(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

162162

(43) International Publication Date
22 November 2001 (22.11.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 01/88684 A1

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: G06F 3/023

(21) International Application Number: PCT/AU01/00549

(22) International Filing Date: 14 May 2001 (14.05.2001)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
35322/00 15 May 2000 (15 05.2000) AU

(71) Applicant and
(72) Inventor: **MAK, Hing, Kwok** [AU/AU], 4/24 Cressy Road, Ryde, NSW 2112 (AU).

(74) Agent: **WALSH, John, Richard**; Walsh & Associates, Patent and Trade Mark Attorneys, P.O. Box 4306, Penrith Plaza, NSW 2750 (AU)

(81) Designated States *(national)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

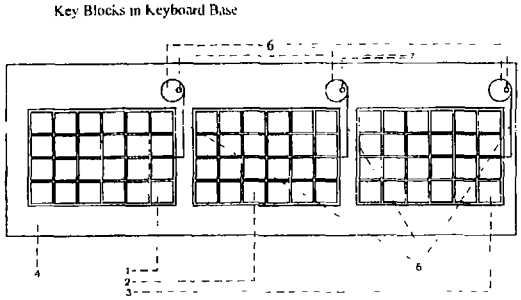
(84) Designated States *(regional)*: ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

Published:
— *with international search report*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette

G00002

(54) Title: KEYPADS FOR COMPUTERS AND TYPEWRITERS



(57) Abstract: A keystroke entry device for computers and typewriters is disclosed. The device is a 5 set of two keypads (35, 37) one for each hand, with casings (36, 38) for holding blocks of keys (1, 2 and 3). When not used in keypads, the key blocks are placed in a keyboard base (4) to become functioning parts of a keyboard. Each key block has a coiled extensible cord (5) connected to lire computer thus enabling keystroke entry at a distance. Each key block also has its own infrared beam projector system (17, I8) 10 that enables freestanding remote operation The alphabet keys are organized, into six sequential strings headed by the vowels A, E, I, O, U, and Y (Fig 4). This vowel based arrangement makes it easy to master the position of individual alphabet keys Three consecutive strings are placed in one key block, and the other three in another key block (Fig. 4: 1, 2). Punctuation keys and essential typewriting function, keys are placed in unoccupied key sites in these key blocks. Single-handed typewriting is possible when these two key blocks are put together inside casings of a single keypad. They may nevertheless be put side by side for bi manual typewriting. With tile numeral keys and calculating operation keys specifically organized in a third key block (Fig. 4· 3), this device allows single handed calculating operations. With duplicate calculating operation keys placed in another key block (Fig. 4. 2), bimanual calculating operation is possible. Alternatively key blocks may be fixed to the two keypads without using casings, the keys being variously organized to suit (46, 47 and 48) As an option keys other than the ordinary ones may be organized as removable key blocks placed inside the keyboard base to be selectively included into the keypads (Fig. 6). Other variations of the device are also disclosed, including: alternative structuring of the keypad (Fig. 5) and adaptation to accommodate conventional layout of keys 35 into three blocks.

WO 01/88684 A1