~~WHAT IS~~ CLAIM~~ED I~~S:

~~1. A mask assembly for an interface used in providing positive pressure respiratory therapy, the mask assembly comprising: a mask seal; and a mask shell that supports the mask seal; wherein the mask assembly is configured to be fully positioned lower than a bridge of a nose of a face of a user and to provide an exposed bridge of the nose of the user, the mask shell comprising a central portion and a pair of wings sweeping rearwardly of the central portion, an opening for a connector being formed in the mask shell in the central portion, the mask seal being connected to the mask shell, the mask seal comprising at least one oral opening on a lower portion and at least one nasal opening on an upper portion, the at least one oral opening being positioned opposite of the opening for the connector and the at least one nasal opening being positioned between the opening for the connector and the oral opening in a front to back direction; wherein the mask seal comprises one or more features that decouple movement of the nasal portion and the oral portion to allow relative movement therebetween at least about a longitudinal axis extending in the front to back direction of the mask seal.~~

~~2. The mask assembly of Claim 1, wherein the nasal portion of the mask seal comprises at least one nasal element configured to engage a nare of the user.~~

~~3. The mask assembly of Claim 2, wherein the at least one nasal element comprises a pair of nasal pillows that sealingly engage a respective one of the nares of the user.~~

1. An interface for use in providing positive pressure respiratory therapy, the interface comprising: a mask assembly comprising:

a mask seal and a mask shell, the mask seal comprising a nasal portion and an oral portion, and one or more features that decouple movement of the nasal portion relative to the oral portion, and

a tether having a first end portion coupled to the nasal portion and a second end portion coupled to the mask shell, wherein the tether is configured to limit movement of the nasal portion relative to the oral portion, and wherein the tether is unitarily formed with the mask seal.

2~~4~~. The ~~mask assembly of~~interface of Claim 1, wherein the nasal portion of the mask seal comprises a first paddle, a second paddle, and a nasal region having an upper support surface being positioned between the first paddle and the second paddle such that an upwardly-open

valley is defined by the first paddle, the upper support surface and the second paddle, at least a portion of ~~the~~ at least one nasal opening being positioned on the upper support surface within the valley.

~~5~~3. The ~~mask assembly~~interface of any one of Claims 1-2~~4~~, wherein the one or more features that decouple~~ing~~ movement ~~feature~~ compris~~s~~ an upper wall portion positioned directly above a lower wall portion that are movable toward and away from one another.

~~4~~6. The ~~mask assembly~~interface of Claim ~~5~~3, wherein the upper wall portion and the lower wall portion are generally linear to define a V-shape in cross-section.

~~7~~5. The ~~mask assembly~~interface of Claim ~~5~~3, wherein at least one of the upper wall portion and the lower wall portion have a curved shape in cross-section.

~~8~~6. The ~~mask assembly~~interface of any one of Claims 1-2~~4~~, wherein the one or more features that decouple~~ing~~ ~~feature~~ movement comprise~~s~~ a first wall portion and a second wall portion that are arranged at an angle relative to one another.

~~7~~9. The ~~mask assembly~~interface of Claim ~~8~~6, wherein the first wall portion and the second wall portion cooperate to define an L-shape in cross-section.

~~10~~8. The ~~mask assembly~~interface of Claim ~~9~~7, further comprising a curved wall portion between the second wall portion and a portion of the mask wall adjacent the one or more features that decouple~~ing~~ movement~~feature~~.

~~11~~9. The ~~mask assembly~~interface of Claim ~~9~~7, wherein the first wall portion is shaped similarly to a front wall of the nasal portion of the mask assembly.

~~12. The mask assembly of any one of Claims 1-10, wherein the decoupling feature includes at least a first portion and a second portion positioned on opposite lateral sides of the mask assembly.~~

~~13. The mask assembly of Claim 12, further comprising a rigid connection portion between the first portion and the second portion of the decoupling feature.~~

~~14. The mask assembly of Claim 13, further comprising a rigid strip portion positioned above the first portion and the second portion of the decoupling feature.~~

~~15. The mask assembly of Claim 12, wherein the decoupling feature further comprise additional portions on each lateral side arranged in a stacked configuration with the first portion and the second portion.~~

~~16. The mask assembly of Claim 15, wherein the portions of each stacked configuration taper in size from the lowermost to the uppermost portions.~~

1~~0~~7. The ~~mask assembly~~interface of any one of Claims 1-~~16~~9, wherein the one of more features that decouple~~ing~~ movement~~feature~~ extend~~s~~ at least to a transition between a side surface and a user-facing surface of the mask assembly.

~~18~~11. The ~~mask assembly~~interface of Claim 1~~0~~7, wherein the one of more features that decouple~~ing~~ ~~feature~~ movement extend~~s~~ into the user-facing surface of the mask assembly.

1~~2~~9. The ~~mask assembly~~interface of Claim ~~18~~11, wherein the one of more features that decouple~~ing~~ movement~~feature~~ define~~s~~ an invert point at or near the transition.

~~20~~13. The ~~mask assembly~~interface of Claim ~~19~~12, wherein the one of more features that decouple~~ing~~ movement~~feature~~ taper~~s~~ in height and or depth toward the invert point.

~~21~~14. The ~~mask assembly~~interface of any one of Claims 1-~~20~~13, wherein the one of more features that decouple~~ing~~ movement~~feature~~ comprise~~s~~ a corrugated arrangement.

~~22. The mask assembly of any one of Claims 1-21, in combination with an interface component, the combination further comprising a movement limiting arrangement that limits movement of the upper portion of the mask seal.~~

~~23. The combination of Claim 22, wherein the movement limiting arrangement comprises one of a ratchet assembly, a cowling and a tether.~~

15. The interface of any one of Claims 1-14, wherein the one or more features that decouple movement comprise a crease or bellows.

16. The interface of any one of Claims 1 to 15, wherein the tether has a length selected to restrict movement of the nasal portion.

17. The interface of any one of Claims 1 to 16, wherein the tether is rigid.

18. The interface of any one of Claims 1 to 17, wherein the second end of the tether is moveable within a slot in the mask shell.

19. The interface of any one of Claims 1 to 18, wherein the mask shell comprises a central portion, a pair of wings sweeping rearwardly of the central portion, and an opening for a connector formed in the central portion.

~~24. An interface for use in providing positive pressure respiratory therapy, the interface comprising: a mask assembly comprising a mask seal and a mask shell, the mask assembly configured to be positioned on a face of a user covering the nose and/or mouth of the user, the mask shell comprising a central portion and a pair of wings sweeping rearwardly of the central portion, an opening for a connector being formed in the mask shell in the central portion, the mask seal being connected to the mask shell, the mask seal comprising a lower portion and an upper portion, at least one oral opening being positioned on the lower portion opposite of the opening for the connector, the mask assembly comprising one or more features that decouple movement of the nasal portion and the oral portion; a frame assembly coupled to the mask assembly, the frame assembly configured for connection to a headgear; a movement limiting arrangement that limits movement of the upper portion of the mask seal.~~

~~25. The interface of Claim 24, wherein the movement limiting arrangement comprises one of a ratchet assembly, a cowling and a tether.~~

~~26. The interface of Claim 24, wherein the movement limiting arrangement is a ratchet assembly having a first ratchet portion coupled to the mask seal and a second ratchet portion coupled to the frame.~~

~~27. The interface of any one of Claims 24-26, wherein the movement limiting arrangement is centrally located.~~

~~28. The interface of any one of Claims 24-26, wherein the movement limiting arrangement comprises portions located on one or both lateral sides of the mask assembly.~~

~~29. The interface of any one of Claims 24-28, wherein the movement limiting arrangement allows downward movement of the upper portion of the mask seal.~~

~~30. The interface of Claim 29, wherein the movement limiting arrangement limits, inhibits or prevents upward movement of the upper portion of the mask seal when the upper portion is expanded or when a gas pressure within the mask seal is at or above a threshold gas pressure.~~

~~31. The interface of Claim 30, wherein the movement limiting arrangement permits upward movement of the upper portion of the mask seal when the upper portion is not expanded or when the gas pressure within the mask seal is below a threshold gas pressure.~~