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(54) Title Magnetic-Tape Cartridge
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SONY Exhibit 1010
SONY v. FUJI

[seal:] [illegible]

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Specification

1. Title

Magnetic-Tape Cartridge

2. Claims

1) A magnetic-tape cartridge that houses a single reel wound with a magnetic tape and is equipped with a brake button that locks the reel, wherein occluding portions of the reel and the brake button are on surfaces that are not orthogonal to an axial direction and the reel has an inclined guide surface that guides the brake-button occluding portion to the reel occluding portion.

2) The magnetic-tape cartridge according to claim 1, wherein the occluding portion of the brake button is a bevel gear and the occluding portion of the reel has an inclined internal gear that is continuous from the guide surface.

3) The magnetic-tape cartridge according to claim 1, wherein the occluding portion of the brake button is a spur gear and the occluding portion of the reel has an internal gear

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in the axial direction that is continuous from the guide surface.

4) The magnetic-tape cartridge according to claim 3, wherein axial-direction opposing tip portions of the occluding portions of the brake button and the reel are tapered surfaces.

3. Description

(Field)

The present invention relates to a magnetic-tape cartridge and more particularly relates to a magnetic-tape cartridge rotatably housing a single reel wound with a magnetic tape.

(Background)

Conventionally, as a magnetic-tape cartridge used as a recording medium of a computer or the like, there is a magnetic-tape cartridge that winds a magnetic tape around a single reel and rotatably houses this reel in a case. In this magnetic-tape cartridge, at a time of non-use thereof, in a state where the magnetic tape is completely wound around the reel,

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a leader block (a means of a device such as a computer introducing the magnetic tape to a tape path), for example, installed to a tape end is locked to a tape outlet of the case and the reel is locked so as to not rotate unexpectedly.

This reel is provided with a brake gear of an uneven shape along a circumference of an inner-circumference portion thereof. Meanwhile, in a center portion reel rotation, a brake button provided with a brake gear that is slidably locked in a case-thickness direction and engages the brake gear of the reel is provided. Moreover, this brake button is biased in the case-thickness direction by, for example, a coil spring and is configured to prevent unexpected rotation of the reel at the time of cartridge non-use by the brake gear engaging the brake gear of the reel due to this biasing force. Moreover, in a cartridge use state, for example, a rotation shaft (rotation shaft of a motor) of the device such as the computer enters the case, abuts the brake button, and moves the button against the biasing force of the coil

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spring. As a result, the lock of the reel is released and the magnetic tape can be pulled outside of the case.

The brake gear of the reel and the brake gear of the brake button are formed concentrically. Moreover, the brake button is mounted so as to be able to rotate slightly. At the time of non-use, the cartridge prevents unexpected rotation of the reel by both brake gears occluding in a concentric state.

However, at the time of non-use, such as when the cartridge is extracted from the device, when convex portions of the brake gears of the reel and the brake button abut each other, there is a situation where the brake gears do not occlude and the reel can rotate even at the time of non-use. Therefore, at such a time, both brake gears can be guided to an occluding position by rotating the brake button slightly. However, this is limited to when the reel and the brake button are in the concentric state; when these are not centered, there is a problem where the brake gears cannot occlude merely by rotating the brake button slightly. Moreover, centering the reel and the brake button from outside the cartridge is extremely

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