

[0027] FIG. 4 is a cross-sectional view illustrating a resistive type touch panel according to the related art.

[0028] FIG. 5 is a cross-sectional view illustrating a capacitive type touch panel integrated with an LCD device according to the related art.

[0029] FIG. 6 is a cross-sectional view illustrating a touch panel integrated with an LCD device according to a first embodiment of the present invention.

[0030] FIG. 7 is an exploded view illustrating a touch panel integrated with an LCD device according to the first embodiment of the present invention.

[0031] FIG. 8 is a cross-sectional view illustrating a resistive type touch panel taken along line I-I' of FIG. 7 according to the first embodiment of the present invention.

[0032] FIG. 9 is a cross-sectional view illustrating a touch panel integrated with an LCD device according to the second embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

[0033] Reference will now be made in detail to the preferred embodiments of the present invention, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings. Whenever possible, the same reference numbers will be used throughout the drawings to refer to the same or like parts.

[0034] A touch panel for a display device according to embodiments of the present invention will be described with reference to FIGS. 6 through 9. More particularly, FIG. 6 is a cross-sectional view illustrating a touch panel integrated with an LCD device according to a first embodiment of the present invention. FIG. 7 is an exploded view illustrating a touch panel integrated with an LCD device according to the first embodiment of the present invention. FIG. 8 is a cross-sectional view illustrating a resistive type touch panel taken along line I-I' of FIG. 7 according to the first embodiment of the present invention. FIG. 9 is a cross-sectional view illustrating a capacitive type touch panel integrated with an LCD device according to the second embodiment of the present invention.

[0035] As shown in FIG. 6, a touch panel integrated with the LCD device according to embodiments of the present invention includes an LCD panel 21, upper and lower polarizing plates 22 and 23, a backlight 24, a resistive type touch panel 25, a conductive pattern 32, and a case top 29. Upper and lower substrates (not shown) are bonded to each other with a fixed gap therebetween. A liquid crystal (not shown) is injected between the upper and lower substrates, thereby forming the LCD panel 21. The LCD panel 21 displays a picture image according to external driving and picture signals. An upper polarizing plate 22 is formed above the LCD panel 21 and a lower polarizing plate 23 is formed under the LCD panel 21. A backlight 24 uniformly irradiates light upon the rear of the LCD panel 21. The resistive type touch panel 25 is formed on the LCD panel 21 for detecting a touched point by outputting a voltage value corresponding to the touched point. A case top 29 supports the backlight 24, the LCD panel 21 and the resistive type touch panel 25. A conductive pattern 32 is formed on the circumference of an upper surface of the resistive type touch panel 25, and the case top 29 is connected to the conductive pattern 32.

[0036] As shown in FIG. 8, a resistive type touch panel 25 according to embodiments of the present invention is provided with transparent upper and lower substrates 27 and 26 including PolyEthylene Terephthalate (PET) film, and spacers 28 between the upper and lower substrates for maintaining a fixed interval between the upper and lower substrates. As shown in FIG. 7, a transparent electrode (ITO, not shown in the drawings) having a constant resistance value is formed on a surface (surface opposing the lower substrate) of the upper substrate 27 of the PET film, and a metal electrode 27a is formed on the transparent electrode corresponding to upper and lower side dead space regions to provide a power along Y-axis direction. Also, the transparent electrode (ITO, not shown in the drawings) having the constant resistance value is formed on a surface of the lower substrate 26, and a metal electrode 26a is formed on the transparent electrode corresponding to left and right side dead space regions to provide the power along X-axis direction. The conductive pattern 32 is formed at a periphery of the surface that does not have the transparent electrode or the metal electrode 27a.

[0037] If static electricity discharges from a finger when the finger is touched at a point of the touch panel 25, the conductive pattern 32 discharges the static electricity to the case top 29. Accordingly, it is preferable to form the conductive pattern 32 only in the dummy space region when the conductive material is opaque. In the case of the conductive pattern 32 being formed of a transparent metal material, it is not necessary to form the conductive pattern 32 in the dummy space region. Signal lines 30a and 30b are connected for applying the power to the respective metal electrodes 26a and 27a, and reading a voltage of a contact point.

[0038] Spacers 28 are dispersed on the lower substrate 26, and then the upper and lower substrates 27 and 26 are bonded to each other in the dead space region by an adhesive tape 31. More particularly, the upper and lower substrates 27 and 26 are bonded to each other at connection portions between the signal lines 30a and 30b and the metal electrodes 26a and 27a by a conducting adhesive. Generally, the signal lines 30a and 30b are formed of Flexible Printed Cable (FPC).

[0039] Although not shown, when a glass type substrate is used for the resistive type touch panel 25, the conductive pattern 32 is formed in the periphery of the display surface of the touch panel 25, and the conductive pattern 32 is connected to a system case instead of the case top. At this time, the case top or system case is formed of a conductive material.

[0040] An operation of the touch panel integrated with the LCD device according to the first embodiment of the present invention will be described as follows. A power supply voltage Vcc and a ground voltage GND are applied to upper and lower sides of the transparent electrode printed on the upper substrate 27 via the two signal lines 30a connected to the upper substrate and the metal electrodes 27a. The power supply voltage Vcc and the ground voltage GND are also applied to the left and right sides of the transparent electrode printed on the lower substrate 26 via the two signal lines 30b connected to the lower substrate and the metal electrodes 26a. If the surface of the upper substrate 27 is touched at the predetermined point with a pen or finger, the transparent electrodes (not shown) of the upper and lower substrates