

## MULTI-SCREEN LAPTOP SYSTEM

### CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] I hereby claim benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(e) of U.S. provisional patent application Ser. No. 60/571,571 filed May 12, 2004 and Ser. No. 60/604,850 filed Aug. 25, 2004. The 60/571,571 and 60/604,850 applications are currently pending. The 60/571,571 and 60/604,850 applications are hereby incorporated by reference into this application.

### STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT

[0002] Not applicable to this application.

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] 1. Field of the Invention

[0004] The present invention relates generally to display screens for laptop computers and more specifically it relates to a multi-screen laptop system for providing increased laptop functionality and productivity.

[0005] 2. Description of the Related Art

[0006] Any discussion of the prior art throughout the specification should in no way be considered as an admission that such prior art is widely known or forms part of common general knowledge in the field.

[0007] Conventional laptops include only a single display to view the program being operated by the user. Because of their limited size, the utilization of a plurality of software programs can be difficult since the user can typically only keep one program "active" while the remaining programs are "hidden" behind the active program. Some manufacturers have attempted to make a single display for a laptop that is larger to help solve this problem, however a single display simply becomes too large and cumbersome to utilize without providing the width required to operate multiple software programs side-by-side.

[0008] While conventional laptops may be suitable for the particular purpose to which they address, they are not as suitable for providing increased laptop functionality and productivity. Conventional laptop displays are typically not large enough to allow for the viewing and operation of multiple programs.

[0009] Various hardware and software enable the connection of a second external monitor to a laptop to provide improved viewing (e.g. the DUALVIEW feature of WINDOWS XP). This requires the usage of a video card capable of handling two monitors (e.g. NVIEW, GEFORCE 4MX 440 manufactured by NVIDIA CORPORATION). Video cards capable of handling multiple monitors typically have two modes. The first mode is a "clone" mode where the monitors display the identical image. The second mode is a "horizontal" mode whereby the multiple screens may act as a single large screen in a horizontal manner thus allowing for one program to be displayed on a first display and a second program to be displayed on a second display. Unfortunately, the second external monitor cannot be easily transported with the laptop and requires a separate support making it relatively bulky and cumbersome to utilize.

[0010] In these respects, the multi-screen laptop system according to the present invention substantially departs from the conventional concepts and designs of the prior art, and in so doing provides an apparatus primarily developed for the purpose of providing increased laptop functionality and productivity.

### BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0011] In view of the foregoing disadvantages inherent in the known types of laptop displays now present in the prior art, the present invention provides a new multi-screen laptop system construction wherein the same can be utilized for providing increased laptop functionality and productivity.

[0012] The general purpose of the present invention, which will be described subsequently in greater detail, is to provide a new multi-screen laptop system that has many of the advantages of the laptop displays mentioned heretofore and many novel features that result in a new multi-screen laptop system which is not anticipated, rendered obvious, suggested, or even implied by any of the prior art laptop displays, either alone or in any combination thereof.

[0013] To attain this, the present invention generally comprises a laptop having a first display and a second display movably connected to one another. The first display is pivotally attached to the second display for allowing the user to view either the first display by itself or both the first display and the second display.

[0014] There has thus been outlined, rather broadly, the more important features of the invention in order that the detailed description thereof may be better understood, and in order that the present contribution to the art may be better appreciated. There are additional features of the invention that will be described hereinafter and that will form the subject matter of the claims appended hereto.

[0015] In this respect, before explaining at least one embodiment of the invention in detail, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited in its application to the details of construction and to the arrangements of the components set forth in the following description or illustrated in the drawings. The invention is capable of other embodiments and of being practiced and carried out in various ways. Also, it is to be understood that the phraseology and terminology employed herein are for the purpose of the description and should not be regarded as limiting.

[0016] A primary object of the present invention is to provide a multi-screen laptop system that will overcome the shortcomings of the prior art devices.

[0017] A second object is to provide a multi-screen laptop system for providing increased laptop functionality and productivity.

[0018] Another object is to provide a multi-screen laptop system that can be utilized on various types of laptops.

[0019] An additional object is to provide a multi-screen laptop system that allows a user to operate multiple programs without sacrificing viewing quality.

[0020] A further object is to provide a multi-screen laptop system that expands the display of a laptop computer.

[0021] Another object is to provide a multi-screen laptop system that transitions to a compact storage structure when not in use.