connection apertures 16 to the interior volume 6 of the mobile telephone 4 is positioned outside the transducer 2 but inside the measuring ear diameter 18. The inner side of the connection apertures 16 are - as shown in Fig. 3 - covered by a fine-meshed netting 20 so that the connections to the interior volume 6 of the mobile telephone 2 acoustic become quite resistive connections.

Fig. 4 shows a modified embodiment for a mobile telephone according to the invention, namely a mobile telephone of the very compact type comprising a flap 28 adapted to be turned out from an inactive position, where the flap 28 for instance covers keyboard and display, to an active use position, where the flap 28 for instance takes up an obtuse angle in relation to the basic part of the mobile telephone, as loudspeaker of the telephone (transducer 2) is mounted in the flap 28 in such a manner, that the earcap plane or earpiece 10 is placed on the internal side of the flap 28, that is that the microphone of the telephone is placed on the basic part for instance below the keyboard. On level with the earcap plane or earpiece the flap 28 has a thickness which just gives space for the transducer 2. The external side of the flap 28 is in front of the rearside of the transducer 2 provided with a number of openings 30 to the open air. Just outside the circumference of the transducer 2 but within the diameter of the measuring ear the flap 28 is provided with a passage 32, so that the front side of the transducer 2 thereby is also connected to the open air, when the earpiece 10 is pressed against an ear.

In other words it is the main aspect of the invention to ensure an improved sound quality in the low frequency range, that is below about 1 kHz, even if use are made of standard-sized transducers as well as small compact transducer capsules which is obtained by connecting the earpiece and in the principle the ear represented by the measuring ear to the interior volume of the telephone handset, the cordless telephone and the mobile telephone.

CLAIMS

1. A telephone handset, a cordless telephone or a mobile telephone (4) comprising a transducer (2) with adjusted frequency characteristic and provided as a preferably circular capsule (2), which along a ring-shaped front side by means of a ring-shaped gasket is connected to an inner wall of an earcap plane or an earpiece (10) which in front of the front side of the transducer diaphragm have a number of apertures (14), *c h a r a c t e r i z e d* in that a number of acoustic connections (16) to an interior cavity (6) and occurring leakages of the handset or the telephone are provided in said earcap plane or said earpiece (10) in such a manner, that said connections (16) are positioned outside the ring-shaped gasket (12) and preferably outside the circumference of the transducer (2) but inside a diameter determined by the ear represented by a standardized measuring ear, that is inside a diameter of preferably 25 mm.
2. A telephone handset, a cordless telephone or a mobile telephone (4) according to claim 1, *c h a r a c t e r i z e d* in that said acoustic connections (16) in the earcap plane or the earpiece (10) consist of circular apertures.
3. A telephone handset, a cordless telephone or a mobile telephone according to claim 1, *c h a r a c t e r i z e d* in that said acoustic connections in the earcap plane or the earpiece (10) consist of narrow rectilinear and/or arched slits (16).
4. A telephone handset, a cordless telephone or a mobile telephone according to claims 1 - 3, *c h a r a c t e r i z e d* in that said acoustic connections (16) are provided ohmic (resistive) preferably by application of a netting (20) onto said inner wall of the earcap plane or the earpiece (10).
5. A telephone handset, a cordless telephone or a mobile telephone according to claim 1, *c h a r a c t e r i z e d* in that said acoustic connections (16) and/or sound apertures (14) of the earcap plane or the earpiece (10) are provided in shape or pattern together with recesses in such a manner, that connections, apertures and recesses preferably in

general form company logos of manufacturers of telephone handsets, cordless telephones or mobile telephones.

6. A telephone handset, cordless telephone or mobile telephone according to claim 1, and of the type where the earcap plane or the earpiece (10) is placed on the internal side of a turnable flap (28), which from a closed inactive position, where the flap (28) for instance covers the keyboard and the display, and which flap (28) being adapted to be turned out to an active position, where the earcap plane or the earpiece (10) may be pressed against the ear, *c h a r a c t e r i z e d* in that the transducer (2) is built-in in the flap (28) in such a manner, that the back of the transducer (2) has one or more acoustic connections (30) out through the back of the flap (28).

7. A telephone handset, cordless telephone or mobile telephone according to claim 1, and of the type where the earcap plane or the earpiece (10) is placed on the internal side of a turnable flap (28), which from a closed inactive position, where the flap (28) for instance covers the keyboard and the display, and which flap (28) being adapted to be turned out to an active position, where the earcap plane or the earpiece (10) may be pressed against the ear, *c h a r a c t e r i z e d* in that the transducer (2) is built-in in the flap (28) in such a manner, that a passage (32) through the flap (28) to the open air is provided in the earcap plane or the earpiece (10) outside the transducer (2) but within said diameter (18) represented by said standardized measuring ear.

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 15 April 1998 (15.04.98);
original claims 1-7 replaced by new claims 1-7 (2 pages)]

1. A hand-held communications unit comprising

- a housing having a wall (8) defining an inner side and an outer side of the housing, at least two acoustic openings (14, 16, 32) being provided in the wall so that the openings have a centre of gravity which, on the outer side of the wall, forms a centre for an engagement face (10) for the communications unit against the ear of a user,

- a transducer (2) having a front with a centre, said transducer being arranged with its front against the inner side of the wall so as to create an acoustic connection between the front of the transducer and the outer side of the housing via a first one of the acoustic openings (14), and so as to create an acoustic connection between the outer side of the housing outside the periphery of the transducer and a volume behind the wall via a second one of the acoustic openings (16, 32),

c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the transducer (2) is arranged such that the centre of the front of the transducer is offset in the plane of the wall with respect to the centre of gravity of the acoustic openings (14, 16, 32)

2. A communications unit according to claim 1, c h a r - a c t e r i z e d in that the volume behind the wall is a volume (6) in the communications unit.

3. A communications unit according to claim 1, c h a r - a c t e r i z e d in that the second one of the acoustic openings (32) forms an acoustic connection from the engagement face (10) and through the housing of the communications unit to the surroundings.

4. A communications unit according to claims 1-3, characterized in that the front of the transducer is arranged against the inner side of the wall with an air-tight seal (12) between the first acoustic opening (14) and the second acoustic opening (16, 32).

5. A communications unit according to claim 4, characterized in that a volume is present between the front of the transducer and the inner side of the wall.

6. A communications unit according to claims 1-5, characterized in that the second acoustic opening (16, 32) has an acoustic impedance which is substantially resistive.

7. A communications unit according to claim 6, characterized in that the second acoustic opening (16, 32) is covered by a fine-meshed net (20).

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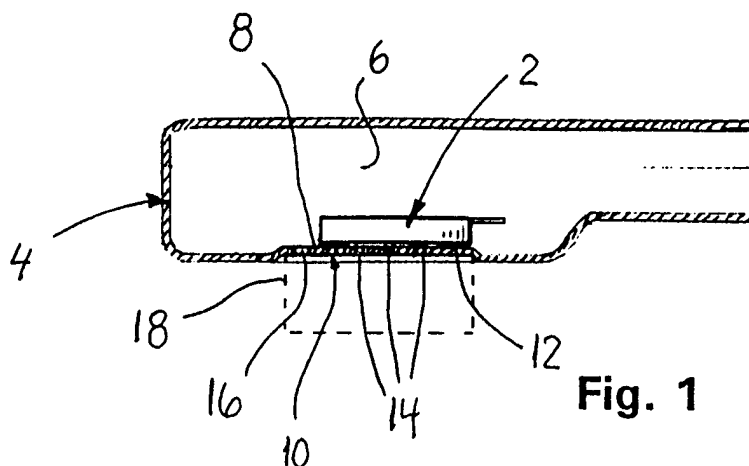


Fig. 1

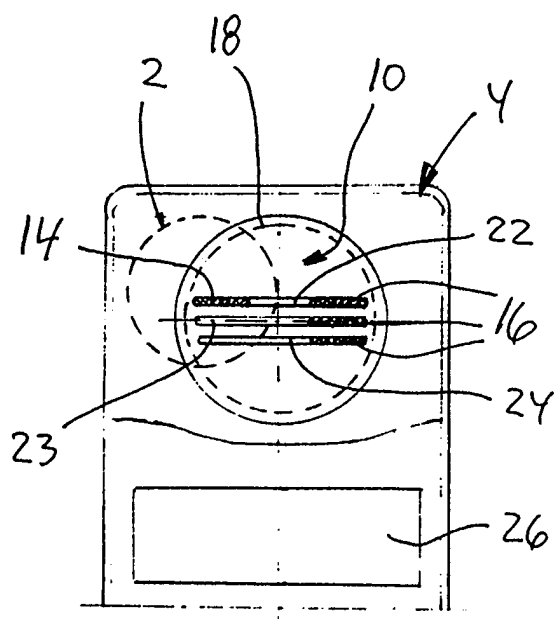


Fig. 2

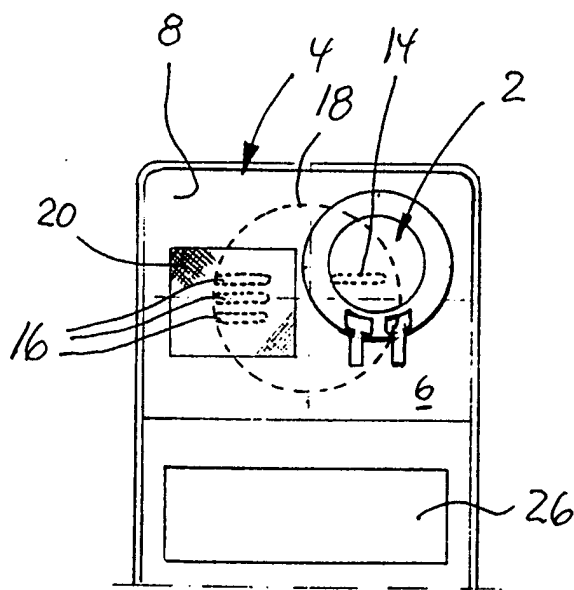


Fig. 3

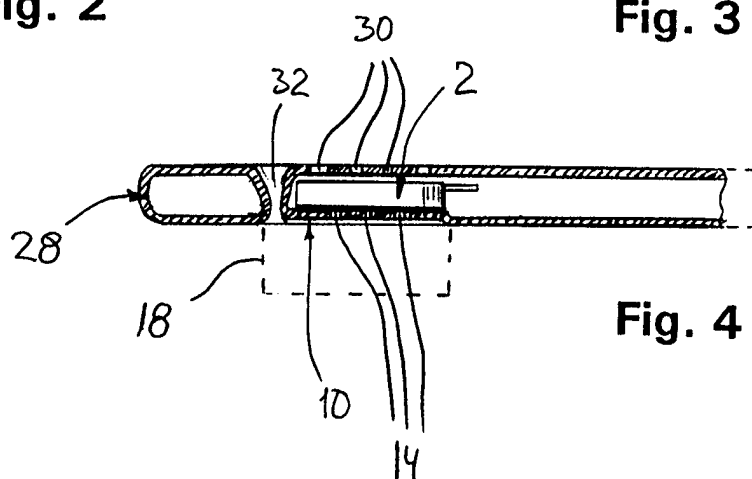


Fig. 4

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/DK 97/00545

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC6: H04M 1/03, H04R 1/22

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)

IPC6: H04M, H04R

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol 10, No 332, E-453 abstract of JP 61-139189 A (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD), 26 June 1986 (26.06.86)	1-5
Y	--	6-7
X	US 4160135 A (RUDOLF GÖRIKE), 3 July 1979 (03.07.79), column 4, line 1 - line 37, figures 2a, 3a	1-5
Y	column 4, line 1 - line 37, figures 2a, 3a	6-7
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 March 1998

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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Information on patent family members

02/03/98

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