

DUAL-FUNCTION LIGHT GUIDE FOR LCD BACKLIGHT

ABSTRACT

A portable computing device includes a housing having an external surface, and an event notifier, a display device, and a light controller disposed within the housing. The event
5 notifier includes an event notification lamp, and a light conduit terminating at the external surface for conveying light between the event notification lamp and the external surface. The display device includes illumination means for improved visualization of information rendered on the display device. The light controller is coupled to the event
10 notifier and the illumination means. The light controller is configured to determine the intensity of ambient light external to the housing via the light conduit, and to adjust the intensity of light emitted by the illumination means in accordance with the determined ambient light intensity.

No figure is to accompany the abstract when published.