a first insulating separating means is disposed between the first conductive outer layer and the second conducting means; and

a second insulating separating means is disposed between said second conductive outer layer and said conducting means;

wherein the conducting means provides a conductive path between said first conducting outer layer and said second conducting outer layer at the position of the mechanical interaction.

15. A method according to claim 14, wherein the conductivity of said outer layers is anisotropic.

16. A method according to claim 14, wherein insulating regions of adhesive with gaps therebetween hold said assembly together and provide said insulating means.

17. A method according to claim 14, wherein said outer layers have insulating yarns with a diameter larger than conducting fibres such that the functionality of said insulating layer is provided by the insulating yarns of said outer conducting layers.

18. A method according to claim 14, wherein conducting fibres of said central layer are grouped into conducting islands separated by regions of substantially higher resistivity.

19. A method according to claim 14, wherein insulating functionality is provided by said central layer for which the yarn of said central layer has a conducting fibre and insulating fibres, and said conducting fibre is recessed below the profile of the insulating fibres..

20. A method according to claim 14, wherein said insulating means is provided by said central layer comprising insulating fibres wrapped around a conducting fibre of a relatively larger diameter such that the extremities of resulting yarn provide the insulating separating means.

21. A method according to claim 14, wherein the functionality of said insulating separating means is provided by the central layer having both conducting and non-conducting elements such that, in its normal configuration, said conducting elements are separated such that conduction between said outer layer is not possible and wherein said conduction is made possible on the application of compressive force.

22. A method according to claim 14, wherein a central layer is configured from an elastomeric material and conducting fibres are embedded therein, wherein said elastomeric material provides the insulating functionality of the insulating separating means.

23. A method according to claim 14, wherein a substantially incompressible conductive material is placed between insulating material of said central layer, thereby fabricating a detector particularly sensitive to area of interaction.

24. A method according to claim 14, wherein a central conductive layer has a substantially open weave into which conductive adhesive or ink is applied thereto.

25. A method according to claim 14, in which a detector substantially sensitive to area is placed beside a detector substantially sensitive to area and force, wherein a conductive layer provides a shared layer between said two detectors.

26. A position sensor for detecting the position of an applied mechanical interaction, said mechanical interaction having an area and a force, comprising

a first fabric layer **(201)** having conductive fibres machined therein to provide a first conductive outer layer;

a second fabric layer **(202)** having conductive fibres machined therein to provide a second conductive outer layer; and

a compressible inner layer **(1002)** disposed between said first fabric layer and said second fabric layer comprising a plurality of conductive fibres or particles such that a conductive path is provided through said fibres or particles when said insulating material is placed in compression.

27. A sensor according to claim 26, wherein said inner layer is a non-woven fabric having insulating fibres and short conductive fibres, wherein the length of said conductive fibres is less than the thickness of the inner layer.

28. A sensor according to claim 26, wherein said conductive fibres or particles are held within a substantially continuous insulating material such as a silicone rubber compound.

29. A sensor according to any of claims 26 to 28, wherein the conductivity of at least one of said fabric layers is anisotropic.

30. A sensor according to claim 29, wherein said anisotropic fabric layer is manufactured by using different material types for warps and wefts of said fabric layer.

31. A sensor according to claim 29, manufactured from a warp and weft of similar fibres wherein the ratio of conductive to non-conductive fibres in said weft is different to the ratio of conductive to non-conductive fibres in said warp.

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