

11. The vehicle of claim 1, wherein the object is a child seat whereby the information obtained about the child seat is at least one of an indication of whether the child seat is present and an indication of whether a child seat is rear-facing.

12. The vehicle of claim 1, wherein the object is a window of the vehicle whereby the information obtained about the window is an indication of whether the window is open or closed, or the state of openness.

13. The vehicle of claim 1, wherein the object is a door, said at least one resonator being arranged in a surface facing the door such that closure of the door prevents emission of the energy signal from said at least one resonator, whereby the information obtained about the door is an indication of whether the door is open or closed.

14. The vehicle of claim 1, wherein said at least one resonator comprises a tuned resonator including an acoustic cavity or a vibrating mechanical element.

15. A vehicle including a system for obtaining information about an object in the vehicle, comprising

at least one reflector arranged in association with the object, said at least one reflector being arranged to reflect an energy signal;

transmitter means for transmitting energy signals in a direction of each of said at least one reflector;

energy signal detector means for detecting energy signals reflected by said at least one reflector; and

a processor coupled to said detector means for obtaining information about the object upon analysis of the energy signal detected by said detector means.

16. The vehicle of claim 15, wherein said at least one reflector comprises a parabolic-shaped reflector.

17. The device of claim 15, wherein said at least one reflector comprises a corner cube reflector or a cube array reflector.

18. The device of claim 15, wherein said at least one reflector comprises an antenna reflector.

19. The vehicle of claim 15, wherein the information obtained about the object is a distance between each of said at least one reflector and said detector means.

20. The vehicle of claim 15, wherein the object is a seat whereby the information obtained about the seat is an indication of the position of the seat.

21. The vehicle of claim 15, wherein said at least one reflector is arranged within the object.

22. The vehicle of claim 15, wherein said transmitter means and said detector means are co-located constituting at least one transducer.

23. The vehicle of claim 15, wherein the object is a seatbelt whereby the information obtained about the seatbelt is an indication of whether the seatbelt is in use.

24. The vehicle of claim 14, wherein the object is a seatbelt whereby the information obtained about the seatbelt is an indication of the position of the seatbelt.

25. The vehicle of claim 15, wherein the object is a child seat whereby the information obtained about the child seat is at least one of an indication of whether the child seat is present and an indication of whether the child seat is rear-facing.

26. The vehicle of claim 15, wherein the object is a window of the vehicle whereby the information obtained about the window is an indication of whether the window is open or closed or the state of openness.

27. The vehicle of claim 15, wherein the object is a door, said at least one reflector being arranged in a surface facing the door such that closure of the door prevents reflection of an energy signal by said at least one reflector, whereby the information obtained about the door is an indication of whether the door is open or closed.

28. The vehicle of claim 15, wherein said transmitter means comprise an infrared laser system and said at least one reflector comprises an optical mirror.

29. A motor vehicle detection system, comprising:

at least one transmitter for transmitting energy signals toward a target in a passenger compartment of the vehicle;

at least one reflector arranged in association with said target;

at least one detector for detecting energy signals reflected by said at least one reflector.

30. The detection system of claim 29, further comprising a processor coupled to said at least one detector for obtaining information about the target upon analysis of the energy signal detected by said at least one detector.

31. The detection system of claim 30, wherein the information obtained about the object is a distance between each of said at least one reflector and said at least one detector.

32. The detection system of claim 30, wherein the target is a seat whereby the information obtained about the seat is an indication of the position of the seat.

33. The detection system of claim 30, wherein the target is a seatbelt whereby the information obtained about the seatbelt is an indication of whether the seatbelt is in use.

34. The detection system of claim 30, wherein the target is a seatbelt whereby the information obtained about the seatbelt is an indication of the position of the seatbelt.

35. The detection system of claim 30, wherein the target is a child seat whereby the information obtained about the child seat is an indication of whether the child seat is present and rear-facing.

36. The detection system of claim 30, wherein the target is a window of the vehicle whereby the information obtained about the window is an indication of whether the window is open or closed or the state of openness.

37. The detection system of claim 27, wherein the target is a door, said at least one reflector being arranged in a surface facing the door such that closure of the door prevents reflection of an energy signal by said at least one reflector, whereby the information obtained about the door is an indication of whether the door is open or closed.

38. The detection system of claim 26, wherein said at least one reflector comprises a parabolic-shaped reflector.

39. The detection system of claim 26, wherein said at least one reflector is arranged within the target.

40. The detection system of claim 26, wherein said at least one transmitter and said at least one detector are positioned together.

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