

CLAIMS

1. A flash drive with a flexible U-shaped intermediate portion that enables the flash drive to utilize a space behind a smart phone when the flash drive is connected to the smart phone, the flash drive comprising:

a body,

the body including a linear front portion that extends linearly from a U-shaped intermediate portion of the body ~~in a first direction~~, the linear front portion having a first end,

the body including a linear back portion that extends linearly from the U-shaped intermediate portion of the body ~~in a second direction~~, the linear back portion having a second end;

a mobile device connector extending from the first end of the linear front portion ~~in the first direction~~ oriented along a major axis of the linear front portion, the mobile device connector configured to connect to and communicate with the smart phone;

a full size universal serial bus (USB) connector extending from the second end of the linear back portion ~~in the second direction~~ oriented along a major axis of the linear back portion, the full size USB connector configured to connect to and communicate with a second device,

wherein the U-shaped intermediate portion is configured to cause, when the mobile device connector is connected to the smart phone with the mobile device connector in a first orientation, the full size USB connector and a portion of the linear back portion of the body to be located behind, and adjacent to the back of, the smart phone,

wherein the U-shaped intermediate portion is flexible, to enable the U-shaped intermediate portion to be bent to change a distance

between the linear front portion and the linear back portion, to accommodate a plurality of smart phones of varying thicknesses;

a printed circuit board (PCB);

a flash memory integrated circuit (IC); and

a control module that is

- a) coupled to the flash memory IC, the PCB, the mobile device connector, and the full size USB connector,
- b) configured to enable a first data received via the mobile device connector i) to be written to the flash memory IC, ii) to be read from the flash memory IC and sent to the second device via the full size USB connector, and iii) to be erased from the flash memory IC, and
- c) configured to enable a second data received via the full size USB connector i) to be written to the flash memory IC, ii) to be read from the flash memory IC and sent to the mobile device via the mobile device connector, and iii) to be erased from the flash memory IC.

2. The flash drive of claim 1, wherein the U-shaped intermediate portion is comprised of thermoplastic polyurethane (TPU).

3. The flash drive of claim 2, wherein the TPU has a Shore durometer hardness of between 70A and 90A.

4. The flash drive of claim 2, wherein the U-shaped intermediate portion is further comprised of acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS).

5. A flash drive comprising:

a body,

the body including a front portion that extends from an intermediate portion of the body ~~in a first direction along a first major axis~~, the front portion having a first end,

the body including a back portion that extends from the intermediate portion of the body ~~in a second direction~~, the back portion having a second end,

the back portion extending further from the intermediate portion ~~in the first direction along a second major axis~~ than the front portion extends from the intermediate portion ~~in the first direction~~;

a mobile device connector extending from the first end of the front portion ~~in the first direction aligned with the first major axis~~, the mobile device connector configured to connect to and communicate with a mobile device,

wherein the intermediate portion of the body is configured to cause, when the mobile device connector is connected to the mobile device with the mobile device connector in a first orientation, a majority of the back portion of the body to be located behind the mobile device;

a second connector extending from the second end of the back portion along the second major axis, the second connector configured to connect to and communicate with a second device,

wherein the intermediate portion of the body is further configured to cause, when the mobile device connector is connected to the mobile device with the mobile device connector in the first orientation, the second connector to be located behind the mobile device;

a printed circuit board (PCB);

a flash memory integrated circuit (IC); and

a control module that is

- a) coupled to the flash memory IC, the PCB, and the mobile device connector, and the second connector, and
- b) configured to enable a first data received via the mobile device connector i) to be written to the flash memory IC, ii) to be read from the flash memory IC and sent to the mobile device via the mobile device connector, and iii) to be erased from the flash memory IC.

~~6. The flash drive of claim 5, further comprising:~~

~~a second connector extending from the second end of the back portion in the second direction, the second connector configured to connect to and communicate with a second device,~~

~~wherein the intermediate portion of the body is further configured to cause, when the mobile device connector is connected to the mobile device with the mobile device connector in the first orientation, the second connector to be located behind the mobile device, and~~

~~wherein the control module is further coupled to the second connector.~~

~~7.6. The flash drive of claim 6 5, further comprising:~~

a second control module that is,

- a) coupled to the flash memory IC, the PCB, the mobile device connector, and the second connector,
- b) configured to enable the first data to be sent to the second device via the second connector, and
- c) configured to enable a second data received via the second connector i) to be written to the flash memory IC, ii) to be read from the flash memory IC and sent to the second device via the

second connector, and iii) to be erased from the flash memory IC.

~~8.7.~~ The flash drive of claim ~~7~~ 6, wherein the control module and the second control module are a same control module.

~~9.8.~~ The flash drive of claim ~~6~~ 5, wherein the mobile device connector is one of an Apple Lightning connector, an Apple 30-pin connector, an Apple Thunderbolt connector, a mini USB connector, a mini USB A-type connector, a mini USB B-type connector, a micro USB connector, a micro USB A-type connector, a micro USB B-type connector, or a UC-E6 connector, and wherein the second connector is one of a full size USB connector, a standard USB connector, a standard A-type USB connector, a B-type USB connector, a mini USB connector, a mini USB A-type connector, a mini USB B-type connector, a micro USB connector, a micro USB A-type connector, a micro USB B-type connector, or a UC-E6 connector.

~~10.9.~~ The flash drive of claim 5, wherein the intermediate portion is flexible, to enable the intermediate portion to be bent to change a distance between the front portion and the back portion, to accommodate a plurality of mobile devices of varying thicknesses.

~~11.10.~~ The flash drive of claim 5, wherein the intermediate portion is comprised of thermoplastic polyurethane (TPU).

~~12.11.~~ The flash drive of claim ~~11~~ 10, wherein the TPU has a Shore durometer hardness of between 70A and 90A.

~~13.12.~~ The flash drive of claim ~~11~~ 10, wherein the intermediate portion is further comprised of acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS).

~~14.13.~~ The flash drive of claim 5, wherein the first ~~direction~~ major axis and the second ~~direction~~ major axis are substantially parallel.

~~15-14.~~ The flash drive of claim 5, wherein the intermediate portion of the body is configured to cause a surface of the front portion of the body and a surface of the back portion of the body to be separated by between 3.0 millimeters (mm) and 7.0mm.

~~16-15.~~ The flash drive of claim 5, wherein the body is comprised of any of TPU, polypropylene, ABS, polycarbonate, aluminum, or silicone.

~~17-16.~~ The flash drive of claim 5, wherein the intermediate portion is shaped as any of a U-shape, a rectilinear U-shape, a J-shape, or a V-shape.

~~18-17.~~ The flash drive of claim 5, wherein the front portion transitions to the intermediate portion at a first transition plane that is substantially perpendicular to a line in the first direction, wherein the back portion transitions to the intermediate portion at a second transition plane that is substantially perpendicular to a line in ~~the second direction~~ along the second major axis.

~~19-18.~~ A flash drive comprising:

a body,

the body including a front portion that extends from an intermediate portion of the body ~~in a first direction~~ along a first major axis, the front portion having a first end,

the body including a back portion that extends from the intermediate portion of the body ~~in a second direction~~ along a second major axis, the back portion having a second end;

a mobile device connector extending from the first end of the front portion ~~in the first direction~~ along the first major axis, the mobile device connector configured to connect to and communicate with a mobile device;

a second connector extending from the second end of the back portion ~~in the second direction~~ along the second major axis, the second connector configured to connect to and communicate with a second device,

wherein the intermediate portion is configured to cause, when the mobile device connector is connected to the mobile device with the mobile device connector in a first orientation, the second connector and a portion of the body to be located behind the mobile device,

a printed circuit board (PCB);

a flash memory integrated circuit (IC);

a control module that is

a) coupled the flash memory IC, the PCB, the mobile device connector, and the second connector, and

b) configured to enable a first data received via the mobile device connector i) to be written to the flash memory IC, ii) to be read from the flash memory IC, and iii) to be erased from the flash memory IC.

~~20-19.~~ The flash drive of claim ~~19~~ 18, further comprising:

a second control module that is

a) coupled to the flash memory IC, the PCB, the mobile device connector, and the second connector, and

b) configured to enable the first data to be sent to the second device via the second connector.

~~21-20.~~ The flash drive of claim ~~20~~ 19, wherein the control module and the second control module are a same control module.

~~22-21.~~ The flash drive of claim ~~19~~ 18, wherein the first ~~direction~~ major axis and the second ~~direction~~ major axis are substantially parallel.

~~23-22.~~ The flash drive of claim ~~19~~ 18, wherein the intermediate portion of the body is configured to cause a surface of the front portion and a surface of the back portion to be separated by between 3.0 mm and 7.0mm.

| 24.23 The flash drive of claim 49 18, wherein the intermediate portion of the body is configured to cause, when the mobile device connector is connected to the mobile device with the mobile device connector in a second orientation, the second connector and a portion of the body to be located in front of the mobile device.