

the telephone mode. The send key **2002** may be used to, but is not limited to, initiate a telephone call once a phone number has been entered. Similarly, the end key **2003** may be used to, but is not limited to, end an already engaged telephone call. Further, the send key **2002** and the end key **2003** may be present when the ten-digit keypad actuator set **2000** is also presented on the dynamic user interface surface **1802**.

[**0118**] One particular feature of note in the telephone mode takes advantage of the capacitive sensor (**203**) as a power saving option. When the exemplary multimodal device **1800** is in the telephone or voice communication mode, and the exemplary multimodal electronic device **1800** is held to the user's head, the capacitive sensor (**203**) may detect the presence of the user's face near the substantially planar user interface surface. In such a scenario, upon receiving a signal from control circuitry coupled to the capacitive sensor (**203**), the high resolution display **209** transitions to a low power mode, which may include shutting down the high resolution display **209**. This feature reduces overall power consumption, thereby extending the life of the battery within the exemplary multimodal electronic device **1800**.

[**0119**] As noted above, the present operating mode of the device can be changed in a variety of ways. This includes touching the device or coming within a predetermined distance of the proximity detector. An alternate method of changing modes stems from an external event. For instance, when the device is in an alternate mode, such as the gaming or picture capture mode, and an incoming call from a remote source is received, the exemplary multimodal electronic device **1800** may automatically transition into the telephone mode so that the user may accept the incoming call. Other external events from remote sources include an incoming text message, an incoming multimedia message, or an incoming data transmission. Each of these events, in one embodiment, may cause the device to transition from one mode to another.

[**0120**] Further, the active mode of the exemplary multimodal electronic device **1800** may be changed by a device event. Such events include the actuation of dedicated buttons that may be disposed on the sides of the device. Other device events may include a low battery, device error, or low memory warning, each of which may cause the operating mode of the device to transition.

[**0121**] Turning briefly to FIG. **21**, illustrated herein is one embodiment of the exemplary multimodal electronic device **1800** further comprising a tactile key **2100**. In one embodiment, the tactile key **2100** may be present on the dynamic user interface surface **1802** at all times—i.e. in all states or modes of the exemplary multimodal electronic device **1800**. Different modes may comprise different actuator sets selected from the plurality of mode based actuators, each being presented on the dynamic user interface surface **1802** when the segmented optical shutter device **1801** in one of the ON states. In one embodiment, tactile key **2100** is presented on the dynamic user interface surface **1802** in all ON states. In another embodiment, the tactile key **2100** is presented on the dynamic user interface surface **1802** in all ON states and the OFF state. The continual presence of the tactile key **2100** may be required to meet with a mobile device safety regulations requiring a least one actuation key to be visible on the mobile device at all times.

[**0122**] Presenting at least one key, which is always accessible to the user, such as the tactile key **2100** of FIG. **21**, may be accomplished in one of several ways. In one embodiment, the shutters above the tactile key **2100** are always open, thereby always allowing the tactile key **2100** to be presented on the dynamic user interface. In another embodiment, the

tactile key **2100** is inscribed or etched on the surface of the exemplary multimodal electronic device **1800**. This embodiment allows for the continual presentation of the tactile key **2100** regardless of the state of the segmented optical shutter device **1801**. In one embodiment, as shown in FIG. **21**, the tactile key **2100** comprises one of the keys comprising the ten-digit keypad actuator set **2000**.

[**0123**] Now briefly turning to FIG. **22**, illustrated therein is one embodiment of the exemplary multimodal device **1800** with the ten-digit keypad actuator set **2000** presented on top of the curved scroll device **1903**. By placing the ten-digit keypad actuator set **2000** atop the curved scroll device **1903**, space becomes available in the area circumscribed by the curved scroll device **1903** for additional mode based actuators to be presented. In one embodiment, only the ten-digit keypad actuator set **2000** is present on the dynamic user interface surface **1802**. Presenting only the ten-digit keypad actuator set **2000** provides a less cluttered interface for the user.

[**0124**] Turning now to FIG. **23**, illustrated therein is one embodiment of the exemplary multimodal device **1800** comprising a circular directional switch device **2300**. In one embodiment, the segmented optical shutter device **1801**, being in one ON state, presents the circular directional switch device **2300** on the dynamic user interface surface **1802**. The circular directional switch device **2300** may be used to actuate features of the present mode of the exemplary multimodal device **1800**. When the circular directional switch device **2300**, configured as a circle, may provide greater ease of implementing modes that require directional controls.

[**0125**] In one embodiment, the circular directional switch device **2300** comprises a plurality of directional arrows **2001**. The plurality of directional arrows **2001** may comprise an up arrow **2301**, a down arrow **2302**, a right arrow **2303**, and a left arrow **2304**. Those with ordinary skill in the art having the benefit of this disclosure will recognize that the plurality of directional arrows **2001** may include subsets of the up arrow **2301**, down arrow **2302**, right arrow **2303**, and left arrow **2304**, as well as arrows that may point in additional directions. The plurality of directional arrows **2001** may be used to implement modal functions, including multimedia navigation and phone number scrolling.

[**0126**] In one embodiment, the circular directional switch device **2300** may further comprise a select actuator **2305**. The select actuator **2305** provides an additional function that may, in combination with the plurality of directional arrows **2001**, enable the circular directional switch device **2300** to act as a select button. For example, the select actuator **2305** may be used to select a particular phone number once the user has located the number from a list using the plurality of directional arrows **2001**. In another example, the select actuator **2305** may be used to implement a fire or action button in a gaming mode, while the plurality of directional arrows **2001** are utilized for game navigation.

[**0127**] In one embodiment, the select actuator **2305** may be centrally disposed in the circular directional switch device **2300**. The select actuator **2305** may be represented by physical indicia, such as raised indicia or etched indicia disposed atop the dynamic user interface surface **1802**. In one embodiment, the select actuator **2305** may only be visible as physical indicia and not as presented by the segmented optical shutter device **1801**. In either embodiment, the select actuator **2305** may be actuated in a manner similar to those actuators presented by the segmented optical shutter device **1801**.