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Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE


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PTO
60/297718
06/12/01

PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT COVER SHEET

This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT under 37 CFR 1.53(c).

INVENTOR(S)					
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname		Residence (City and either State or Foreign Country)	
Joseph L.		Jones		Acton, MA	
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional inventors are being named on the ___ separately numbered sheets attached hereto					
TITLE OF THE INVENTION (280 characters max)					
Multi-Mode Coverage for an Autonomous Robot					
Direct all correspondence to: CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS					
<input type="checkbox"/> Customer Number		<input type="text"/>		Place Customer Number Bar Code Label here	
OR Type Customer Number here					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Firm or Individual Name		Glen D. Weinstein			
Address		Twin City Office Center, Suite 6			
Address		22 McGrath Highway			
City	Somerville	State	MA	ZIP	02143
Country	USA	Telephone	617.629.0055	Fax	617.629.0126
ENCLOSED APPLICATION PARTS (check all that apply)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Specification	Number of Pages	<input type="text" value="22"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CD(s), Number
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Drawing(s)	Number of Sheets	<input type="text" value="9"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (specify)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76				
METHOD OF PAYMENT OF FILING FEES FOR THIS PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.				FILING FEE AMOUNT (\$)
<input type="checkbox"/>	A check or money order is enclosed to cover the filing fees				<input type="text" value="\$75.00"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge filing fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number:		<input type="text" value="501806"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.				
The invention was made by an agency of the United States Government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No.				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, the name of the U.S. Government agency and the Government contract number are: _____				

Respectfully submitted,
SIGNATURE 
TYPED or PRINTED NAME Glen D. Weinstein
TELEPHONE 617.629.0055

Date 6/12/01
REGISTRATION NO. 43,981
(if appropriate)
Docket Number: DP-5

USE ONLY FOR FILING A PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.51. The information is used by the public to file (and by the PTO to process) a provisional application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 8 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the complete provisional application to the PTO. 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, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Box Provisional Application, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Mailed: June 12, 2001

Box Provisional Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, District of Columbia 20231

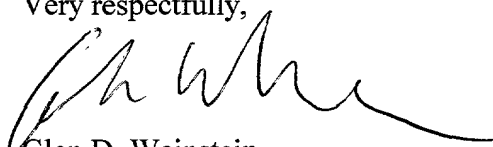
Title: **MULTI-MODE COVERAGE FOR AN AUTONOMOUS ROBOT**
Inventor: Joseph L. Jones
Assignee: iRobot Corporation
Filing Date: June 12, 2001

Sir:

Please file the following enclosed Provisional Patent Application (PPA) papers listed below under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b)(2).

1. Provisional Application for Patent Cover Sheet (1 page)
2. Specification (22 pages)
3. Drawings (9 pages, informal)
4. Small Entity Statement (1 page)
5. Fee Transmittal (2 Copies)
6. Return Receipt Postcard Addressed to Assignee
7. Declaration of Mailing by "EXPRESS MAIL"

Very respectfully,



Glen D. Weinstein
Reg. No. 43,981

Express Mail Label # **EK518595065US**
Date of Deposit: June 12, 2001

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<h1 style="margin: 0;">FEE TRANSMITTAL</h1> <h2 style="margin: 0;">for FY 2001</h2> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 5px 0;">Patent fees are subject to annual revision.</p>	Complete if Known	
	Application Number	
	Filing Date	
	First Named Inventor	
	Examiner Name	
	Group Art Unit	
TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT	(\$ 75.00)	
	Attorney Docket No.	DP-5

<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">METHOD OF PAYMENT</h3> <p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:</p> <p>Deposit Account Number: 501806</p> <p>Deposit Account Name: iRobot Corporation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status See 37 CFR 1.27</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment Enclosed:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Credit card <input type="checkbox"/> Money Order <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">FEE CALCULATION (continued)</h3> <h4 style="margin: 0;">3. 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SUBMITTED BY		Complete (if applicable)	
Name (Print/Type)	Glen D. Weinstein	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	43,981
Signature		Telephone	617 628 0057
		Date	6/14/01

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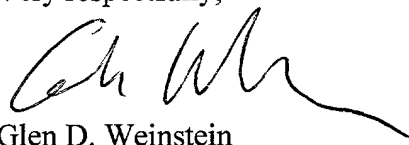
Title: Multi-Mode Coverage for an Autonomous Robot
Inventor: Joseph L. Jones
Assignee: iRobot Corporation
Filing Date: June 12, 2001

DECLARATION OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

Glen D. Weinstein declares as follows:

1. I reside at 675 Grove Street, Newton, MA 02462, and am an employee of iRobot Corporation, Twin City Office Center, Suite 6, 22 McGrath Highway, Somerville, MA 02143.
2. On June 12, 2001, I deposited in the mail, "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service the contents of the envelope for which "Express Mail" receipt No. **EK518595065US** was issued addressed to: Box Provisional Application, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231.
3. 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 Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the above-identified application or any patents issued thereon.

Very respectfully,



Glen D. Weinstein
Reg. No. 43,981

Express Mail Label # **EK518595065US**
Date of Deposit: June 12, 2001

Patent Application of

Joseph L. Jones

for

MULTI-MODE COVERAGE FOR AN AUTONOMOUS ROBOT

5

This application is entitled to the benefit of United States Provisional Application Ser. No. 60/237,255 filed October 2, 2000.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

10

This invention relates generally to autonomous vehicles or robots, and more specifically to methods and mobile robotic devices for covering a specific area as might be required of, or used as, robotic cleaners or lawn mowers.

DESCRIPTION OF PRIOR ART

15

For purposes of this description, examples will focus on the problems faced in the prior art as related to robotic cleaning (e.g., dusting, buffing, sweeping, scrubbing, dry mopping or vacuuming). The claimed invention, however, is limited only by the claims themselves, and one of skill in the art will recognize the myriad of uses for the present invention beyond indoor, domestic cleaning.

20

Robotic engineers have long worked on developing an effective method of autonomous cleaning. By way of introduction, the performance of cleaning robots should concentrate on three measures of success: coverage, cleaning rate and perceived effectiveness. Coverage is the percentage of the available space visited by the robot

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