

22. A portable electronic display device for displaying information, the display device comprising:

- a. an enclosure;
- b. a display comprised in the enclosure such that an active surface of the display is visible, the active surface being capable of displaying information content;
- c. a touch-pad disposed on a back side of the enclosure or on a pivoting joint joined to the enclosure, which touch-pad is responsive to external touch; and
- d. a portable electronic display device controller unit that is in communication with said touch-pad, said device controller unit being configured to respond to a sliding pattern of touch on an exposed portion of said touch-pad by moving content displayed in said display in a two dimensional direction corresponding to the direction of the sliding pattern of touch.

23. The portable electronic display device of claim 22, further comprising:

- f. a display cover for covering said display, said cover being pivotally joined to said enclosure by said pivoting joint, wherein said touch-pad is disposed upon an exposed side of said pivoting joint and not on the back side.

24. The portable electronic display device of claim 22, wherein said display is a touch screen display, whereby said portable electronic display device controller unit responds to the tapping of an exposed portion of said touch screen display by controlling a selection function of said portable electronic display device.

25. The portable electronic display device of claim 23, wherein said display is a touch screen display, and said portable electronic display device controller unit responds to one or more touch patterns of an exposed portion of said touch screen display by controlling at least one function of said portable electronic display device.

26. The portable electronic display device of claim 12, further comprising a peripheral component selected from the group of peripheral components consisting of a speaker, a microphone, a radio, a transceiver, a TV receiver, a camera, an auxiliary display, a cover, an antenna, and a keyboard.

27. A portable electronic display device for displaying information, the display device comprising:

- a. an enclosure;
- b. a touch screen display comprised in the enclosure such that an active surface of the display is visible, the active surface being capable of displaying information content;
- c. a portable electronic display device controller unit that is in communication with said touch screen display, said device controller unit being configured to detect or receive a first pattern of touch and respond by either controlling a first function of said portable electronic display device or by changing the content displayed in said display; and
- d. at least one user engageable context modifier switch, which is in communication with said device controller unit and operable to change the context of said first pattern of touch received by said device controller unit, whereby said device controller unit responds differ-

ently to said first pattern of touch when said at least one context modifier switch is engaged by the user.

28. The portable electronic display device of claim 27, wherein said at least one context modifier switch is at least one portion of a touch sensor, said at least one touch sensor portion being configured to be at least one modifier spot for engaging said context modifier switch when a second pattern of touch is imposed upon said at least one modifier spot.

29. The portable electronic display device of claim 27, comprising only one said context modifier switch.

30. The portable electronic display device of claim 27, wherein at least one of said at least one context modifier switch is operable as a shift key when a virtual keyboard is displayed on said display.

31. The portable electronic display device of claim 27, wherein at least one of said at least one context modifier switch is operable as a right-click button, which displays a menu on said display when the user clicks on an item on said display while simultaneously engaging said right-click context modifier switch.

32. The portable electronic display device of claim 27, wherein said display has between 480 and 800 effective pixels in a first dimension and between 320 and 600 effective pixels in a second dimension, said display further having a maximum pixel density of 162 effective pixels-per-inch (ppi) and a minimum pixel density of 130 effective ppi; and said enclosure is effectively sized to be at most 5.2 inches in a first dimension and at most 3.7 inches in a second dimension, the enclosure being further sized, substantially in the plane of the active surface, such that there is no more than 0.5 inches between three outer edges of the enclosure and the corresponding outer edges of the active surface, and no more than 1 inch between a fourth outer edge of the enclosure and the corresponding outer edge of the active surface; and said device additionally includes at least two substantially independent touch sensitive areas disposed along at least two edges of said enclosure, said independent touch sensitive areas being operable for detecting sliding touch along or tapping on said touch sensor.

33. The portable electronic display device of claim 32, wherein there is only a single modifier spot, and said touch sensitive areas include a first and second touch sensitive areas disposed along a bottom edge of said enclosure, and a third touch sensitive area disposed along a left edge of said enclosure, and a fourth touch sensitive area disposed along a right edge of said enclosure, each of said first, second, third, and fourth touch sensitive areas being operable for detecting sliding touch.

34. The portable electronic display device of claim 33, wherein said touch sensitive areas further comprise a fifth and sixth touch sensitive areas disposed along a top edge of said enclosure, said top touch sensitive areas being operable for detecting taps and being optionally operable for detecting sliding touch along said touch sensor.

35. A hand-held remote control comprising:

means for remotely controlling at least one remote device, said remote controlling means communicating control commands to said remote device;

touch sensitive means for receiving patterns of touch by a human; and

means for detecting the patterns of touch impressed upon said touch sensitive means, the detected the patterns of