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A47C 3/24 (2006.01)	A47C 7/40 (2006.01)
A47C 7/34 (2006.01)	A47C 7/14 (2006.01)
A47C 7/62 (2006.01)	A47C 7/44 (2006.01)
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60/849,622	4 October 2006 (04.10.2006)	US
60/849,504	4 October 2006 (04.10.2006)	US
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: A CHAIR

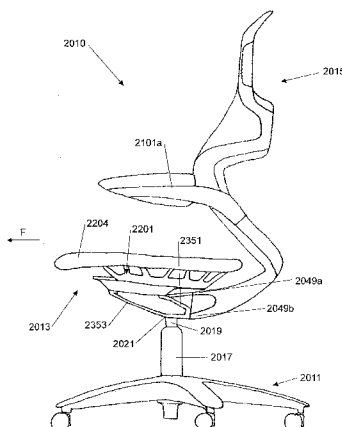


FIGURE 56

(57) Abstract: A chair (2010) has a supporting frame (2011), a seat portion (2013), a back portion (2015), and a recline mechanism. The mechanism moves the seat portion (2013) upon a reclining action of the back portion (2015). The mechanism has a rear deformable member (2351) and a front deformable member (2353) operatively connecting the seat portion and the supporting frame. The recline mechanism also has a lower deformable member operatively connecting a lower part of the back portion and the supporting frame, and a puller member (2361) above the lower deformable member. The recline mechanism is configured such that as the back portion (2015) is reclined, the lower deformable member deforms and the puller member (2361) applies a rearward pulling action which causes the seat portion (2013) to move and the front and rear deformable members to deform.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
Int. Cl.		
<i>A47C 3/20</i> (2006.01)	<i>A47C 7/24</i> (2006.01)	<i>A47C 7/54</i> (2006.01)
<i>A47C 3/24</i> (2006.01)	<i>A47C 7/34</i> (2006.01)	<i>A47C 7/62</i> (2006.01)
<i>A47C 3/30</i> (2006.01)	<i>A47C 7/36</i> (2006.01)	<i>A47C 16/00</i> (2006.01)
<i>A47C 7/02</i> (2006.01)	<i>A47C 7/40</i> (2006.01)	
<i>A47C 7/14</i> (2006.01)	<i>A47C 7/44</i> (2006.01)	
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)		
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) See Page above.		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	Derwent Abstract Accession No. 2003-520184/49, Class P26, JP 2003189965 A, (KOKUYO KK) 8 July 2003. See entire abstract.	1,22.
A	Derwent Abstract Accession No. 2003-520185/49, Class P26, JP 2003189966 A, (KOKUYO KK) 8 July 2003. See entire abstract.	1 to 21
X	See entire abstract.	22.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex		
* Special categories of cited documents:		
"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	
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"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	
"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)	"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	
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 28 April 2008	Date of mailing of the international search report 02 JUN 2008	
Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. +61 2 6283 7999	Authorized officer R. WEBER AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE (ISO 9001 Quality Certified Service) Telephone No : (02) 6283 2546	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/NZ2007/000289

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/NZ2007/000289

C (Continuation)		DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT
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A	US 5887946 A (RAFTERY) 30 March 1999. See columns 4 to 8 and figures 1 to 5.	57,85
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A	EP 107627 B (CASTELLI S.P.A.) 2 January 1986. See pages 3 to 7 and figures 3 to 6.	57,85
A	DE 4137488 A (ZAPF) 4 June 1992. See column 3 and figure 1.	57,85
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A	US 2004/0012237 A (HORIKI ET AL) 22 January 2004. See figure 1 and page 2 and 3.	109
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A	WO 1998/016140 A (BRAUNING) 23 April 1998. See pages 9 and 10 and figures 3A and 3B.	109
A	Derwent Abstract Accession No. 2000-453399/40, Class P26, DE 20006038 U (CHOICE SRL) 15 June 2000. See entire abstract.	109

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/NZ2007/000289

C (Continuation)		DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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A	WO 2003/103455 A (POPOVIC) 18 December 2003. See page 2 and figure 1	136
A	WO 1999/044475 A (RINNE ET AL) 10 September 1999. See entire document.	136
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A	DE 2340919 A (HERCULES INC.) 27 February 1975. See page 4 and figure 7.	150
A	US 6079782 A (BERG ET AL) 27 June 2000. See columns 7 and 8 and figure 6.	150
A	GB 2212392 A (G PLAN LIMITED) 26 July 1989. See page 2 and 3 and figures 1 and 2	150
A	US 5700060 A (BULLARD ET AL) 23 December 1997. See column 2 and 3 and figures 1 and 3.	150
A	Derwent Abstract Accession No. 96-133513/14, Class P26, JP 08024083 A, (ARACO KK) 30 January 1996. See entire abstract.	150
A	EP 482439 B (AMBASZ) 27 September 1995. See columns 4 to 6 and figures 1 and 2.	164
A	FR 2508298 A (TOYATA JIDOSHA KOGYO KK) 31 December 1982. See page 3 and figures 1 and 2.	164
A	US 2003/0085601 A (HUDSWELL ET AL) 8 May 2003. See pages 1 and 2 and figures 1 to 3.	164
A	DE 4135162 A (ITOKI CO LTD) 26 November 1992. See columns 3 to 6 and figure 1	164
A	DE 3532608 A (GRAMMER SITZSYSTEME GMBH) 19 March 1987. See columns 5 and 6 and figures 2 and 3.	164

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/NZ2007/000289

C (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 2005/030007 A (DE KROON ET AL) 7 April 2005. See pages 4 and 5 and figure 2.	164
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A	DE 4114101 A (STABILUS GMBH) 5 November 1992. See column 3 and figures 1 and 2.	175
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X	DE 20315179 U (MAXIMILIAN GMBH) 29 January 2004. See page 1 and 2 and figure 1.	185
X	US 4040661 A (HOGAN ET AL) 9 August 1977. See entire specification.	185-188
X	US 3929374 A (HOGAN ET AL) 30 December 1975. See entire specification.	185-188

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/NZ2007/000289**Box No. 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.:
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:

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 No. 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:
Please see extra sheet as attached.

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 additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
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 and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of Boxes I to IV is not sufficient)

Continuation of Box No:

The international application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention because it does not relate to one invention or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single inventive concept. In coming to this conclusion the International Search Authority has found that there are eleven (11) inventions.

(1) The first defined invention will be searched; this being claims 1 to 21 which are directed to a chair with a reclining portion which comprises a rear deformable member, a front deformable member, a lower deformable member and a puller member. (These deformable members and the puller member being the first special technical feature.)

(2) The second defined invention is directed to a chair with a reclining back portion which also has a resilient support associated with the seat portion which deforms in response to the initial impact of occupant. Claims 22 to 38. (This being the second special technical feature. Note that this feature may be searched in a similar area as the first defined invention.)

(3) The third defined invention as per claims 39 to 47 is directed to a height adjustable arm assembly for a chair. The arm rest is able to be moved to a selected position and locked in place. (This being the third special technical feature.)

(4) The fourth defined invention is in Claims 48 to 56 and is directed to a chair with arm rests which are cushioned at their sides and have sufficient clearance between the arm rest and the seat so that an occupant may sit sideways in the seat. (This being the fourth special technical feature.)

(5) The fifth defined invention is in claims 57 to 84 and is directed to a back portion of a chair made up of an upper and lower section and connected via a resilient flexible narrow interconnecting region. (This being the fifth special technical feature.)

(6) The sixth defined invention is in claims 85 to 93 and is directed to a back portion of a chair made up of an upper and lower section and connected via a narrow interconnecting region and further including a cover with two recessed portions. (This being the sixth special technical feature.)

(7) The seventh defined invention is in claims 94 to 108 is directed to a back portion of a chair which includes an upper portion which is foldable to allow for height adjustment. (This being the seventh special technical feature. But may be searched in a similar area as per the sixth defined invention)

(8) The eighth defined invention is as per claims 109 to 135 and is directed to a method of assembling a support which forms part of a chair and basically defines a cover which is of moulded polymeric having a mesh and a plurality of members and is stretchable to be placed into position. (This being the eighth special technical feature.)

(9) The ninth defined invention in claims 136 to 149 is directed to a chair where the seat support has resilient support members which are located in a central seat section to support the occupant but will allow for angular change if the occupant is off centre. (This being the ninth special technical feature.)

(10) The tenth defined invention is in claims 150 to 163 and is directed to a cushion construction whereby a spring structure having a plurality of moulded spring components having a plurality of sections connected by platforms which allow for telescoping of the sections into one another. (This being the tenth special technical feature.)

(11) The eleventh defined invention as per claims 164 to 174 is directed to a chair with a peripheral portion which is able to deform under the weight of the occupants legs. (This being the eleventh special technical feature.)

(12) The twelfth defined invention as per claims 175 to 184 is directed to a chair with a height adjusting pedestal with a flexible linkage. (The twelfth special technical feature.)

(13) The thirteenth defined invention as per claims 185 to 200 is directed to a chair with a preference control which allows for adjustment of displacement of a back portion.

There are thirteen (13) independent claims. Claims 1 and 2 and claims 85 and 94 being considered as able to be searched together. Hence there are 11 different special technical features and a "technical relationship" does not exist between the inventions as required in PCT Rule 13.2. Accordingly, the international application does not relate to one invention. (Continued on next sheet.)

Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of Boxes I to VIII is not sufficient)

Continuation of Box No:

PCT Rule 13.2, first sentence, states that unity of invention is only fulfilled when there is a technical relationship among the claimed inventions involving one or more of the same or corresponding special technical features. PCT Rule 13.2, second sentence, defines a special technical feature as a feature which makes a contribution over the prior art.

Each of the abovementioned groups of claims has a different distinguishing feature and they do not share any feature which could satisfy the requirement for being a special technical feature. Because there is no common special technical feature it follows that there is no technical relationship between the identified inventions. Therefore the claims do not satisfy the requirement of unity of invention *a priori*.

The International Searching Authority believes that a search and examination for the first and second invention will not involve more than negligible additional search and examination effort over that for the first invention and so no additional search fee is required in order to search and examine that invention. However it is considered that the search for the other invention will require significant additional search and examination effort over that for the first invention, and therefore an additional search fee is warranted for that invention.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/NZ2007/000289

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member					
JP	2003189965	NIL					
JP	2003189966	NIL					
WO	8300610	AU	74505/81	BR	8109037	CA	1183074
		DK	170083	EP	0085670	FI	831278
		JP	58041511	NO	831360	PT	75330
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		FR	2313890	FR	2363301	GB	1501765
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		JP	52000566	JP	53049563	JP	54042250
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

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WO	03103455	HR	20020456				
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ON	185188	US	3929374	US	4040661		
Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.							
END OF ANNEX							