

The opinion in support of the decision being entered today was not written for publication and is not binding precedent of the Board.

Paper No. 20

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte GLEN J. ANDERSON
and JAMES FOSTER KNUTSON

Appeal No. 2004-1578
Application 09/204,837

ON BRIEF

Before HAIRSTON, RUGGIERO, and DIXON, Administrative Patent Judges.

HAIRSTON, Administrative Patent Judge.

DECISION ON APPEAL

This is an appeal of twice rejected claims 1 through 26. After submission of the supplemental brief (paper number 16), the examiner allowed claims 18 through 26, and objected to claims 14

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and 15 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims (answer, page 4). Accordingly, claims 1 through 13, 16 and 17 remain before us on appeal.

The disclosed invention relates to an input/output device for a computer system that includes a pointing device, memory and a controller operably connected to the pointing device and the memory. The controller operates to transfer data from the pointing device to a computer system, and to send and receive data to and from a computer.

Claim 1 is illustrative of the claimed invention, and it reads as follows:

1. An input/output device for a computer system, comprising:

a pointing device for generating an electrical signal encoding pointer spatial information and command information;

memory for storing machine readable data; and

a controller operably connected to said pointing device and said memory, wherein said controller is capable of transferring data from said pointing device to a computer system, and wherein said controller is further capable of sending and receiving data to and from a computer.

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system via the serial data channel 60, and is further capable of sending and receiving data to and from the computer via the same serial data channel (column 4, line 58 through column 5, line 30; column 6, lines 17 through 29).

In view of the foregoing, the anticipation rejection of claim 1 is sustained. The anticipation rejection of claims 2 through 13, 16 and 17 is likewise sustained because appellants have chosen to let these claims stand or fall with claim 1 (supplemental brief, page 3).

DECISION

The decision of the examiner rejecting claims 1 through 13, 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is affirmed.

No time period for taking any subsequent action in connection with this appeal may be extended under 37 CFR § 1.136(a).

AFFIRMED

KENNETH W. HAIRSTON)	
Administrative Patent Judge)	
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)	BOARD OF PATENT
JOSEPH F. RUGGIERO)	APPEALS AND
Administrative Patent Judge)	INTERFERENCES
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JOSEPH L. DIXON)	
Administrative Patent Judge)	

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