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<h2 style="margin: 0;">UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL</h2> <p style="font-size: small; margin-top: 10px;">(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))</p>	<i>Attorney Docket No.</i>	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON
	<i>First Inventor</i>	Anthony J. Warncke
	<i>Title</i>	CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STC
	<i>Express Mail Label No.</i>	

<b>APPLICATION ELEMENTS</b> <small>See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.</small>	<b>ADDRESS TO:</b> Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450
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<p>1. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Fee Transmittal Form</b> (e.g., PTO/SB/17)</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Applicant claims small entity status.</b>  <small>See 37 CFR 1.27.</small></p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Specification</b> [Total Pages <u>29</u> ]  <small>Both the claims and abstract must start on a new page                  (For information on the preferred arrangement, see MPEP 608.01(a))</small></p> <p>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Drawing(s)</b> (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets <u>12</u> ]</p> <p>5. <b>Oath or Declaration</b> [Total Sheets <u>6</u> ]</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newly executed (original or copy)</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> A copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d))  <small>(for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)</small></p> <p>i. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)</b>  <small>Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s)                  name in the prior application, see 37 CFR                  1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).</small></p> <p>6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Application Data Sheet.</b> See 37 CFR 1.76</p> <p>7. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>CD-ROM or CD-R</b> in duplicate, large table or                  Computer Program (Appendix)  <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD</p> <p>8. <b>Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission</b>  <small>(if applicable, items a. – c. are required)</small></p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Form (CRF)</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Specification Sequence Listing on:</p> <p>i. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or</p> <p>ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Paper</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> Statements verifying identity of above copies</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS</h3> <p>9. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Assignment Papers</b> (cover sheet &amp; document(s))                  Name of Assignee _____</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Power of Attorney</b>  <small>(when there is an assignee)</small></p> <p>11. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>English Translation Document</b> (if applicable)</p> <p>12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Information Disclosure Statement</b> (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449)  <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of citations attached</p> <p>13. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Preliminary Amendment</b></p> <p>14. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Return Receipt Postcard</b> (MPEP 503)  <small>(Should be specifically itemized)</small></p> <p>15. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)</b>  <small>(if foreign priority is claimed)</small></p> <p>16. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Nonpublication Request</b> under 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i).                  Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or equivalent.</p> <p>17. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Certification and Request for Prioritized Examination (Track 1)</u></p>
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18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in the first sentence of the specification following the title, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:

Continuation       Divisional       Continuation-in-part (CIP)      of prior application No.: 1.1/877.478.....

Prior application information:      Examiner: Garrett, Erika P.      Art Unit: 3636

**19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS**

The address associated with Customer Number: 37190      OR       Correspondence address below

Name				
Address				
City	State	Zip Code		
Country	Telephone	Email		

Signature	/Thomas L. Lockhart/	Date	2011-10-20
Name (Print/Type)	Thomas L. Lockhart	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	29324

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.53(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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<b>Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76</b>	Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON
	Application Number	
Title of Invention	CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE	
<p>The application data sheet is part of the provisional or nonprovisional application for which it is being submitted. The following form contains the bibliographic data arranged in a format specified by the United States Patent and Trademark Office as outlined in 37 CFR 1.76.</p> <p>This document may be completed electronically and submitted to the Office in electronic format using the Electronic Filing System (EFS) or the document may be printed and included in a paper filed application.</p>		

**Secrecy Order 37 CFR 5.2**

- Portions or all of the application associated with this Application Data Sheet may fall under a Secrecy Order pursuant to 37 CFR 5.2 (Paper filers only. Applications that fall under Secrecy Order may not be filed electronically.)

**Applicant Information:**

<b>Applicant 1</b>				
<b>Applicant Authority</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Inventor		<input type="radio"/> Legal Representative under 35 U.S.C. 117		<input type="radio"/> Party of Interest under 35 U.S.C. 118
<b>Prefix</b>	<b>Given Name</b>	<b>Middle Name</b>	<b>Family Name</b>	<b>Suffix</b>
	Anthony	J.	Warncke	
<b>Residence Information (Select One)</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> US Residency <input type="radio"/> Non US Residency <input type="radio"/> Active US Military Service				
<b>City</b>	Archbold	<b>State/Province</b>	OH	<b>Country of Residence</b> US
<b>Citizenship under 37 CFR 1.41(b)</b>		US		
<b>Mailing Address of Applicant:</b>				
<b>Address 1</b>	1205 Lindau Street			
<b>Address 2</b>				
<b>City</b>	Archbold	<b>State/Province</b>	OH	
<b>Postal Code</b>	43502	<b>Country</b>	US	
<b>Applicant 2</b>				
<b>Applicant Authority</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Inventor		<input type="radio"/> Legal Representative under 35 U.S.C. 117		<input type="radio"/> Party of Interest under 35 U.S.C. 118
<b>Prefix</b>	<b>Given Name</b>	<b>Middle Name</b>	<b>Family Name</b>	<b>Suffix</b>
	Jeffrey	A.	Jameson	
<b>Residence Information (Select One)</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> US Residency <input type="radio"/> Non US Residency <input type="radio"/> Active US Military Service				
<b>City</b>	Archbold	<b>State/Province</b>	OH	<b>Country of Residence</b> US
<b>Citizenship under 37 CFR 1.41(b)</b>		US		
<b>Mailing Address of Applicant:</b>				
<b>Address 1</b>	1301 S. Buehrer Street			
<b>Address 2</b>				
<b>City</b>	Archbold	<b>State/Province</b>	OH	
<b>Postal Code</b>	43502	<b>Country</b>	US	
<b>Applicant 3</b>				
<b>Applicant Authority</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Inventor		<input type="radio"/> Legal Representative under 35 U.S.C. 117		<input type="radio"/> Party of Interest under 35 U.S.C. 118
<b>Prefix</b>	<b>Given Name</b>	<b>Middle Name</b>	<b>Family Name</b>	<b>Suffix</b>
	Thomas	A.	Hagerty	
<b>Residence Information (Select One)</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> US Residency <input type="radio"/> Non US Residency <input type="radio"/> Active US Military Service				
<b>City</b>	Somerville	<b>State/Province</b>	MA	<b>Country of Residence</b> US

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

<b>Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76</b>		Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON	
		Application Number		
Title of Invention	CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE			
Citizenship under 37 CFR 1.41(b)	US			
<b>Mailing Address of Applicant:</b>				
Address 1	7 Laurel Avenue			
Address 2				
City	Somerville	State/Province	MA	
Postal Code	02143	Country	US	
All Inventors Must Be Listed - Additional Inventor Information blocks may be generated within this form by selecting the <b>Add</b> button.				<input type="button" value="Add"/>

**Correspondence Information:**

Enter either Customer Number or complete the Correspondence Information section below. For further information see 37 CFR 1.33(a).			
<input type="checkbox"/> An Address is being provided for the correspondence information of this application.			
Customer Number	37190		
Email Address	patents@varnumlaw.com	<input type="button" value="Add Email"/>	<input type="button" value="Remove Email"/>

**Application Information:**

Title of the Invention	CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE		
Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON	Small Entity Status Claimed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Application Type	Nonprovisional		
Subject Matter	Utility		
Suggested Class (if any)		Sub Class (if any)	
Suggested Technology Center (if any)			
Total Number of Drawing Sheets (if any)	12	Suggested Figure for Publication (if any)	1

**Publication Information:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Request Early Publication (Fee required at time of Request 37 CFR 1.219)
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Request Not to Publish.</b> I hereby request that the attached application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b) and certify that the invention disclosed in the attached application <b>has not and will not</b> be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing.

**Representative Information:**

Representative information should be provided for all practitioners having a power of attorney in the application. Providing this information in the Application Data Sheet does not constitute a power of attorney in the application (see 37 CFR 1.32). Enter either Customer Number or complete the Representative Name section below. If both sections are completed the Customer Number will be used for the Representative Information during processing.			
Please Select One:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Customer Number	<input type="radio"/> US Patent Practitioner	<input type="radio"/> Limited Recognition (37 CFR 11.9)

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<b>Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76</b>		Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE		
Customer Number	37190		

**Domestic Benefit/National Stage Information:**

This section allows for the applicant to either claim benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e), 120, 121, or 365(c) or indicate National Stage entry from a PCT application. Providing this information in the application data sheet constitutes the specific reference required by 35 U.S.C. 119(e) or 120, and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2) or CFR 1.78(a)(4), and need not otherwise be made part of the specification.

Prior Application Status	Pending	<input type="button" value="Remove"/>	
Application Number	Continuity Type	Prior Application Number	Filing Date (YYYY-MM-DD)
	Continuation of	11/877478	2007-10-23
Prior Application Status	Abandoned	<input type="button" value="Remove"/>	
Application Number	Continuity Type	Prior Application Number	Filing Date (YYYY-MM-DD)
	non provisional of	60/853669	2006-10-23

Additional Domestic Benefit/National Stage Data may be generated within this form by selecting the **Add** button.

**Foreign Priority Information:**

This section allows for the applicant to claim benefit of foreign priority and to identify any prior foreign application for which priority is not claimed. Providing this information in the application data sheet constitutes the claim for priority as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b) and 37 CFR 1.55(a).

<input type="button" value="Remove"/>			
Application Number	Country	Parent Filing Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	Priority Claimed
			<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No

Additional Foreign Priority Data may be generated within this form by selecting the **Add** button.

**Assignee Information:**

Providing this information in the application data sheet does not substitute for compliance with any requirement of part 3 of Title 37 of the CFR to have an assignment recorded in the Office.

**Assignee 1**

If the Assignee is an Organization check here.

Prefix	Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name	Suffix

**Mailing Address Information:**

Address 1			
Address 2			
City	State/Province		
Country	Postal Code		
Phone Number	Fax Number		
Email Address			



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<b>Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76</b>	Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON
	Application Number	
Title of Invention	CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE	

Additional Assignee Data may be generated within this form by selecting the **Add** button.

### Signature:

A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33 and 10.18. Please see 37 CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.					
<b>Signature</b>	/Thomas L. Lockhart/			Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2011-10-20
First Name	Thomas	Last Name	Lockhart	Registration Number	29324

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.76. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 23 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application data sheet form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

**CERTIFICATION AND REQUEST  
 FOR PRIORITIZED EXAMINATION (TRACK I)** (Page 1 of 1)

First Named Inventor:	Anthony J. Warncke	Nonprovisional Application Number (if known):	
Title of Invention:	CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE		

**APPLICANT HEREBY CERTIFIES THE FOLLOWING AND REQUESTS PRIORITIZED EXAMINATION (TRACK I) FOR THE ABOVE-IDENTIFIED APPLICATION.**

1. (a) The application is an original nonprovisional utility application filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(a). This certification and request is being filed with the utility application via EFS-Web.

OR

(b) The application is an original nonprovisional plant application filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(a). This certification and request is being filed with the plant application in paper. (Note: Plant applications cannot be filed via EFS-Web.)

Note: The following are excluded from the Track I program: design applications, provisional applications, national stage applications, PCT international applications, reissue applications, and reexamination proceedings.

- The following fees (in amounts consistent with the current fee schedule available at <http://www.uspto.gov/about/offices/cfo/finance/fees.jsp>) are filed with the application: (1) basic filing fee; (2) search fee; (3) examination fee; (4) any required excess claims fees; (5) any required application size fee; (6) publication fee; (7) processing fee (Track I) set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(i); and (8) prioritized examination fee (Track I) set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(c).
- An executed oath or declaration under 37 CFR 1.63 is filed with the application.
- The application contains or is amended to contain no more than four independent claims and no more than thirty total claims, and no multiple dependent claims.

Signature /Thomas L. Lockhart/	Date 2011-10-20
Name (Print/Typed) Thomas L. Lockhart	Practitioner Registration Number 29324

**Note:** Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33 and 11.18. Please see 37 CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature. If necessary, submit multiple forms for more than one signature, see below\*.

\*Total of \_\_\_\_\_ forms are submitted.

<p align="center"><b>DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN PATENT APPLICATION</b> (37 CFR 1.63)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted With Initial Filing      OR      <input type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted After Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16(f) required))</p>	Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg P1US3-CON
	First Named Inventor	WARNCKE, Anthony J.
	COMPLETE IF KNOWN	
	Application Number	
	Filing Date	
	Art Unit	
Examiner Name		

I hereby declare that: (1) Each inventor's residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to their name; and (2) I believe the inventor(s) named below to be the original and first inventor(s) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention titled:

CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE

(Title of the Invention)

the application of which

is attached hereto

OR

was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) \_\_\_\_\_ as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number \_\_\_\_\_ and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified application, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

**Authorization To Permit Access To Application by Participating Offices**

If checked, the undersigned hereby grants the USPTO authority to provide the European Patent Office (EPO), the Japan Patent Office (JPO), the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), the World Intellectual Property Office (WIPO), and any other intellectual property offices in which a foreign application claiming priority to the above-identified patent application is filed access to the above-identified patent application. See 37 CFR 1.14(c) and (h). This box should not be checked if the applicant does not wish the EPO, JPO, KIPO, WIPO, or other intellectual property office in which a foreign application claiming priority to the above-identified patent application is filed to have access to the above-identified patent application.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.14(h)(3), access will be provided to a copy of the above-identified patent application with respect to: 1) the above-identified patent application-as-filed; 2) any foreign application to which the above-identified patent application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) if a copy of the foreign application that satisfies the certified copy requirement of 37 CFR 1.55 has been filed in the above-identified patent application; and 3) any U.S. application-as-filed from which benefit is sought in the above-identified patent application.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.14(c), access may be provided to information concerning the date of filing the Authorization to Permit Access to Application by Participating Offices.

This collection of information is required by 35 U.S.C. 115 and 37 CFR 1.63. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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## DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application

### Claim of Foreign Priority Benefits

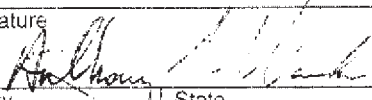
I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				YES	NO
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional foreign application number(s) are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

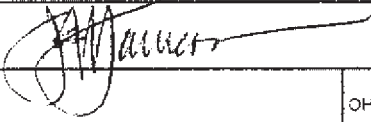
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## DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application

Direct all correspondence to:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The address associated with Customer Number:	<input type="checkbox"/>	OR	<input type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence address below
		37190				
Name						
Address						
City			State		Zip	
Country		Telephone		Email		
<b>WARNING:</b>						
<p>Petitioner/applicant is cautioned to avoid submitting personal information in documents filed in a patent application that may contribute to identity theft. Personal information such as social security numbers, bank account numbers, or credit card numbers (other than a check or credit card authorization form PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes) is never required by the USPTO to support a petition or an application. If this type of personal information is included in documents submitted to the USPTO, petitioners/applicants should consider redacting such personal information from the documents before submitting them to the USPTO. Petitioner/applicant is advised that the record of a patent application is available to the public after publication of the application (unless a non-publication request in compliance with 37 CFR 1.213(a) is made in the application) or issuance of a patent. Furthermore, the record from an abandoned application may also be available to the public if the application is referenced in a published application or an issued patent (see 37 CFR 1.14). Checks and credit card authorization forms PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes are not retained in the application file and therefore are not publicly available. Petitioner/applicant is advised that documents which form the record of a patent application (such as the PTO/SB/01) are placed into the Privacy Act system of records DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMERCE-PAT-7, System name: <i>Patent Application Files</i>. Documents not retained in an application file (such as the PTO-2038) are placed into the Privacy Act system of COMMERCE/PAT-TM-10, System name: <i>Deposit Accounts and Electronic Funds Transfer Profiles</i>.</p>						
I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.						
NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR:			<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor			
Given Name (first and middle [if any])			Family Name or Surname			
Anthony J.			WARNCKE			
Inventor's Signature			Date			
			10/19/11			
Residence: City		State	Country		Citizenship	
Archbold		OH	US		US	
Mailing Address						
1205 Lindau Street						
City		State		Zip		Country
Archbold		OH		43502		USA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional inventors or a legal representative are being named on the <u>1</u> supplemental sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A or 02LR attached hereto						

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

<b>DECLARATION</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S)</b> Supplemental Sheet
	Page 1 of 1

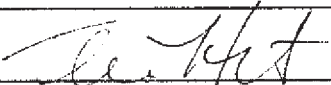
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle (if any))		Family Name or Surname	
Jeffrey A.		JAMESON	
Inventor's Signature 		Date 10/17/2011	
Archbold Residence: City	OH State	US Country	US Citizenship
1301 S. Buehrer Street Mailing Address			
Archbold City	OH State	43502 Zip	USA Country
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle (if any))		Family Name or Surname	
Thomas A.		HAGERTY	
Inventor's Signature		Date	
Somerville Residence: City	MA State	US Country	US Citizenship
7 Laurel Avenue Mailing Address			
Somerville City	MA State	02143 Zip	USA Country
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle (if any))		Family Name or Surname	
Inventor's Signature		Date	
Residence: City	State	Country	Citizenship
Mailing Address			
City	State	Zip	Country

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**DECLARATION****ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S)  
Supplemental Sheet**Page 1 of 1

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## DECLARATION – Supplemental Priority Data Sheet

Foreign applications:

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				YES	NO
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CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

- [0001]** This application is a continuation of United States Patent Application Serial No. 11/877,478 filed October 23, 2007, which claims priority of United States Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/853,669, filed October 23, 2006.

STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT

- [0002]** Not applicable.

REFERENCE TO MICROFISHE APPENDIX

- [0003]** Not applicable.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

- [0004]** The invention relates to seating units and more specifically, to multi-functional or reconfigurable chairs and the like. Known multi-functional or multi-tasking seating tends toward two general groups, namely, relatively complicated arrangements and relatively less complicated arrangements.

- [0005]** The more complicated designs typically attempt to address many common functional needs; all things to all users. Therefore, they tend to sacrifice a characteristic of being “user friendly” and require notable user involvement. The user may be required to accommodate a variety of components, which may be bulky. The multi-functional seating may also require an uncommon level of mechanical aptitude to adapt the seating between functional configurations.

**[0006]** Alternatively, the less complicated designs tend to be targeted to fairly narrowly defined functions. Thus, they are novelty or specialty seating units that are undesirable to any user who does not have a need for the particular function to which the seating was designed.

**[0007]** Thus, a need for easily used and versatile seating that fills a reasonable combination of common lifestyle uses may be readily understood.

#### BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

**[0008]** Accordingly, a chair with a coupling companion stool base of the invention is directed to the contemporary lifestyle needs of active users, including a range of functions from task seating at a work surface to casual relaxation. While suitable in any environment, a multi-tasking seating unit of the invention is particularly appreciated in smaller room settings, where space may be at a premium, where dedicated use furnishing may be considered undesirable, or where flexibility is appreciated.

**[0009]** The chair portion has a frame that may be supported above a generally horizontal surface by the base, which base releasably couples with the frame. More specifically, the frame has a lower portion that may support a sitting portion, which sitting portion is adapted to support a user who is seated upon the chair, and has an upper portion that may support a back rest, which back rest is adapted to support at least a portion of a back of the user. The frame lower portion extends from the upper portion and may further include a first portion that is near the frame upper portion, a second portion that is spaced away from the first portion, a claw that extends generally downward from the second portion, a latch that extends generally downward from the first portion, and at least two frame legs that extend generally downward from the frame lower portion. The frame legs are adapted to support the frame upon a generally horizontal supporting surface. In other aspects of the invention, the latch is connected with the frame first portion

and moves between closed and opened positions.

**[0010]** The base has a saddle and extends generally upward from the supporting surface to the saddle. The saddle may be configured with opposite back and front edges. The saddle front edge may be configured to cooperate with the frame lower portion claw, so that the front edge may be releasably captured in the claw, while the saddle back edge may be configured to cooperate with the frame lower portion latch whereby the back edge may be releasably captured by the latch. When the frame is decoupled from the base, the frame forming the chair portion is adapted for use as casual floor rocker seating, and the base is adapted to provide a companion stool upon which a user may sit or, alternatively, a side table which may be positioned adjacent to the chair portion.

**[0011]** The saddle can further include a top surface that faces away from the supporting surface, as it defines at least one of a work surface, a writing surface and a sitting surface. The frame can also include a receptacle defined between the claw and the latch. The saddle of the base includes a perimeter edge incorporating the back and front edges, and circumscribing the top surface. The edge defines the top surface with a rotationally asymmetric geometry. The frame lower portion receptacle and the saddle perimeter edge correspond with one another so that the base couples with the frame only in one specific rotational orientation.

**[0012]** The chair can further include a bias member, which biases the latch to the closed position. The frame can include opposite left and right sides, with a first one of the two frame legs extending generally arcuately downward from the frame lower portion left side and second portion, and to the frame lower portion left side and first portion. A second one of the two frame legs extends generally arcuately downward from the frame lower portion right side and second portion, and to the frame lower portion right side and first portion. The frame legs define rockers. Further, the rockers can define protective rails about the latch. In addition, the latch can be

located between the two frame legs, so that the legs define protective rails about the latch.

**[0013]** With the frame having opposite left and right sides, the claw can include a claw notch, a first tooth extending toward the left side from the notch, and a second tooth extending toward the right side from the notch. The saddle front edge can include a pair of cooperating claw notches. With the asymmetric configuration, the first tooth and the second tooth can be engaged with the saddle only through an engagement of the first tooth with a first one of the cooperating claw notches, and the second tooth with a second one of the cooperating claw notches. Further, the claw notch can be centered along the claw. With the frame decoupled from the base, the saddle top surface can be adapted to be oriented in front of the frame, with a first base leg of the plurality of base legs initially positionable under the claw, so that with the claw straddling the first base leg, the first base leg is adapted to nest into the claw notch.

**[0014]** The base can further include a pedestal extending generally upwardly from the supporting surface to the saddle. The pedestal can include a connector that operably connects the saddle with the pedestal, with the connector including at least one of a tilt mechanism, whereby the saddle tilts relative to the pedestal, and a swivel mechanism whereby the saddle swivels relative to the pedestal.

**[0015]** In accordance with a further aspect of the invention, the relative cooperation between the spaced apart teeth and the cooperating claw notches, and the sizing and configuration thereof, causes forces to be generated along the engagement points of the spaced apart teeth and the cooperating claw notches which tend to resist disengagement of the spaced apart teeth from the cooperating claw notches. This occurs when a user of the chair may exert backwardly directed or other leaning forces on the chair frame. Further, the base can include a set of triangular shaped ribs extending downwardly behind the back edge of the saddle. The positioning



and configuration of the ribs behind the saddle back edge tend to generate forces resistive to accidental engagement of the chair to the frame, which may otherwise result in the latch not fully engaging with the cooperating latch notch, or from horizontal forces being exerted on the frame relative to the base which could tend to accidentally disengage the notch. Still further, a latch ramping surface can be positioned at the saddle back edge.

**[0016]** In addition to the foregoing, the chair includes means for insuring that a sound audible to a chair user is generated when the latch is moved from a disengaged position to a completely engaged position with the saddle back edge. In this manner, the user is provided with positive feedback that correct engagement of the latch with the saddle back edge has been achieved. These and other features, objects, and benefits of the invention will be recognized by one having ordinary skill in the art and by those who practice the invention, from this disclosure, including the specification, the claims, and the drawing figures.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING

**[0017]** FIG. 1 is an upper front right perspective view of a chair with a coupling companion stool base of the invention, showing the chair portion and the companion stool base portion coupled in a task chair configuration;

**[0018]** FIG. 2 is a front elevation view thereof;

**[0019]** FIG. 3 is a back elevation view thereof;

**[0020]** FIG. 4 is a left side elevation view thereof;

**[0021]** FIG. 5 is a right side elevation view thereof;

**[0022]** FIG. 6 is a bottom plan view thereof;

- [0023]** FIG. 7 is a lower left front perspective view thereof;
- [0024]** FIG. 8 is a lower back left perspective view thereof;
- [0025]** FIG. 9 is a fragmentary right side elevation view thereof, showing coupling / uncoupling of the chair portion and the coupling companion stool base portion, with the chair portion partially in cross section; and;
- [0026]** FIG. 10 is the view of Figure 9, showing the chair portion and the coupling companion stool base portion uncoupled;
- [0027]** FIG. 11 is an enlarged view of detail XI of Figure 9;
- [0028]** FIG. 12 is the view of Figure 11, with the chair and the base portions coupled;
- [0029]** FIG. 13 is an enlarged view of detail XIII of Figure 11;
- [0030]** FIG. 14 is the detail view of Figure 13 with the base portion removed;
- [0031]** FIG. 15 is an enlarged detail view of the positive clip clamp latch of Figure 8; and
- [0032]** FIG. 16 is an exploded view thereof, from an upper right back perspective view;
- [0033]** FIG. 17 is an exploded view of the chair portion, from an upper right back perspective view, showing a frame and upholstery foundations and coverings thereof;
- [0034]** FIG. 18 is an upper right back perspective view of the uncoupled companion stool base portion together with an upper left front perspective view of the uncoupled chair portion, showing the two portions nested and the companion stool base portion providing a table function;
- [0035]** FIG. 19 is an upper left front perspective view of the uncoupled companion stool base portion together with an upper right back perspective view of the uncoupled chair portion;
- [0036]** FIG. 20 is an upper front right perspective view of the uncoupled companion stool base portion thereof;
- [0037]** FIG. 21 is an upper back right perspective view thereof;

**[0038]** FIG. 22 is a lower left back perspective view thereof; and

**[0039]** FIG. 23 is an exploded right back perspective view thereof.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION

**[0040]** A preferred embodiment of a chair with a coupling companion stool base according to the invention is generally shown in the drawing comprising FIGS. 1 - 23, and discussed below. The exemplary embodiment shown comprises two main portions, namely, a chair portion 100 and a base portion 300. (See e.g., FIGS 1, 2).

**[0041]** The chair portion 100 may be formed with a frame 102, which has an upper portion 104 and a lower portion 106 (FIG. 18). The frame 102 and the various components of the chair portion 100, unless otherwise noted, may be constructed of any suitable material, including structural materials that incorporate at least one of a plastic, a wood, a metal, and a ceramic, and of any method or process that may be appropriate to the material selected as may be known to one having ordinary skill in the chair fabrication art.

**[0042]** The upper portion 104 provides a back rest to support at least a portion of a back of a user. The upper portion may be configured as is known in what may be called “hard surface” chairs or seating, to be sufficiently comfortable or otherwise accommodating on its own. Otherwise, a padded or otherwise plush covering may preferably be provided as is shown. The upper portion 104 with the back rest is particularly shown in the exploded view of FIG. 17. With reference thereto, an upholstered back rest may include a foundation 112 and an upholstered covering 114 that may slip fit over the foundation, as shown and without limitation on the concept of the invention. The covered foundation 112 may then be secured to the upper portion 104 through various methods, including decorative hardware 116 (also shown in FIG. 17), such as screws as shown.

**[0043]**

The frame lower portion 106 extends away and primarily forward from the frame upper portion 104. As further shown, for example, in FIG. 12 and the exploded view of FIG. 17, the frame lower portion 106 has a frame lower portion first portion 122 near the frame upper portion 104, and a frame lower portion second portion 124 that is spaced away from the first portion. In the example of this disclosure, the lower portion 106 is fabricated with opposite left and right side rails 108 and 118, respectively. One or both of the side rails 108 and 118 may be seen in a number of the drawings, including FIGS. 4, 5, and 17. A number of cross ties 110 of various cross section, including some with a generally V-channel, extend between the side rails 108, 110. The cross ties 110 are illustrated in FIGS. 9, 11-13 and 17. Other features of the frame lower portion 106 include a sitting portion which will be described in greater detail in subsequent paragraphs herein. In addition, the frame lower portion 106 includes a claw 142 extending generally downwardly. The claw 142 is illustrated in FIGS. 9, 10, 13 and 14. Still further, the frame lower portion 106 includes a clip clamp latch 160 which is shown in FIG. 15 and, in particular detail, in FIGS. 16 and 17. In addition to the clip clamp latch 160, the frame lower portion 106 also includes at least two frame legs 180 (see FIGS. 18 and 19 among others) and a receptacle 190 (FIG. 6).

**[0044]**

The sitting portion supports the user who is seated thereupon. Quite similar to the back rest portion of the upper portion 104, discussed above, the sitting portion may be configured as is known in “hard surface” chairs, to be sufficiently comfortable or accommodating on its own. Alternatively, an upholstered sitting portion may preferably be provided, and may include a foundation 132 (particularly shown in the exploded view of FIG. 17) and an upholstered covering 134 that may slip fit over the foundation. The upholstered covering 134 is shown in several of the illustrations, including FIGS. 9-14 and 17. The covered foundation 132 may then be secured to the frame lower portion 106 through various methods as discussed above relative to

the back rest, including decorative hardware 136, such as screws as shown in FIG. 17.

**[0045]** The claw 142 (illustrated in FIGS. 9, 10, 13 and 14) extends generally downward from the frame lower portion 106, near the second portion 124 of the frame lower portion 106, and is adapted for cooperating releasable engagement with the base 300. More specifically, and as will be discussed in greater detail in subsequent paragraphs herein, the claw 142 will function so as to releasably engage with a saddle 310 of the base 300. The saddle 310 is illustrated in many of the figures, including FIGS. 4, 5, 9-13 and 18-23. With reference again to the claw 142, it may be configured with a flange-like member 144 that extends toward the first portion 122. Of course, this is a specific configuration of an exemplary preferred embodiment, and one having ordinary skill in the art understands from this disclosure that a broad variety of adaptations of the claw and saddle interaction element of the invention may be made within the concept of the invention. The claw 142 may be considered to define an at least somewhat arcuate member, including smoothly arcuate and broken angular configurations. The claw 142 as shown also extends laterally between the left and the right rails, 108 and 118 respectively. The claw 142 is, thereby, cleverly incorporated in the structure of lower portion as a cross tie 110, in the example shown.

**[0046]** In another aspect of the claw 142, a notch 146 may be provided for nesting accommodation with a leg of the base 300, discussed further below (FIGS. 2, 6 and 7). Thus, the notch 146 may preferably be generally centered along the claw 142, between the rail 108 and 118. So defined, the notched claw 142 may be said to include a first tooth 148 that extends toward the left side from the notch, and a second tooth 148 (with the teeth being shown in FIGS. 9, 10, 11, 13 and 14) that extends toward the right side from the notch. It is further noted that the claw 142 as shown incorporates user safety considerations at least insofar as the cooperating geometry of the claw 142 with the saddle 310 tends to engage the chair portion 100 with the base portion 300, so

the chair portion 100 will not tilt or rotate backward apart from the base.

**[0047]** The clip clamp latch 160 is illustrated in a number of the drawings, including FIGS. 3, 6, 8, 9-12 and 15-17. In particular, the latch 160 is shown in a "stand alone" view in FIG. 16. More specifically, the clip clamp latch 160 extends generally downward from the frame lower portion 106, near its first portion 122, and is adapted for cooperating releasable engagement with the base 300 and more specifically with the saddle 310 of the base, discussed further below. While the claw 142 is shown as a fixed member, at least one of the claw 142 and the latch 160 is preferably a movable member so that the chair portion 100 and the base 300 are releasably coupled. Thus, the latch 160 may, for example, be hingedly connected with the first portion of 122. However, it should be emphasized that other types of connections may be utilized, without departing from the principal concepts of the invention. As shown particularly in FIG. 16, the latch 160 may be considered as presented with a general configuration of a length of a stylized L-channel or V-channel, having a first leg 162 and a second leg 164, each extending outward from an apex 166.

**[0048]** The apex 166 defines a hinge or pivot point of the latch 160, so the latch 160 hinges between closed and opened positions. In the closed position, the latch 160 extends relatively closer to the frame lower portion second portion 124. Conversely, the latch extends relatively farther from the second portion 124 in the opened position. Further, a bias member 170 preferably biases the latch to the closed position (FIGS. 16 and 17). As particularly shown in FIG. 16, the bias member 170 is shown as a generally U-shaped spring member with a bight portion 172 and a leg 174 extending in the same general direction from each end of the bight portion 172. Each leg 174 may also incorporate a helical coil spring that aligns with the pivot point 166 of the latch 160. When assembled as shown, the bias member legs 174 press against the latch first leg 162 and rotate the latch 160 generally forward toward the second portion 124.



**[0049]** The latch first leg 162 defines a handle or actuator with which a user may actuate or open the latch, rotating the latch about the latch pivot 166 and generally away from the frame lower portion second portion 124, to release the chair and the base portions. The latch second leg 164 defines a clamping portion of the latch that engages and clasps the saddle 310 as discussed further below. As with the claw 142, the latch 160 shown is another specific configuration of an exemplary preferred embodiment and one having ordinary skill in the art understands from this disclosure that a broad variety of adaptations of the claw and saddle interaction element of the invention may be made within the concepts of the invention.

**[0050]** As shown in several views, and as particularly apparent from FIGS. 17, 18 and 19, the legs 180 of the chair portion 100 extend generally downward from the frame lower portion 106 and are adapted to support the frame upon a generally horizontal supporting surface. The legs 180 may have various configurations. Given an inherent relatively shortened geometry of the chair portion 100 when uncoupled from the companion stool base portion 300 and set upon the supporting surface, it is anticipated that a user who is seated in the chair will naturally and commonly tend to tilt the chair portion generally backward. Thus, the legs 180 are desirably configured as rockers, defining the chair portion as a floor rocker. The legs 180 may be described as extending generally arcuately downward from the frame lower portion second portion 124 to the first portion 122, and along each of a left and a right side of the chair. Further, the legs 180 are preferably artfully incorporated into the chair frame 102 and extend to stops 182 at a very back of the frame lower portion 106, near where the upper portion 104 and the lower portion 106 meet (FIGS. 1, 4-7, 11, 12, 16, 18 and 19). The stops 182 may preferably be placed and contoured so as to provide a comfortable and positive stop to backward rocking of the chair, and so that the user may not unsafely rock the chair completely backward. Yet, a limit to backward rocking of the

chair is most preferably not abrupt. It is also noted at this point that the latch 160 may be tucked-in or located between the legs 180, which extend beyond the latch 160, so that the legs 180 define protective rails about the latch 160.

**[0051]** The receptacle 190 corresponds with the saddle 310 and is defined between the claw 142 and the latch 160, which may be said to define end boundaries (FIG. 6). The frame lower portion left and right side rails 108 and 118, respectively, may also be said to define side boundaries. With the bounds so identified, the receptacle 190 may be seen to have a generally trapezoidal geometry. The corresponding geometry of the receptacle 190 and the saddle 310 may be selected for unitary keying alignment of the chair portion 100 with the base portion 300, among other considerations. Cooperating engagement of the receptacle 190 with the saddle 310, and thus releasable coupling of the chair and the base portions 100, 300, respectively, is discussed further below.

**[0052]** More specific details of the base portion 300 will now be described, particularly with respect to FIGS. 18-23. The base portion 300 releasably couples with the frame 102 and is adapted to support the frame 102, and thus the chair portion 100, above a generally horizontal supporting surface. One having ordinary skill in the art understands that a broad variety of adaptations of chair bases, including categories of legged, sled, and pedestal, are available to support a chair frame above the supporting surface. What may be commonly known as a five legged pedestal base is generally shown in the drawing figures of the exemplary preferred embodiment.

**[0053]** The base 300 extends generally upward from the supporting surface to the saddle 310. The base stands upon the surface with a star foundation that has five legs 330 as shown generally throughout the drawing, although other numbers of legs is known. Each of the legs 330 extends radially out from a center vertical axis to a pad 332, although a caster, for example, may be

used in the alternative. A post 334 extends along the vertical axis from the foundation to a chair control or position mechanism 340 (FIGS. 22, 23). The post 334 may be an extensible member, including a screw mechanism, a pneumatic mechanism, and the like. The chair control 340 may be adapted to provide tilt or swivel movements as is known. A height adjustment control with an actuator 342 may also be incorporated in the chair control 340. As shown generally in the drawing, the saddle 310 and the chair control 340 are adapted to mount the saddle 310 on top of the chair control 340 with screw fasteners 350 and the like, although this is not a limitation of the invention. Thus, the chair control 340 may be a connector that operatively connects the saddle 310 with the pedestal 334 and may provide at least one of a tilting movement of the saddle 310 relative to the pedestal 334 and a swivel movement of the saddle 310 relative to the pedestal. Further, coupling of the chair portion 100 with the saddle 310 may also provide tilt or swivel movements of the chair portion 100.

**[0054]** The saddle 310 is shown configured as a generally planar member and may invoke a very general concept of a thick board. The saddle 310 is not just any board, however. More specifically, the saddle 310 has a top surface 312 that faces away from the supporting surface (FIGS. 18-21). A perimeter edge circumscribes the top surface 312 and includes opposite front and back edges 314 and 316, respectively, of the saddle 310 (FIGS 18-23). The front edge 314 cooperates with the frame lower portion claw 142 whereby the front edge is releasably captured in the claw. The back edge 316 cooperates with the frame lower portion latch 160 whereby the back edge is releasably captured by the latch. The front and the back edges 314, 316 are also instrumental in defining the top surface 312 with a rotationally asymmetric geometry in the exemplary embodiment shown. A rotationally asymmetric geometry is significant to provide a keyed coupling of the chair portion 100 with the base portion 300, and most preferably a unitary

keyed coupling with one alignment.

**[0055]** The saddle 310 has a generally trapezoidal geometry that cooperates with the receptacle 190 (the receptacle 190 being shown in FIG. 6). As contrasted with a square peg that may couple in one of four orientations with a corresponding square hole, a triangular peg having an equilateral cross section that may couple in one of three orientations with a corresponding triangular hole, or a rectangular peg coupling in one of two orientations with its corresponding rectangular hole, a trapezoidal peg couples in one orientation with a corresponding trapezoidal hole. Thus the saddle 310 is shown with a generally trapezoidal plan view for a rotationally asymmetric geometry to key the chair portion 100 and the base portion 300 in one relative orientation. Of course, geometries other than trapezoidal may be chosen by one who uses the invention. The inventor has found the trapezoidal geometry to be most convenient in use, however.

**[0056]** In use, the chair portion 100 and the base portion 300 may be separate, with the chair portion 100 providing casual floor rocker seating (FIGS. 18 and 19). The base portion 300 may be engaged by the user or another user in several functions, including a companion stool upon which a user may sit and a side table. Therefore, the saddle top surface 312 may define at least one of a work surface, a writing surface, and a sitting surface. The base portion 300 may commonly be oriented in front of the chair when employed as a writing surface or other work surface (FIGS. 19 and 20). For closest proximity of the top surface 312, a user who is seated in the chair may orient the star foundation with one of its legs 330 extending toward the chair 100. So oriented, the selected one of the legs may extend under the claw 142. By providing the notch 146, the chair may rock forward over the leg with the claw straddling the leg, which leg nests into the notch 140 between the teeth 148. More specifically, with the claw 142 including the claw notch 146 generally centered along the claw 142 and with the frame 102 decoupled from the base portion 300, the

saddle top surface 312 is adapted to be oriented in front of the frame 102. With this orientation, a first one of the base legs 330 is initially positionable under the claw 142, so that with the claw 142 straddling the first one of the base legs 330, the first one of the base legs 330 is adapted to nest into the claw notch 142.

**[0057]** Alternatively, the chair portion 100 may releasably couple with the base portion 300 and provide a task chair or desk chair for a user (FIGS. 1-8). Coupling of the chair with the base is easily accomplished by manipulating the chair so the saddle front edge 314 slides toward and into the claw 142, which is of course from a perspective of the chair portion. In actual practice, the base 300 will typically be stationary while the chair moves under manipulation.

**[0058]** The rotationally asymmetric geometry of the base saddle 310 and the frame lower portion receptacle 190 may be best appreciated at this point at least insofar as such a geometry requires one functional alignment and engagement of the chair and the base portions. The receptacle 190 and the saddle 310 correspond with one another so that the saddle couples with the receptacle 190 in one rotational orientation, namely, with the saddle front edge 314 releasably captured in the claw 142 and the saddle back edge 316 releasably captured by the latch 160. As stated in another manner, and as previously described herein, the frame 102 includes the receptacle 190 defined between the claw 142 and the notch 146. The saddle 310 of the base portion 300 includes the perimeter edge incorporating the front and back edges 314, 316, respectively. The perimeter edge circumscribes the top surface 312 and defines the top surface 312 with a rotationally asymmetric geometry. With this geometry, the frame lower portion receptacle 190 and the saddle perimeter edge correspond with one another, so that the base portion 300 couples with the frame 102 only in one specific rotational orientation.

**[0059]** The chair portion 100 may then be rocked or pivoted generally backward to engage the latch 160 with the saddle back edge 314. As the chair rotates backward, the latch second leg 164 may strike or otherwise engage the saddle back edge and ramp open. Thus, a latch ramping surface may preferably be provided at the saddle back edge. Alternatively, a user may manually manipulate the latch, with its first leg 162, to the open position. With the chair at rest in a position of being coupled with the base, the latch bias 170 holds the latch in the closed position.

**[0060]** For enhanced coupling of the saddle 310 in the receptacle 190, cooperating claw notches 322 may be formed in the saddle front edge 312 and a cooperating latch notch 324 may be formed in the saddle back edge 314. The claw notches 322 facilitate secure engagement of the claw 142 with the saddle front edge 314 and may be significant relative to resisting forces that may develop when a user leans or rocks backward. The latch notch 146 may help the latch 160 resist forces that may tend to open the latch. Further, triangular shaped ribs, or the like, also preferably extend downward, behind the saddle back edge, to further prevent horizontal forces from unintentionally opening the latch. It is also noted that the saddle 310 may support the cross-ties 110 in abutting engagement, when the chair portion 100 and base portion 300 are coupled, to enhance stability of the task chair configuration (FIGS 13, 14). To further explain the foregoing concepts, and as generally described herein, the claw 142 can include a pair of spaced apart teeth extending along the left and right sides of the frame 102. A pair of cooperating claw notches 322 are formed in the saddle front edge 314, and the front edge 314 is releasably captured in the claw 142 through engagement of the teeth with the cooperating claw notches 322. This relative cooperation between the spaced apart teeth and the cooperating claw notches 322, and the sizing and configuration thereof, causes forces to be generated along the engagement point of the spaced apart teeth 148 and the cooperating claw notches 322 which tend to resist disengagement of the



teeth 148 from the claw notches 322 when a user of the chair makes backwardly directed or other leaning forces on the chair frame 102. Still further, the positioning and the configuration of the triangular shaped ribs beyond the saddle back edge 316 will tend to generate forces resistant to accidental disengagement of the chair portion 100 from the frame 102 which may otherwise result from a latch not fully engaging with the cooperating latch notch, or from horizontal forces being exerted on the frame 102 relative to the base portion 300, which could tend to accidentally disengage the latch 160.

**[0061]** In addition to the foregoing, other concepts associated with a chair with coupling companion stool base in accordance with the invention may be generally stated. As earlier described, and as one of the advantages in accordance with certain aspects of the invention, the frame 102 forming the chair portion 100 is adapted for use as casual floor rocker seating. In combination with this rocker seating, the base portion 300 is adapted to provide a companion stool upon which a user may sit or, alternatively, a side table which may be positioned adjacent to the chair portion 100.

**[0062]** As also previously described, the base portion 300 includes a pedestal or post 334 which extends generally upward from the supporting surface to the saddle 310. This pedestal or post 334 includes a connector which operatively connects the saddle 310 with the pedestal or post 334. The connector, as previously described herein, can include a tilt mechanism so that the saddle 310 may be tilted relative to the post 334. Also, the connector can include a swivel mechanism, so that the saddle 310 swivels relative to the pedestal or post 334.

**[0063]** Still further, the concept of utilizing the clip clamp latch 160 for purposes of engaging the frame 102 to the back edge 316 of the saddle 310 has been described in substantial detail. However, another concept in accordance with the invention relates to a safety feature of

providing audible "notice" to the user that correct engagement of the latch 160 with the back edge 316 has been achieved. More specifically, with the components of the latch 160 and the saddle 310 as described herein, the proper engagement will result in a "click" which will be of a sufficient volume and frequency so as to be audible to a user. This audible click can be achieved with the components as described herein, with the use of appropriate materials and with proper sizing and configuration thereof.

**[0064]** One having ordinary skill in the art and those who practice the invention will understand from this disclosure that various modifications and improvements may be made without departing from the spirit of the disclosed inventive concept. One will also understand that various relational terms, including left, right, front, back, top, and bottom, for example, are used in the detailed description of the invention and in the claims only to convey relative positioning of various elements of the claimed invention. The scope of protection afforded is to be determined by the claims and by the breadth of interpretation allowed by law.

## CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE

### CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A combination of a chair and a stool base portion, said chair comprising:
  - an upper portion providing a backrest for support for a first user;
  - a lower portion connected to said upper portion and having a sitting portion for supporting said first user in a seated position, and at least one base leg located below said sitting portion;
  - said stool base portion adapted to support said chair, and comprising a saddle adapted to releasably engage said chair;
  - said combination is configurable in a first configuration with said chair being coupled to said saddle, and said sitting portion being positioned above said saddle;
  - said combination is manually convertible between said first configuration and a second configuration, where said second configuration comprises said chair having said at least one base leg, while still functioning as a chair for said first user, and said stool functioning so that said saddle is accessible to said first user as a work surface or, alternatively, so that said saddle is accessible to a second user as a sitting surface; and
  - said combination is manually convertible between said first configuration and said second configuration without requiring any manual manipulation of bolts, screws or nuts, or the use of any tools by said first user.
  
2. The combination of a chair and a stool base portion in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that:

said lower portion comprises a first portion near said upper portion, a second portion spaced away from said first portion, a claw extending generally downward from said second portion, a latch extending generally downward from said first portion, the latch being connected with said first portion and moving between closed and open positions;

said chair further comprises at least two of said base legs extending generally downward;

said base portion extends generally upward to said saddle, said saddle having opposite back and front edges, with said front edge cooperating with said lower portion claw, so that said front edge is releasably captured in said claw, and said back edge cooperates with said lower portion latch so that said back edge is releasably captured by said latch.

3. The combination of a chair and a stool base portion in accordance with claim 2, characterized in that said claw comprises a plurality of teeth, said teeth comprising at least a first tooth and a second tooth, both of said teeth releasably engaging said saddle and providing alignment of said chair and said base portion when engaged.

4. The combination of a chair and a stool base portion in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that when said chair is decoupled from said base, the baseportion is adapted for use as casual floor rocker seating.

5. The combination of a chair and a stool base portion in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that the saddle further comprises a top surface that faces upward, and that defines at least one of a working surface, a writing surface and a sitting surface.

6. The combination of a chair and a stool base portion in accordance with claim 2, characterized in that:

the chair further comprises a receptacle defined between the claw and the latch;

the saddle further comprises a top surface and a perimeter edge incorporating the back and front edges, circumscribing the top surface and defining the top surface with a rotationally asymmetric geometry; and

the lower portion receptacle and the saddle perimeter edge correspond with one another so that the base couples with the frame only in one specific rotational orientation.

7. The combination of a chair and a stool base portion in accordance with claim 2 further including a bias member that biases the latch to the closed position.

8. The combination of a chair and a stool base portion in accordance with claim 2 wherein the frame has opposite left and right sides, a first of the two base legs extends generally arcuately downward from the lower portion left side and second portion, and from the lower portion left side and first portion, and a second of the two base legs extends generally arcuately downward from the frame lower portion right side and second portion, and from the frame lower portion right side and first portion, whereby the base legs define rockers.

9. The combination of a chair and a stool base portion in accordance with claim 6 wherein the rockers define protective rails about the latch.

10. The combination of a chair and a stool base portion in accordance with claim 2 wherein the latch is located between the two base legs, so that the legs define protective rails about the latch.

11. The combination of a chair and a stool base portion in accordance with claim 2 wherein the chair has opposite left and right sides and wherein the claw includes each of a claw notch, a first tooth that extends toward the left side from the notch, and a second tooth that extends toward the right side from the notch.

12. The combination of a chair and a stool base portion in accordance with claim 11, characterized in that:

the chair further comprises a receptacle defined between the claw and the latch;

the saddle further includes a top surface that is sized and shaped with a rotationally asymmetric geometry;

the receptacle and a perimeter edge of the saddle correspond with one another so that the base portion couples with the frame in a rotationally asymmetric configuration;

the saddle front edge includes a pair of cooperating claw notches; and

with the asymmetric configuration, the first tooth and second tooth can be engaged with the saddle only through the engagement of the first tooth with a first one of the cooperating claw notches and the second tooth with a second one of the cooperating claw notches.

13. The combination of a chair and a stool base portion in accordance with claim 2, characterized in that:

the saddle further includes a top surface;

the base portion includes a plurality of lower legs for supporting the base portion;

the claw includes a claw notch generally centered along the claw; and

with the chair decoupled from the base portion, the saddle top surface is adapted to be oriented in front of the frame, and a first lower leg of the plurality of lower legs is initially positionable under the claw, so that with the claw straddling the first leg, the first leg is adapted to nest into the claw notch.

14. The combination of a chair and a stool base portion in accordance with claim 1 wherein the base portion further includes a pedestal that extends generally upward to the saddle and includes a connector that operatively connects the saddle with the pedestal, the connector including at least one of a tilt mechanism whereby the saddle tilts relative to the pedestal and a swivel mechanism whereby the saddle swivels relative to the pedestal.

15. The combination of a chair and a stool base portion in accordance with claim 2, characterized in that:

the claw includes a pair of spaced apart teeth comprising a first tooth extending toward the left side of the chair and a second tooth extending toward the right side of the chair;

a pair of cooperating claw notches are formed in the saddle front edge whereby the front edge is releasably captured in the claw through engagement of the first tooth with a first one of the cooperating claw notches and the second tooth with a second one of the cooperating claw notches; and



the relative cooperation between the spaced apart teeth and the cooperating claw notches, and the sizing and configuration thereof, cause forces to be generated along the engagement points of the spaced apart teeth and the cooperating claw notches which tend to resist disengagement of the spaced apart teeth from the cooperating claw notches when a user of the chair may exert backwardly directed or other leaning forces on the chair frame.

16. The combination of a chair and a stool base portion in accordance with claim 2, characterized in that:

the base portion further includes a set of triangular shaped ribs extending downwardly behind the back edge of the saddle; and

the positioning and configuration of the triangular shaped ribs behind the saddle back edge tend to generate forces resistive to accidental disengagement of the chair from the frame which may otherwise result from the latch not fully engaging with the cooperating latch notch, or from horizontal forces being exerted on the chair relative to the base which could tend to accidentally disengage the latch.

17. The combination of a chair and a stool base portion in accordance with claim 2, characterized in that a latch ramping surface is positioned at the saddle back edge.

18. The combination of a chair and a stool base portion in accordance with claim 2, characterized in that the latch and the saddle are sized and configured so that when the latch is moved from a disengaged position to a completely engaged position with the saddle back edge, the physical contact occurring between the latch and saddle back edge generates a sound audible

to a chair user, thereby providing the user with positive feedback that correct engagement of the latch with the saddle back edge has been achieved.

19. A combination of a chair and a stool base portion, said chair comprising:

an upper portion providing a backrest for support for a first user;

a lower portion connected to said upper portion and having a sitting portion for supporting said first user in a seated position, and at least one base leg located below said sitting portion;

said stool base portion adapted to support said chair, and comprising a saddle adapted to be releasably engaged with said chair;

said combination is configurable in a first configuration with said chair being coupled to said saddle, and said sitting portion being positioned above said saddle;

said combination is manually convertible between said first configuration and a second configuration, where said second configuration comprises said chair still functioning as a chair for said first user, and said stool functioning so that said saddle is accessible to said first user as a work surface or, alternatively, so that said saddle is accessible to a second user as a sitting surface; and

said at least one base leg is sized and structured so as to permit a rocking motion of said chair when said combination is in said second configuration.

20. A combination of a chair and a stool base portion, said chair comprising:

a sitting portion;

base legs attached to and depending downwardly from said sitting portion,  
said base legs being spaced laterally from one another;  
said stool base portion comprising floor engaging members and a saddle located generally at a top of said base portion;  
said sitting portion including manually operable means for releasably engaging said chair from said base portion;  
said chair and said stool base portion are configurable in a first configuration in which said chair is releasably coupled to said saddle by said engaging means; and  
said chair and said stool being configurable in a second configuration wherein said chair and said stool base portion are disconnected, said chair is supported by said chair legs, and said base portion is positioned so as to serve as a side table or work surface, or as a stool for seating a second user.

21. A combination of a chair and a stool base portion, said chair comprising:
- an upper portion providing a backrest for support for a first user;
  - a lower portion connected to said upper portion and having a sitting portion for supporting said first user in a seated position, and at least one base leg located below said sitting portion;
- said stool base portion comprising a saddle releasably engaged with said chair;
- said combination is configurable in a first configuration with said chair being coupled to said saddle, and said sitting portion being positioned above said saddle;
- said combination is manually convertible between said first configuration and a second configuration, where said second configuration comprises said chair being supported on said at

least one base leg supported on said horizontal surface, while still functioning as a chair for said first user, and said stool base portion functioning so that said saddle is accessible to said first user as a work surface or, alternatively, so that said saddle is accessible to a second user as a sitting surface; and

said saddle of said base portion comprises a top surface and a perimeter edge circumscribing said top surface and defining said top surface with a rotationally asymmetric geometry.

22. A combination of a chair and stool base portion in accordance with claim 21, characterized in that said chair further comprises:

at least two base legs attached to and depending downwardly from said lower portion, said base legs being spaced laterally from one another and creating an open space between said base legs on an underside of said sitting portion;

said stool base portion further comprises a plurality of chair legs radiating outwardly, for supporting said base portion;

when said combination is in said second configuration, said chair and said stool base portion are disconnected, said chair is supported by said base legs, and said stool base portion is located in front of said chair with at least one of chair legs projecting underneath said chair, between said laterally spaced base legs, whereby a user can be seated in said chair and can use said saddle base as a work surface.

23. A combination of a chair and stool base portion in accordance with claim 22, characterized in that said base legs are sufficiently long so that the front of said chair allows said

one of said chair legs to extend beneath said sitting portion, but sufficiently short so that when said chair is mounted on said base portion, said base legs do not engage any support surface.

## CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A chair with a coupling companion stool base includes a frame that has: a claw extending downward from a second portion of a lower portion of the frame; a latch extending downward from and movably connected with a first portion of the lower portion; two legs adapted to support the frame upon a supporting surface extending downward from the lower portion; and a receptacle defined between the claw and the latch. The base supports the frame above a supporting surface and has a saddle with opposite back and front edges and a top surface that faces away from the supporting surface. The top surface may also define at least one of a work surface, a writing surface, and a sitting surface. The base releasably couples with the frame, having the saddle seated in the receptacle, the front edge seated in the claw, and the back edge captured by the latch. When decoupled, the chair portion may be used as casual floor rocker seating.

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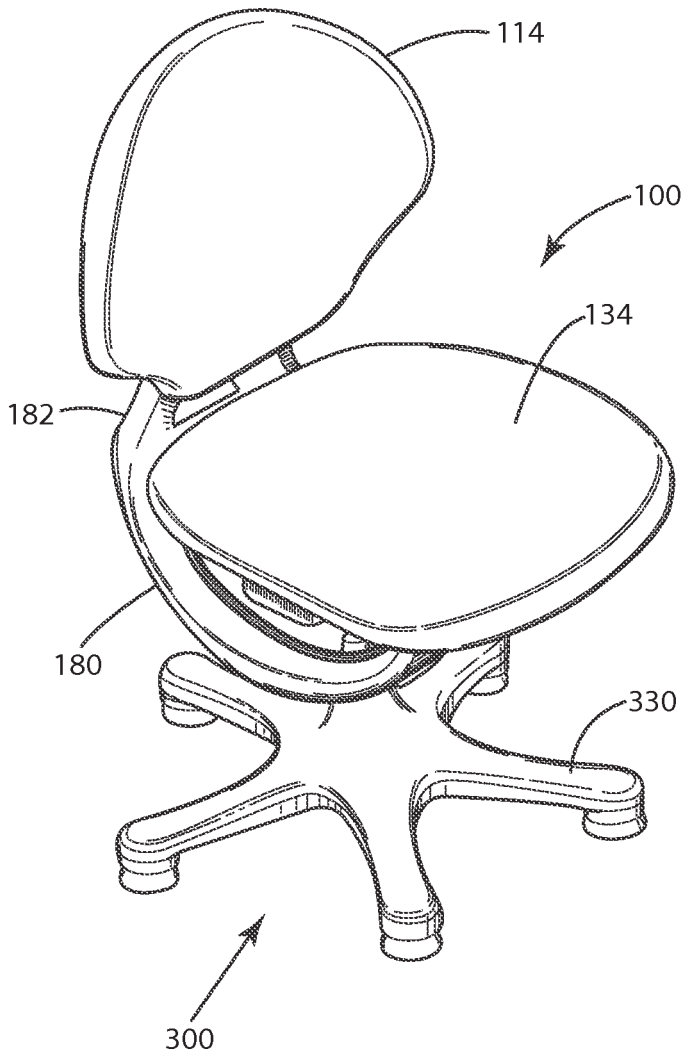


Fig. 1

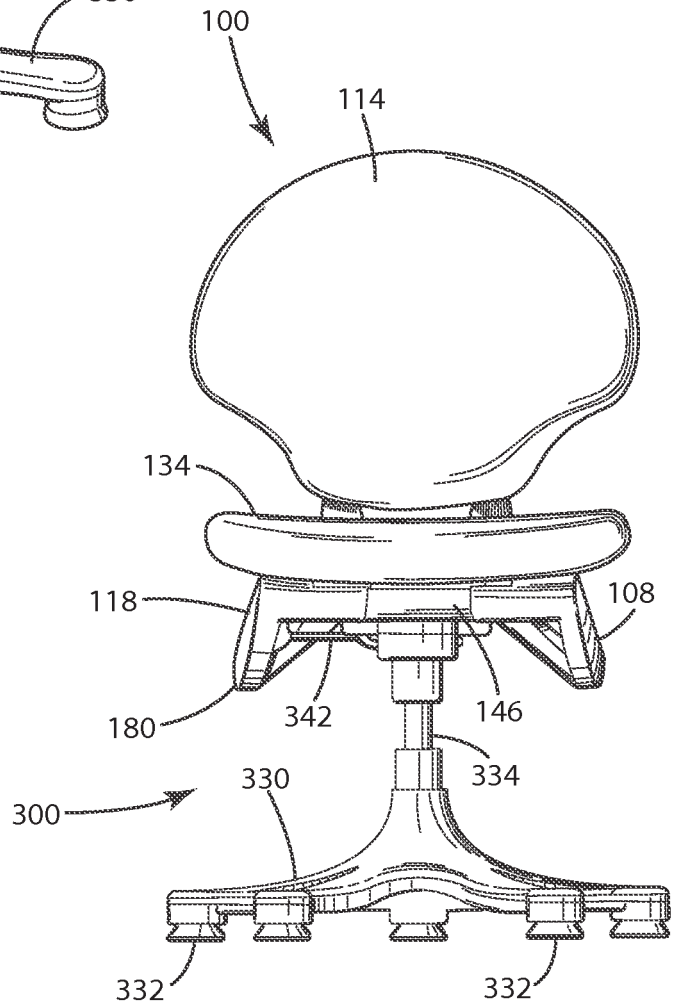


Fig. 2



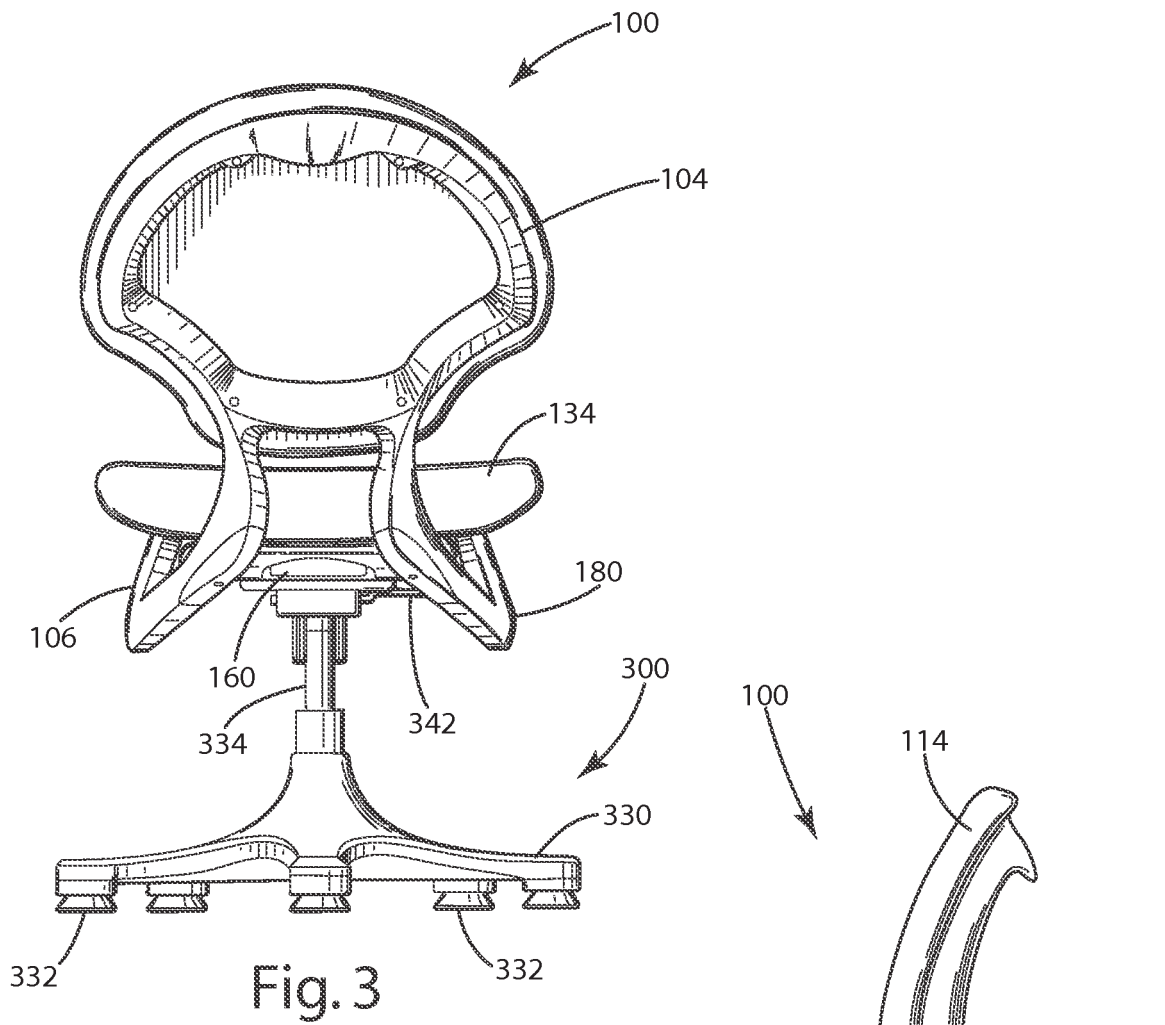


Fig. 3

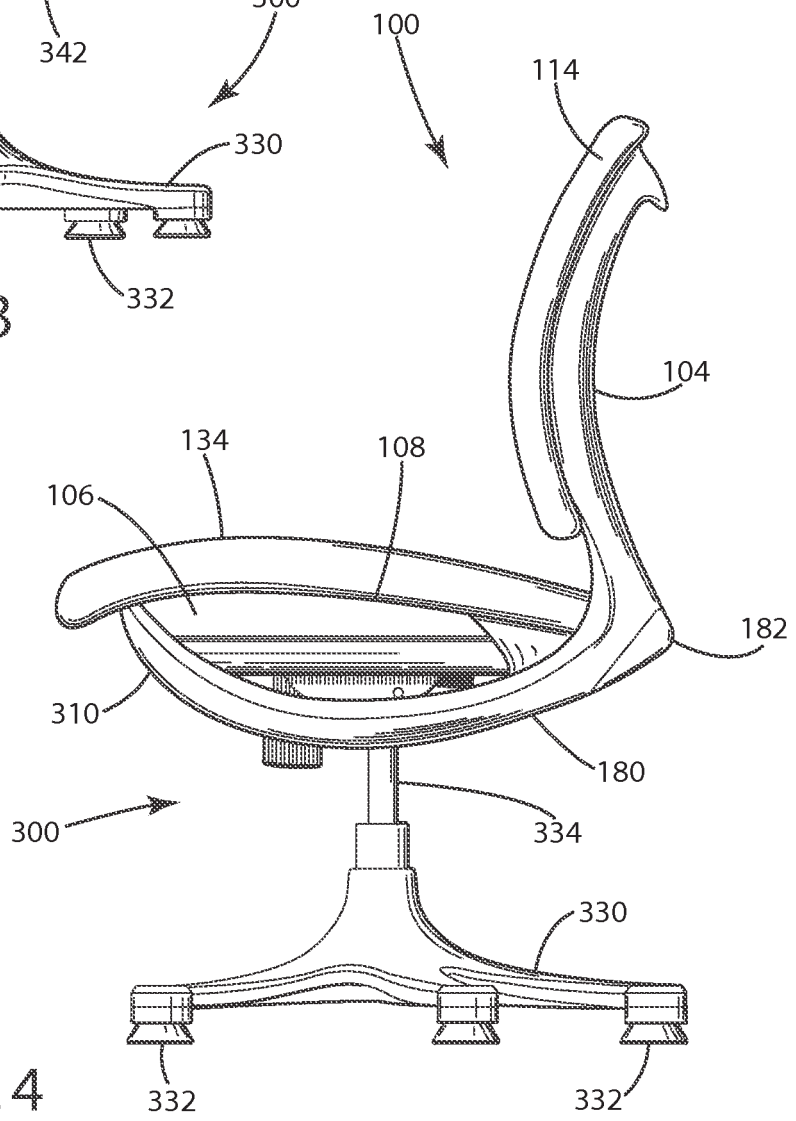


Fig. 4

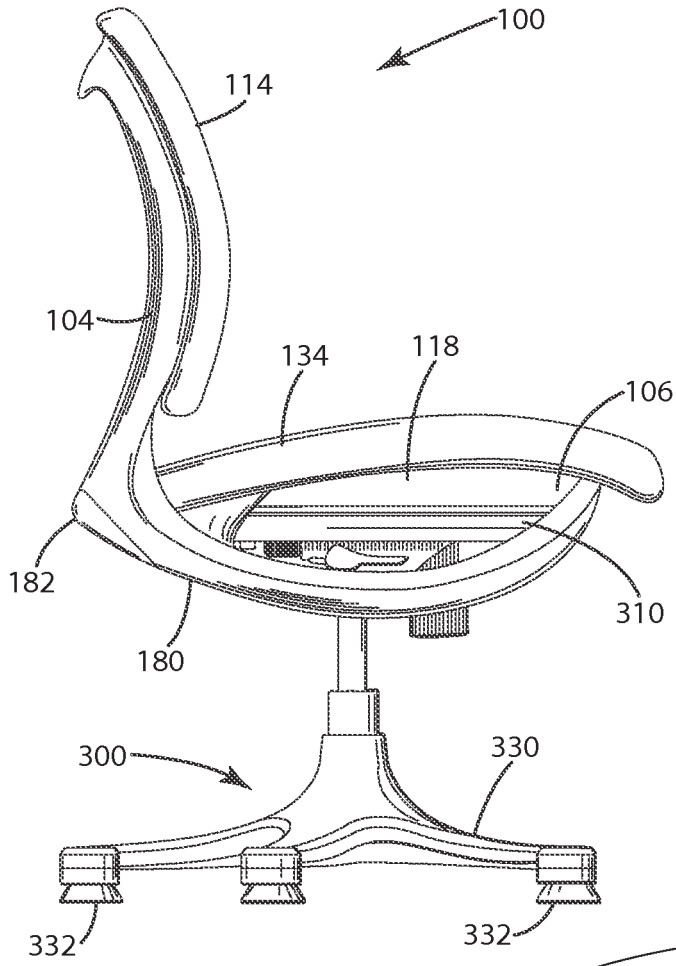


Fig. 5

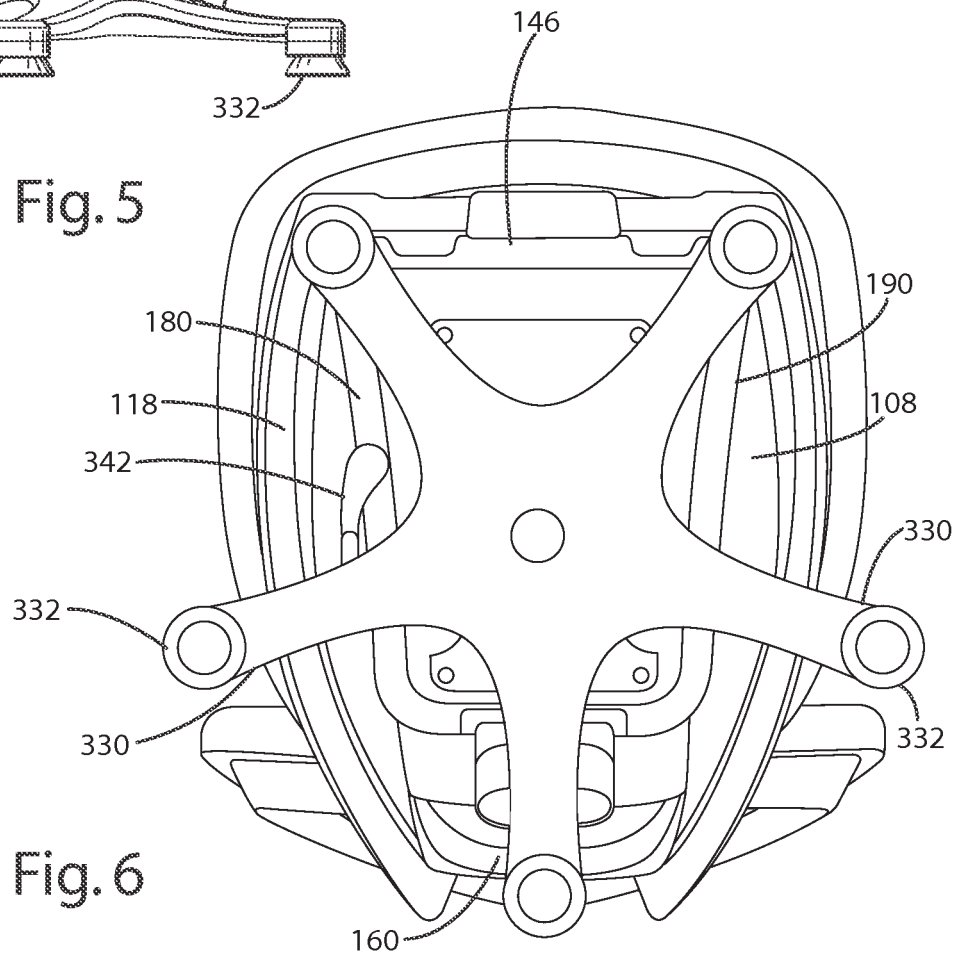


Fig. 6

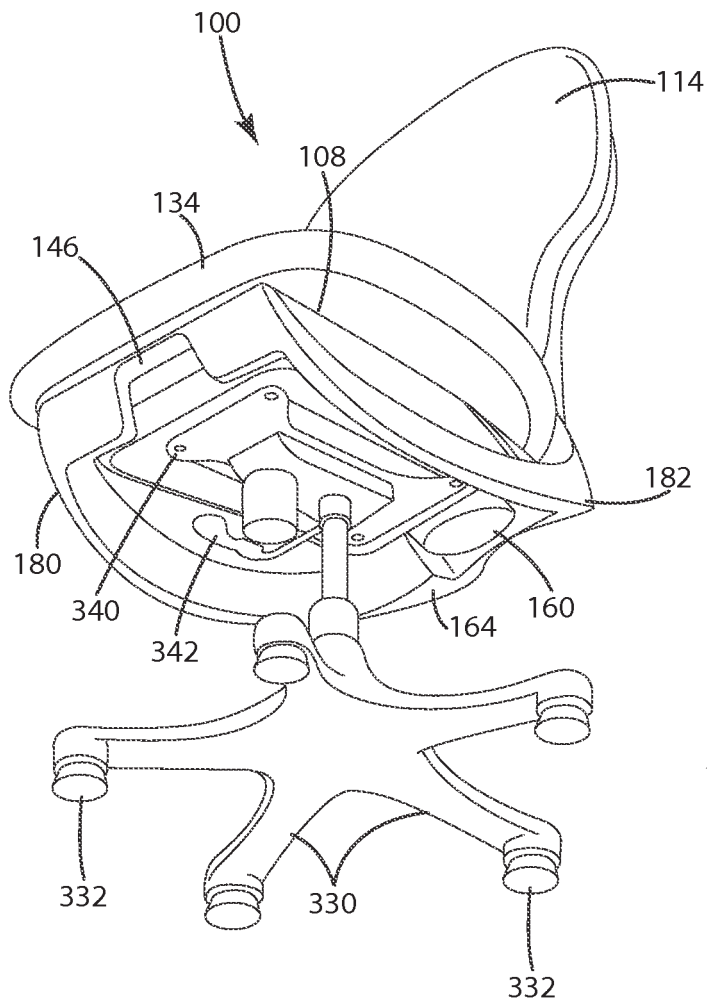


Fig. 7

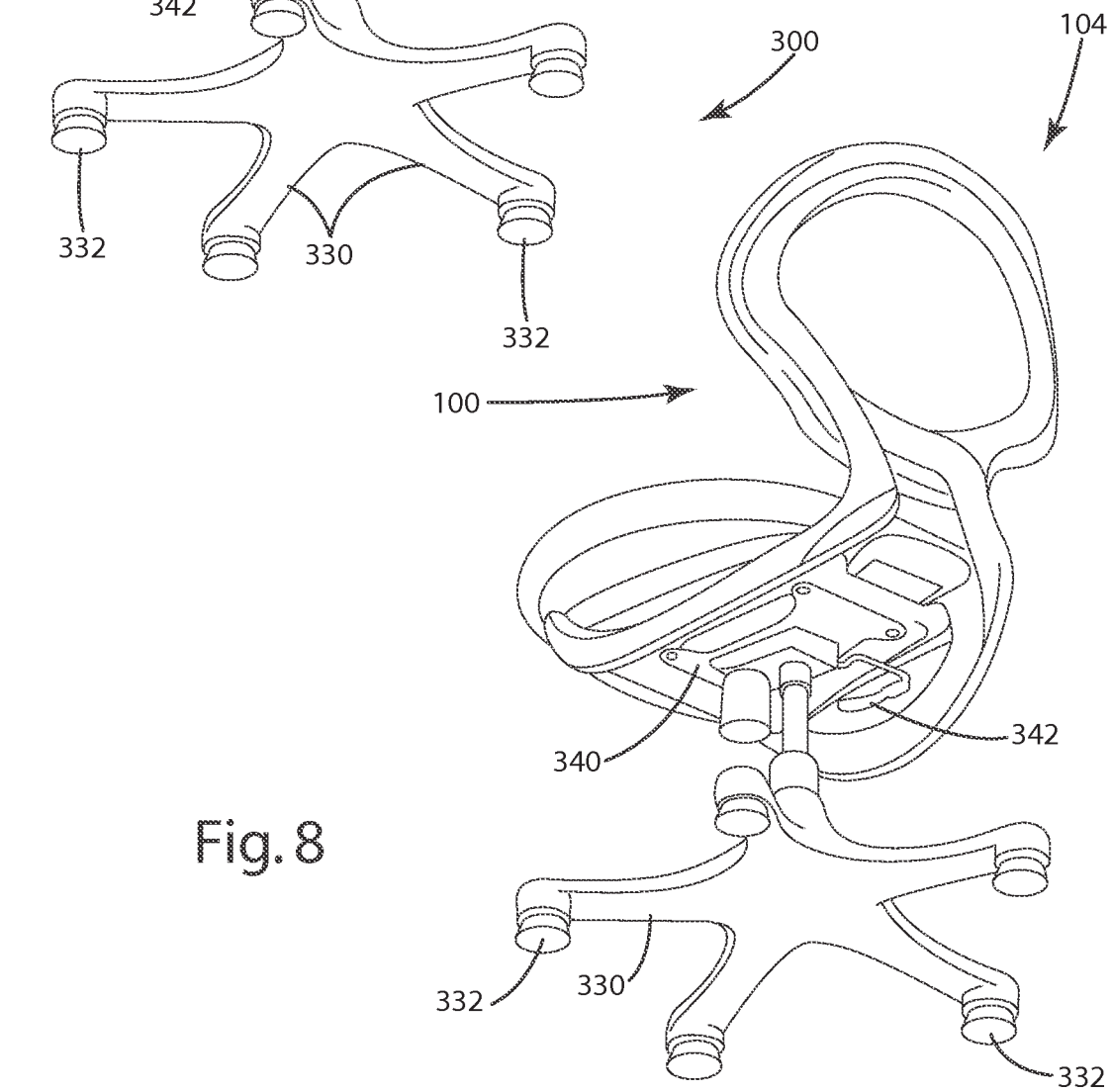


Fig. 8

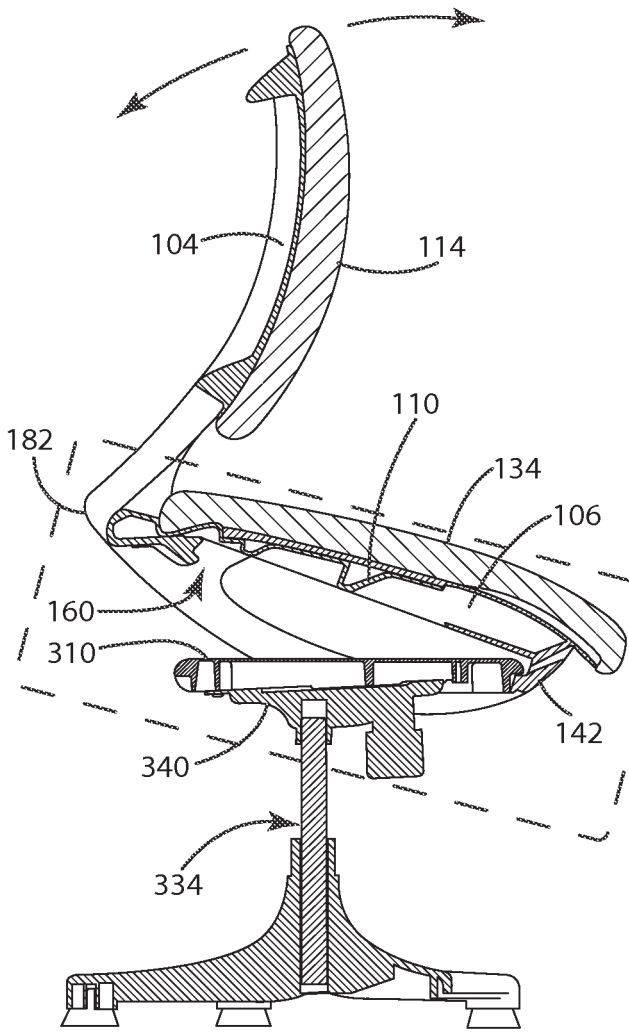


Fig. 9

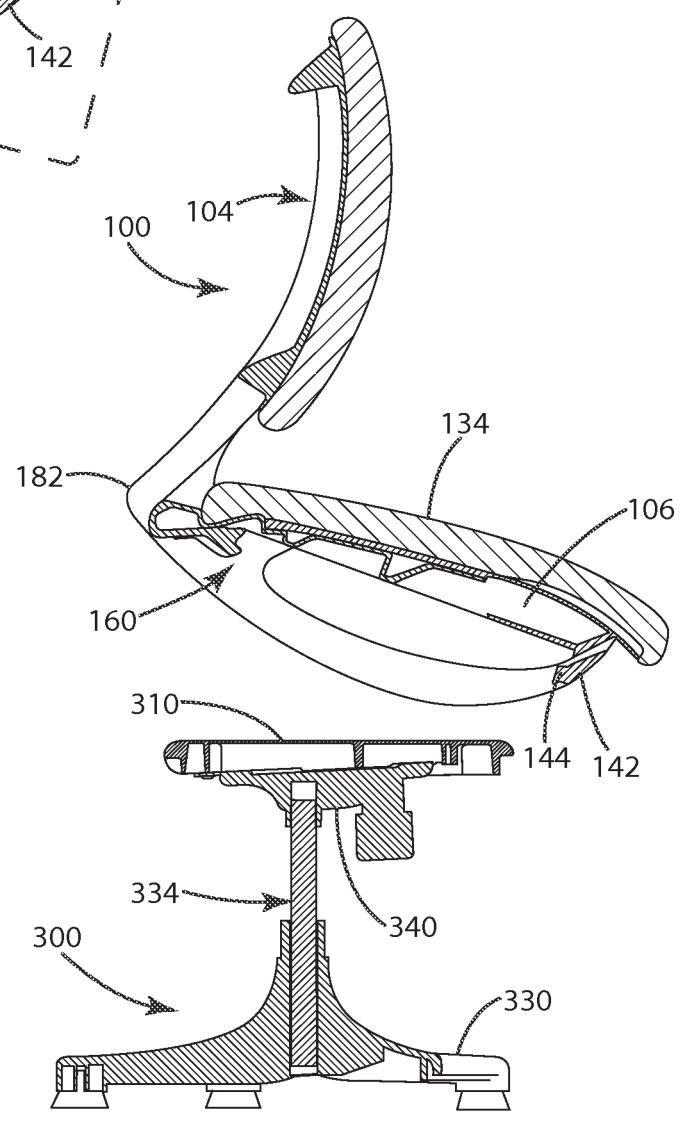


Fig. 10

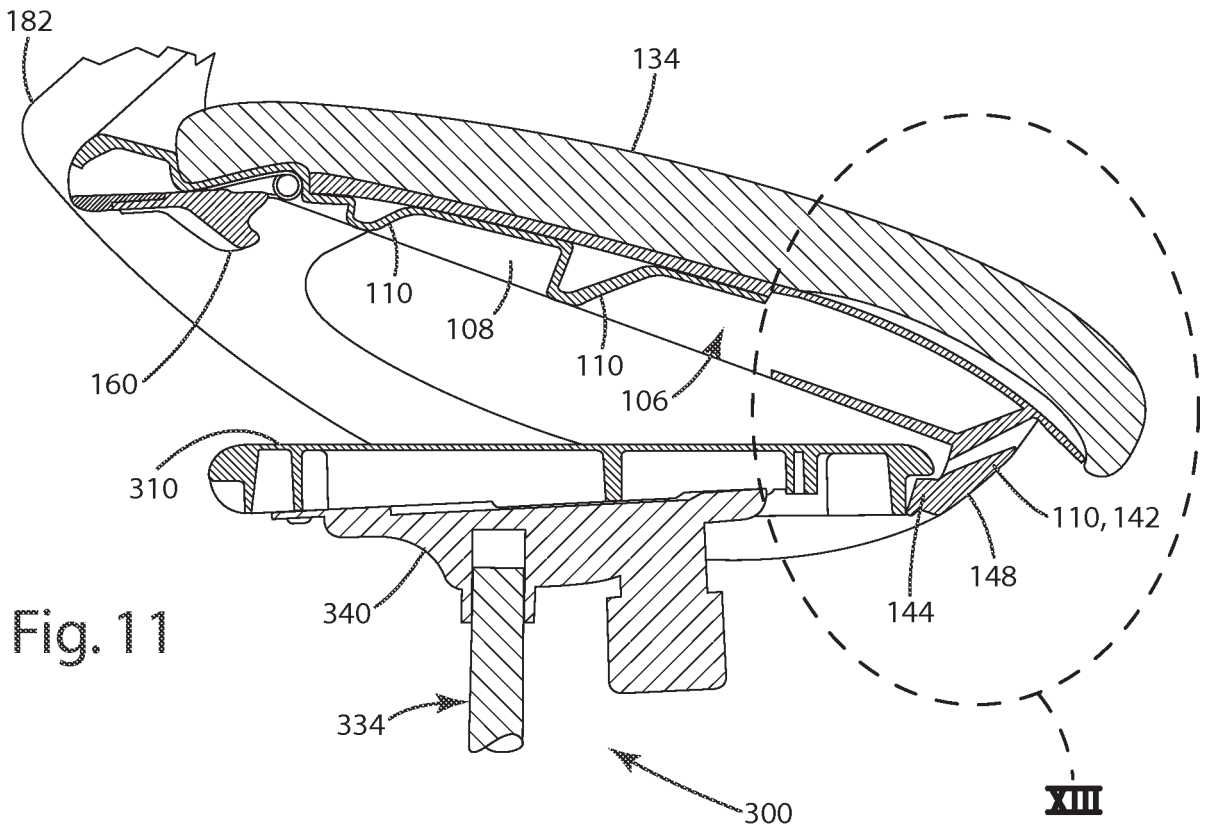


Fig. 11

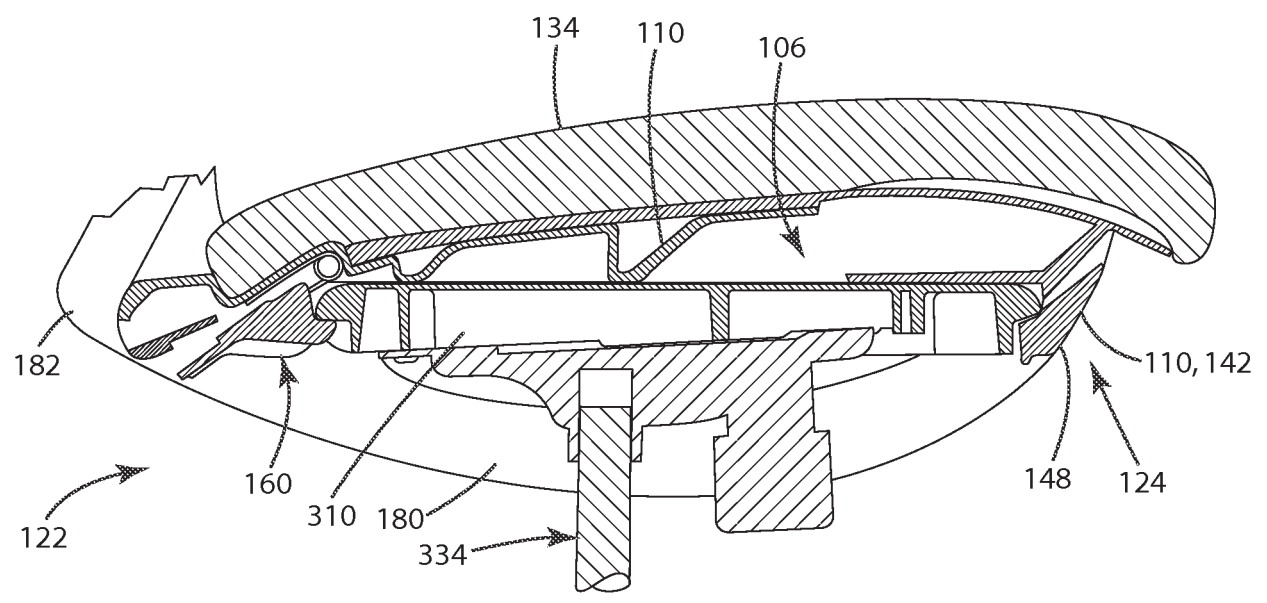


Fig. 12

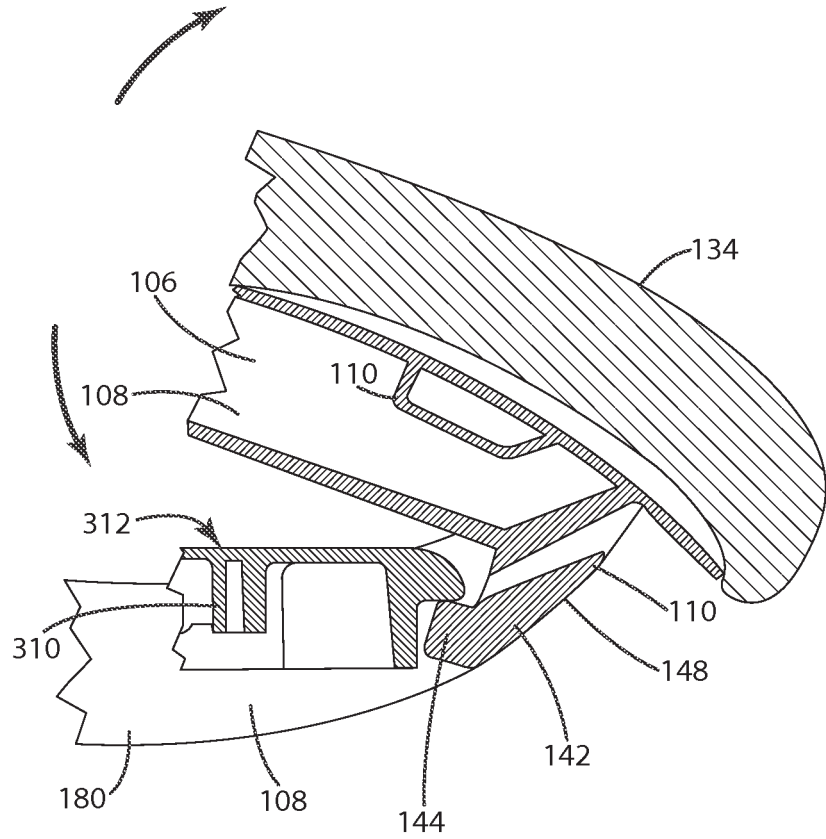


Fig. 13

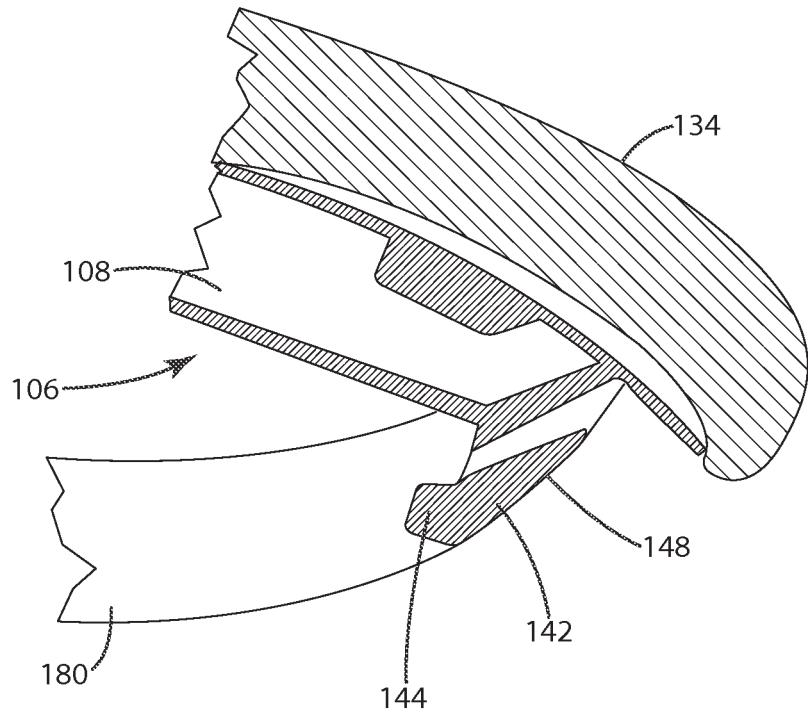


Fig. 14

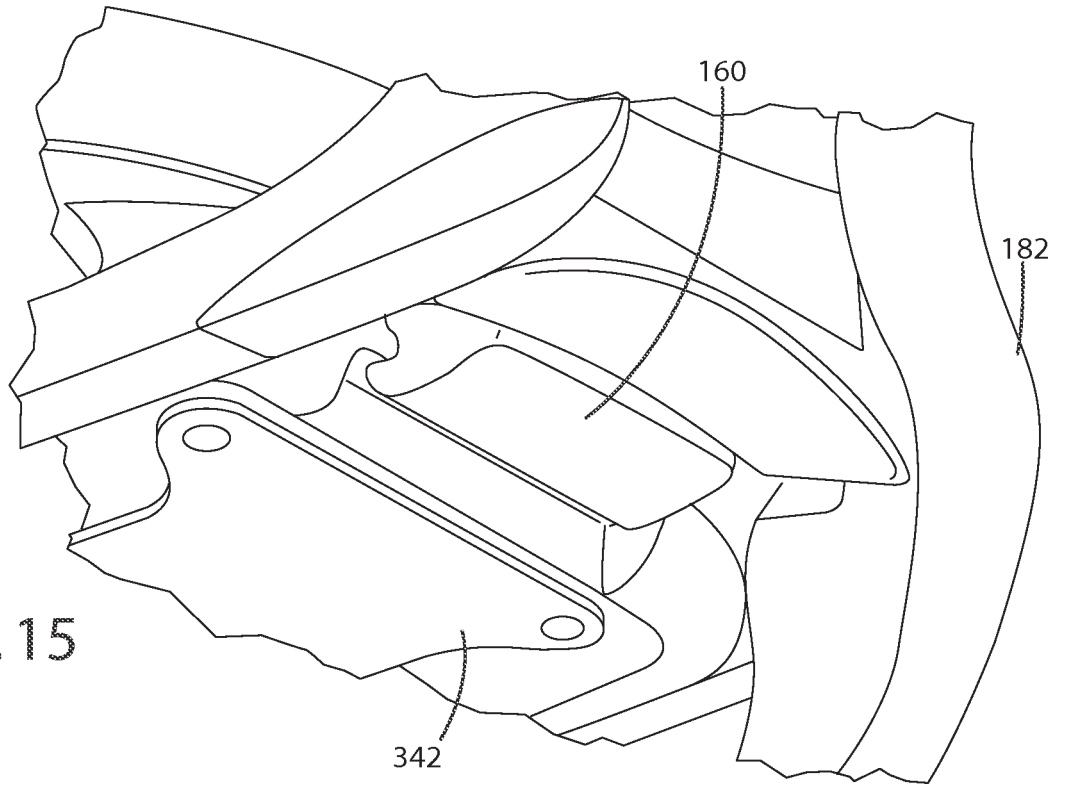


Fig. 15

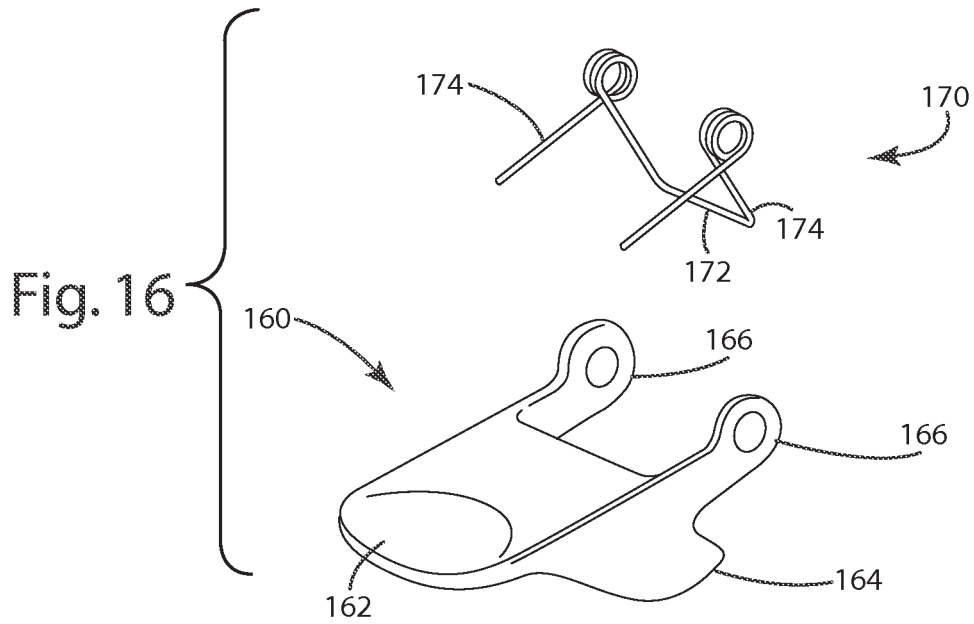


Fig. 16



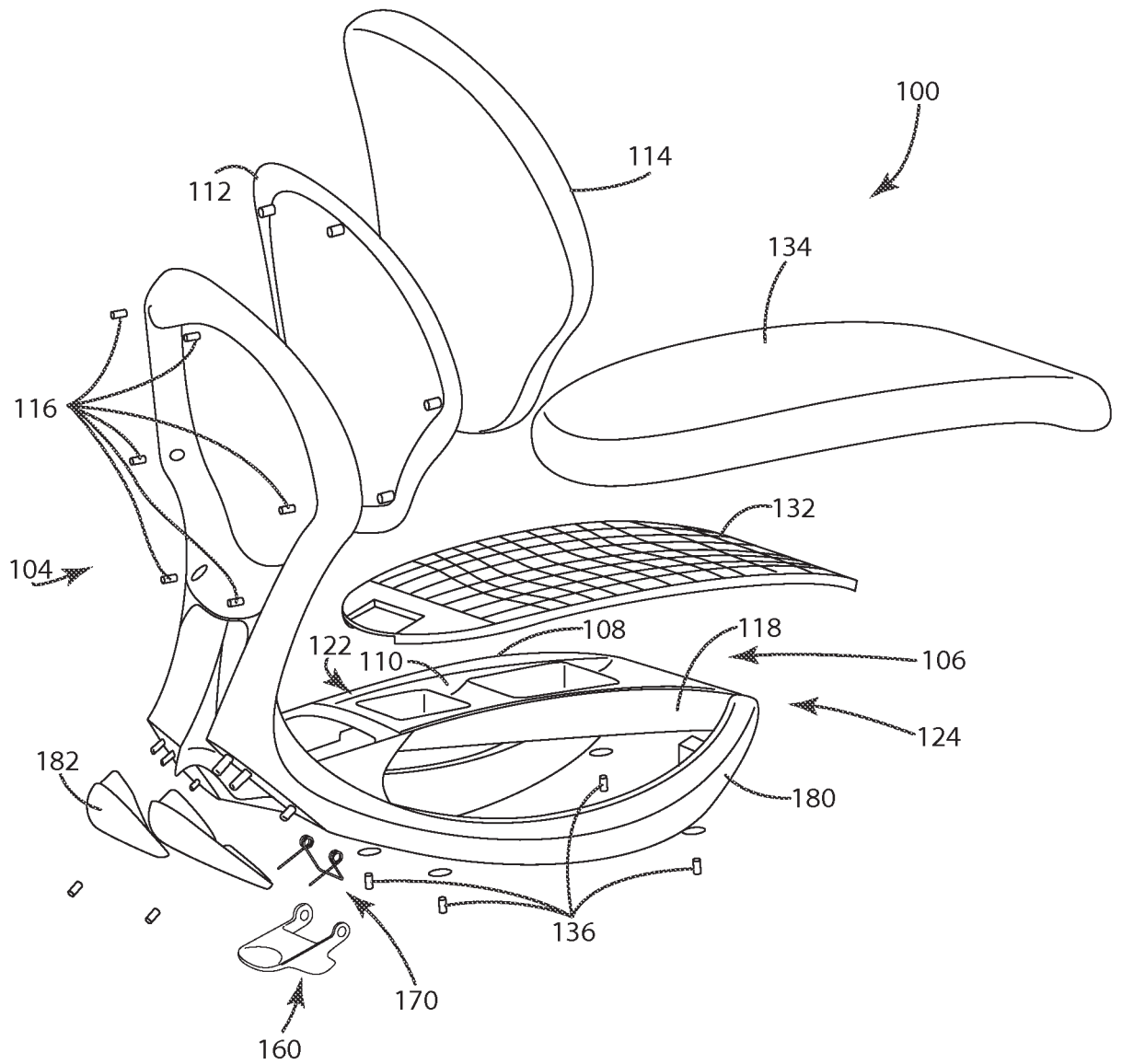


Fig. 17

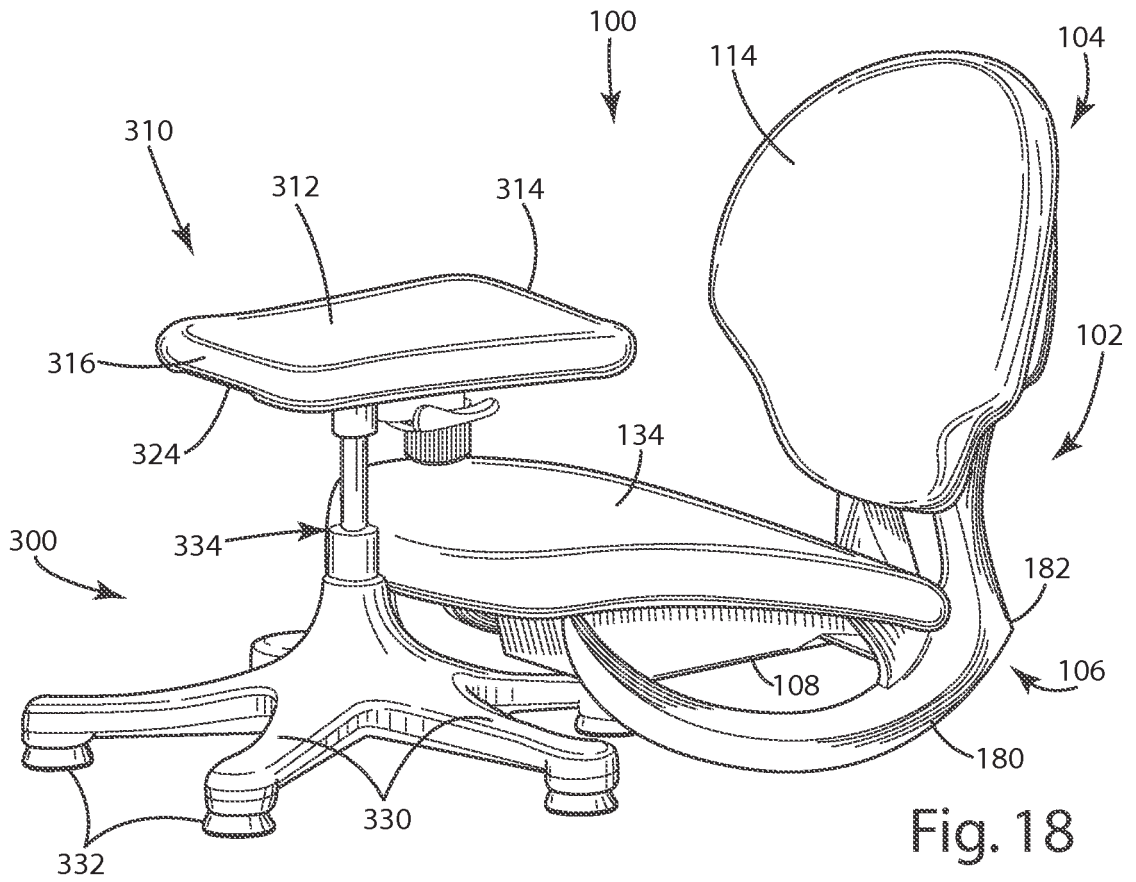


Fig. 18

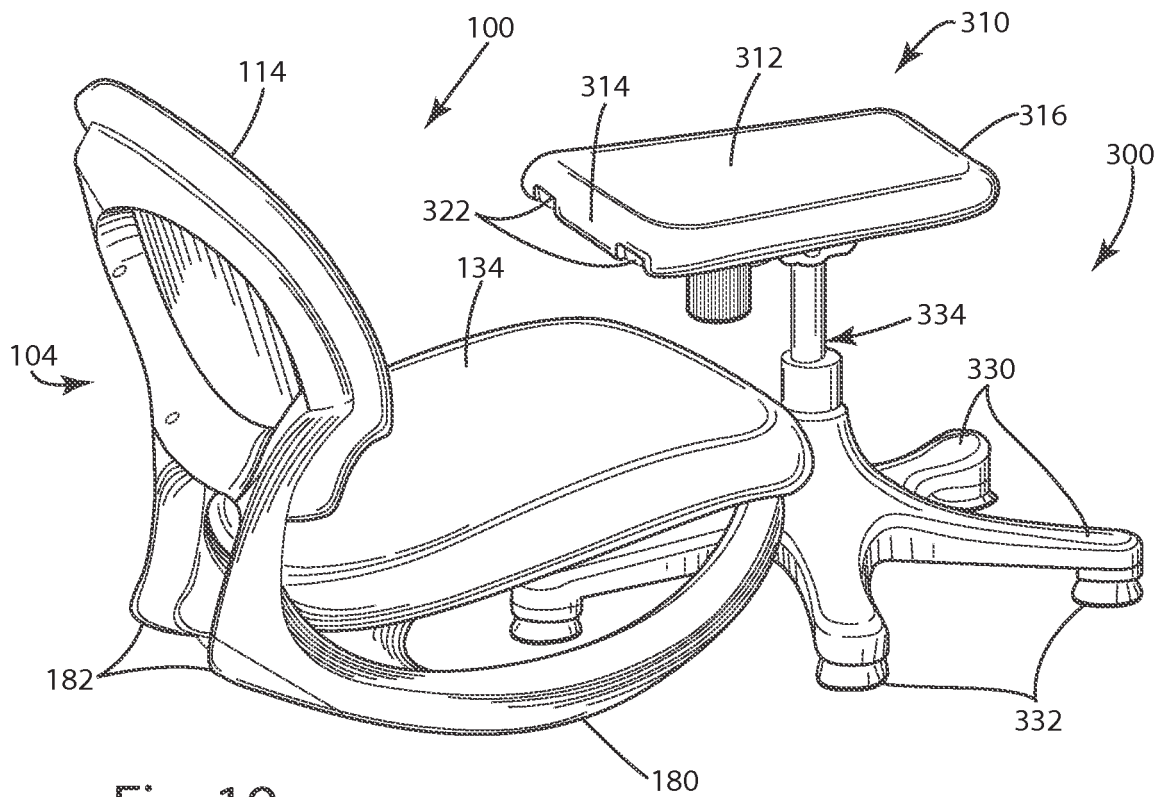


Fig. 19

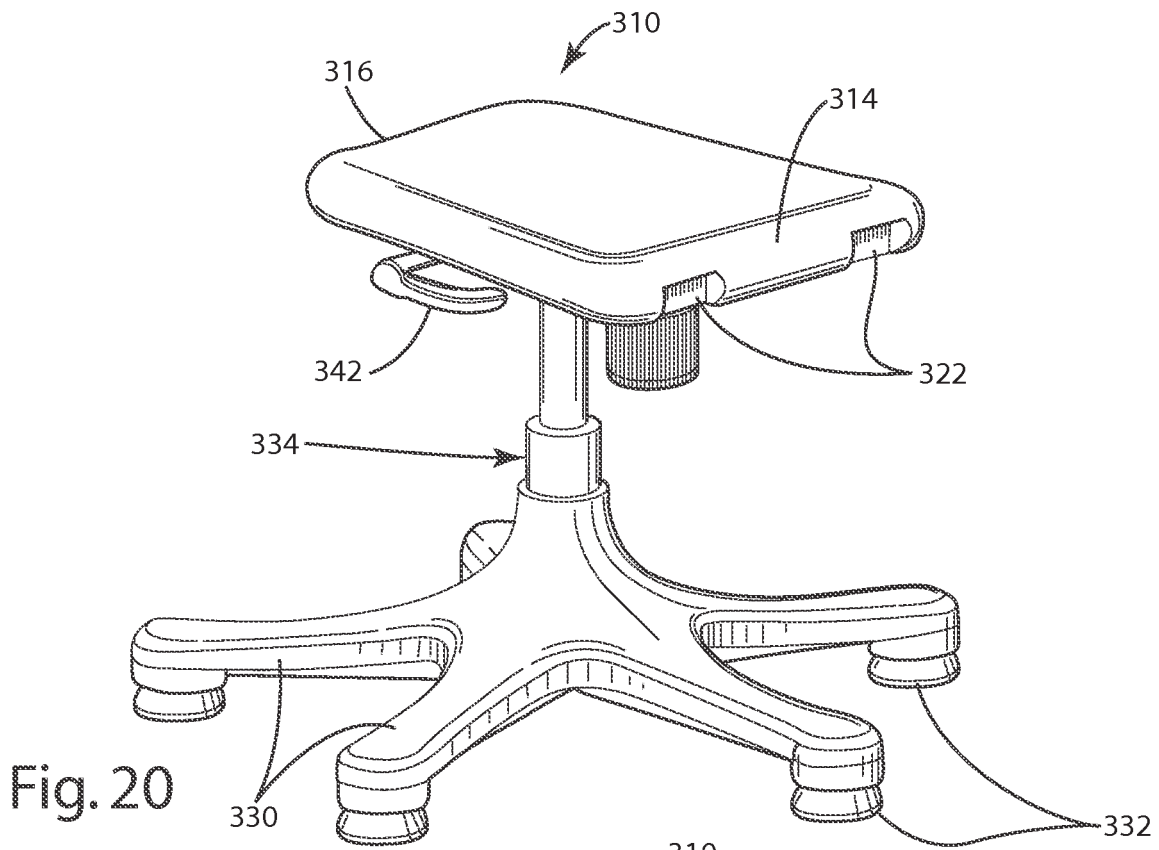


Fig. 20

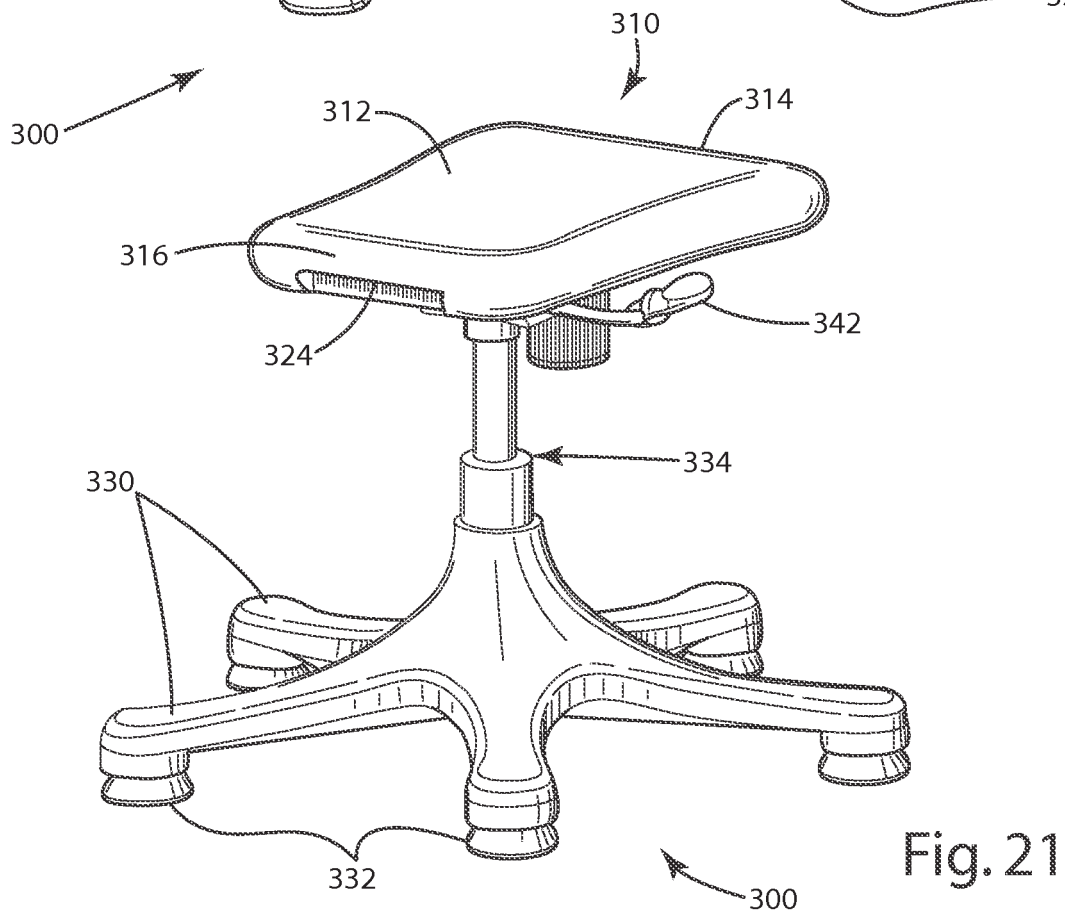


Fig. 21

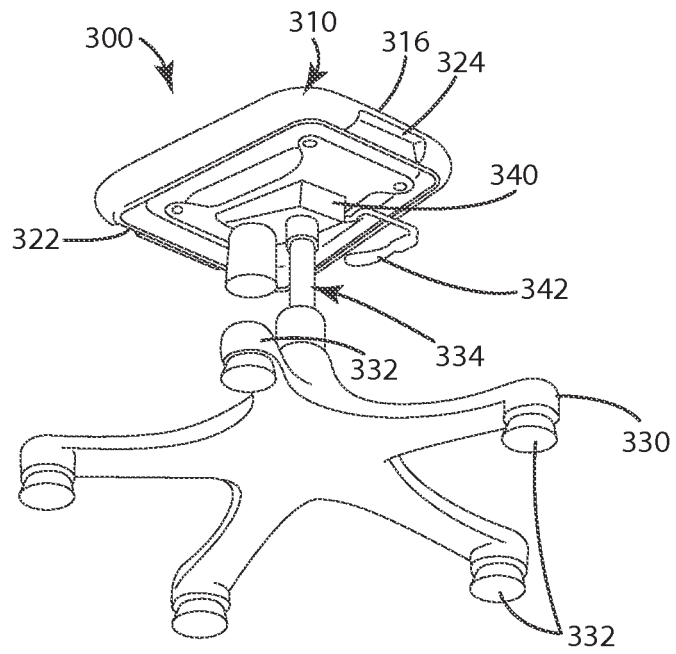


Fig. 22

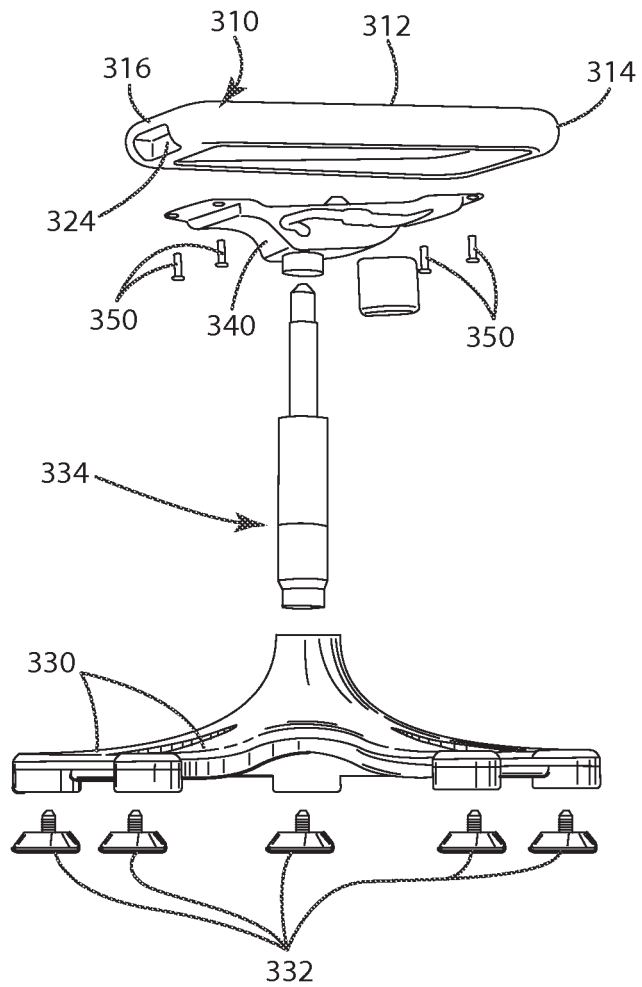


Fig. 23

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> ( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		
	Filing Date		
	First Named Inventor	Anthony J. Warncke	
	Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg P1US3-CON	

U.S.PATENTS						
Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Patent Number	Kind Code <sup>1</sup>	Issue Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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	2	3269771		1966-08-30	Erdos	
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	4	4160564		1979-07-10	Kyle	
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	8	4765684		1988-08-23	Kvalheim	

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Application Number		
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First Named Inventor	Anthony J. Warncke	
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Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg P1US3-CON	

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12	4832407		1989-05-23	Serber	
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First Named Inventor	Anthony J. Warncke	
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	20	5667278		1997-09-16	Li	
	21	5690379		1997-11-25	Cayssials	
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	23	6116682		2000-09-12	Baur	
	24	6352306		2002-03-05	Dreiling	
	25	6367874		2002-04-09	Casini	
	26	6416123		2002-07-09	Bell	
	27	6554353		2003-04-29	Yu	
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	29	6712711		2004-03-30	Skelton	
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	32	6857696		2005-02-22	Usagani	
	33	6953222		2005-10-11	Larrick	
	34	7152358		2006-12-26	LeAnna	
	35	7338122		2008-03-04	Hei	
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	41	D327375		1992-06-30	Cooper	

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Art Unit		
Examiner Name		
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	43	D400365		1998-11-03	Rossi	
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	46	D425713		2000-05-30	Tholkes	
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	48	D437692		2001-02-20	Smith	
	49	D439066		2001-03-20	Hannes	
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	51	D479054		2003-09-02	Chen	
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Art Unit		
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	53	D497261		2004-10-19	Epp	
	54	D515831		2006-02-28	Hosoe	
	55	D585204		2009-01-27	Wieland	

If you wish to add additional U.S. Patent citation information please click the Add button.

**U.S.PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS**

Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Publication Number	Kind Code <sup>1</sup>	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	20020014792		2002-02-07	Casini	
	2	20020074835		2002-06-20	Chalender	
	3	20030218365		2003-11-27	Kawiaka	
	4	20050057079		2005-03-17	Lee	

If you wish to add additional U.S. Published Application citation information please click the Add button.

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Foreign Document Number <sup>3</sup>	Country Code <sup>2i</sup>	Kind Code <sup>4</sup>	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>5</sup>
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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> ( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		
	Filing Date		
	First Named Inventor	Anthony J. Warncke	
	Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg P1US3-CON	

	1								<input type="checkbox"/>
--	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--------------------------

If you wish to add additional Foreign Patent Document citation information please click the Add button

**NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, pages(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>5</sup>
	1		<input type="checkbox"/>

If you wish to add additional non-patent literature document citation information please click the Add button

**EXAMINER SIGNATURE**

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

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

<sup>1</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.USPTO.GOV](http://www.USPTO.GOV) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>2</sup> Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>3</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>4</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>5</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> ( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		
	Filing Date		
	First Named Inventor	Anthony J. Warncke	
	Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg P1US3-CON	

**CERTIFICATION STATEMENT**

Please see 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 to make the appropriate selection(s):

That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

**OR**

That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

See attached certification statement.

The fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17 (p) has been submitted herewith.

A certification statement is not submitted herewith.

**SIGNATURE**

A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with CFR 1.33, 10.18. Please see CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.

Signature	/Thomas L. Lockhart/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2011-10-20
Name/Print	Thomas L. Lockhart	Registration Number	29324

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

## Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal

<b>Application Number:</b>				
<b>Filing Date:</b>				
<b>Title of Invention:</b>	CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE			
<b>First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:</b>	Anthony J. Warncke			
<b>Filer:</b>	Thomas L. Lockhart/Susan Van Holstyn			
<b>Attorney Docket Number:</b>	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON			
Filed as Large Entity				
<b>Utility under 35 USC 111(a) Filing Fees</b>				
<b>Description</b>	<b>Fee Code</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Sub-Total in USD(\$)</b>
<b>Basic Filing:</b>				
Utility application filing	1011	1	380	380
Utility Search Fee	1111	1	620	620
Utility Examination Fee	1311	1	250	250
<b>Pages:</b>				
<b>Claims:</b>				
Claims in excess of 20	1202	3	60	180
Independent claims in excess of 3	1201	1	250	250
<b>Miscellaneous-Filing:</b>				

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
<b>Petition:</b>				
<b>Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:</b>				
<b>Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:</b>				
<b>Extension-of-Time:</b>				
<b>Miscellaneous:</b>				
			<b>Total in USD (\$)</b>	<b>1680</b>

## Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

<b>EFS ID:</b>	11231890
<b>Application Number:</b>	13277778
<b>International Application Number:</b>	
<b>Confirmation Number:</b>	8216
<b>Title of Invention:</b>	CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE
<b>First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:</b>	Anthony J. Warncke
<b>Customer Number:</b>	37190
<b>Filer:</b>	Thomas L. Lockhart/Susan Van Holstyn
<b>Filer Authorized By:</b>	Thomas L. Lockhart
<b>Attorney Docket Number:</b>	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON
<b>Receipt Date:</b>	20-OCT-2011
<b>Filing Date:</b>	
<b>Time Stamp:</b>	16:32:09
<b>Application Type:</b>	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

### Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment Type	Deposit Account
Payment was successfully received in RAM	\$1680
RAM confirmation Number	3035
Deposit Account	220257
Authorized User	

The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows:

Charge any Additional Fees required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.16 (National application filing, search, and examination fees)

Charge any Additional Fees required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.17 (Patent application and reexamination processing fees).



Charge any Additional Fees required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.19 (Document supply fees)

Charge any Additional Fees required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.20 (Post Issuance fees)

Charge any Additional Fees required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.21 (Miscellaneous fees and charges)

**File Listing:**

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Transmittal of New Application	SauderMfgP1US3CON_Transmittal.pdf	206742 58dc30177a0803ce8acabcd7937ec0e90b161cf3	no	1

**Warnings:**

**Information:**

2	Application Data Sheet	SauderMfgP1US3CON_ADS.pdf	131869 cadd21b930e1e694b9d8e0aaf05c813c5ccd66	no	4
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**Warnings:**

**Information:**

This is not an USPTO supplied ADS fillable form

3	Miscellaneous Incoming Letter	SauderMfgP1US3CON_Certification.pdf	96150 b02d46f0420f97d60dc356962e9cf9c02c6cd13e	no	1
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**Warnings:**

**Information:**

4	Oath or Declaration filed	SauderMfgP1US3CON_Declaration.pdf	233102 6b441a208ba4b2c26af5c156fb25236c9e8140aa	no	6
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**Warnings:**

**Information:**

5		SauderP1US3CON_PatentApplication.pdf	145412 1f8d9f8004aea27f7405ef24f0d2624b37cda6b8	yes	29
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**Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description**

Document Description	Start	End
Specification	1	18
Claims	19	28
Abstract	29	29

**Warnings:**

**Information:**

6	Drawings-only black and white line drawings	SaudeMfgP1US3CON_Drawings.pdf	2494694 2ded58771ebbd2a9a45ff811e94d0894fe1323f0	no	12
---	---	-------------------------------	---	----	----

<b>Warnings:</b>					
<b>Information:</b>					
7	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Form (SB08)	SauderMfgP1US3CON_IDS.pdf	153247 e85ec7c479079f848865666610c849e5972c dc1a	no	8
<b>Warnings:</b>					
<b>Information:</b>					
This is not an USPTO supplied IDS fillable form					
8	Fee Worksheet (SB06)	fee-info.pdf	38118 c30288471cb8baf87d2038009c30dd65614 ad817	no	2
<b>Warnings:</b>					
<b>Information:</b>					
<b>Total Files Size (in bytes):</b>			3499334		
<p><b>This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.</b></p> <p><b><u>New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111</u></b>  <b>If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.</b></p> <p><b><u>National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371</u></b>  <b>If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.</b></p> <p><b><u>New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office</u></b>  <b>If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.</b></p>					

## Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

<b>EFS ID:</b>	11231890
<b>Application Number:</b>	13277778
<b>International Application Number:</b>	
<b>Confirmation Number:</b>	8216
11/04/2011 UEDUVIJE 00000002 220257 13277778 01 FC:1817 4800.00 DA 02 FC:1808 130.00 DA	
<b>Title of Invention:</b>	CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE
<b>First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:</b>	Anthony J. Warncke
<b>Customer Number:</b>	37190
<b>Filer:</b>	Thomas L. Lockhart/Susan Van Holstyn
<b>Filer Authorized By:</b>	Thomas L. Lockhart
<b>Attorney Docket Number:</b>	Sauder Mfg, P1US3-CON
<b>Receipt Date:</b>	20-OCT-2011
<b>Filing Date:</b>	
<b>Time Stamp:</b>	16:32:09
<b>Application Type:</b>	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

### Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment Type	Deposit Account
Payment was successfully received in RAM	\$1680
RAM confirmation Number	3035
Deposit Account	220257
Authorized User	

The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows:

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Charge any Additional Fees required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.17 (Patent application and reexamination processing fees)



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

Table with 4 columns: APPLICATION NUMBER (13/277,778), FILING OR 371(C) DATE (10/20/2011), FIRST NAMED APPLICANT (Anthony J. Warncke), ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE (Sauder Mfg. PIUS3-CON)

CONFIRMATION NO. 8216

FORMALITIES LETTER

37190
VARNUM, RIDDERING, SCHMIDT & HOWLETT LLP
333 BRIDGE STREET, NW
P.O. BOX 352
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49501-0352



Date Mailed: 11/14/2011

NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS

Filing Date Granted

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to correct the informalities indicated below. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- A replacement abstract not exceeding 150 words in length and commencing on a separate sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 1.72(b) and 37 CFR 1.121 is required.

Applicant is cautioned that correction of the above items may cause the specification and drawings page count to exceed 100 pages. If the specification and drawings exceed 100 pages, applicant will need to submit the required application size fee.

Replies should be mailed to:

Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Registered users of EFS-Web may alternatively submit their reply to this notice via EFS-Web.
https://portal.uspto.gov/authenticate/AuthenticateUserLocalEPF.html

For more information about EFS-Web please call the USPTO Electronic Business Center at 1-866-217-9197 or visit our website at http://www.uspto.gov/ebc.

If you are not using EFS-Web to submit your reply, you must include a copy of this notice.

/mgabre/

Office of Data Management, Application Assistance Unit (571) 272-4000, or (571) 272-4200, or 1-888-786-0101

**PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD**

Substitute for Form PTO-875

Application or Docket Number  
13/277,778

**APPLICATION AS FILED - PART I**

	(Column 1)	(Column 2)
<b>FOR</b>	<b>NUMBER FILED</b>	<b>NUMBER EXTRA</b>
BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))	N/A	N/A
SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (i), or (m))	N/A	N/A
EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))	N/A	N/A
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(j))	23	3
	minus 20 = *	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	4	1
	minus 3 = *	
APPLICATION SIZE FEE (37 CFR 1.16(s))	If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is \$310 (\$155 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))		

SMALL ENTITY	
RATE(\$)	FEE(\$)
N/A	
N/A	
N/A	
TOTAL	

OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
RATE(\$)	FEE(\$)
N/A	380
N/A	620
N/A	250
x 60 =	180
x 250 =	250
	0.00
	0.00
TOTAL	1680

\* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.

**APPLICATION AS AMENDED - PART II**

	(Column 1)	(Column 2)	(Column 3)	
<b>AMENDMENT A</b>	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	
			PRESENT EXTRA	
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus **	=
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus ***	=
	Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))			
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))				

SMALL ENTITY	
RATE(\$)	ADDITIONAL FEE(\$)
x =	
x =	
TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
RATE(\$)	ADDITIONAL FEE(\$)
x =	
x =	
TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

	(Column 1)	(Column 2)	(Column 3)	
<b>AMENDMENT B</b>	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	
			PRESENT EXTRA	
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus **	=
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus ***	=
	Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))			
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))				

SMALL ENTITY	
RATE(\$)	ADDITIONAL FEE(\$)
x =	
x =	
TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
RATE(\$)	ADDITIONAL FEE(\$)
x =	
x =	
TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

\* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.  
 \*\* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".  
 \*\*\* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".  
 The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest found in the appropriate box in column 1.



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Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
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Table with 7 columns: APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING or 371(c) DATE, GRP ART UNIT, FIL FEE REC'D, ATTY,DOCKET.NO, TOT CLAIMS, IND CLAIMS. Row 1: 13/277,778, 10/20/2011, 3633, 1680, Sauder Mfg. PIUS3-CON, 23, 4

CONFIRMATION NO. 8216

FILING RECEIPT



37190
VARNUM, RIDDERING, SCHMIDT & HOWLETT LLP
333 BRIDGE STREET, NW
P.O. BOX 352
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49501-0352

Date Mailed: 11/14/2011

Receipt is acknowledged of this non-provisional patent application. The application will be taken up for examination in due course. Applicant will be notified as to the results of the examination. Any correspondence concerning the application must include the following identification information: the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please submit a written request for a Filing Receipt Correction. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections

Applicant(s)

Anthony J. Warncke, Archbold, OH;
Jeffrey A. Jameson, Archbold, OH;
Thomas A. Hagerty, Somerville, MA;

Power of Attorney: None

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a CON of 11/877,478 10/23/2007
which claims benefit of 60/853,669 10/23/2006

Foreign Applications (You may be eligible to benefit from the Patent Prosecution Highway program at the USPTO. Please see http://www.uspto.gov for more information.)

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 11/07/2011

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is US 13/277,778

Projected Publication Date: To Be Determined - pending completion of Corrected Papers

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

**Title**

CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE

**Preliminary Class**

052

**PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES**

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html>.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, <http://www.stopfakes.gov>. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

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**Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15**

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The grant of a license does not in any way lessen the responsibility of a licensee for the security of the subject matter as imposed by any Government contract or the provisions of existing laws relating to espionage and the national security or the export of technical data. Licensees should apprise themselves of current regulations especially with respect to certain countries, of other agencies, particularly the Office of Defense Trade Controls, Department of State (with respect to Arms, Munitions and Implements of War (22 CFR 121-128)); the Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce (15 CFR parts 730-774); the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of Treasury (31 CFR Parts 500+) and the Department of Energy.

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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	13/277,778
	Filing Date	October 20, 2011
	First Named Inventor	WARNCKE, Anthony J.
	Art Unit	3633
	Examiner Name	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement  <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): -Replacement Abstract		
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 150px;">Remarks</td> <td>                     This is in response to the Notice to File Corrected Application Papers mailed November 14, 2011.                 </td> </tr> </table>			Remarks	This is in response to the Notice to File Corrected Application Papers mailed November 14, 2011.
Remarks	This is in response to the Notice to File Corrected Application Papers mailed November 14, 2011.			

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	Varnum Riddering Schmidt & Howlett LLP		
Signature	/Thomas L. Lockhart/		
Printed name	Thomas L. Lockhart		
Date	January 17, 2012	Reg. No.	29324

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
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Signature			
Typed or printed name		Date	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE  
REPLACEMENT ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A chair with a coupling companion stool base includes a frame that has: a claw extending downward from a second portion of a lower portion of the frame; a latch extending downward from and movably connected with a first portion of the lower portion; two legs adapted to support the frame upon a supporting surface extending downward from the lower portion; and a receptacle defined between the claw and the latch. The base supports the frame above a supporting surface and has a saddle with opposite back and front edges and a top surface that faces away from the supporting surface. The base releasably couples with the frame. When decoupled, the chair portion may be used as casual floor rocker seating.

4882870\_1.DOC

## Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

<b>EFS ID:</b>	11850451
<b>Application Number:</b>	13277778
<b>International Application Number:</b>	
<b>Confirmation Number:</b>	8216
<b>Title of Invention:</b>	CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE
<b>First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:</b>	Anthony J. Warncke
<b>Customer Number:</b>	37190
<b>Filer:</b>	James A. Mitchell/Susan Van Holstyn
<b>Filer Authorized By:</b>	James A. Mitchell
<b>Attorney Docket Number:</b>	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON
<b>Receipt Date:</b>	17-JAN-2012
<b>Filing Date:</b>	20-OCT-2011
<b>Time Stamp:</b>	15:03:47
<b>Application Type:</b>	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

### Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no
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### File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Transmittal Letter	SauderMfgP1US3CON_TransmittalMissingParts.pdf	177024 <small>d216de6f0340ca7c0c5b434b08027cb80a94574f</small>	no	1

### Warnings:

### Information:

2	Abstract	SauderMfgP1US3CON_Replace mentAbstract.pdf	44266  30e482e66edbb5db1edbac7f1af67412306 4f307	no	1
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**Warnings:**

**Information:**

<b>Total Files Size (in bytes):</b>	221290
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**New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111**

**If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.**

**National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371**

**If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.**

**New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office**

**If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.**

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> ( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number	13277778
	Filing Date	2011-10-20
	First Named Inventor	Anthony J. Warncke
	Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
	Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON

U.S.PATENTS						Remove
Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Patent Number	Kind Code <sup>1</sup>	Issue Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	2545840		1951-03-20	Browne	
	2	3269771		1966-08-30	Erdos	
	3	3821825		1974-07-02	Bailey	
	4	4160564		1979-07-10	Kyle	
	5	4394046		1983-07-19	Irwin	
	6	4697845		1987-10-06	Kamman	
	7	4736982		1988-04-12	Hwang	
	8	4765684		1988-08-23	Kvalheim	

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**  
( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

Application Number		13277778
Filing Date		2011-10-20
First Named Inventor	Anthony J. Warncke	
Art Unit		
Examiner Name		
Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON	

9	4767159		1988-08-30	Opsvik	
10	4767160		1988-08-30	Mengshoel	
11	4793755		1988-12-27	Kvalheim	
12	4793655		1988-12-27	Kvalheim	
13	4832407		1989-05-23	Serber	
14	4960305		1990-10-02	Opsvik	
15	5042875		1991-08-27	Biggs, Sr.	
16	5054857		1991-10-08	Kvalheim	
17	5169210		1992-12-08	Fricano	
18	5255957		1993-10-26	Opsvik	
19	5308146		1994-05-03	Chou	

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**  
( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

Application Number		13277778
Filing Date		2011-10-20
First Named Inventor	Anthony J. Warncke	
Art Unit		
Examiner Name		
Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON	

	20	5423597		1995-06-13	Rogers	
	21	5653499		1997-08-05	Goodall	
	22	5667278		1997-00-16	Li	
	23	5690379		1997-11-25	Cayssials	
	24	5806922		1998-09-15	Mendelovich	
	25	6116682		2000-09-12	Baur	
	26	6352306		2002-03-05	Dreiling	
	27	6367874		2002-04-09	Casini	
	28	6416123		2002-07-09	Bell	
	29	6554353		2003-04-29	Yu	
	30	6572134		2003-06-03	Barrett	

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**  
( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

Application Number	13277778
Filing Date	2011-10-20
First Named Inventor	Anthony J. Warncke
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON

31	67122711		2004-03-30	Skelton	
32	6786553		2004-09-07	Grove	
33	6824149		2004-11-30	Whitlock	
34	6857696		2005-02-22	Usagani	
35	6953222		2005-10-11	Larrick	
36	7152358		2006-12-26	LeAnna	
37	7316452		2008-01-08	Vestweber	
38	7338122		2008-03-04	Hei	
39	7472955		2009-01-06	Crane	
40	D272205		1984-01-17	De Boer	
41	D273729		1984-05-08	Pelly	



**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**  
( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

Application Number		13277778
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First Named Inventor	Anthony J. Warncke	
Art Unit		
Examiner Name		
Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON	

	42	D283858		1986-05-20	Opsvik	
	43	D297690		1988-09-20	Opsvik	
	44	D327375		1992-06-30	Cooper	
	45	D395962		1998-07-14	Buffon	
	46	D400365		1998-11-03	Rossi	
	47	D409007		1999-05-04	Osterweil-Glaz	
	48	D411692		1999-06-29	Ogg	
	49	D425713		2000-05-30	Tholkes	
	50	D437129		2001-02-06	Pinto	
	51	D437692		2001-02-20	Smith	
	52	D439066		2001-03-20	Hannes	

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT  
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Filing Date	2011-10-20
First Named Inventor	Anthony J. Warncke
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON

53	D478734		2003-08-26	Chen	
54	D479054		2003-09-02	Chen	
55	D495155		2004-08-31	Baldanzi	
56	D497261		2004-10-19	Epp	
57	D515831		2006-02-28	Hosoe	
58	D585204		2009-01-27	Wieland	
59					

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Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Publication Number	Kind Code <sup>1</sup>	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	20020014792		2002-02-07	Casini	
	2	20020074835		2002-06-20	Chalender	

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**  
( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

Application Number	13277778
Filing Date	2011-10-20
First Named Inventor	Anthony J. Warncke
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON

3	20030218365		2003-11-27	Kawiaka	
4	20050057079		2005-03-17	Lee	
5					

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**NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, pages(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>5</sup>
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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through a citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**  
( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

Application Number	13277778	
Filing Date	2011-10-20	
First Named Inventor	Anthony J. Warncke	
Art Unit		
Examiner Name		
Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON	

<sup>1</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.USPTO.GOV](http://www.USPTO.GOV) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>2</sup> Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>3</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>4</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>5</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**  
( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

Application Number	13277778		
Filing Date	2011-10-20		
First Named Inventor	Anthony J. Warncke		
Art Unit			
Examiner Name			
Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON		

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Please see 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 to make the appropriate selection(s):

That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

**OR**

That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

- See attached certification statement.
- The fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17 (p) has been submitted herewith.
- A certification statement is not submitted herewith.

**SIGNATURE**

A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with CFR 1.33, 10.18. Please see CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.

Signature	/Thomas L. Lockhart/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2012-01-19
Name/Print	Thomas L. Lockhart	Registration Number	29324

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether the Freedom of Information Act requires disclosure of these records.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspections or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

## Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

<b>EFS ID:</b>	11876804
<b>Application Number:</b>	13277778
<b>International Application Number:</b>	
<b>Confirmation Number:</b>	8216
<b>Title of Invention:</b>	CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE
<b>First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:</b>	Anthony J. Warncke
<b>Customer Number:</b>	37190
<b>Filer:</b>	James A. Mitchell/Courtney Lapekes
<b>Filer Authorized By:</b>	James A. Mitchell
<b>Attorney Docket Number:</b>	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON
<b>Receipt Date:</b>	19-JAN-2012
<b>Filing Date:</b>	20-OCT-2011
<b>Time Stamp:</b>	16:39:04
<b>Application Type:</b>	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

### Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no
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### File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Transmittal Letter	SauderMfgP1US3-CON- IDSCvrSheet.pdf	12526 <small>97ba614c3e8108695431751687a3c488ce27c469</small>	no	1

### Warnings:

### Information:

2	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Form (SB08)	SauderMfgP1US3-CON-InformationDisclosureStatement.pdf	614249 <small>2ad2c20c53574c55d93231dfb58918b35c2acba</small>	no	10
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**Information:**

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<b>Total Files Size (in bytes):</b>	626775
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**New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111**

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**New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office**

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Anthony J. Warncke  
For: CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE  
Serial No.: 13/277,778  
Filed: October 20, 2011

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The attached Information Disclosure Statement Form PTO/SB/08a is submitted herewith pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98 in accordance with Applicant's duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Copies of references listed and required to be submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(2) are enclosed herewith.

The submission of the accompanying information is not intended to imply that more pertinent prior disclosures may not exist, nor is it an admission by Applicant that any one or more of the documents submitted herewith form a part of the scope and content of the prior art. Further, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made.

Respectfully submitted,  
ANTHONY J. WARNCKE

Date: January 19, 2012

By /Thomas L. Lockhart/  
Thomas L. Lockhart, Reg. No. 29,324  
Varnum, Riddering, Schmidt & Howlett LLP  
Bridgewater Place  
P.O. Box 352  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49501-0352  
(616) 336-6000

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Table with 7 columns: APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING or 371(c) DATE, GRP ART UNIT, FIL FEE REC'D, ATTY. DOCKET NO, TOT CLAIMS, IND CLAIMS. Row 1: 13/277,778, 10/20/2011, 3633, 1680, Sauder Mfg. PIUS3-CON, 23, 4

CONFIRMATION NO. 8216

UPDATED FILING RECEIPT



37190
VARNUM, RIDDERING, SCHMIDT & HOWLETT LLP
333 BRIDGE STREET, NW
P.O. BOX 352
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49501-0352

Date Mailed: 01/25/2012

Receipt is acknowledged of this non-provisional patent application. The application will be taken up for examination in due course. Applicant will be notified as to the results of the examination. Any correspondence concerning the application must include the following identification information: the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please submit a written request for a Filing Receipt Correction. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections

Applicant(s)

Anthony J. Warncke, Archbold, OH;
Jeffrey A. Jameson, Archbold, OH;
Thomas A. Hagerty, Somerville, MA;

Power of Attorney: None

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a CON of 11/877,478 10/23/2007 PAT 8083288
which claims benefit of 60/853,669 10/23/2006

Foreign Applications (You may be eligible to benefit from the Patent Prosecution Highway program at the USPTO. Please see http://www.uspto.gov for more information.)

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 11/07/2011

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is US 13/277,778

Projected Publication Date: 05/03/2012

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

**Title**

CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE

**Preliminary Class**

052

**PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES**

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html>.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, <http://www.stopfakes.gov>. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

**LICENSE FOR FOREIGN FILING UNDER**

**Title 35, United States Code, Section 184**

**Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15**

**GRANTED**

The applicant has been granted a license under 35 U.S.C. 184, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" followed by a date appears on this form. Such licenses are issued in all applications where the conditions for issuance of a license have been met, regardless of whether or not a license may be required as

set forth in 37 CFR 5.15. The scope and limitations of this license are set forth in 37 CFR 5.15(a) unless an earlier license has been issued under 37 CFR 5.15(b). The license is subject to revocation upon written notification. The date indicated is the effective date of the license, unless an earlier license of similar scope has been granted under 37 CFR 5.13 or 5.14.

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#### **NOT GRANTED**

No license under 35 U.S.C. 184 has been granted at this time, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" DOES NOT appear on this form. Applicant may still petition for a license under 37 CFR 5.12, if a license is desired before the expiration of 6 months from the filing date of the application. If 6 months has lapsed from the filing date of this application and the licensee has not received any indication of a secrecy order under 35 U.S.C. 181, the licensee may foreign file the application pursuant to 37 CFR 5.15(b).

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Table with 5 columns: APPLICATION NO., FILING DATE, FIRST NAMED INVENTOR, ATTORNEY DOCKET NO., CONFIRMATION NO. Includes application details for Anthony J. Warncke and examiner information.

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

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

cnlapekes@varnumlaw.com
patents@varnumlaw.com

**Decision Dismissing Request for  
Prioritized Examination (Track I)**Application No.: 13/277,7781. THE REQUEST FILED 10/20/11 IS **DISMISSED** BECAUSE:

- A.  The application is not a utility application under 35 U.S.C. 111(a) filed by EFS-Web or a plant application under 35 U.S.C. 111(a) filed by paper:
- The application is a utility application that was not filed by EFS-Web.
  - The application is neither a utility application nor a plant application, but rather is a \_\_\_\_\_, which is excluded from the Track I program.
- B.  The request was not filed with the application or on the same date of the application.
- C.  One or more of the following fees were not filed with the application:
- Basic filing fee, as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(a), or for a plant application, 37 CFR 1.16(c).
  - Search fee, as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(k), or for a plant application, 37 CFR 1.16(m).
  - Examination fee, as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(o), or for a plant application, 37 CFR 1.16(q).
  - Publication fee, as set forth in 37 CFR 1.18(d).
  - Track I processing fee, as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(i).
  - Track I prioritized examination fee, as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(c).
  - Application size fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(s), if required.
  - Excess independent claim fee, due because the number of independent claims exceeds three, as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(h).
  - Excess claim fee, due because the number of claims exceeds twenty, as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(i).
- D.  The application is not complete under 37 CFR 1.51(b) because an executed oath or declaration under 37 CFR 1.63 was not filed with the application.
- E.  The application contains or has been amended to contain:
- More than four independent claims.
  - More than thirty total claims.
  - One or more multiple dependent claims.
- F.  The Prioritized Examination program has exceeded its limit of 10,000 requests for the current fiscal year.
- G.  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. CONCLUSION

**The application will not undergo prioritized examination. Correction of the above defect(s) will not cause the application to undergo prioritized examination, because each of the above requirements was required to have been met upon filing of the application.**

Telephone inquiries with regard to this decision should be directed to Steven Meyers at (571) 272-6611. In his/her absence, calls may be directed to Robert Weinhardt, at (571) 272-6633.

  
 [Signature]

 Quality Assurance Specialist  
 (Title)

## Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

<b>EFS ID:</b>	11231890
<b>Application Number:</b>	13277778
<b>International Application Number:</b>	
<b>Confirmation Number:</b>	8216
11/04/2011 UEDUWIJE 00000002 220257 13277778 01 FC:1817 4800.00 DA 02 FC:1808 130.00 DA  <b>Title of Invention:</b>	CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE
<b>First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:</b>	Anthony J. Warncke
<b>Customer Number:</b>	37190
<b>Filer:</b>	Thomas L. Lockhart/Susan Van Holstyn
<b>Filer Authorized By:</b>	Thomas L. Lockhart
<b>Attorney Docket Number:</b>	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON
<b>Receipt Date:</b>	20-OCT-2011
<b>Filing Date:</b>	
<b>Time Stamp:</b>	16:32:09
<b>Application Type:</b>	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

### Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment Type	Deposit Account
Payment was successfully received in RAM	\$1680
RAM confirmation Number	3035
Deposit Account	220257
Authorized User	

Adjustment date: 02/22/2012 SDIRETA1  
 11/04/2011 UEDUWIJE 00000002 220257 13277778  
 01 FC:1817 4800.00 CR

The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows:

- Charge any Additional Fees required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.16 (National application filing, search, and examination fees)
- Charge any Additional Fees required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.17 (Patent application and reexamination processing fees)





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Table with 4 columns: APPLICATION NUMBER (13/277,778), FILING OR 371(C) DATE (10/20/2011), FIRST NAMED APPLICANT (Anthony J. Warncke), ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE (Sauder Mfg. PIUS3-CON)

CONFIRMATION NO. 8216

PUBLICATION NOTICE

37190
VARNUM, RIDDERING, SCHMIDT & HOWLETT LLP
333 BRIDGE STREET, NW
P.O. BOX 352
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49501-0352



Title:CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE

Publication No.US-2012-0104806-A1
Publication Date:05/03/2012

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF APPLICATION

The above-identified application will be electronically published as a patent application publication pursuant to 37 CFR 1.211, et seq. The patent application publication number and publication date are set forth above.

The publication may be accessed through the USPTO's publically available Searchable Databases via the Internet at www.uspto.gov. The direct link to access the publication is currently http://www.uspto.gov/patft/.

The publication process established by the Office does not provide for mailing a copy of the publication to applicant. A copy of the publication may be obtained from the Office upon payment of the appropriate fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.19(a)(1). Orders for copies of patent application publications are handled by the USPTO's Office of Public Records. The Office of Public Records can be reached by telephone at (703) 308-9726 or (800) 972-6382, by facsimile at (703) 305-8759, by mail addressed to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Office of Public Records, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or via the Internet.

In addition, information on the status of the application, including the mailing date of Office actions and the dates of receipt of correspondence filed in the Office, may also be accessed via the Internet through the Patent Electronic Business Center at www.uspto.gov using the public side of the Patent Application Information and Retrieval (PAIR) system. The direct link to access this status information is currently http://pair.uspto.gov/. Prior to publication, such status information is confidential and may only be obtained by applicant using the private side of PAIR.

Further assistance in electronically accessing the publication, or about PAIR, is available by calling the Patent Electronic Business Center at 1-866-217-9197.

Office of Data Management, Application Assistance Unit (571) 272-4000, or (571) 272-4200, or 1-888-786-0101



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Table with 5 columns: APPLICATION NO., FILING DATE, FIRST NAMED INVENTOR, ATTORNEY DOCKET NO., CONFIRMATION NO.
Row 1: 13/277,778, 10/20/2011, Anthony J. Warncke, Sauder Mfg. PIUS3-CON, 8216
Row 2: 37190, 7590, 10/26/2012, VARNUM, RIDDERING, SCHMIDT & HOWLETT LLP, 333 BRIDGE STREET, NW, P.O. BOX 352, GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49501-0352
Row 3: EXAMINER, GARRETT, ERIKA P
Row 4: ART UNIT, PAPER NUMBER, 3636
Row 5: NOTIFICATION DATE, DELIVERY MODE, 10/26/2012, ELECTRONIC

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

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

cnlapekes@varnumlaw.com
patents@varnumlaw.com

**Office Action Summary**

<b>Application No.</b> 13/277,778	<b>Applicant(s)</b> WARNCKE ET AL.	
<b>Examiner</b> ERIKA GARRETT	<b>Art Unit</b> 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 20 October 2011.
- 2a)  This action is **FINAL**.
- 2b)  This action is non-final.
- 3)  An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on \_\_\_\_\_; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.
- 4)  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**

- 5)  Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.  
5a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 6)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 7)  Claim(s) 1-5, 7, 10, 14 and 17-23 is/are rejected.
- 8)  Claim(s) 6, 8, 9, 11-13, 15 and 16 is/are objected to.
- 9)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 10)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 11)  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).
- 12)  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**

- 13)  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:  
1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3.  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)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2)  Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/11 and 1/12.
- 4)  Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5)  Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. 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.

2. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yu (6554353).

3. Regarding claim 20, Yu disclose a combination of a chair and a stool base portion, said chair comprising a sitting portion (114); base legs (22) attached to and depending downwardly from said sitting portion, said base legs being spaced laterally from one another; said stool base portion comprising floor engaging members and a saddle (23) located generally at a top of said base portion; said sitting portion including manually operable means for releasably engaging said chair from said base portion; said chair and said stool base portion are configurable in a first configuration in which said chair is releasably coupled to said saddle by said engaging means; and the chair and said stool being configurable in a second configuration (figure 2) wherein said chair and said stool base portion are disconnected, said chair is supported by said chair legs, and said base portion is positioned as a stool for seating a second user.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. 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.

5. Claims 1 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yu (6554353) in view of Chiang (5893606).

6. Regarding claim 1, Yu disclose a combination of a chair and a stool base (20) portion, said chair comprising: an upper portion (12) providing a backrest for support for a first user; a lower portion (11) connected to said upper portion and having a sitting portion for supporting said first user in a seated position, and at least one base leg (21) located below said sitting portion; said stool base portion adapted to support said chair, and comprising a saddle (23) adapted to releasably engage said chair; said combination is configurable in a first configuration with said chair being coupled to said saddle, and said sitting portion being positioned above said saddle; said combination is manually convertible between said first configuration and a second configuration, where said second configuration comprises said chair having said at least one base leg, while still functioning as a chair for said first user, and stool functioning so that said saddle is accessible to said first user as a work surface or, alternatively, so that said saddle is accessible to a second user as a sitting surface; and said combination is manually convertible between said first configuration.

Art Unit: 3636

7. Regarding claim 5, the saddle further comprises a top surface (40) that faces upward, and that defines at least one of a working surface, a writing surface and a sitting surface.

8. Yu fails to show the second configuration without requiring any manual manipulation of bolts, screws or nuts, or the use of any tools by said first user.

9. Chiang teaches second configuration (figure 2) without requiring any manual manipulation of bolts, screws or nuts, or the use of any tools by said first user (by way of replacing elements 141 on the base of Yu, will allow you to attach and detach the chair to and from the base without the use of tools).

10. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the base configuration of Yu with the configuration of Chiang as shown on figures 1 and 2; it will provide an alternative way of attaching the chair to the stool.

11. Claims 2-4,7,10,14 and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Yu and Chiang as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Kassai (4723813) and Massonet (3669497).

12. The combination of Yu and Chiang teaches the base portion is adapted for use as casual floor rocker seating (figure 5); the connector including at least one of a tilt mechanism whereby the saddle tilts relative to the pedestal (20) and a swivel mechanism (by way of the backrest) whereby the saddle swivels relative to the pedestal and said at least one base leg is sized and structured so as to permit a rocking motion of said chair when said combination is in said second configuration.

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13. The combination of Yu and Chaing fails to show claw comprises a plurality of teeth, said teeth comprising at least a first tooth and a second tooth, both of said teeth releasably engaging said saddle and providing alignment of said chair and said base portion when engaged; a latch extending downward and moving between the open and closed positions; latch ramping surface is position at the back edge.

14. Massonet teaches claw with teeth and a ramping surface (6a, 7a), see figures 1 and 3.

15. Kassai teaches claw (figures 3-4) comprises a plurality of teeth, said teeth comprising at least a first tooth and a second tooth, both of said teeth releasably engaging said saddle and providing alignment of said chair and said base portion when engaged; a latch (18) extending downward and moving between the open and closed positions.

16. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the seat with a claw, teeth and latch as taught by Kassai and Massonet, in order to clamp or attach the seat to the stool. Such would provide the biasing means, ramping surfaces, and due to the biased latch, a clicking sound may be achieved when the elements are engaged.

17. Claims 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Yu and Chiang.

18. Yu disclose a plurality of chair legs (114) radiating outwardly, for supporting said base portion; one of said chair legs to extend beneath said sitting

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portion, but sufficiently short so that when said chair is mounted on said base portion, said base legs do not engage any support surface.

19. The combination of Yu and Chiang fails to show a perimeter edge circumscribing said top surface and defining said top surface with a rotationally asymmetric geometry.

20. It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to separation between a perimeter edge circumscribing said top surface and defining said top surface with a rotationally asymmetric geometry solves any stated problem or is for any particular purpose and it appears that the invention would perform equally well with edge of Yu and Chiang.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

21. Claims 6,8,9,11-13,15 and 16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

#### ***Conclusion***

22. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

23. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ERIKA GARRETT whose telephone number is (571)272-6859. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday, Wednesday-Thursday 8:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.



Art Unit: 3636

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Dunn can be reached on 571-272-6670. 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). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/E. G. /  
Examiner, Art Unit 3636  
July 15, 2012

/Peter R. Brown/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3636

<b>Notice of References Cited</b>	Application/Control No. 13/277,778	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination WARNCKE ET AL.	
	Examiner ERIKA GARRETT	Art Unit 3636	Page 1 of 1

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
*	A	US-6,554,353	04-2003	Yu, Cheng-Yi	297/130
*	B	US-5,042,875	08-1991	Biggs, Sr., Thomas S.	297/252
*	C	US-2,545,840	03-1951	BROWNE SAMUEL H	297/252
*	D	US-3,669,497	06-1972	Massonnet, Henry	297/448.1
*	E	US-5,947,562	09-1999	Christofferson et al.	297/440.22
*	F	US-4,723,813	02-1988	Kassai, Kenzou	297/153
*	G	US-5,992,932	11-1999	Kain et al.	297/153
*	H	US-3,223,431	12-1965	LOUIS GOTTFRIED et al.	280/47.38
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

**NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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

\*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)  
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

Receipt date: 01/19/2012

13277778 - GAI: 3636

Doc code: IDS

Doc description: Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Filed

Approved for use through 07/31/2012. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> ( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		13277778
	Filing Date		2011-10-20
	First Named Inventor	Anthony J. Warncke	
	Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number		Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON

U.S.PATENTS						Remove
Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Patent Number	Kind Code <sup>1</sup>	Issue Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	2545840		1951-03-20	Browne	
	2	3269771		1966-08-30	Erdos	
	3	3821825		1974-07-02	Bailey	
	4	4160564		1979-07-10	Kyle	
	5	4394046		1983-07-19	Irwin	
	6	4697845		1987-10-06	Kamman	
	7	4736982		1988-04-12	Hwang	
	8	4765684		1988-08-23	Kvalheim	

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> ( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		13277778	13277778 - GAU: 3636	
	Filing Date		2011-10-20		
	First Named Inventor	Anthony J. Warncke			
	Art Unit				
	Examiner Name				
	Attorney Docket Number		Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON		

	9	4767159		1988-08-30	Opsvik	
	10	4767160		1988-08-30	Mengshoel	
	11	4793755		1988-12-27	Kvalheim	
	12	4793655		1988-12-27	Kvalheim	
	13	4832407		1989-05-23	Serber	
	14	4960305		1990-10-02	Opsvik	
	15	5042875		1991-08-27	Biggs, Sr.	
	16	5054857		1991-10-08	Kvalheim	
	17	5169210		1992-12-08	Fricano	
	18	5255957		1993-10-26	Opsvik	
	19	5308146		1994-05-03	Chou	

Receipt date: 01/19/2012

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Examiner Name		
Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON	

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
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( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

	20	5423597		1995-06-13	Rogers	
	21	5653499		1997-08-05	Goodall	
	22	5667278		1997-00-16	Li	
	23	5690379		1997-11-25	Cayssials	
	24	5806922		1998-09-15	Mendelovich	
	25	6116682		2000-09-12	Baur	
	26	6352306		2002-03-05	Dreiling	
	27	6367874		2002-04-09	Casini	
	28	6416123		2002-07-09	Bell	
	29	6554353		2003-04-29	Yu	
	30	6572134		2003-06-03	Barrett	

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	Art Unit				
	Examiner Name				
	Attorney Docket Number		Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON		

	31	67122711		2004-03-30	Skelton	
	32	6786553		2004-09-07	Grove	
	33	6824149		2004-11-30	Whitlock	
	34	6857696		2005-02-22	Usagani	
	35	6953222		2005-10-11	Larrick	
	36	7152358		2006-12-26	LeAnna	
	37	7316452		2008-01-08	Vestweber	
	38	7338122		2008-03-04	Hei	
	39	7472955		2009-01-06	Crane	
	40	D272205		1984-01-17	De Boer	
	41	D273729		1984-05-08	Pelly	

<b>Receipt date: 01/19/2012</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <b>( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)</b>	Application Number		13277778	13277778 - GAU: 3636	
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	First Named Inventor	Anthony J. Warncke			
	Art Unit				
	Examiner Name				
	Attorney Docket Number		Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON		

	42	D283858		1986-05-20	Opsvik	
	43	D297690		1988-09-20	Opsvik	
	44	D327375		1992-06-30	Cooper	
	45	D395962		1998-07-14	Buffon	
	46	D400365		1998-11-03	Rossi	
	47	D409007		1999-05-04	Osterweil-Glaz	
	48	D411692		1999-06-29	Ogg	
	49	D425713		2000-05-30	Tholkes	
	50	D437129		2001-02-06	Pinto	
	51	D437692		2001-02-20	Smith	
	52	D439066		2001-03-20	Hannes	

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53	D478734		2003-08-26	Chen	
54	D479054		2003-09-02	Chen	
55	D495155		2004-08-31	Baldanzi	
56	D497261		2004-10-19	Epp	
57	D515831		2006-02-28	Hosoe	
58	D585204		2009-01-27	Wieland	
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	1	20020014792		2002-02-07	Casini	
	2	20020074835		2002-06-20	Chalender	



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	Attorney Docket Number		Sauder Mfg. P1US3-CON	

3	20030218365		2003-11-27	Kawiaka	
4	20050057079		2005-03-17	Lee	
5					

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Receipt date: 10/20/2011

13277778 - GAU: 3636

Doc code: IDS

Doc description: Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Filed

PTO/SB/08a (01-10)

Approved for use through 07/31/2012, OMB 0651-0031

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	Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg P1US3-CON	

U.S.PATENTS						
Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Patent Number	Kind Code <sup>1</sup>	Issue Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	2545840		1948-10-09	Browne	
	2	3269771		1966-08-30	Erdos	
	3	3821825		1974-07-02	Bailey	
	4	4160564		1979-07-10	Kyle	
	5	4394046		1983-07-19	Irwin	
	6	4697845		1987-10-06	Kamman	
	7	4736982		1988-04-12	Hwang	
	8	4765684		1988-08-23	Kvalheim	

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18	5423597		1995-06-13	Rogers	
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	22	5806922		1998-09-15	Mendelovich	
	23	6116682		2000-09-12	Baur	
	24	6352306		2002-03-05	Dreiling	
	25	6367874		2002-04-09	Casini	
	26	6416123		2002-07-09	Bell	
	27	6554353		2003-04-29	Yu	
	28	6572134		2003-06-03	Barrett	
	29	6712711		2004-03-30	Skelton	
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	31	6824149		2004-11-30	Whitlock	
	32	6857696		2005-02-22	Usagani	
	33	6953222		2005-10-11	Larrick	
	34	7152358		2006-12-26	LeAnna	
	35	7338122		2008-03-04	Hei	
	36	7472955		2009-01-06	Crane	
	37	D272205		1984-01-17	DeBoer	
	38	D273729		1984-05-08	Pelly	
	39	D283858		1986-05-20	Opsvik	
	40	D297690		1988-09-20	Opsvik	
	41	D327375		1992-06-30	Cooper	

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	43	D400365		1998-11-03	Rossi	
	44	D409007		1999-05-04	Osterweil-Glaz	
	45	D411692		1999-06-29	Ogg	
	46	D425713		2000-05-30	Tholkes	
	47	D437129		2001-02-06	Pinto	
	48	D437692		2001-02-20	Smith	
	49	D439066		2001-03-20	Hannes	
	50	D478734		2003-08-26	Chen	
	51	D479054		2003-09-02	Chen	
	52	D495155		2004-08-31	Baldanzi	

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Art Unit		
Examiner Name		
Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg P1US3-CON	

	53	D497261		2004-10-19	Epp	
	54	D515831		2006-02-28	Hosoe	
	55	D585204		2009-01-27	Wieland	

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**U.S.PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS**

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	2	20020074835		2002-06-20	Chalender	
	3	20030218365		2003-11-27	Kawiaka	
	4	20050057079		2005-03-17	Lee	

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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> ( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		
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	First Named Inventor	Anthony J. Warncke	
	Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number	Sauder Mfg P1US3-CON	

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<b>Search Notes</b>  	<b>Application/Control No.</b>  13277778	<b>Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination</b>  WARNCKE ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b>  ERIKA GARRETT	<b>Art Unit</b>  3636

<b>SEARCHED</b>			
<b>Class</b>	<b>Subclass</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Examiner</b>
297	134,130,118,	7/13/12	eg

<b>SEARCH NOTES</b>		
<b>Search Notes</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Examiner</b>
east search	7/13/12	eg
ids search		
inventor search		
forward and backward citations		

<b>INTERFERENCE SEARCH</b>			
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