

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
23 June 2022 (23.06.2022)



(10) International Publication Number
WO 2022/132029 A1

- (51) **International Patent Classification:**
G05G 9/047 (2006.01) *A63F 13/24* (2014.01)
- (21) **International Application Number:**
PCT/SG2020/050760
- (22) **International Filing Date:**
17 December 2020 (17.12.2020)
- (25) **Filing Language:** English
- (26) **Publication Language:** English
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KP, KR, KW, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD,
ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO,
NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW,
SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN,
TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, WS, ZA, ZM, ZW.

- (84) **Designated States** (*unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ,
UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ,
TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK,
EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV,
MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM,
TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW,
KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report (Art. 21(3))
- in black and white; the international application as filed
contained color or greyscale and is available for download
from PATENTSCOPE

- (81) **Designated States** (*unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ,
CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DJ, DK, DM, DO,
DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN,
HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, IT, JO, JP, KE, KG, KH, KN,

(54) **Title:** DIRECTIONAL PAD ASSEMBLY AND HANDHELD CONTROLLER

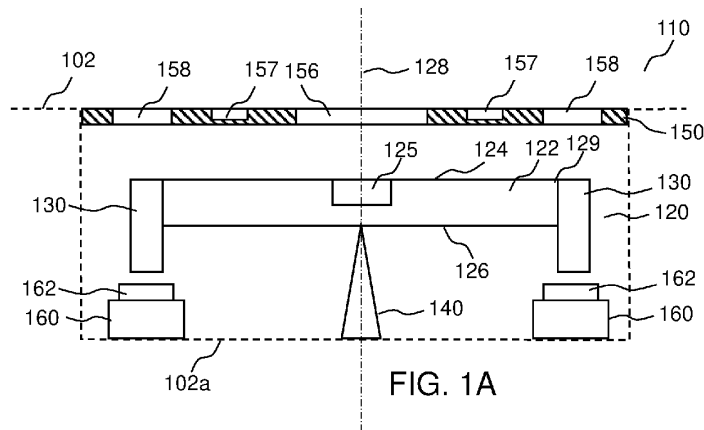


FIG. 1A

- (57) **Abstract:** A directional pad assembly including a directional-control unit having a plate-like structure and two or more plunger elements slidable relative to the plate-like structure; a main support structure to support a centre of the plate-like structure such that the plate-like structure is multi-directional tiltable; an interface frame structure suspended above the plate-like structure of the directional-control unit and in a fixed spatial relationship and non-movable relative to the main support structure; and two or more switches arranged around the main support structure and aligned to the two or more plunger elements. The directional-control unit being operable between a first mode, whereby the plate-like structure is tiltable, and a second mode, whereby the two or more plunger elements are individually slidable relative to the plate-like structure, to activate the two or more switches.

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