

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

[0051] A lighting unit according to the present invention is useful as a lighting unit of a consumer and industrial liquid crystal display device in which a thin display portion is required.

[0052] A liquid crystal display device according to the present invention is useful as an image display device of an information device such as a consumer and industrial notebook-type personal computer and word processor or the like, or of a portable television, a video movie, a car navigation system, and the like.

1. A lighting unit comprising:

a light guiding plate for guiding light entering from an end face thereof along a principal surface thereof;

a light source disposed along the end face of the light guiding plate;

a reflector configured to enclose the light source to reflect the light emitted from the light source toward the end face of the light guiding plate; and

a housing disposed to enclose at least the reflector and configured to hold the light guiding plate; wherein

at least one contact surface of a predetermined region at which the housing and the light guiding plate contact each other is roughened.

2. The lighting unit according to claim 1, wherein lubricant is applied to the predetermined region at which the housing and the light guiding plate are opposed to each other.

3. The lighting unit according to claim 1, wherein a sliding member is disposed on the predetermined region at which the housing and the light guiding plate are opposed to each other.

4. A lighting unit comprising:

a light guiding plate for guiding light entering from an end face thereof along a principal surface thereof;

a light source disposed along the end face of the light guiding plate;

a reflector configured to enclose the light source to reflect the light emitted from the light source toward the end face of the light guiding plate; and

a housing disposed to enclose at least the reflector and configured to hold the light guiding plate; wherein

a transparent sheet is disposed on the principal surface of the light guiding plate, and the transparent sheet is disposed on a predetermined region at which the housing and the light guiding plate are opposed to each other.

5. A liquid crystal display device comprising:

a lighting unit according to claim 1 or 4; and

a liquid crystal display panel configured to display an image by variation of transmissivity of light according to an input image signal; wherein

the liquid crystal display panel is disposed on a front surface of the lighting unit.

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