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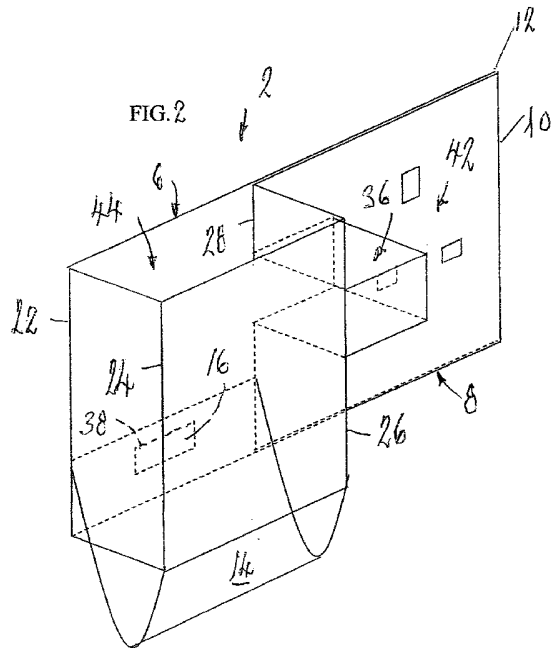
(56) Documents Cited:
GB 2381987 A **GB 2364832 A**
EP 0335258 A3 **WO 2004/110228 A1**
AU 200157787 A1 **US 5344004 A**

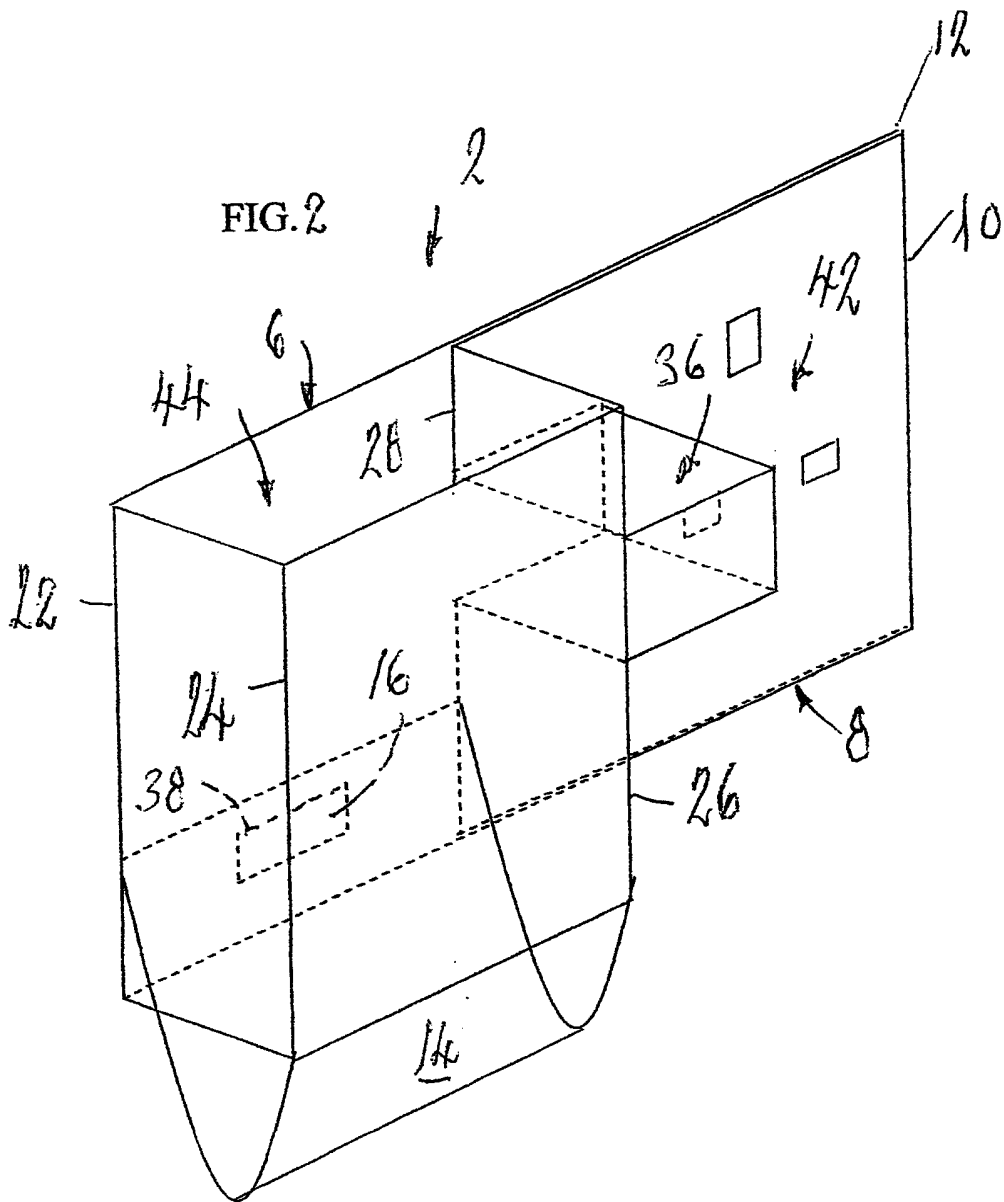
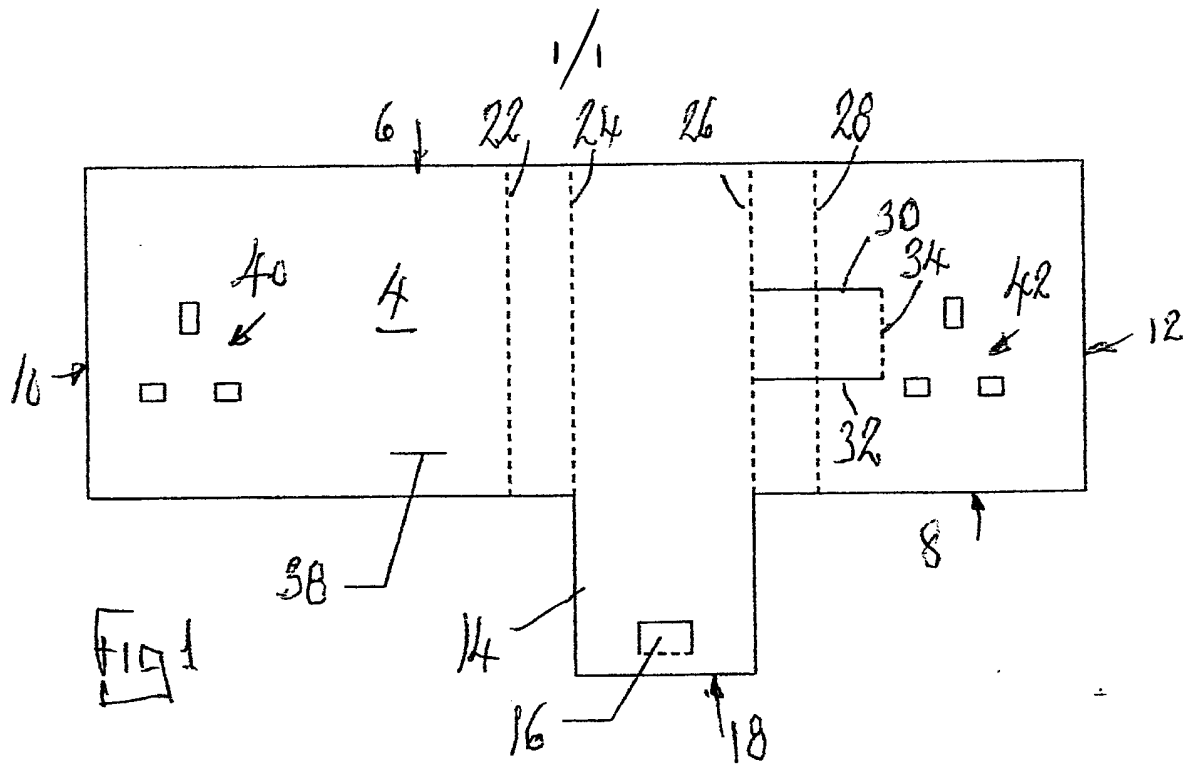
(58) Field of Search:
UK CL (Edition X) **B8P, H2E, H4J**
INT CL **B65D, H01R, H04M**
Other:

(54) Abstract Title: **Charging cradle for an electrical device**

(57) The invention provides a charging cradle for an electrical device, e.g. a mobile telephone, formed from a blank 4 or a planar pattern of pliable material, eg. plastic. The planar pattern is provided with fold lines 22-28 slits 38 and flaps 16 to facilitate to formation of a three dimensional configuration that includes a pocket for the mobile telephone and a recess for a trailing wire of a charger used therewith.

The blank is provided with two sets of holes 40,42 corresponding to the holes of an electrical socket that are adapted, in use, to be arranged in overlapping relationship for receiving the pins of a plug that supports the cradle against the socket.





Improvements in a Charging Cradle for an Electrical Device

This invention is concerned with improvements in or relating to a charging cradle for an electrical device.

By electrical device, where used herein, it is meant a mobile telephone, or any other device, e.g. a shaver, which has to be subjected to periodic charging in order to be operable.

Charging mobile telephones or the like devices can be difficult, especially when an electrical socket is not on a desk or is at an inconvenient disposition on a wall. It has been common practice to place the charging plug into a socket and connect it to a mobile telephone with the connecting wire trailing over a work surface or on the floor.

This is obviously cumbersome and in some instances quite inconvenient because of the lack of working space, etc.

A charging cradle of a simple box-like configuration is disclosed in United Kingdom Patent Application No. GB 2374485A. However, the cradle is just a stand-alone receptacle and does not include a tidy for receiving a trailing connector wire.

It is one of the objects of the present invention to overcome or at least mitigate the disadvantages met if locating a mobile telephone, etc. adjacent an electrical socket for charging purposes.

Thus, the present invention conveniently provides a cradle adapted in use to support an electrical device for charging from an electrical socket, the cradle being formed from a planar pattern into a three dimensional form comprising a pocket for accommodating an electrical device.

Preferably, the cradle also comprises a recess for storage of a wire of a charger plug.

The planar pattern is conveniently of rectangular shape with a tab portion extending outwardly from one longitudinal edge portion thereof.

Preferably, the planar pattern also comprises fold lines for delineating the configuration of the cradle when formed into a three dimensional form.

Conveniently, the planar pattern may also comprise a slit adjacent a cradle forming area of the planar pattern and a scored flap on said tab portion, whereby, when the planar pattern is formed into a cradle, the flap is received in the slit to secure the cradle in a three dimensional form.

Conveniently, the cradle of the last five preceding paragraphs may also comprise two sets of holes adapted in use of the cradle to be arranged in overlapping relationship for receiving socket pins of a charger for an electrical device, the charger thereby holding the cradle and its contents adjacent an electrical socket when the socket pins are inserted in the socket.

Preferably, the planar pattern is made from any pliable material.

Conveniently, the planar pattern is made from plastic, cardboard, fabric, or a combination of such materials.

There now follows by way of example a detailed description of the invention, which description is to be read with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:-

Figure 1 is a plan view of a planar pattern; and,

Figure 2 is a left hand upper perspective view of a cradle formed from the planar pattern of Figure 1.

The present invention provides a cradle 2, see Figure 2, for holding an electrical device, for example a mobile telephone, not shown, while it is being charged up using a conventional charger.

The cradle 2 is formed from a planar pattern 4 of plastic, see Figure 1, which planar pattern is generally rectangular in plan with longitudinal sides 6 and 8 some three times longer than opposite ends 10 and 12 thereof.

The planar pattern 4 comprises a depending tab portion 14, see especially Figure 1, which tab portion 14 has a scored flap 16 towards an end 18 of the tab portion 14 for a purpose to be described hereinafter.

In order to facilitate the folding of the planer pattern 4 into a three dimensional form, fold lines 22, 24, 26 and 28 are provided, which fold lines extend across the pattern 14 between opposite sides 6 and 8 thereof, see Figure 1.

The planar pattern further comprises slits 30 and 32 and a further fold line 34, see Figure 1, which facilitate the formation of a recess 36 for a purpose to be described.

The planar pattern 4 also comprises a slit 38 to the left of the tab portion 14, see Figure 1, for a purpose to be described herein.

The planar pattern further comprises two sets of holes 40 and 42 corresponding to the holes of a three pin electrical socket, the purpose of which holes 40 and 42 will be described hereinafter.

In order to form the cradle 2 of the present invention, the planar pattern 4 is folded as shown in Figure 2 with the fold lines 22, 24, 26 and 28 defining a pocket 44 for receiving a mobile telephone, not shown. The bottom of the pocket 44 is closed by the tab portion 14 with the flap 16 thereof being received in the slit 38.

The slits 30 and 32 and the fold line 34 facilitate the formation of the recess 36 for accommodating the wire of an electrical charger, not shown.

The integrity and strength of the cradle is enhanced by the sets of holes 40 and 42, which are arranged in overlapping relationship and facilitate the positioning of the cradle 2 adjacent an electrical socket when the three pins of an electrical charger are inserted there through and into the holes of a three pin electrical socket, not shown.

It will be readily appreciated that the planar pattern 4 may be made from any pliable material other than plastic, for example, it may be made from cardboard, fabric, or a combination of such materials.

CLAIMS

1. A cradle adapted in use to support an electrical device for charging from an electrical socket, the cradle being formed from a planar pattern into a three dimensional form comprising a pocket for accommodating an electrical device.
2. A cradle according to Claim 1, characterised in that the cradle also comprises a recess for storage of a connecting wire of a charger for the electrical device.
3. A cradle according to either one of Claims 1 and 2, characterised in that the planar pattern is of rectangular shape with a tab portion extending outwardly from one longitudinal edge portion thereof.
4. A cradle according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, characterised in that the planar pattern comprises fold lines for delineating the configuration of the cradle when formed into a three dimensional shape.
5. A cradle according to any one of Claims 3 and 4, characterised in that the planar pattern also comprises a slit adjacent a cradle forming portion of the planar pattern and a scored flap on the tab portion whereby, when the planar pattern is formed into a cradle, the flap is received in the slit to secure the cradle in its three dimensional form.
6. A cradle according to any one of Claims 1 to 5, characterised in that the planar pattern is provided with two sets of holes adapted in use to be arranged in overlapping relationship for receiving the pins of a charger for an electrical device, the charger thereby holding the cradle against an electrical socket.
7. A cradle according to any one of Claims 1 to 6, characterised in that the planar pattern is made from any pliable material.

8. A cradle according to Claim 7, characterised in that the planar pattern is made from plastic, cardboard, fabric, or a combination of such pliable materials.

9. A planar pattern substantially as herein described with reference to Figure 1.

10. A cradle substantially as herein described with reference to Figure 2.



For Innovation

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Examiner: Mr Pablo Cappellini

Claims searched: 1-10

Date of search: 18 July 2006

Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance
X,Y	X: 1, 4, 5, 7 & 8; Y: 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 & 8	US 5344004 A (MEYER) - Note that holes 66, 65 & 70 can be used to support the container with a two-pin style plug.
X,Y	X: 1, 4, 5, 7 & 8; Y: 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 & 8	EP 0335258 A3 (GERALD CONWAY AND CO) - Note that holes 68 can be used to support container using plugs with 2 or 3 pins.
Y	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 & 8	GB 2381987 A (HORGAN) - See whole document.
Y	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 & 8	GB 2364832 A (STRAND) - Note Figs. 1-2, two pin plug of Fig.5F and recess defined by formations 16 in Fig.6.
A	-	WO 2004/110228 A1 (MANZANARES)
A	-	AU 200157787 A1 (WALLACE)

Categories:

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.

Field of Search:

Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKC^X :

B8P; H2E; H4J

Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC

B65D; H01R; H04M

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report

ONLINE: EPODOC, WPI