

5. The electronic device of claim 4, wherein the electronic device comprises a radiotelephone, wherein the actuation element comprises a call activation key, further wherein the device event comprises an incoming electronic communication.

6. The electronic device of claim 1, wherein the actuation element comprises a bistable actuation element configured to enter a low-power mode after changing the actuation element profile.

7. The electronic device of claim 1, wherein the actuation element is capable of user actuation to control the at least one device function both before altering the actuation element profile and after altering the actuation element profile.

8. The electronic device of claim 1, wherein the alteration in the actuation element profile comprises an increased distal extension from the housing.

9. The electronic device of claim 8, wherein the increased distal extension from the housing comprises a telescopic extension from the housing.

10. The electronic device of claim 8, further comprising an actuation element profile driver coupled to the actuation element, wherein the actuation element profile driver is one of a piezoelectric driver, an electromagnetic driver, an electrostatic driver, a shape memory alloy driver, an electrorheological driver, or an electroactive polymer driver.

11. The electronic device of claim 8, further comprising an actuation element profile motor coupled to the actuation element, wherein the actuation element profile motor is one of a cam and follower motor, a worm-gear motor, a pivot and retraction motor, or a bellows device.

12. The electronic device of claim 1, wherein the housing comprises a hinged housing configured such that, upon the actuation element changing the actuation element profile, closing the hinged housing causes the actuation element to return to an initial actuation element profile.

13. The electronic device of claim 1, wherein in the actuation element configured to alter the actuation element profile by changing an actuation element form factor.

14. The electronic device of claim 1, wherein the electronic device comprises a radiotelephone, further wherein the device event is one of an incoming telephone call, an incoming text message, an incoming multimedia message, a low battery warning, or a calendar alarm event.

15. The electronic device of claim 1, wherein the actuation element comprises a navigation key for navigating among a plurality of options suitable for response to the device event.

16. The electronic device of claim 1, wherein the actuation element comprises an actuation element cross sectional shape which is one of a ramp, rectangle, plus, circle, semicircle, triangle, oval, alphanumeric character shape, or predetermined symbol shape.

17. A radiotelephone comprising a housing and a plurality of user actuation elements, wherein at least one user actuation element is configured to alter an actuation element profile relative to the housing from a first profile to a second profile in response to a device event, thereby altering a form factor of the radiotelephone so as to provide a physical notification that the device event has occurred.

18. The radiotelephone of claim 17, further comprising an environmental sensor, wherein when the environmental sensor is in a first state, the at least one user actuation element comprises a first user actuation element, wherein when the environmental sensor is in a second state, the at least one user actuation element comprises a second user actuation element, wherein the first user actuation element and the second user actuation element are different.

19. The radiotelephone of claim 17, wherein the second profile comprises a projection of the at least one user actuation element from the first profile.

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