a second element including a second capacitor plate separated by a capacitive gap from the first capacitor plate, the aggregate normal component of the mechanical path defining the capacitive gap being no greater than twice the size of the capacitive gap;

wherein transmission of at least part of the touch force to the first element contributes to a change in capacitance between the first capacitor plate and the second capacitor plate.

39. The force sensor of claim 38, wherein the average width of the capacitive gap in an unloaded state of the force sensor is not less than thirty times the average height of the capacitive gap in the unloaded state of the force sensor.

40. A force sensor for sensing a touch force applied to a touch surface, the force sensor comprising:

a first element including force-receiving means for receiving at least part of the touch force into the first element and a first capacitor plate including a first capacitive surface;

a second element including a second capacitor plate separated by a capacitive gap from the first capacitor plate, wherein the average width of the capacitive gap in an unloaded state of the force sensor is not less than thirty times the average height of the capacitive gap in the unloaded state of the force sensor;

wherein transmission of at least part of the touch force to the first element contributes to a change in capacitance between the first capacitor plate and the second capacitor plate.

41. A force sensor for sensing a touch force applied to a touch surface, the force sensor comprising:

a first element including an elastic element, and a first capacitor plate including a first capacitive surface; and

a second element including a second capacitor plate;

wherein transmission of at least part of the touch force through the elastic element contributes to a change in capacitance between the first capacitor plate and the second capacitor plate; and

wherein the force sensor has a normal stiffness not less than 0.5 pounds per mil.

42. A force sensing touch location device comprising:

a touch surface;

a bezel enclosing a first portion of the touch surface; and

force transmission means including an enclosing portion enclosing a second portion of the touch surface, said force transmission means having a stiffness greater than that of the bezel, wherein the force transmission means includes a path to transmit force from the bezel to a region not including the touch surface.

43. The force sensing touch location device of claim 42, wherein the region comprises a stiff surface.

44. The force sensing touch location device of claim 43, wherein the touch surface is disposed between the bezel and the stiff surface.

45. The force sensing touch location device of claim 42, wherein the portion enclosing the touch surface is narrow.

46. The force sensing touch location device of claim 45, wherein the force transmission means comprises at least one thin rigid leg in contact with the bezel and the region not including the touch surface.

47. The force sensing touch location device of claim 42, wherein a flange of the force transmission means encloses the second portion of the touch surface.

48. The force sensing touch location device of claim 42, wherein the force comprises a force that is perpendicular to the touch surface.

49. The force sensing touch location device of claim 42, wherein the path comprises a frame surrounding the touch surface.

50. The force sensing touch location device of claim 49, wherein the frame comprises the force transmission means.

51. The force sensing touch location device of claim 43, wherein the stiff surface comprises a surface of a display device.

52. The force sensing touch location device of claim 51, wherein the display surface comprises an LCD device surface.

53. The device of claim 42, wherein said force transmission means provides attachment for a vertically compliant seal between said bezel and said touch surface.

54. The device of claim 53, further comprising the vertically compliant seal.

55. The device of claim 53, wherein the attachment comprises a flange of the force transmission means.

56. The force sensing touch location device of claim 53, wherein the force transmission means comprises a rigid flange coupled to the bezel.

57. The force sensing touch location device of claim 54, wherein the force transmission means provides a bearing region to receive perpendicular forces establishing an additional seal between said force transmission means and the bezel, said bezel perpendicularly overlying at least a line of junction of said vertically compliant seal and said force transmission means.

58. The device of claim 49, wherein said frame provides attachment for a lateral stiffening means between said frame and said touch surface.

59. The device of claim 49, wherein said frame provides an attachment for receiving both a vertically compliant seal and a lateral stiffening means.

60. The device of claim 59, wherein the seal and the lateral stiffening means are the same element.

61. The device of claim 59, wherein the attachment comprises a rigid bearing edge.

62. The device of claim 49, wherein the frame includes an attachment for receiving both the vertically compliant seal and a surface of the bezel that acts as a second seal.

63. The device of claim 42, wherein the bezel includes an alignment feature for aligning the touch surface within the enclosure.

64. The force sensing touch location device of claim 42, wherein the narrow portion closely invests, but does not touch, the touch display surface around the periphery of the touch display.

65. The force sensing touch location device of claim 42, further comprising:

a handheld computing device including the touch surface, the bezel, and the force transmission means.