

(43) International Publication Date  
19 February 2015 (19.02.2015)

## (51) International Patent Classification:

G02B 17/08 (2006.01) G02B 27/22 (2006.01)  
G02B 21/22 (2006.01) G02B 27/02 (2006.01)

## (21) International Application Number:

PCT/EP2014/067501

## (22) International Filing Date:

15 August 2014 (15.08.2014)

## (25) Filing Language:

English

## (26) Publication Language:

English

## (30) Priority Data:

1314686.5 15 August 2013 (15.08.2013) GB

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(GB).(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, DK, DM,  
DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT,  
HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, JP, KE, KG, KN, KP, KR,  
KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, 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, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM,  
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, 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, 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))

(54) Title: VIEWER WITH ENHANCED DEPTH PERCEPTION

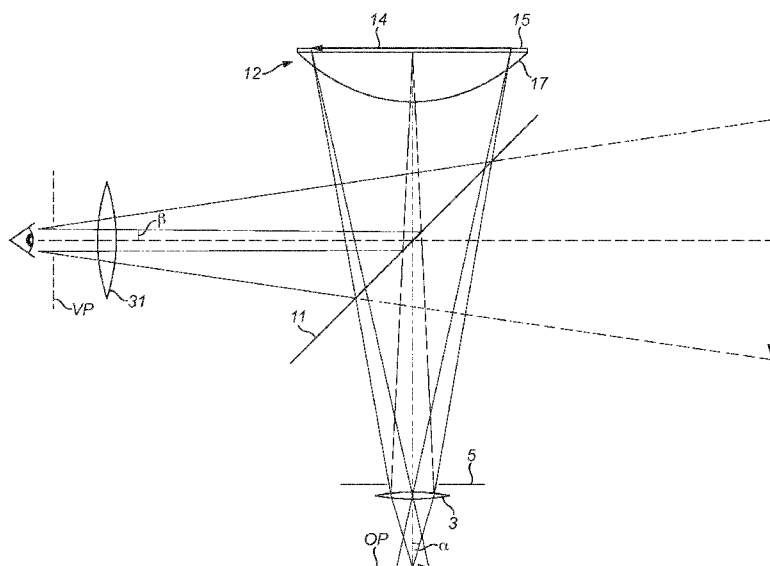


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A viewer for viewing an object under magnification, the viewer comprising : an objective lens for producing an image of an object located at an object plane and having a radial extent defined by an aperture stop; a partially- transmissive reflector for allowing transmission of light therethrough from the objective lens to a mirror arrangement and providing for reflection of light which is returned thereto from the mirror arrangement; a mirror arrangement which receives a light component from the partially- transmissive reflector, and is located such that a focussed image of the object is produced at the mirror arrangement and light received by the mirror arrangement is reflected back to the partially-transmissive reflector and relayed to produce an image of the object; a viewing lens arrangement for producing an optical image of the object which is viewable by an observer at an exit pupil at a viewing plane; wherein the objective lens has a beam path angle ( $\alpha$ ) as defined by a distance from the object plane to the objective lens and a radial extent of the aperture stop; wherein the viewer has a viewing angle ( $\beta$ ) as defined by a distance along an

optical axis from the mirror arrangement to the viewing plane and a radial extent of the exit pupil at the viewing plane; wherein the viewer is configured such that a displacement ratio of the beam path angle ( $\alpha$ ) to the viewing angle ( $\beta$ ) is at least 3 : 1, whereby the observer is provided with a greater change in depth perception of the object being observed relative to an extent of displacement of a head of the observer.