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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: IMPROVED WRIST STRAP CASES

(57) Abstract: An improved apparatus for carrying and transporting electronic devices including attached keyboards by use of a wrist strap, wristlet or finger loop, that moves out of the way when not in use by means of retractors, elastomers, or magnets.

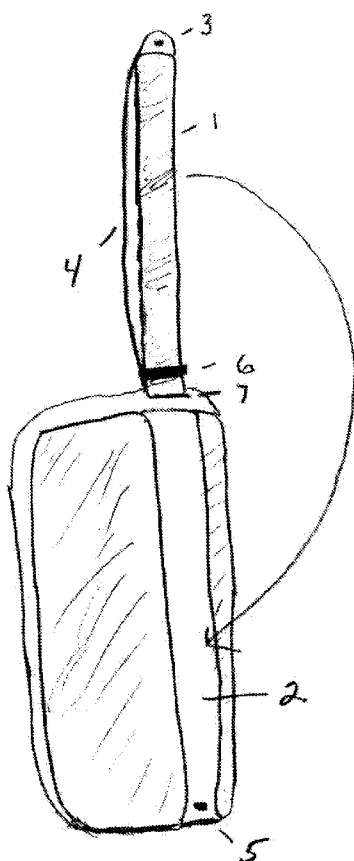


Fig 1



PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

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Published:

- with international search report (Art. 21(3))
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))
- with information concerning one or more priority claims considered void (Rule 26bis.2(d))

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

4 August 2016

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 15/10335

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.: 3, 4, 8, 9
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:

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be examined, the appropriate additional examination fees must be paid.

Group I: Claims 1, 2, 5-7 drawn to a case where the strap is used to carry the case on the user's wrist.

Group II: Claims 10-20, drawn to a case where there is a finger loop made of cord.

Group III: Claims 21-27, drawn to case made for an electronic device where it is a clam-shell like construction

-- please see extra sheet

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.:
1, 2, 5-7

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.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 15/10335

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - B65D 85/38, B65D 85/00 (2016.01)

CPC - A45F 2005/006, A45F 2005/008, A45F 5/10, A45F 2005/1013, A45F 2200/05, A45C 11/329

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)

CPC - A45F2005/006, A45F2005/008, A45F5/10, A45F2005/1013, A45F2200/05, A45C11/329

IPC(8) - B65D85/38, B65D85/00 (2016.01)

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

CPC - A45F2200/0508, A45F2200/0516, A45C2011/002, A45C2011/003, A45C2011/001

IPC(8) - B65D85/38, B65D85/00 (2016.01); USPC - 206/316.2, 206/320, 206/316.1

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

Patbase; Google Web, Google Patent

Search terms used: wrist strap wriststrap wristlet magnet case loop spline electronics cellphone tablet iphone

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2007/0051645 A1 (HASSETT) 08 March 2007 (08.03.2007), Fig 1-3; para [0024]-[0027]	1, 2, 5-7
A	US 2013/0072266 A1 (SHATTUCK et al.) 21 March 2013 (21.03.2013), para [0024], [0031]	1, 2, 5-7
A	US 2013/0093202 A1 (HUANG) 18 April 2013 (18.04.2013), Fig 1, 2; para [0043]	1, 2, 5-7
A	US 2009/0074399 A1 (SU et al.) 19 March 2009 (19.03.2009), entire document	1, 2, 5-7
A	US 2009/0120980 A1 (CALAYO) 14 May 2009 (14.05.2009), entire document	1, 2, 5-7
A, P	US 2014/0084035 A1 (GEORGES) 27 March 2014 (27.03.2014), entire document	1, 2, 5-7

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"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)

"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

"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

"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

"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

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 May 2016

Date of mailing of the international search report

09 JUN 2016

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 15/10335

Continuation of Dox No. III -- Observations where unity of invention is lacking

The inventions listed as Groups I through III do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

Special Technical Features

Group I includes the special technical feature of a magnetic element in the end of the strap that is opposite the fixation point or the strap to the case, not included in the other groups.

Group II includes the special technical feature of a finger loop made of chord or material that is soft, or semi-soft in composition that lies outside of the case that is located at the top, or bottom of the said case, not included in the other groups.

Group III includes the special technical feature of a wireless keyboard that is located face down in the clamshell and is hinged to fold out via a double socket hinge, not included in the other groups.

Common Technical Features:

The only technical feature shared by Groups I-III that would otherwise unify the groups, is a case that has a loop strap. However, this shared technical feature does not represent a contribution over prior art, because the shared technical feature is disclosed by US 2009/0194444 A1 (Jones), which discloses a case that has a loop strap (Fig 1-4, 9; para [0040]).

As the technical feature was known in the art at the time of the invention, this cannot be considered a special technical features that would otherwise unify the groups.

Therefore, Groups I-III lack unity under PCT Rule 13.

Note:

It is noted that claim 27, as drafted, depends from claim 1; however, claim 27 lacks antecedent basis for "said keyboard" as depending from claim 1. For purposes of this determination, claim 27 is presumed to depend from claim 21.