

said means for removably maintaining said membrane in a predetermined position comprises:

- a first series of holes located in said left edge region of said membrane;
- a second series of holes located in said right edge region of said membrane;
- a left sprocket having teeth that engage said first series of holes;
- a right sprocket having teeth that engage said second series of holes; and

means for rotating said left and right sprockets simultaneously at the same rate of rotation.

9. The invention according to claim 8 wherein said left and right edge regions are formed of a semi-rigid material.

10. The invention according to claim 9 wherein said rotating means includes a reversible electric motor.

11. The invention according to claim 9 wherein said rotating means includes a manually actuated knob.

12. The invention according to claim 1 wherein said means for removably maintaining said membrane in a predetermined position comprises:

- a membrane storage chamber disposed within said housing, said membrane storage chamber having an opening extending substantially parallel and proximate to one of said edges of said contact surface;
- a pair of opposing slots, each of said opposing slots being positioned substantially parallel to each other and substantially perpendicular to said membrane storage chamber opening, each of said opposing slots extending from said membrane storage chamber opening to a location proximate an opposite edge of said contact surface; and

means for slidably restraining said membrane within said pair of slots.

13. The invention according to claim 12 wherein said membrane is biased to retract into said membrane storage chamber, said touch screen overlay apparatus further comprising means for fastening said membrane in its touch screen registration position.

14. The invention according to claim 12 wherein said membrane has a left edge region and a right edge region, said means for removably maintaining said membrane in a predetermined position comprises:

- a first series of holes located in said left edge region of said membrane;
- a second series of holes located in said right edge region of said membrane;
- a left sprocket having teeth that engage said first series of holes;

a right sprocket having teeth that engage said second series of holes; and

means for rotating said left and right sprockets simultaneously at the same rate of rotation.

15. The invention according to claim 14 wherein said left and right edge regions are formed of a semi-rigid material.

16. The invention according to claim 1 wherein said means for removably maintaining said membrane in a predetermined position comprises one or more fasteners disposed about the peripheries of said rigid contact surface and said membrane.

17. The invention according to claim 16 wherein said one or more fasteners comprise a mated pair of hook and loop fasteners.

18. The invention according to claim 16 wherein each of said one or more fasteners comprise a mated snap pair.

19. The invention according to claim 1 wherein said means for removably maintaining said membrane in a predetermined position comprises a band of adhesive disposed adjacent to said periphery of said membrane.

20. The invention according to claim 12 wherein said membrane size being sufficient to avoid contact between said band of adhesive of said rigid contact surface.

21. A touch screen overlay apparatus for use in association with a user input apparatus having a touch screen with a rigid contact surface encompassing one or more input regions, said rigid contact surface having a periphery with a top edge, a bottom edge, a left edge and a right edge, said touch screen being disposed within a housing, said touch screen overlay apparatus comprising:

- a flexible membrane of a size sufficient to cover at least a portion of said rigid contact surface, said flexible membrane including one or more raised dome-shaped regions; and

means for removably maintaining said flexible membrane in a predetermined position in which at least one of said one or more raised dome-shaped regions is in substantial registration with one of said one or more input regions.

22. The invention according to claim 21 wherein each of said raised dome-shaped regions are formed integrally to said membrane.

23. The invention according to claim 21 wherein each of said raised dome-shaped regions are formed by adding additional material to said membrane.

24. The invention according to claim 21 wherein each of said raised dome-shaped regions being tactually perceptible to the user.

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