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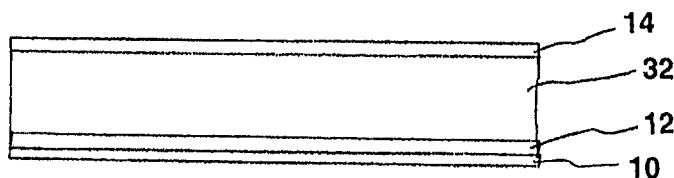
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(54) Title: SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING TACTILE SENSATION TO A ROBOTIC GRASPING MECHANISM USING CAPACITANCE TOUCHPAD TECHNOLOGY



(57) Abstract: A capacitance sensitive touchpad, wherein X and Y electrode grids are separated by a resilient but deformable material, such as a gel or other rubber-like material, wherein an object coming into contact with the touchpad causes the resilient material between the electrode grids to be compressed, and wherein the touchpad is capable of determining the change in distance between the electrode grids and thereby determine the amount

of force being applied to the touchpad to cause the detected compression of the resilient material.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(8) - G06F 15/00 (2007.01); B25J 13/00 (2007.01) USPC - 901/33 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) USPC: 901/33 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched USPC: 901/30-32, 46; 700/90; 414/1, 2, 5 Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) PubWEST(PGPB,USPT,EPAB,JPAB); Search Terms: electrode, compress, deform		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4,839,512 A (SPECK) 13 June 1989 (13.06.1989), col 4, ln 45-65, col 5, ln 27-42, col 6, ln 38-49, col 7, ln 44-54, col 9, ln 38-57, col 10, ln 62 to col 11, ln 11, col 11, ln 46-61, col 12, ln 26-39, Fig 2-3	1-15
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/>		
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. 571-273-3201		Authorized officer: Lee W. Young PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300 PCT OSP: 571-272-7774