

14. The interactive information device of claim 1 wherein at least one of said spacer members comprises a height dimension of at least about 3 microns.

15. The interactive information device of claim 1 wherein at least one of said spacer members comprises a height dimension of about 3 microns to about 25 microns.

16. The interactive information device of claim 1 wherein said spacer members are formed from a compound containing at least one of transparent polymers, polymerizable oligomers, and monomers.

17. The interactive information device of claim 1 wherein said spacer members further contain at least one of a compound for the surface modification of said inorganic material and a cross-linking initiator.

18. The interactive information device of claim 1 wherein said spacer members are formed from a compound which includes a photo initiator and is ultraviolet curable.

19. The interactive information device of claim 1 wherein said spacer members comprise organic-inorganic nanocomposites.

20. The interactive information device of claim 19 wherein said organic-inorganic nanocomposites utilize a network former which is hydrolyzed and prepared initially in paste form.

21. The interactive information device of claim 20 wherein said network former is selected from the group consisting of methyl tetraethylorthosilicate, tetraethylorthosilicate, and glycidoxypropyltrimethoxysilane.

22. The interactive information device of claim 1 wherein each of said first and second transparent, electrically conductive layers comprises a metal oxide.

23. The interactive information device of claim 22 wherein said metal oxide is selected from the group consisting of indium tin oxide, tin antimony oxide, tin oxide, and fluorine doped tin oxide.

24. The interactive information device of claim 1 wherein said insulating spacer members are transparent, are spaced from one another, and are located on said first transparent, electrically conductive layer.

25. The interactive information device of claim 1 wherein said insulating spacer members are transparent, are spaced from one another, and are located on said second transparent, electrically conductive layer.

26. The interactive information device of claim 1 wherein said insulating spacer members are transparent, are spaced from one another, and are located on both said first and second transparent, electrically conductive layers, said spacer members being spaced apart on said first and second conductive layers such that said spacer members allow said conductive layers to engage one another wherein said flexible transparent substrate is pressed.

27. An interactive information device comprising:

at least one rigid, transparent substrate;

a first transparent, electrically conductive layer supported by a surface of said rigid substrate;

a flexible transparent substrate at least partially aligned with said rigid substrate, said flexible substrate having a surface which faces said surface of said rigid substrate, and a second transparent, electrically conductive layer on said surface of said flexible substrate; said flexible substrate being spaced from said rigid substrate to provide a gap between said conductive layers;

a plurality of insulating spacer members on at least one of said electrically conductive layers whereby said flexible substrate may be flexed by pressing to engage said electrically conductive layers between said spacer members; and

wherein said spacer members comprise organic-inorganic nanocomposites.

28. The interactive information device of claim 27 wherein said nanocomposites utilize a network former which is hydrolyzed and prepared initially in paste form, said network former being selected from the group consisting of methyl tetraethylorthosilicate, tetraethylorthosilicate, and glycidoxypropyltrimethoxysilane.

29. The interactive information device of claim 27 wherein said spacer members are formed from a compound containing at least one of transparent polymers, polymerizable oligomers, and monomers.

30. The interactive information device of claim 27 wherein said spacer members are formed from a compound which includes a photo initiator and is ultraviolet curable.

31. The interactive information device of claim 27 wherein said spacer members have an index of refraction of at least about 1.49 measured at the sodium D line.

32. The interactive information device of claim 27 wherein said spacer members have an index of refraction within the range of about 1.49 to about 2.0 measured at the sodium D line.

33. The interactive information device of claim 1 wherein said spacer members have an index of refraction of about 1.75 to about 1.95 measured at the sodium D line.

34. The interactive information device of claim 27 wherein said spacer members have an index of refraction substantially optically matched to the index of refraction of the transparent, electrically conductive layer on which they are positioned.

35. A method for making an interactive information device comprising:

providing a rigid, transparent substrate;

providing a first transparent, electrically conductive layer supported by a surface of said rigid substrate;

providing a first flexible, transparent substrate having a second transparent electrically conductive layer on a surface thereof;

forming a plurality of insulating spacer members by depositing portions of a material comprising polymeric material and at least some inorganic material at spaced locations on at least one of said first and second electrically conductive layer; and

securing said first flexible substrate to said rigid substrate such that said first and second electrically conductive layers on said respective substrates are at least partially aligned with one another and spaced from one another by a gap in which said spacer members are positioned whereby said flexible substrate may be flexed by pressing to engage said conductive layers.

36. The method of claim 35 including deleting portions of at least one of said first and second electrically conductive layers to provide a touch screen pattern.

37. The method of claim 35 including forming said spacer members by silk screening said material on at least said one