

KEYBOARD APPARATUS

ABSTRACT

A keyboard apparatus has two rows of multi-function keys that together bear actuation indicia for the numerals 0-9 and the letters A-Z. The actuation indicia preferably defines four rows of characters, including a first row of characters that include the numerals 0-9, and further including second, third, and fourth rows of characters that together include the letters A-Z. Summarized differently, the keyboard apparatus has rows of multi-function keys bearing actuation indicia for the numerals 0-9 and the letters A-Z. The keys in each row are vertically staggered, from the perspective of a top view in which the rows are horizontal, to define circular arrays of keys within the rows of keys. An independent feature of the keyboard apparatus is a circular array of at least six multi-function keys having triangular peripheral shapes pointing radially inward. Another independent feature of the keyboard apparatus is a multi-function key having a triangular peripheral shape and three distinct scalloped surface portions at its three corners, with the distinct scalloped surface portions bearing respective actuation indicia. The key has the peripheral shape of an equilateral triangle with rounded corners.

Fig. 10