

the dielectric material having an index of refraction approximately equal to an index of refraction of the first plurality of conductive traces.

29. The force and location sensitive touch component of claim 28 wherein the first plurality of conductive traces comprise Indium tin oxide and the dielectric material comprises aluminum oxide.

30. The force and location sensitive touch component of claim 11, further comprising a dielectric material substantially covering the first surface of the second transparent layer, the dielectric material having an index of refraction approximately equal to an index of refraction of the second and third plurality of conductive traces.

31. The force and location sensitive touch component of claim 30 wherein the second and third plurality of conductive traces comprise Indium tin oxide and the dielectric material comprises aluminum oxide.

32. The force and location sensitive touch component of claim 11, wherein the first and second transparent layers comprise glass.

33. A display unit, comprising:

a display element; and

a force and location sensitive touch component in accordance with claim 11 adhered to a surface thereof.

34. The display unit of claim 33, wherein the display element comprises a liquid crystal display.

35. The display unit of claim 33, wherein the display element comprises a cathode ray tube.

36. The display unit of claim 33, wherein the display element comprises a plasma display.

37. The display unit of claim 33, further comprising a polarizer element juxtaposed between the display element and force and location sensitive touch component.

38. A force and location sensitive component, comprising:

a first transparent substrate having separate first and second pluralities of conductive paths oriented in a first direction;

a second transparent substrate having a third plurality of conductive paths oriented in a second direction; and

deformable elements juxtaposed between and separating the first and second transparent substrates, wherein

the first and third plurality of conductive paths are configured to generate capacitance signals representing a location on the display unit being touched by a user and the second and third plurality of conductive paths are configured to generate capacitance signals representing a force applied to the display unit by the user.

39. The force and location sensitive component of claim 38, further comprising a display element abutted to the first transparent substrate.

40. The force and location sensitive component of claim 39, wherein the display element comprises a liquid crystal display element.

41. The force and location sensitive component of claim 38, wherein the first plurality of conductive paths comprise a plurality of electrically isolated paths, between which are one or more of the second plurality of conductive paths.

42. The force and location sensitive component of claim 41, wherein each of the first plurality of conductive paths are electrically isolated from one another and all of the one or more second plurality of conductive paths between each of the first plurality of conductive paths are electrically coupled.

43. The force and location sensitive component of claim 38, wherein the second transparent membrane further comprises a fourth plurality of conductive paths oriented in the second direction and electrically isolated from the third plurality of conductive paths.

44. The force and location sensitive component of claim 43, wherein the third plurality of conductive traces are separated from one another by one of the fourth plurality of conductive traces.

45. The force and location sensitive component of claim 46, wherein the third plurality of conductive traces is configured to be driven by a voltage signal having a first polarity and the fourth plurality of conductive traces is configured to be driven by a voltage signal having a second polarity.

46. The force and location sensitive component of claim 38, wherein the first, second and third plurality of conductive paths comprise indium tin oxide.

47. The force and location sensitive component of claim 38, wherein the deformable elements comprise a rubber.

48. The force and location sensitive component of claim 39 further comprising a polarizer juxtaposed between the display element and the first transparent substrate.

49. The force and location sensitive component of claim 38, wherein the first and second transparent substrates comprise a closed volume.

50. The force and location sensitive component of claim 49, further comprising liquid substantially filling the closed volume.

51. The force and location sensitive component of claim 50, wherein the liquid has an index of refraction substantially equal to that of the deformable members.

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