



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁷ : A63F 13/08		(11) International Publication Number: WO 00/54862
A1		(43) International Publication Date: 21 September 2000 (21.09.00)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/JP00/01577 (22) International Filing Date: 15 March 2000 (15.03.00) (30) Priority Data: 11/73970 18 March 1999 (18.03.99) JP (71) Applicant: SONY COMPUTER ENTERTAINMENT INC. [JP/JP]; 1-1, Akasaka 7-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-0052 (JP). (72) Inventors: OGATA, Hiroki ; Sony Computer Entertainment Inc., 1-1, Akasaka 7-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-0052 (JP). TAGAWA, Kazusato ; Sony Computer Entertainment Inc., 1-1, Akasaka 7-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-0052 (JP). (74) Agent: YAMAMOTO, Toshitake ; 301, Ogikubo Sunny Garden, 28-9, Ogikubo 4-chome, Suginami-ku, Tokyo 167-0051 (JP).		(81) Designated States: AU, BR, CA, CN, KR, MX, NZ, RU, SG, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published With international search report.

(54) Title: PORTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICE, AN OPERATION PANEL THEREOF, AND OPERATION METHOD OF THE PORTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICE

(57) Abstract

It is an object of the present invention to, by arbitrary selection of an operation panel, satisfy taste of a user and improve operability. A portable electronic device according to the present invention includes a main unit (101) which has operation switches, and an operation panel (150) which has operation buttons that press the operation switches and which is rotatably mounted on the main unit (101). The operation panel (150) can be freely attached to and detached from the main unit and can be replaced with another operation panel. The ability to replace the operation panel makes it possible to have multiple types of operation panels available and to select operation panels whose operation buttons are different and mount them on the main unit (10).

