



(19) **United States**

(12) **Patent Application Publication**
Ciesla et al.

(10) **Pub. No.: US 2011/0254709 A1**

(43) **Pub. Date: Oct. 20, 2011**

(54) **METHOD FOR ACTUATING A TACTILE INTERFACE LAYER**

Publication Classification

(76) Inventors: **Craig Michael Ciesla**, Mountain View, CA (US); **Micah B. Yairi**, Daly City, CA (US); **Nathaniel Mark Saal**, Palo Alto, CA (US)

(51) **Int. Cl.**
H03K 17/94 (2006.01)
(52) **U.S. Cl.** **341/20**

(21) Appl. No.: **13/090,217**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

(22) Filed: **Apr. 19, 2011**

A method for actuating a tactile interface layer of a device that defines a surface with a deformable region, comprising the steps of deforming a deformable region of the surface into a formation tactilely distinguishable from the surface, detecting a force from the user on a deformed deformable region, interpreting the force as a command for the deformable region, and manipulating the deformable region of the surface based on the command.

Related U.S. Application Data

(60) Provisional application No. 61/325,772, filed on Apr. 19, 2010.

