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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: ANTHONY J. WARNCKE ET AL.
 Serial Number: 14/057,781
 Filing Date: October 18, 2013
 Examiner/Art Group Unit: Timothy J. Brindley / 3636
 Title: CHAIR WITH COUPLING COMPANION STOOL BASE

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

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

Sir:

If there are any charges or fees in connection with the following communication, they may be paid out of our Deposit Account No. 25-0115.

In response to the Office Action issued November 13, 2014, please make the amendments shown in the attached papers in this application in the:

- Amendments to the Abstract.
- Amendments to the Specification.
- Amendments to the Claims.
- Amendments to the Drawings.

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Listing of the Claims:

Cancel claims 1-14.

15. (Currently amended) A multifunction desk chair comprising:
- a chair including a seat portion with a front, a rear and a bottom surface; a backrest portion and a frame interconnecting the seat and backrest portions and providing rocker rails under said seat portion;
 - a floor engaging base including a vertical support with a plurality of outwardly extending legs at one end and a generally flat tabletop of such height as to be accessible as a work surface to a user seated in said chair resting on said rails; ~~said tabletop and~~ having front and rear edges and being affixed to the top of the vertical support; the tabletop being configured to underlie said bottom surface between said rocker rails when the chair is coupled to the base; and
 - an attachment mechanism for releasably coupling the chair to the tabletop, said mechanism ~~having multiple elements that~~ being operable to latch the chair and the base together only when in the rotational orientation wherein the front edge of the tabletop generally underlies the front of the seat portion; wherein the attachment mechanism includes a spring-biased clip lock which is biased to latch the chair to the tabletop but configured to be manually operated to selectively release the chair from the tabletop.

16. (Previously presented) The multifunction desk chair defined in claim 15 wherein the frame rails define left and right mirror-image floor engaging rocker members extending, at least in part, from the rear of the seat to the front of the seat and underlying the seat, said members being spaced apart enough to straddle said tabletop therebetween.

17. (Previously presented) The multifunction desk chair defined in claim 16 wherein said rails bow outwardly and are provided with curved, floor engaging rocker surfaces.

18. (Previously presented) The multifunction chair defined in claim 15 wherein the frame members are generally spaced apart but converge toward the rear of the seat portion.

19. (Currently amended) The multifunction chair defined in claim 17 wherein the frame members extend from the rear underside of the seat upwardly along the back of the backrest and are attached to both the rear of the seat portion and the back of the backrest.

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20. (Previously presented) The multifunction chair defined in claim 19 wherein the frame members are joined together to form a unit near the top of the backrest.
21. (Canceled)
22. (Currently amended) The multifunction chair defined in claim ~~21~~15 wherein the snap lock is manually activated to re-latch the chair to the tabletop without direct manual contact by pushing down on the chair portion when the front edges of the chair and tabletop are substantially co-located.
23. (Currently amended) The multifunction chair defined in claim 22 wherein the ~~snap-clip~~ lock is further provided with a manual release element configured to be ~~grasped~~engaged by the fingers.
24. (Previously presented) The multifunction chair defined in claim 15 wherein the frame comprises a single length of rigid material attached to the underside of the chair and the back of the backrest and extending in two mirror-image, spaced apart portions to define a rocker base under the seat portion and extend upwardly and outwardly along and around the back of the backrest to join the backrest to the seat.
25. (Previously presented) The multifunction chair defined in claim 15 wherein the tabletop is generally rectangular and at least generally horizontal when the floor engaging base is placed on a horizontal support surface.
26. (Previously presented) The multifunction chair defined in claim 22 wherein operation of the snap-lock produces an audible response.
27. (Currently amended) A multifunctional desk chair comprising:
a floor rocker chair having a seat portion with an undersurface and a backrest portion with a rear surface and having a shaped periphery;
a pedestal base with legs and a top with a substantially flat upper surface with front, rear and opposite side edges;
said chair including a substantially continuous frame structure forming spaced apart rocker members disposed directly beneath and attached to said undersurface, said frame structure extending upwardly from said frame members along and attached to the backrest rear surface generally along and parallel to the upper periphery thereof to structurally join said seat and backrest positions;

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said rocker members being located beneath the plane of said undersurface and being spaced far enough apart to accommodate said top therebetween.

28. (Previously presented) A multifunctional desk chair as described in claim 27 wherein the pedestal top is intermediate the vertical extent of the backrest portion when the floor rocker chair and the base are at rest on the same floor and adjacent one another.

29. (Currently amended) A multifunctional furniture article comprising:
a floor rocker having a contoured seat, a backrest and a frame interconnecting the seat and backrest,
said frame extending along a rear surface of said backrest and continuing under said seat and formed as a pair of generally parallel rocker rails that are attached to said seat;
a base comprising a generally planar top and legs, said top being configured to fit between said rocker rails; and
an attachment mechanism for releasably coupling said floor rocker to said base with the top between said rocker rails,
wherein said top is at a height corresponding generally to the vertical center of said backrest when the article is in a disconnected state and the rocker and base are on the same floor level, wherein the floor rocker can swivel relative to the base when coupled thereto.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously presented) A two-part chair convertible from a standard height desk chair to a combination of separate floor rocker and work surface comprising:

a floor rocker having a seat, a seat back and a pair of rocker rails depending from and located below the seat, the back rest height exceeding the height of the seat surface above the bottom of said rails, and a front cross member below the front end of the seat and extending between said rails;

a base having a pedestal and a table plate mounted thereon, the table plate being detachably connected to the underside of said floor rocker between said rails by way of a manually operable, normally closed latch mechanism having a bias spring.

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32. (Previously presented) A multifunction chair convertible from a standard height desk chair to a combination of separate floor rocker and stool/work table comprising:

a floor rocker having a seat, a seat back, and a pair of rocker rails below and attached to said seat and in close proximity to said seat and further including a front cross member between the rails below the front end of said seat;

a stool comprising at least one vertical support member and a generally rectangular table top mounted thereon; and

a spring biased latch mechanism for coupling the table top to the underside of said floor rocker and for releasing said floor rocker from said table top, the dimensions of said table top being such as to fit between said rocker rails when the chair is in the desk chair configuration.

33. (Currently amended) A multifunction task chair convertible from a desk chair to a combination of separate floor rocker and game table comprising:

a floor rocker having a seat, a backrest, and a pair of spaced-apart rocker rails under the seat and attached to the seat;

a base having legs and a generally flat tabletop adapted to receive and support said floor rocker wherein the tabletop is positioned under the seat and between the rocker rails; and

a latching mechanism having complementary first and second elements on the seat and the base and configured to allow the floor rocker and the base to be positively but releasably coupled to one another in only one rotational orientation;

wherein the latch mechanism has a spring-biased, normally closed-position latch on the chair and a receiver for the spring biased latch on the base and further wherein the chair latch portion is configured to move away from the closed position to allow coupling by urging the chair downwardly on top of the base in the said one rotational orientation.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Previously presented) A method of operating a convertible desk chair consisting essentially of the combination of a low-profile floor rocker having a seat portion with a backrest and a pair of spaced-apart rocker rails attached to and positioned under the seat portion, and a base having a pedestal portion and a substantially flat tabletop surface mounted on the pedestal, and a spring-biased

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