

ing movement indicator for generating a distinct button signal when the rigid touch pad is moved in the region of the button zone.

13. The input device as recited in claim 11 wherein the touch pad includes a rigid platform for supporting the components of the touch pad and a touch sensitive surface for tracking movements of an object thereon.

14. The input device as recited in claim 13 wherein the rigid platform includes a circuit board.

15. The input device as recited in claim 14 wherein the rigid platform includes a stiffening plate.

16. The input device as recited in claim 13 wherein the touch sensitive surface includes a sensing layer.

17. The input device as recited in claim 13 wherein the sensing layer is based on capacitance sensing.

18. The input device as recited in claim 11 wherein the movement indicators correspond to tact switches.

19. The input device as recited in claim 18 wherein the tact switches are located between the touch pad and the frame underneath the corresponding button zone.

20. An input device comprising:

a touch pad assembly including a circuit board having a first side and a second side, an electrode layer positioned on the first side of the circuit board, a cosmetic plate positioned over the electrode layer, one or more switches positioned on the second side of the circuit board, and a stiffener plate positioned on the second side of the circuit board; and

a housing assembly including a base plate, a frame and one or more retaining plates that cooperate to movably constrain at least a portion of the touch assembly within a space defined by the base plate, frame and one or more retaining plates.

21. A computing system, comprising:

a computing device capable of receiving, processing and outputting data; and

an input device configured to send data to the computing device in order to perform an action in the computing device, the input device including a depressible touch pad configured to generate tracking signals, and one or more movement indicators configured to generate one or more button signals when the touch pad is depressed.

22. The computing system as recited in claim 21 wherein the computing device is a media player.

23. The computing system as recited in claim 21 wherein the input device is operatively connected to the computing device through a wired connection.

24. The computing system as recited in claim 21 wherein the input device is operatively connected to the computing device through a wireless connection.

25. The computing system as recited in claim 21 wherein the input device is separate from the computing device.

26. The computing system as recited in claim 21 wherein the input device is integrated with the computing device.

27. The computing system as recited in claim 21 wherein the input device is removably coupled to the computing device.

28. The computing system as recited in claim 21 wherein the computing device includes a processor, an input/output controller, a display controller, a display, and a program storage area.

29. The computing system as recited in claim 21 wherein the tracking signals are based on Cartesian coordinates.

30. The computing system as recited in claim 21 wherein the tracking signals are based on Polar coordinates.

31. The computing system as recited in claim 21 wherein the touch pad is capable of reporting data in an absolute mode or a relative mode.

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