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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
11/258,645	10/26/2005	Brennon L. White	026032-4952	2861
26371	7590	07/18/2006	EXAMINER	
FOLEY & LARDNER LLP 777 EAST WISCONSIN AVENUE MILWAUKEE, WI 53202-5306			WHITE, RODNEY BARNETT	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3636	

DATE MAILED: 07/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

11/258,645

Applicant(s)

WHITE ET AL.

Examiner

Rodney B. White

Art Unit

3636

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 April 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 19-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 19-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Applicant's arguments, see Amendment, filed 04/27/2006, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 19-30 under 102(b) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of new prior art.

Terminal Disclaimer

The terminal disclaimer filed on 04/27/2006 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 19-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 19, lines 12-13, the language "the holes located substantially the same difference from the chamber opening" is unclear and confusing language. Is Applicant attempting to define that there is more than one group of holes and that the holes in the different groups of holes are of a different size from the holes in another group, with each group of holes having each of its holes located a same distance from the chamber opening, and each group of holes having a sum total cross-sectional area, the sum total cross-sectional area of each group of holes increasing the farther they are from the chamber opening or each individual hole is increasing in size the farther they are from the chamber opening? After viewing the drawings, it appears such a configuration is what Applicant is trying to define. However, it is not clear if that is what the language on lines 12-13 actually define.

The aforementioned problem renders the claim vague and/indefinite. Clarification and/or correction is required, perhaps using similar language as suggested above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 19-30, so far as understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lord (U.S. Patent No. 5,715,695)

Lord teaches a ventilated seat assembly for use with an air mover comprising: a seat 12 having a seat base 14 and a backrest 18, at least one of the seat base and the backrest comprising a cushion and a trim cover; an generally enclosed chamber formed by a top portion 28 formed from an air-impermeable bottom portion 30 and including an opening for receiving air from the air mover, the top portion of the chamber including a plurality of holes 34 for allowing air movement through the; a spacer 50 located within the chamber, where in each of the holes has a cross-sectional area, the holes located substantially, the same distance from the chamber opening forming a group of having a total cross-sectional area, the top portion of the chamber including more than one group of holes, the total cross sectional area of each group of holes being greater than the total cross-sectional area of any group of holes nearer the chamber opening, wherein the trim cover and the top portion of the chamber are separate elements, wherein the bottom portion of the chamber and the cushion are separate elements.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 22-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lord in view of Inoue et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,450,894).

Lord teaches the structure substantially as claimed but does not teach a heater used with the vehicle seat and the "tail". However, Inoue et al teaches a heater used with moving air in a vehicle seat as well as a "tail" such as "tube 64" seen in one of its embodiments (See Fig. 1) extending outside of the cushion. It would have been obvious and well within the level of ordinary skill in the art to modify the seat, as taught by Lord, to include a heater, as taught by Inoue et al, since it would allow the seat have both cooled and heated air to allow the greatest comfort in either hot or cool weather.

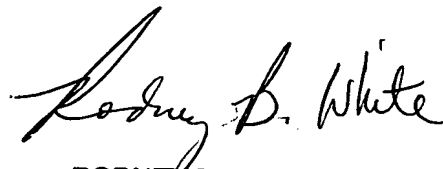
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Aoki et al teach structures similar to the present invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rodney B. White whose telephone number is (571) 272-6863. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Cuomo can be reached on (571) 272-6856. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Rodney B. White,
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3636
July 11, 2006



RODNEY B. WHITE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Date Submitted: April 27, 2006

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

6

Application Number

11/200,070

Filing Date

10/26/2005

First Named Inventor

White, Brennon L.

Group Art Unit

3636

Examiner Name

Unknown

Attorney Docket Number

026032-4952

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
RW	A1	6,929,322		Aoki et al.	08-16-2005	
	A2	6,928,829		Kamiya et al.	08-16-2005	
	A3	6,793,016	B2	Aoki et al.	09-21-2004	
	A4	6,676,207		Rauh et al.	01-13-2004	
	A5	6,629,725		Kunkel et al.	10-07-2003	
	A6	6,626,488		Pfahler	09-30-2003	
	A7	6,619,737		Kunkel et al.	09-16-2003	
	A8	6,619,736		Stowe et al.	09-16-2003	
	A9	6,578,910		Andersson et al.	07-17-2003	
	A10	6,546,578	B1	Steinmeier	04-15-2003	
	A11	6,481,801		Schmale	11-19-2002	
	A12	6,277,023		Schwarz	08-21-2001	
	A13	6,224,150		Eksin et al.	05-01-2001	
	A14	6,206,465		Faust et al.	03-27-2001	
	A15	6,186,592		Orizaris et al.	02-13-2001	
	A16	6,179,706		Yoshinori et al.	01-30-2001	
	A17	6,152,534		Maeda et al.	11-28-2000	
	A18	6,062,641		Suzuki et al.	05-16-2000	
	A19	6,059,018		Yoshinori et al.	05-09-2000	
	A20	6,048,024		Wallman	04-11-2000	
	A21	6,003,950		Larsson	12-21-1999	
	A22	5,924,767		Pietryga	07-20-1999	
	A23	5,924,766		Esaki et al.	07-20-1999	
	A24	5,921,858		Kawai et al.	07-13-1999	
	A25	5,921,314		Schuller et al.	07-13-1999	
	A26	5,921,100		Yoshinori et al.	07-13-1999	
	A27	5,918,930		Kawai et al.	07-06-1999	
	A28	5,850,648		Morson	12-22-1998	
	A29	5,833,321		Kim et al.	11-10-1998	
	A30	5,833,309		Schmitz	11-10-1998	
	A31	5,787,534		Hargest et al.	08-04-1998	
	A32	5,715,695		Lord	02-10-1998	
	A33	5,692,952		Chih-Hung	12-02-1997	
	A34	5,645,314		Liou	07-18-1997	
	A35	5,640,728		Graebe	06-24-1997	
	A36	5,626,387		Yeh	05-06-1997	
	A37	5,613,730		Buie et al.	03-25-1997	
	A38	5,613,729		Summer, Jr.	03-25-1997	
	A39	5,597,200		Gregory et al.	01-28-1997	
	A40	5,590,428		Roter	01-07-1997	
	A41	5,561,875		Graebe	10-08-1996	

Examiner Signature

Brennon L. White

Date Considered

6/7/06

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ² Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ³ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁴ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁵ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number	11/258,645
				Filing Date	10/26/2005
				First Named Inventor	White, Brennon L.
				Group Art Unit	3636
Date Submitted: April 27, 2006				Examiner Name	Unknown
(use as many sheets as necessary)				Attorney Docket Number	026032-4952
Sheet	2	of	6		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
		U.S. Patent Document			
RBW	A42	5,544,942		Khac et al.	06-04-1996
	A43	5,522,106		Harrison et al.	06-04-1996
	A44	5,416,935		Nieh	05-23-1995
	A45	5,411,318		Law	05-02-1995
	A46	5,408,711		McClelland	04-25-1995
	A47	5,385,382		Single, II et al.	01-31-1995
	A48	5,382,075		Shih	01-17-1995
	A49	5,372,402		Kuo	12-13-1994
	A50	5,370,439		Lowe et al.	12-06-1994
	A51	5,356,205		Calvert et al.	10-18-1994
	A52	5,354,117		Danielson et al.	10-11-1994
	A53	5,335,381		Chang	08-09-1994
	A54	5,292,577		Van Kerrebrouck et al.	03-08-1994
	A55	5,226,188		Liou	07-13-1993
	A56	5,211,697		Kienlein et al.	05-18-1993
	A57	5,163,737		Navach et al.	11-17-1992
	A58	5,160,517		Hicks et al.	11-03-1992
	A59	5,138,851		Mardikian	08-18-1992
	A60	5,106,161		Meiller	04-21-1992
	A61	5,102,189		Saito et al.	04-07-1992
	A62	5,079,790		Pouch	01-14-1992
	A63	5,016,302		Yu	05-21-1991
	A64	5,004,294		Lin	04-02-1991
	A65	5,002,336		Feher	03-26-1991
	A66	4,980,940		Isshiki	01-01-1991
	A67	4,981,324		Law	01-01-1991
	A68	4,946,220		Wyon et al.	08-07-1990
	A69	4,866,800		Bedford	09-19-1989
	A70	4,853,992		Yu	08-08-1989
	A71	4,852,934		Yasuda et al.	08-01-1989
	A72	4,847,933		Bedford	07-18-1989
	A73	4,729,598		Hess	03-08-1988
	A74	4,719,764		Cook	01-19-1988
	A75	4,712,832		Antolini et al.	12-15-1987
	A76	4,686,724		Bedford	09-18-1987
	A77	4,673,605		Sias et al.	06-16-1987
	A78	4,671,567		Frobose	06-09-1987
	A79	4,629,253		Williams	12-16-1986
	A80	4,589,656		Baldwin	05-20-1986
	A81	4,522,447		Snyder et al.	07-11-1985
	A82	4,509,792		Wang	04-09-1985
	A83	4,413,857		Hayashi	11-08-1983
	A84	4,259,896		Hayashi et al.	04-07-1981
RBW	A85	4,175,297		Robbins et al.	11-27-1979

Examiner Signature	<i>Looney B. White</i>	Date Considered	6/7/06
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				Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	3	of	6	Attorney Docket Number	026032-4952

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
		U.S. Patent Document				
RBW	A86	4,149,285		Stanton	04-17-1979	
	A87	4,143,916		Trotman et al.	03-13-1979	
	A88	4,141,585		Blackman	02-27-1979	
	A89	4,072,344		Li	02-07-1978	
	A90	4,060,276		Lindsay	11-29-1977	
	A91	4,043,544		Ismer	08-23-1977	
	A92	4,008,498		Thomas	02-22-1977	
	A93	4,002,108		Drori	01-11-1977	
	A94	3,987,507		Hall	10-26-1976	
	A95	3,974,532		Ecchuya	08-17-1976	
	A96	3,948,246		Jenkins	04-06-1976	
	A97	3,770,318		Fenton	11-16-1973	
	A98	3,757,366		Sacher	09-11-1973	
	A99	3,736,022		Radke	05-29-1973	
	A100	3,732,944		Kendall	05-15-1973	
	A101	3,681,797		Messner	08-08-1972	
	A102	3,638,255		Sterrett	02-01-1972	
	A103	3,628,829		Heilig	12-21-1971	
	A104	3,605,145		Graebe	09-20-1971	
	A105	3,529,310		Olmo	09-22-1970	
	A106	3,506,308		Fenton	04-14-1970	
	A107	3,486,177		Marshack	12-30-1969	
	A108	3,381,999		Steere, Jr.	05-07-1968	
	A109	3,298,046		Clementi et al.	01-17-1967	
	A110	3,144,270		Bilancia	08-11-1964	
	A111	3,137,523		Kamer	06-16-1964	
	A112	3,136,577		Richard	06-09-1964	
	A113	3,131,967		Spaulding	05-05-1964	
	A114	3,101,660		Taylor	08-27-1963	
	A115	3,101,037		Taylor	08-20-1963	
	A116	3,097,505		Smith	07-16-1963	
	A117	3,030,145		Kottemann	04-17-1962	
	A118	2,992,605		Trotman et al.	08-18-1961	
	A119	2,992,604		Trotman	07-18-1961	
	A120	2,978,972		Hake	04-11-1961	
	A121	2,976,700		Jackson	03-28-1961	
	A122	2,931,286		Fry, Sr. et al.	04-05-1960	
	A123	2,912,832		Clark	11-17-1959	
	A124	2,826,135		Benzick	03-11-1958	
	A125	2,791,956		Guest	05-14-1957	
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	A127	2,758,532		Awe	08-14-1956	
	A128	2,749,906		O'Connor	06-12-1956	
	A129	2,726,688		Chessey	12-13-1955	

Examiner Signature	<i>Rodney B. White</i>	Date Considered	6/7/06
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				Group Art Unit	3636
				Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	4	of	6	Attorney Docket Number	026032-4952

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
		U.S. Patent Document				
RBW ↑	A130	2,722,266		Kersten	11-01-1955	
	A131	2,703,134		Mossor	03-01-1955	
	A132	2,544,506		Kronhaus	03-06-1951	
	A133	2,493,303		McCullough	01-03-1950	
	A134	2,336,089		Gould	12-07-1943	
	A135	2,158,801		Petterson	05-16-1939	
	A136	2,141,271		Gerlofson	12-27-1938	
	A137	2,103,553		Reynolds	12-28-1937	
	A138	2,022,959		Gordon	12-03-1935	
	A139	2,012,042		Gerlofson et al.	08-20-1935	
	A140	1,936,960		Bowman	11-28-1933	
	A141	1,837,515		Bachrach	12-22-1931	
	A142	1,811,829		Folberth et al.	06-23-1931	
	A143	1,664,636		Mayer	04-03-1928	
	A144	1,593,086		Gaston	07-20-1926	
	A145	1,537,460		Campbell et al.	05-12-1925	
	A146	1,514,329		Metcalf	11-04-1924	
	A147	1,475,912		Williams	11-27-1923	
	A148	1,439,681		Alkire et al.	12-26-1922	
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Examiner Signature	<i>Kodney B. White</i>	Date Considered	6/7/06
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⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: April 27, 2006 (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	11/258,645
				Filing Date	10/26/2005
				First Named Inventor	White, Brennon L.
				Group Art Unit	3636
				Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	5	of	6	Attorney Docket Number	026032-4952

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		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
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Examiner Signature	<i>Kodney B. White</i>	Date Considered	6/7/06
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				Filing Date	10/26/2005
				First Named Inventor	White, Brennon L.
				Group Art Unit	3636
				Examiner Name	Unknown
				Attorney Docket Number	026032-4952
Sheet	6	of	6		

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		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
RBW RBW	A201	WO	99/50090		Johnson Controls GmbH (DE)	10-07-1999		
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Examiner Signature	<i>Robney B. White</i>	Date Considered	6/7/06
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	Examiner Rodney B. White		Art Unit 3636	Page 1 of 1

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	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

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*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
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