

AO 120 (Rev. 08/10)

TO: <b>Mail Stop 8</b> <b>Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office</b> <b>P.O. Box 1450</b> <b>Alexandria, VA 22313-1450</b>	<b>REPORT ON THE</b> <b>FILING OR DETERMINATION OF AN</b> <b>ACTION REGARDING A PATENT OR</b> <b>TRADEMARK</b>
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In Compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 290 and/or 15 U.S.C. § 1116 you are hereby advised that a court action has been filed in the U.S. District Court Northern District of Illinois-Eastern Division on the following  
 Trademarks or  Patents. (  the patent action involves 35 U.S.C. § 292.);

DOCKET NO. 1:9-cv-2489	DATE FILED 4/12/2019	U.S. DISTRICT COURT Northern District of Illinois-Eastern Division
PLAINTIFF MacNeil Automotive Products Limited Corporation doing business as WeatherTech		DEFENDANT Titanium Plus Autoparts, Inc. a California Corporation
PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1 US 8,382,186 B2	2/26/2013	MacNeil, IP LLC
2		
3		
4		
5		

In the above—entitled case, the following patent(s)/ trademark(s) have been included:

DATE INCLUDED	INCLUDED BY <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment <input type="checkbox"/> Answer <input type="checkbox"/> Cross Bill <input type="checkbox"/> Other Pleading	
PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1		
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3		
4		
5		

In the above—entitled case, the following decision has been rendered or judgement issued:

DECISION/JUDGEMENT
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CLERK Thomas G. Bruton	(BY) DEPUTY CLERK Jessica J. Ramos	DATE 6/14/2019
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Copy 1—Upon initiation of action, mail this copy to Director Copy 3—Upon termination of action, mail this copy to Director  
 Copy 2—Upon filing document adding patent(s), mail this copy to Director Copy 4—Case file copy

AO 120 (Rev. 08/10)

<b>TO:</b> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mail Stop 8</b>  <b>Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office</b>  <b>P.O. Box 1450</b>  <b>Alexandria, VA 22313-1450</b></p>	<b>REPORT ON THE</b> <b>FILING OR DETERMINATION OF AN</b> <b>ACTION REGARDING A PATENT OR</b> <b>TRADEMARK</b>
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In Compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 290 and/or 15 U.S.C. § 1116 you are hereby advised that a court action has been filed in the U.S. District Court Northern District of Illinois on the following

Trademarks or  Patents. (  the patent action involves 35 U.S.C. § 292.);

DOCKET NO. 1:19-cv-2489	DATE FILED 4/12/2019	U.S. DISTRICT COURT Northern District of Illinois
PLAINTIFF MacNeil Automotive Products Limited an Illinois Corporation doing business as WeatherTech		DEFENDANT Titanium Plus Autoparts, Inc. a California Corporation
PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1 US 8,382,186 B2	2/26/2013	MacNeil, IP LLC
2		
3		
4		
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In the above—entitled case, the following patent(s)/ trademark(s) have been included:

DATE INCLUDED	INCLUDED BY <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment <input type="checkbox"/> Answer <input type="checkbox"/> Cross Bill <input type="checkbox"/> Other Pleading	
PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
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In the above—entitled case, the following decision has been rendered or judgement issued:

DECISION/JUDGEMENT   Closing order entered 5/21/2019, See attached order
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CLERK <b>Thomas G. Bruton</b>	(BY) DEPUTY CLERK <b>Roberto Perez</b>	DATE
----------------------------------	---	------

Copy 1—Upon initiation of action, mail this copy to Director Copy 3—Upon termination of action, mail this copy to  
 Copy 2—Upon filing document adding patent(s), mail this copy to Director Copy 4—Case file copy

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE Northern District of Illinois – CM/ECF LIVE, Ver 6.2.2  
Eastern Division**

MacNeil Automotive Products Limited

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No.: 1:19-cv-02489

Honorable Edmond E. Chang

Titanium Plus Autoparts, Inc.

Defendant.

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**NOTIFICATION OF DOCKET ENTRY**

This docket entry was made by the Clerk on Tuesday, May 21, 2019:

MINUTE entry before the Honorable Edmond E. Chang: In light of the settlement in principle, R. 11, the Court vacates all deadlines (including the answer deadline). To avoid unnecessary status hearings and to provide time to reduce the agreement to writing and effectuate it, the case is dismissed without prejudice and with full leave to reinstate via motion filed by 06/17/2019. If no motion to reinstate is filed by that date, then the dismissal will automatically convert to a dismissal with prejudice, without further action by the Court. Plaintiff of course may file the voluntary dismissal before 06/17/2019. Status hearing of 05/24/2019 is vacated. Civil case terminated. Emailed notice(slb, )

**ATTENTION:** This notice is being sent pursuant to Rule 77(d) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or Rule 49(c) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. It was generated by CM/ECF, the automated docketing system used to maintain the civil and criminal dockets of this District. If a minute order or other document is enclosed, please refer to it for additional information.

For scheduled events, motion practices, recent opinions and other information, visit our web site at [www.ilnd.uscourts.gov](http://www.ilnd.uscourts.gov).

AO 120 (Rev. 08/10)

<b>TO:</b> <b>Mail Stop 8</b> <b>Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office</b> <b>P.O. Box 1450</b> <b>Alexandria, VA 22313-1450</b>	<b>REPORT ON THE</b> <b>FILING OR DETERMINATION OF AN</b> <b>ACTION REGARDING A PATENT OR</b> <b>TRADEMARK</b>
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In Compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 290 and/or 15 U.S.C. § 1116 you are hereby advised that a court action has been filed in the U.S. District Court Northern District of Illinois on the following

Trademarks or  Patents. (  the patent action involves 35 U.S.C. § 292.);

DOCKET NO. 1:19-cv-2489	DATE FILED 4/12/2019	U.S. DISTRICT COURT Northern District of Illinois
PLAINTIFF MacNeil Automotive Products Limited an Illinois Corporation doing business as WeatherTech		DEFENDANT Titanium Plus Autoparts, Inc. a California Corporation
PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1 US 8,382,186 B2	2/26/2013	MacNeil, IP LLC
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PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	
1			
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In the above—entitled case, the following decision has been rendered or judgement issued:

DECISION/JUDGEMENT
--------------------

CLERK Thomas G. Bruton	(BY) DEPUTY CLERK Roberto Perez	DATE 4/15/2019
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Copy 1—Upon initiation of action, mail this copy to Director    Copy 3—Upon termination of action, mail this copy to Director  
 Copy 2—Upon filing document adding patent(s), mail this copy to Director    Copy 4—Case file copy

<b>PATENT ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEET</b>
--------------------------------------

Electronic Version v1.1  
 Stylesheet Version v1.2

EPAS ID: PAT5023984

<b>SUBMISSION TYPE:</b>	NEW ASSIGNMENT
<b>NATURE OF CONVEYANCE:</b>	ASSIGNMENT
<b>CONVEYING PARTY DATA</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Execution Date</b>
DAVID F. MACNEIL	09/10/2010
SCOTT A. VARGO	09/10/2010
<b>RECEIVING PARTY DATA</b>	
<b>Name:</b>	MACNEIL IP LLC
<b>Street Address:</b>	1 MACNEIL COURT
<b>City:</b>	BOLINGBROOK
<b>State/Country:</b>	ILLINOIS
<b>Postal Code:</b>	60440
<b>PROPERTY NUMBERS Total: 3</b>	
<b>Property Type</b>	<b>Number</b>
<b>Patent Number:</b>	8336944
<b>Patent Number:</b>	8336945
<b>Patent Number:</b>	8382186
<b>CORRESPONDENCE DATA</b>	
<b>Fax Number:</b>	(630)505-1312
<i>Correspondence will be sent to the e-mail address first; if that is unsuccessful, it will be sent using a fax number, if provided; if that is unsuccessful, it will be sent via US Mail.</i>	
<b>Phone:</b>	630-505-1305
<b>Email:</b>	jperkins@perkinsip.com
<b>Correspondent Name:</b>	PERKINS IP LAW GROUP LLC
<b>Address Line 1:</b>	4200 COMMERCE COURT
<b>Address Line 2:</b>	SUITE 310
<b>Address Line 4:</b>	LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532
<b>ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER:</b>	31700.0728
<b>NAME OF SUBMITTER:</b>	ELIZABETH ZEGA
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	/Elizabeth Zega/
<b>DATE SIGNED:</b>	06/26/2018
This document serves as an Oath/Declaration (37 CFR 1.63).	
<b>Total Attachments: 3</b>	

source=Assignment #page1.tif  
source=Assignment #page2.tif  
source=Assignment #page3.tif

## ASSIGNMENT

**WHEREAS**, We, the undersigned joint inventors of residence as listed, having invented a certain new and useful improvement as below entitled, for which we have applied for a United States patent, said application having been identified with Attorney Docket No. 31700.000254 and entitled DESIGNING AND MANUFACTURING VEHICLE FLOOR TRAYS; and

**WHEREAS**, MacNeil IP LLC (hereinafter referred to as "Assignee"), a limited liability company organized under the laws of Illinois, with an address of 1 MacNeil Court, Bolingbrook, Illinois 60440, desires to acquire our entire right, title and interest in and to the invention, and in and to said application and any patent that may issue thereon;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, for and in consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, we assign to Assignee, all right, title and interest in and to said invention and in and to said application and all patents which may be granted therefor, and all divisions, reissues, continuations, and continuations-in-part thereof; and we authorize and request the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office to issue all patents for said invention, insofar as our interest is concerned, to Assignee.

We also assign to Assignee, all right, title and interest in and to the invention disclosed in said application throughout the world, including the right to file applications for and obtain patents, utility models, industrial models and designs for said invention in MacNeil IP LLC's own name throughout the world including all rights to publish cautionary notices reserving ownership of said invention and all rights to register said invention in appropriate registries; and we further agree to execute any and all powers of attorney, applications, assignments, declarations, affidavits, and any other papers in connection therewith necessary to perfect such right, title and interest in Assignee.

Assignor also assigns to Assignee all rights of action for infringement of the Patent which may have accrued prior to the date on which this Assignment becomes effective.

We will communicate to Assignee any facts known to us respecting any improvements; and, at the expense of Assignee, we will testify in any legal proceedings, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuation, continuation-in-part, reissue and substitute applications, make lawful oaths and declarations, and generally do everything possible to vest title in Assignee and to aid Assignee to obtain and enforce proper protection for said invention in all countries.

This Assignment shall be binding on the parties' successors, assigns and legal representatives.

Title of Invention: DESIGNING AND MANUFACTURING  
VEHICLE FLOOR TRAYS

Attorney Docket No.: 31700.000254

Signature of Inventor:  \_\_\_\_\_

Inventor's Name: David F. MacNeil

Residence (City, Province or State,  
Country): Hinsdale, Illinois  
US

Date of signature: 9/10/10

Signature of Inventor: \_\_\_\_\_

Inventor's Name: Scott A. Vargo

Residence (City, Province or State,  
Country): Lombard, Illinois  
US

Date of signature: \_\_\_\_\_



This Assignment shall be binding on the parties' successors, assigns and legal representatives.

Title of Invention: DESIGNING AND MANUFACTURING  
VEHICLE FLOOR TRAYS

Attorney Docket No.: 31700.000254

Signature of Inventor: \_\_\_\_\_

Inventor's Name: David F. MacNeil

Residence (City, Province or State,  
Country): Hinsdale, Illinois  
US

Date of signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Inventor: /Scott A. Vargo/

Inventor's Name: Scott A. Vargo

Residence (City, Province or State,  
Country): Lombard, Illinois  
US

Date of signature: September 10, 2010



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
13/595,703	08/27/2012	David F. MACNEIL	31700.0322

115904  
Perkins IP Law Group LLC  
4200 Commerce Court  
Suite 310  
Lisle, IL 60532

**CONFIRMATION NO. 8216**  
**POA ACCEPTANCE LETTER**



Date Mailed: 09/17/2014

**NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF POWER OF ATTORNEY**

This is in response to the Power of Attorney filed 08/11/2014.

The Power of Attorney in this application is accepted. Correspondence in this application will be mailed to the above address as provided by 37 CFR 1.33.

/sleutchit/

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



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
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www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
13/595,703	08/27/2012	David F. MACNEIL	31700.000322

**CONFIRMATION NO. 8216**

**POWER OF ATTORNEY NOTICE**



\*OC000000070765421\*

64770  
Perkins IP Law Group LLC  
4200 Commerce Court, Suite 310  
Lisle, IL 60532

Date Mailed: 09/17/2014

**NOTICE REGARDING CHANGE OF POWER OF ATTORNEY**

This is in response to the Power of Attorney filed 08/11/2014.

- The Power of Attorney to you in this application has been revoked by the assignee who has intervened as provided by 37 CFR 3.71. Future correspondence will be mailed to the new address of record(37 CFR 1.33).

/sleutchit/

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

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the patent of: MacNeil IP LLC  
Patent No.: 8,382,186 B2  
Issue Date: February 26, 2013  
Title: VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY

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

**REVOCATION OF POWER OF ATTORNEY, APPOINTMENT OF NEW ATTORNEYS  
AND CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §3.73(c)**

I, David F. MacNeil, am the Manager of MacNeil IP LLC, a limited liability company duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Illinois (“Owner”). The Owner is the assignee and owner of the entire right, title and interest in the above-identified patent (“Patent”) by virtue of an assignment from the inventors of this Patent, U.S. Patent No. 8,382,186 B2 issued February 26, 2013. As evidence of this assignment, the Owner points to the Assignment recorded at Reel 024971, Frame 0346.

As the Manager of Owner the undersigned is authorized to act on behalf of Owner and has full power to grant and revoke powers of attorney.

Owner hereby revokes all previously granted powers of attorney.

Owner hereby appoints Practitioners associated with Customer Number 115904 as its attorneys to prosecute this Patent Application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected with the Patent Application and with any resulting patent, said attorneys being of the firm of Perkins IP Law Group LLC, with full power of substitution and



## Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

<b>EFS ID:</b>	19832482
<b>Application Number:</b>	13595703
<b>International Application Number:</b>	
<b>Confirmation Number:</b>	8216
<b>Title of Invention:</b>	VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY
<b>First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:</b>	David F. MACNEIL
<b>Customer Number:</b>	64770
<b>Filer:</b>	Jefferson Perkins/Patricia Romanelli
<b>Filer Authorized By:</b>	Jefferson Perkins
<b>Attorney Docket Number:</b>	31700.000322
<b>Receipt Date:</b>	11-AUG-2014
<b>Filing Date:</b>	27-AUG-2012
<b>Time Stamp:</b>	16:32:33
<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	Notification of loss of entitlement to small entity status	NotOfLossOfSmEntStatus.pdf	122019 <small>3c14893cf5d3adb1f18414daa3a558c6cde65c458</small>	no	2

### Warnings:

### Information:

2	Power of Attorney	RevAndPOA0322.pdf	78074 <small>7776c251a766e74fe5c1e018c0d06c93a4a3b90c</small>	no	2
<b>Warnings:</b>					
<b>Information:</b>					
<b>Total Files Size (in bytes):</b>				200093	
<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>					

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: MacNeil IP LLC  
Application Number: 13/595,703  
Filed: August 27, 2012  
Patent Number: 8,382,186 B2  
Issue Date: February 26, 2013  
Confirmation Number: 8216  
For: VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION  
BY ELECTRONIC FILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) electronic filing system (EFS-Web) to the USPTO on August 11, 2014.

/Patricia Romanelli/  
Patricia Romanelli

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

**NOTIFICATION OF LOSS OF ENTITLEMENT TO  
SMALL ENTITY STATUS UNDER 37 CFR § 1.27(g)(2)**

Dear Sir:

This communication serves as notification of a loss of entitlement to small entity status of the owner of the above identified application under 37 CFR § 1.27(g)(2).



No fee is thought to be due in connection with this submission. Nonetheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency relating to this submission to Deposit Account No. 506166 of Perkins IP Law Group LLC.

Respectfully submitted,

/Jefferson Perkins/  
Jefferson Perkins  
Registration No. 31,407

**CUSTOMER NO. 115904**

PERKINS IP LAW GROUP LLC  
4200 Commerce Court, Suite 310  
Lisle, Illinois 60532  
Telephone: (630) 505-1305  
Fax: (630) 505-1312  
Email: jperkins@perkinsip.com



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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United States Patent and Trademark Office  
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P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	ISSUE DATE	PATENT NO.	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
13/595,703	02/26/2013	8382186	31700.000322	8216

64770 7590 02/06/2013  
Momkus McCluskey, LLC  
1001 Warrenville Road, Suite 500  
Lisle, IL 60532

**ISSUE NOTIFICATION**

The projected patent number and issue date are specified above.

**Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)**  
(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment is 0 day(s). Any patent to issue from the above-identified application will include an indication of the adjustment on the front page.

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Application Assistance Unit (AAU) of the Office of Data Management (ODM) at (571)-272-4200.

APPLICANT(s) (Please see PAIR WEB site <http://pair.uspto.gov> for additional applicants):

David F. MACNEIL, Hinsdale, IL;  
Scott A. VARGO, Lombard, IL;

The United States represents the largest, most dynamic marketplace in the world and is an unparalleled location for business investment, innovation, and commercialization of new technologies. The USA offers tremendous resources and advantages for those who invest and manufacture goods here. Through SelectUSA, our nation works to encourage and facilitate business investment. To learn more about why the USA is the best country in the world to develop technology, manufacture products, and grow your business, visit [SelectUSA.gov](http://SelectUSA.gov).

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> ( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		13595703 - GAU: 3612	
	Filing Date			
	First Named Inventor	David F. MACNEIL		
	Art Unit			
	Examiner Name			
	Attorney Docket Number		31700.000322	

	20	6732030	B2	2004-05-04	Jones	
	21	6058618	A	2000-05-09	Hemmelgarn et al.	
	22	6022503	A	2000-02-08	Hudkins et al.	
	23	5208995	A	1993-05-11	McKendrick	
	24	2188342	A	1940-01-30	England	
	25	5919540	A	1999-07-06	Bailey	
Change(s) applied to document /L.K.H./ 1/30/2013	26	7401837	B2	<del>2004-09-24</del> July 22, 2008	MacNeil	
	27	6794013	B1	2004-09-21	Iacovelli et al.	
	28	6605333	B2	2003-08-12	Ferreira et al.	
	29	5891546	A	1999-04-06	Sherman	
	30	5725926	A	1998-03-10	Wang	



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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www.uspto.gov

Table with 5 columns: APPLICATION NO., FILING DATE, FIRST NAMED INVENTOR, ATTORNEY DOCKET NO., CONFIRMATION NO. Includes sub-tables for EXAMINER (ROMAIN, PINEL E), ART UNIT (3612), PAPER NUMBER, NOTIFICATION DATE (01/29/2013), and DELIVERY MODE (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):

jperkins@momlaw.com
promanelli@momlaw.com
kblouin@momlaw.com

<b>Corrected Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	13/595,703	MACNEIL ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	PINEL ROMAIN	3612	

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

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to interview 1/9/13.
2.  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.
3.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7. As a result of the allowed claim(s), you may be eligible to benefit from the **Patent Prosecution Highway** program at a participating intellectual property office for the corresponding application. For more information, please see [http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init\\_events/pph/index.jsp](http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/pph/index.jsp) or send an inquiry to [PPHfeedback@uspto.gov](mailto:PPHfeedback@uspto.gov).
4.  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 the:
    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)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

**Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material</li> <li>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date <u>1/9/2013</u> .</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.</li> </ol> |
|--|---|

/PINEL E ROMAIN/  
Examiner, Art Unit 3612

/D GLENN DAYOAN/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3612



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
**U.S. Patent and Trademark Office**  
 Address : COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

<b>APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.</b>	<b>FILING DATE</b>	<b>FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION</b>	<b>ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.</b>
13/595,703	27 August, 2012	MACNEIL ET AL.	31700.000322

Momkus McCluskey, LLC 1001 Warrenville Road, Suite 500 Lisle, IL 60532	<b>EXAMINER</b>	
	PINEL ROMAIN	
	<b>ART UNIT</b>	<b>PAPER</b>
	3612	20130110

DATE MAILED:

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

Commissioner for Patents

The "Notice of Allowance" has been corrected to include claim 7.

/D GLENN DAYOAN/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3612

PTO-90C (Rev.04-03)

**PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL**

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: **Mail** Mail Stop ISSUE FEE  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
 or **Fax** (571)-273-2885

**INSTRUCTIONS:** This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

64770 7590 12/31/2012  
 Momkus McCluskey, LLC  
 1001 Warrenville Road, Suite 500  
 Lisle, IL 60532

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

**Certificate of Mailing or Transmission**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via the USPTO electronic filing system in accordance with 37 CFR §1.6(a)(4) on January 10, 2013.

Patricia Romanelli	(Depositor's name)
/Patricia Romanelli/	(Signature)
January 10, 2013	(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
13/595,703	08/27/2012	David F. MACNEIL	31700.000322	8216

TITLE OF INVENTION: VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	\$885	\$0	\$0	\$885	04/01/2013

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
ROMAIN, PINEL E	3612	296-097230

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363). <input type="checkbox"/> Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached. <input type="checkbox"/> "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.	2. For printing on the patent front page, list (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.	1 Momkus McCluskey, LLC 2 Jefferson Perkins 3
---	---	---

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)  
 PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE: MacNeil IP LLC  
 (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY): Bolingbrook, Illinois

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent):  Individual  Corporation or other private group entity  Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Issue Fee <input type="checkbox"/> Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted) <input type="checkbox"/> Advance Order - # of Copies _____	4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above) <input type="checkbox"/> A check is enclosed. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2036 is attached. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 503982 (enclose an extra copy of this form).
---	---

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)  
 a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.  b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature: /Jefferson Perkins/ Date: January 10, 2013  
 Typed or printed name: Jefferson Perkins Registration No. 31,407

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. 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 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, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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

Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal				
<b>Application Number:</b>	13595703			
<b>Filing Date:</b>	27-Aug-2012			
<b>Title of Invention:</b>	VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY			
<b>First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:</b>	David F. MACNEIL			
<b>Filer:</b>	Jefferson Perkins/Patricia Romanelli			
<b>Attorney Docket Number:</b>	31700.000322			
Filed as Small Entity				
<b>Utility under 35 USC 111(a) Filing Fees</b>				
Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
<b>Basic Filing:</b>				
<b>Pages:</b>				
<b>Claims:</b>				
<b>Miscellaneous-Filing:</b>				
<b>Petition:</b>				
<b>Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:</b>				
<b>Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:</b>				
Utility Appl issue fee	2501	1	885	885
<b>Extension-of-Time:</b>				



Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
<b>Miscellaneous:</b>				
<b>Total in USD (\$)</b>				<b>885</b>

## Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

<b>EFS ID:</b>	14669204
<b>Application Number:</b>	13595703
<b>International Application Number:</b>	
<b>Confirmation Number:</b>	8216
<b>Title of Invention:</b>	VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY
<b>First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:</b>	David F. MACNEIL
<b>Customer Number:</b>	64770
<b>Filer:</b>	Jefferson Perkins/Patricia Romanelli
<b>Filer Authorized By:</b>	Jefferson Perkins
<b>Attorney Docket Number:</b>	31700.000322
<b>Receipt Date:</b>	10-JAN-2013
<b>Filing Date:</b>	27-AUG-2012
<b>Time Stamp:</b>	16:55:32
<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	\$ 885
RAM confirmation Number	4184
Deposit Account	503982
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 1.21 (Miscellaneous fees and charges)	

<b>File Listing:</b>					
<b>Document Number</b>	<b>Document Description</b>	<b>File Name</b>	<b>File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest</b>	<b>Multi Part /.zip</b>	<b>Pages (if appl.)</b>
1	Issue Fee Payment (PTO-85B)	IssueFeeTransmittal.pdf	1762687 f87111cd51a2dfbb2d130e33db925466461e2f867	no	1
<b>Warnings:</b>					
<b>Information:</b>					
2	Fee Worksheet (SB06)	fee-info.pdf	30128 1cf2e830d1826649978e9af320a78c4073b2129b	no	2
<b>Warnings:</b>					
<b>Information:</b>					
<b>Total Files Size (in bytes):</b>			1792815		
<p>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.</p> <p><b><u>New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111</u></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.</p> <p><b><u>National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371</u></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.</p> <p><b><u>New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office</u></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.</p>					



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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

64770 7590 12/31/2012
Momkus McCluskey, LLC
1001 Warrenville Road, Suite 500
Lisle, IL 60532

EXAMINER

ROMAIN, PINEL E

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3612

DATE MAILED: 12/31/2012

Table with 5 columns: APPLICATION NO., FILING DATE, FIRST NAMED INVENTOR, ATTORNEY DOCKET NO., CONFIRMATION NO.
13/595,703 08/27/2012 David F. MACNEIL 31700.000322 8216

TITLE OF INVENTION: VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY

Table with 7 columns: APPLN. TYPE, SMALL ENTITY, ISSUE FEE DUE, PUBLICATION FEE DUE, PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE, TOTAL FEE(S) DUE, DATE DUE
nonprovisional YES \$885 \$0 \$0 \$885 04/01/2013

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

**PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL**

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 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
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CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

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 Momkus McCluskey, LLC  
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**Certificate of Mailing or Transmission**

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

_____ (Depositor's name)
_____ (Signature)
_____ (Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
13/595,703	08/27/2012	David F. MACNEIL	31700.000322	8216

TITLE OF INVENTION: VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	\$885	\$0	\$0	\$885	04/01/2013

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
ROMAIN, PINEL E	3612	296-097230

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).  
 Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.  
 "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list  
 (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 3 \_\_\_\_\_

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)  
 PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE \_\_\_\_\_ (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY) \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) :  Individual  Corporation or other private group entity  Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:  
 Issue Fee  
 Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)  
 Advance Order - # of Copies \_\_\_\_\_

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (**Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above**)  
 A check is enclosed.  
 Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.  
 The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. **Change in Entity Status** (from status indicated above)  
 a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.  b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Typed or printed name \_\_\_\_\_ Registration No. \_\_\_\_\_

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. 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 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, Virginia 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.**

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

Table with 5 columns: APPLICATION NO., FILING DATE, FIRST NAMED INVENTOR, ATTORNEY DOCKET NO., CONFIRMATION NO.
Row 1: 13/595,703, 08/27/2012, David F. MACNEIL, 31700.000322, 8216
Row 2: 64770, 7590, 12/31/2012, Momkus McCluskey, LLC, 1001 Warrenville Road, Suite 500, Lisle, IL 60532
Row 3: EXAMINER ROMAIN, PINEL E
Row 4: ART UNIT 3612, PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 12/31/2012

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)
(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 0 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 0 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

## Privacy Act Statement

**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 disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
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 inspection 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.

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	13/595,703	MACNEIL ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	PINEL ROMAIN	3612	

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

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_\_.
2.  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.
3.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6. As a result of the allowed claim(s), you may be eligible to benefit from the **Patent Prosecution Highway** program at a participating intellectual property office for the corresponding application. For more information, please see [http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init\\_events/pph/index.jsp](http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/pph/index.jsp) or send an inquiry to [PPHfeedback@uspto.gov](mailto:PPHfeedback@uspto.gov).
4.  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 the:
    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)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

**Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date <u>See Continuation Sheet</u></li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.</li> </ol> |
|---|--|

/PINEL E ROMAIN/  
Examiner, Art Unit 3612



**Continuation Sheet (PTOL-37)**

**Application No. 13/595,703**

Continuation of Attachment(s) 2. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date:  
08/27/2012;08/27/2012;08/27/2012.

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art does not disclose or show an obvious combination of hollow baffles as recited in claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PINEL ROMAIN whose telephone number is (571)270-7013. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday -Thursday From 7:30 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Dayoan can be reached on 571-272-6659. 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.

/PINEL E ROMAIN/  
Examiner, Art Unit 3612

/D GLENN DAYOAN/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3612


<b>Search Notes</b>  	<b>Application/Control No.</b> 13595703	<b>Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination</b> MACNEIL ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b> PINEL ROMAIN	<b>Art Unit</b> 3612

SEARCHED			
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner
296	97.23,75	12/12/2012	PER
428	81	12/13/2012	PER
15	215	12/13/2012	PER
	b60N3/06	12/13/2012	PER

SEARCH NOTES		
Search Notes	Date	Examiner
See East search for search history	12/13/2012	PER

INTERFERENCE SEARCH			
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner
296	97.23	12/13/2012	PER
15	215	12/13/2012	PER
	b60N3/06	12/13/2012	PER

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<b>Issue Classification</b> 	<b>Application/Control No.</b> 13595703	<b>Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination</b> MACNEIL ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b> PINEL ROMAIN	<b>Art Unit</b> 3612

ORIGINAL					INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION												
CLASS		SUBCLASS			CLAIMED					NON-CLAIMED							
296		75			B	6	0	N	3 / 06 (2006.01.01)								
<b>CROSS REFERENCE(S)</b>																	
CLASS	SUBCLASS (ONE SUBCLASS PER BLOCK)																
296	97.23																

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claims renumbered in the same order as presented by applicant <input type="checkbox"/> CPA <input type="checkbox"/> T.D. <input type="checkbox"/> R.1.47															
Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original

/PINEL ROMAIN/ Examiner.Art Unit 3612  (Assistant Examiner)	12/13/2012  (Date)	<b>Total Claims Allowed:</b>  6	
/GLENN DAYOAN/ Supervisory Patent Examiner.Art Unit 3612  (Primary Examiner)	12/17/2012  (Date)	O.G. Print Claim(s)  1	O.G. Print Figure  1



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BIB DATA SHEET

CONFIRMATION NO. 8216

<b>SERIAL NUMBER</b> 13/595,703	<b>FILING or 371(c) DATE</b> 08/27/2012	<b>CLASS</b> 296	<b>GROUP ART UNIT</b> 3612	<b>ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.</b> 31700.000322		
<b>APPLICANTS</b> David F. MACNEIL, Hinsdale, IL; Scott A. VARGO, Lombard, IL;						
<b>** CONTINUING DATA *****</b> This application is a CON of 12/879,899 09/10/2010 PAT 8,267,459 * which is a CON of 11/463,203 08/08/2006 ABN which is a DIV of 10/976,441 10/29/2004 PAT 7,316,847 (*Data provided by applicant is not consistent with PTO records.						
<b>** FOREIGN APPLICATIONS *****</b>						
<b>** IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED *** SMALL ENTITY **</b> 09/06/2012						
Foreign Priority claimed <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	35 USC 119(a-d) conditions met <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Met after Allowance PER Initials	<b>STATE OR COUNTRY</b> IL	<b>SHEETS DRAWINGS</b> 12	<b>TOTAL CLAIMS</b> 7	<b>INDEPENDENT CLAIMS</b> 1
<b>ADDRESS</b> Momkus McCluskey, LLC 1001 Warrenville Road, Suite 500 Lisle, IL 60532 UNITED STATES						
<b>TITLE</b> VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY						
<b>FILING FEE RECEIVED</b> 830	FEES: Authority has been given in Paper No. _____ to charge/credit DEPOSIT ACCOUNT No. _____ for following:		<input type="checkbox"/> All Fees <input type="checkbox"/> 1.16 Fees (Filing) <input type="checkbox"/> 1.17 Fees (Processing Ext. of time) <input type="checkbox"/> 1.18 Fees (Issue) <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Credit			

Doc code: IDS

Doc description: Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Filed

13595703 - GAI: 3612

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		
	Filing Date		
	First Named Inventor	David F. MACNEIL	
	Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322	

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	7215430	B2	2007-05-08	Kacyra et al.	
	2	6817649	B1	2004-11-16	Stanesic	
	3	3087752	A	1963-04-30	Winchester	
	4	7444748	B2	2008-11-04	MacNeil	
	5	7607713	B2	2009-10-27	MacNeil	
	6	6007319	A	1999-12-28	Jacobson	
	7	5019993	A	1991-05-28	Montalcini et al.	
	8	5856828	A	1999-01-05	Letcher, Jr.	

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> ( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		13595703 - GAU: 3612	
	Filing Date			
	First Named Inventor	David F. MACNEIL		
	Art Unit			
	Examiner Name			
	Attorney Docket Number		31700.000322	

	9	7316847	B2	2008-01-08	MacNeil	
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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	20060288578	A1	2006-12-28	MacNeil	
	2	20080061580	A1	2008-03-13	MacNeil	
	3	20090092795	A1	2009-04-09	MacNeil	
	4	20090230717	A1	2009-09-17	MacNeil	
	5	20030143358	A1	2003-07-31	Needles	

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<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>	Remove
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Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Foreign Document Number <sup>3</sup>	Country Code <sup>2</sup> i	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>
	1	8332976	JP	A	1996-12-17	Nishikawa Takao		<input type="checkbox"/>



<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> ( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		13595703 - GAU: 3612	
	Filing Date			
	First Named Inventor	David F. MACNEIL		
	Art Unit			
	Examiner Name			
	Attorney Docket Number		31700.000322	

	2	200052835	JP		2000-02-22	Shengzhou Enterp. Co. Ltd.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	3	H8-85377	JP		1996-04-02	Muratsubaki Masaaki		<input type="checkbox"/>
	4	H3-47245	JP		1991-05-01		English translation unavailable	<input type="checkbox"/>
	5	2002356124	JP		2002-12-10	Japan Vilene Co. Ltd		<input type="checkbox"/>
	6	8434890	DE	U1	1985-02-28	Wurstl		<input type="checkbox"/>
	7	1863477	DE	U	1962-12-06	Krapf et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	8	1302459	CA		1992-06-02	Bailey		<input type="checkbox"/>
	9	H11-268570	JP		1999-10-05	Suzuki		<input type="checkbox"/>
If you wish to add additional Foreign Patent Document citation information please click the Add button								<b>Add</b>
<b>NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>								<b>Remove</b>
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	U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, Office Action issued on U.S. Application No. 11/463,203 on August 13, 2009.						<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> ( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number	13595703 - GAU: 3612
	Filing Date	
	First Named Inventor	David F. MACNEIL
	Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322

2	U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, Office Action issued on U.S. Application No. 11/934,320 on June 10, 2009.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, Office Action issued on U.S. Application No. 12/332,757 on June 11, 2009.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	CANADIAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE, Requisition by the Examiner dated December 17, 2009 on Canadian Patent Application No. 2,672,116.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	JAPANESE PATENT OFFICE, Rejection issued in connection with Japanese Patent Application No. 2005-317635 dispatched on January 5, 2011.	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	CANADIAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE, Requisition on CA 2,672,095, dated Jan. 14, 2011.	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	GERMAN PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, Official Action on DE 10 2005 063 533.4-21, dated September 1, 2011.	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	CANADIAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE, Requisition on CA 2,672,097, dated on Dec. 19, 2011.	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Photographs of a Highland Floor Guard with unknown date of manufacture, obtained by Applicant in 2010, and believed to be on sale and in public use prior to October 29, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	American Specialty Equipment Corp., "Big Book" catalog for "Performance Parts, Truck Accessories, And Sport Compact Equipment," 2000, page 366.	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Add-On 2002-2003 Automotive Accessory Catalog, 2002, pages 192 and 447.	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Floor Mat Comparison Chart, Stylinconcepts.com, June 2, 2002.	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> ( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		13595703 - GAU: 3612
	Filing Date		
	First Named Inventor	David F. MACNEIL	
	Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number		31700.000322

13	Advertisement for Highland's Black Armor Floor Guard, Stylin Concepts "Custom Truck Accessories" catalog, 2003, pp. 1, 2 and 109.	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Image from advertisement for Black Armor Floor Guard, Stylinconcepts.com; April 3, 2002, recovered from <a href="http://web.archive.org/20020403230231/stylinconcepts.com/Images/BlackArmorWLogo.jpg">http://web.archive.org/20020403230231/stylinconcepts.com/Images/BlackArmorWLogo.jpg</a> .	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	List of "front custom auto floor mats", etrailer.com (as downloaded by web.archive.org), June 4, 2004.	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Description and illustration of "Front Custom Auto floor Mats"; etrailer.com (as downloaded by web.archive.org), June 4, 2004.	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Advertisement for Highland floor guards, Counterman Info Pages, prior to Nov. 2002, page 27.	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	Highland Catalog and Jobber sheet; prior to 2004.	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Highland Application Guide, 2004.	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	Volvo Accessories brochure, 1990, pages 1 and 23.	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	Volvo 760 GLE Accessories Brochure, 1983, pages 1-3.	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	Volvo Accessories brochure, 1981, pages 1, 27.	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	Volvo Accessories brochure, 1983, page 1, 11, 16.	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> ( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		13595703 - GAU: 3612
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	First Named Inventor	David F. MACNEIL	
	Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number		31700.000322

24	Photographs of Volvo floor mat with unknown manufacture date, obtained by Applicant in 2010, and believed to be on sale and in public use prior to October 29, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>
25	Photographs of a Husky Liner floor tray with unknown manufacture date, obtained by Applicant in 2010, and believed to be on sale and in public use prior to October 29, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>
26	Husky Liners Product Catalog, 2001, pages 1-2.	<input type="checkbox"/>
27	Husky Liners Product Catalog, 2002, selected pages.	<input type="checkbox"/>
28	Husky Liners Product Catalog, 2003 ½ , SEMA Show Edition, selected pages.	<input type="checkbox"/>
29	Photographs of Winfield's Husky Liner Model 3780 for 2000-2001 BMW X-5 possessed by Applicant, believed to be on sale and in public use prior to October 29, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>
30	1998 Lund Product Catalog, p. 24, Lund SportMat Molded Floor Trays.	<input type="checkbox"/>
31	Web advertisement for Fox Weatherboots, foxweatherboots.com (as downloaded by web.archive.org), March 3, 2000.	<input type="checkbox"/>
32	Nifty Products Catalog, 2003-2004, selected pages.	<input type="checkbox"/>
33	Advertisement of unknown publication date for Husky Liner 3D Molded Carpeted Front Floor Liners, obtained by Applicant in 2010, and believed to be on sale and in public use prior to October 29, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>
34	Photographs of Husky Liner 3D Floor Liners manufactured August 2010, in possession of Applicant, and believed to be on sale and in public use prior to October 29, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> ( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		13595703 - GAU: 3612
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	First Named Inventor	David F. MACNEIL	
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	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number		31700.000322

35	Geomagic Press Release, "Geomagic, Inc. Wins Second Computer Graphics World Innovation Award," December 10, 1998.	<input type="checkbox"/>
36	Geomagic Press Release, "Geomagic to Introduce Unique Solution for 3D Content Creation at SIGGRAPH '99," August 3, 1999.	<input type="checkbox"/>
37	Geomagic Press Release, "Geomagic Announces Geomagic Studio 2.0," January 14, 2000.	<input type="checkbox"/>
38	Geomagic Press Release, "Geomagic, QTE Offer RevQuick, Automatic Surface Generation for Mastercam," September 25, 2000.	<input type="checkbox"/>
39	Advertisement, "Third Party Options (Romer, A CimCore Company)," 2000.	<input type="checkbox"/>
40	SON, SEOKBAE; PARK, HYUNPUNG; and LEE, KWAN; "Automated laser scanning system for reverse engineering and inspection," Int. J. Machine Tools & Manufacture, 42, 889-897 (2002).	<input type="checkbox"/>
41	"Competition Rising in Portable CMMs," Quality Magazine, May 5, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>
42	Press Release by Brown and Sharpe, "Portable K Series Optical CMMs," 9/1/2002.	<input type="checkbox"/>
43	"CAM2 software," as downloaded from <a href="http://web.archive.org/web/20040215065613/www.faro.com/Products">http://web.archive.org/web/20040215065613/www.faro.com/Products</a> on 11/4/2010.	<input type="checkbox"/>
44	"Laser Scanner edges out CMM in the race to market," Machine Design.com, February 5, 2004.	<input type="checkbox"/>
45	"Highres Delivers Complete Reverse Engineering Software Suite for SolidWorks 2001Plus," Reverse Engineering.com, April 25, 2002.	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> ( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		13595703 - GAU: 3612
	Filing Date		
	First Named Inventor	David F. MACNEIL	
	Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number		31700.000322

46	"HighRes Provides 3D Reverse Engineering Software to Higher Education Learning Institutions", ReverseEngineering.com, May 21, 2002.	<input type="checkbox"/>
47	"HighRes Reverse Engineering Software now Ships with Every Romer 3000i and Stinger II Portable CMM in North America," ReverseEngineering.com, October 14, 2002.	<input type="checkbox"/>
48	Press Release, "FARO Debuts Affordable "Advantage" Line of Measurement Products," September 4, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>
49	CANADIAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE, Requisition by the Examiner in connection with Canadian Patent Application No. 2,672,423 dated December 14, 2010.	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

**EXAMINER SIGNATURE**

Examiner Signature	/Pinel Romain/ (12/14/2012)	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	13595703 - GAU: 3612
	Filing Date	
	First Named Inventor	David F. MACNEIL
	Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322

**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.

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

None

**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	/Jefferson Perkins/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2012-08-27
Name/Print	Jefferson Perkins	Registration Number	31,407

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.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /P.R./



<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> ( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		13595703 - GAU: 3612	
	Filing Date			
	First Named Inventor	David F. MACNEIL		
	Art Unit			
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	1	4921742	A	1990-05-01	Altus			
	2	D525576	S	2006-07-25	Lu			
	3	3450429	A	1969-06-17	Stata			
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	1							<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> ( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		13595703 - GAU: 3612
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	1	JAPANESE PATENT OFFICE, Rejection issued in connection with Japanese Patent Application No. 2005-317635 dispatched on January 5, 2011.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	2	CANADIAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE, Requisition by the Examiner issued in connection with Canadian Patent Application No. 2,672,095, January 14, 2011.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	3	Photographs of Ford Windstar floor mat with unknown manufacture date, obtained by Applicant in 2010, and believed to be on sale and in public use prior to October 29, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	4	CANADIAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE, Requisition by the Examiner issued in connection with Canadian Patent Application No. 2,672,423, December 14, 2010.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
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Fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17 (p) has been submitted herewith.

None

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Signature	/Jefferson Perkins/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2012-08-27
Name/Print	Jefferson Perkins	Registration Number	31,407

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	Filing Date		
	First Named Inventor	David F. MACNEIL	
	Art Unit		
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	1	D377780	S	1997-02-04	MacNeil	
	2	6027782	A	2000-02-22	Sherman	
	3	6155629	A	2000-12-05	Sherman	
	4	4591532	A	1986-05-27	Tanaka	
	5	6953545	B1	2005-10-11	Tyler	
	6	4280729	A1	1981-07-28	Morawski	
	7	4406492	A	1983-09-27	Cackowski	
	8	6793872	B1	2004-09-21	Buss	

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	Examiner Name			
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	9	5776583	A1	1998-07-07	Peyton	
	10	4828898	A	1989-05-09	Bailey	
	11	4721641	A	1988-01-26	Bailey	
	12	5254384	A	1993-10-19	Gordon	
	13	5482759	A	1996-01-09	Primeau	
	14	6261667	B1	2001-07-17	Yang	
	15	6534146	B1	2003-03-18	Mentz, Jr.	
	16	D242136	S	1976-11-02	Matlock	
	17	3401975	A	1968-09-17	Oger	
	18	5474829	A	1995-12-12	Woosley	
	19	3288187	A	1966-11-29	Wheaton	

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	20	6732030	B2	2004-05-04	Jones	
	21	6058618	A	2000-05-09	Hemmelgarn et al.	
	22	6022503	A	2000-02-08	Hudkins et al.	
	23	5208995	A	1993-05-11	McKendrick	
	24	2188342	A	1940-01-30	England	
	25	5919540	A	1999-07-06	Bailey	
	26	7401837	B2	2004-09-21	MacNeil	
	27	6794013	B1	2004-09-21	Iacovelli et al.	
	28	6605333	B2	2003-08-12	Ferreira et al.	
	29	5891546	A	1999-04-06	Sherman	
	30	5725926	A	1998-03-10	Wang	

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	31	4420180	A	1983-12-13	Dupont et al.	
	32	3605166	A	1971-09-20	Chen	
	33	3488081	A	1970-01-06	Nolen	
	34	3390912	A	1968-07-02	Stata	
	35	4693507	A	1987-09-15	Dresen et al.	
	36	6431629	B1	2002-08-13	Emery	
	37	4579764	A	1986-04-01	Peoples, Jr. et al.	
	38	2709105	A	1955-05-24	Kramer	
	39	3450429	A	1969-06-17	Stata	
	40	D422256	S	2000-04-04	Lu	
	41	D408342	S	1999-04-20	Yang	



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	Attorney Docket Number		31700.000322	

	42	D393238	S	1998-04-07	Kraines	
	43	4382986	A	1983-05-10	Reuben	
	44	D313789	S	1991-01-15	Thundercloud	
	45	D372011	S	1996-07-23	Tyler	
	46	D454323	S	2002-03-12	Lu	
	47	D432478	S	2000-10-24	Lu	
	48	D425005	S	2000-05-16	Rizvi	
	49	D420965	S	2000-02-22	Iacovelli et al.	
	50	D358571	S	1995-05-23	Thundercloud	
	51	D278525	S	1985-04-23	Morawski	
	52	5830560	A	1998-11-03	Koa	

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	53	4211447	A	1980-07-08	Divincenzo	
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	1	20040048036	A1	2004-03-11	Nakasuji et al.	
	2	20060091694	A1	2006-05-04	MacNeil	
	3	20010020316	A1	2001-09-13	Ferreira et al.	
	4	20040224130	A1	2004-11-11	Melucci et al.	
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	1	0968875	EP	B1	2000-01-05	Chomarat		<input type="checkbox"/>

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2	1198466	CA	A	1985-12-24	Du Pont et al.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	1101016	CA	A	1981-05-12	Morawski	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	406227305	JP	A	1994-08-16	Abe	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	1292028	CA	A	1991-11-12	Altus	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	2	Autoform Trunk Liner, English web page, downloaded from <a href="http://www.autoform.se/eng/products_trunk_liners.htm">http://www.autoform.se/eng/products_trunk_liners.htm</a> on October 20, 2004	<input type="checkbox"/>
	3	"Installation Instructions For Your F-150/F-250 Ford Truck Front Floor Liners", Winfield Consumer Products, February 1, 2001, downloaded from <a href="http://www.huskyliners.com">http://www.huskyliners.com</a> on January 3, 2005	<input type="checkbox"/>
	4	Husky Deep Tray Floor Liner, downloaded from <a href="http://www.truckstuffusa.com/cusfitdeepr.html">http://www.truckstuffusa.com/cusfitdeepr.html</a> on January 3, 2005	<input type="checkbox"/>

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5	Web pages featuring products from 3D Carpet Liners, Weatherboots, Nifty Products, Inc. and Husky, downloaded from <a href="http://www.premiermotoring.net">http://www.premiermotoring.net</a> on August 11, 2004	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	WeatherTech Floor Mat and Cargo Liner Product Sheets, MacNeil Automotive Products Limited, Downers Grove, IL, Nov. 1994, 4 pp.	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Faro Laser ScanArm, downloaded from <a href="http://www.faro.com/Products/ScanArm.asp">http://www.faro.com/Products/ScanArm.asp</a> on September 23, 2004	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Faro ScanArm Product Techsheet, downloaded from <a href="http://www.faro.com/Products/Product_Techsheel.asp?techsheet_id=106">http://www.faro.com/Products/Product_Techsheel.asp?techsheet_id=106</a> on October 11, 2004	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	"CMM Produces Bikes With Custom-Look", downloaded from <a href="http://manufacturingcenter.com/man/articles/0604/0604CMM.asp">http://manufacturingcenter.com/man/articles/0604/0604CMM.asp</a> on October 11, 2004	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	"Stereolithography (SLA) for Rapid Precision Prototypes", p.1, downloaded from <a href="http://www.boedeker.com/sla.htm">http://www.boedeker.com/sla.htm</a> on October 12, 2004	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	"About Coordinate Measuring Machines (CMM)", downloaded from <a href="http://cmm.globalspec.com">http://cmm.globalspec.com</a> on October 11, 2004	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	"Bagagerumsmattor", downloaded from <a href="http://www.autoform.se/sv/produkter_bagagerumsmattor.htm">http://www.autoform.se/sv/produkter_bagagerumsmattor.htm</a> on October 20, 2004	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	STRICTLY Catalog for Explorer/Mountaineer/Expedition/Navigator. MacNeil Automotive Products Limited, Downers Grove, IL, 1999, pp. 1- 2 and 4 - 7.	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	BRITISH PATENT OFFICE, Search Report on GB Patent Appln. No. GB 0522091.8, Claims 47 - 66, 77 and 78, 23 June 2006	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	BRITISH PATENT OFFICE, Search Report on Patent Appln. No. GB 0522091.8, Claims 67 - 70, 26 June 2006	<input type="checkbox"/>

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16	BRITISH PATENT OFFICE, Search Report on Patent Appln. No. GB 0522091.8, Claims 71 -73, 27 June 2006	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	BRITISH PATENT OFFICE, Search Report on Patent Appln. No. GB 0522091.8, Claims 79 - 84 and 101 - 105, 23 June 2006	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	BRITISH PATENT OFFICE, Search Report on Patent Appln. No. GB 522091.8, claims 85 - 100, 27 June 2006	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	BRITISH PATENT OFFICE, Search Report on Patent Appln. No. GB 0522091.8, claims 1-46 and 74-76, 14 February 2006.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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22	U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, Office Action issued on U.S. Application No. 11/463,215 on June 6, 2007.	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	BRITISH PATENT OFFICE, Search Report issued on GB Application No. 0625354.6 dated November 6, 2007.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Signature	/Jefferson Perkins/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2012-08-27
Name/Print	Jefferson Perkins	Registration Number	31,407

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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.
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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.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /P.R./



## EAST Search History

## EAST Search History (Prior Art)

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	Time Stamp
L1	354	(296/97.23).CCLS.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2012/12/14 07:47
L2	509	(296/75).CCLS.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2012/12/14 07:47
L3	18	L1 L2	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	AND	OFF	2012/12/14 07:47
L4	3969	428/138	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; DERWENT	AND	ON	2012/12/14 07:48
L5	354	(296/97.23).CCLS.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2012/12/14 07:48
L6	3950	L4 not L5	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	AND	ON	2012/12/14 07:48
L7	19	L4 and L5	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	AND	ON	2012/12/14 07:48
L9	590	(15/215).CCLS.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2012/12/14 07:52
L10	2	3 9	US-PGPUB; USPAT;	AND	OFF	2012/12/14 07:53

			EPO; JPO; DERWENT			
L11	9034	(B62d25/20).IPCR.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; DERWENT	OR	OFF	2012/12/14 07:54
L12	1178	(B60n3/06).IPCR.	DERWENT	OR	OFF	2012/12/14 07:54
L16	7	US-7215430-\$.DID. OR US-6817649-\$.DID. OR US-3087752-\$.DID. OR US-7444748-\$.DID. OR US-7607713-\$.DID. OR US-6007319-\$.DID. OR US-5019993-\$.DID. OR US-5856828-\$.DID. OR US-7316847-\$.DID. OR US-20060288578-\$.DID. OR US-20080061580-\$.DID. OR US-20090092795-\$.DID. OR US-20090230717-\$.DID. OR US-20030143358-\$.DID. OR US-8332976-\$.DID. OR JP-20000222-\$.DID. OR JP-19960402-\$.DID. OR JP-19910501-\$.DID. OR JP-20021210-\$.DID. OR US-8434890-\$.DID. OR US-1863477-\$.DID. OR US-1302459-\$.DID. OR JP-19991005-\$.DID. OR US-1312009-\$.DID. OR US-2672095-\$.DID. OR US-2005063-\$.DID. OR US-2672097-\$.DID. OR US-1642004-\$.DID. OR US-1331018-\$.DID.	EPO; JPO; DERWENT	AND	OFF	2012/12/14 08:11
L17	38	US-7215430-\$.DID. OR US-6817649-\$.DID. OR US-3087752-\$.DID. OR US-7444748-\$.DID. OR US-7607713-\$.DID. OR US-6007319-\$.DID. OR US-5019993-\$.DID. OR US-5856828-\$.DID. OR US-7316847-\$.DID. OR US-20060288578-\$.DID. OR US-20080061580-\$.DID. OR US-20090092795-\$.DID. OR US-20090230717-\$.DID. OR US-20030143358-\$.DID. OR US-8332976-\$.DID. OR JP-20000222-\$.DID. OR JP-19960402-\$.DID. OR JP-19910501-\$.DID. OR JP-20021210-\$.DID. OR US-8434890-\$.DID. OR US-1863477-\$.DID. OR US-1302459-\$.DID. OR JP-19991005-\$.DID. OR US-1312009-\$.DID. OR US-2672095-\$.DID. OR US-2005063-\$.DID. OR US-2672097-\$.DID. OR US-1642004-\$.DID. OR US-1331018-\$.DID.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	AND	OFF	2012/12/14 08:12
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EAST Search History

5891546-\$.DID. OR US-5725926-\$.DID. OR US-4420180-\$.DID. OR US-3605166- \$.DID. OR US-3488081-\$.DID. OR US- 3390912-\$.DID. OR US-4693507-\$.DID. OR US-6431629-\$.DID. OR US-4579764- \$.DID. OR US-2709105-\$.DID. OR US- 3450429-\$.DID. OR US-D422256-\$.DID. OR US-D408342-\$.DID. OR US-D393238- \$.DID. OR US-4382986-\$.DID. OR US- D313789-\$.DID. OR US-D372011-\$.DID. OR US-D454323-\$.DID. OR US-D432478- \$.DID. OR US-D425005-\$.DID. OR US- D420965-\$.DID. OR US-D358571-\$.DID. OR US-D278525-\$.DID. OR US-5830560- \$.DID. OR US-4211447-\$.DID. OR US- 20040048036-\$.DID. OR US-20060091694- \$.DID. OR US-20010020316-\$.DID. OR US-20040224130-\$.DID. OR US- 20050191459-\$.DID. OR US-1198466- \$.DID. OR US-1101016-\$.DID. OR US- 1292028-\$.DID. OR US-2431099-\$.DID. OR US-1120046-\$.DID. OR US-1052317- \$.DID. OR US-5220918-\$.DID. OR US- 8510027-\$.DID. OR US-1331018-\$.DID.				
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**EAST Search History (Interference)**

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	Time Stamp
L8	1	(296/97.23).CCLS.	UPAD	OR	OFF	2012/12/14 07:52
L13	0	(B60n3/06).IPCR.	UPAD	OR	OFF	2012/12/14 07:54
L14	0	(296/75).CCLS.	UPAD	OR	OFF	2012/12/14 07:54
L15	1	(15/215).CCLS.	UPAD	OR	OFF	2012/12/14 07:55

**12/ 14/ 2012 9:09:12 AM**

**C:\Users\promain\Documents\EAST Workspaces\12879899\_floor\_mat.wsp**



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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
13/595,703	08/27/2012	David F. MACNEIL	31700.000322

CONFIRMATION NO. 8216

PUBLICATION NOTICE



64770  
Momkus McCluskey, LLC  
1001 Warrenville Road, Suite 500  
Lisle, IL 60532

Title:VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY

Publication No.US-2012-0319426-A1

Publication Date:12/20/2012

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.

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1001 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 500  
LISLE IL 60532

**MAILED**  
OCT 02 2012  
**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

Doc Code: TRACK1.GRANT

<p><b>Decision Granting Request for Prioritized Examination (Track I or After RCE)</b></p>	<p>Application No.: 13/595,703</p>
<p>1. THE REQUEST FILED <u>August 27, 2012</u> IS <b>GRANTED</b>.</p> <p>The above-identified application has met the requirements for prioritized examination</p> <p>A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for an original nonprovisional application (Track I).</p> <p>B. <input type="checkbox"/> for an application undergoing continued examination (RCE).</p> <p>2. <b>The above-identified application will undergo prioritized examination.</b> The application will be accorded special status throughout its entire course of prosecution until one of the following occurs:</p> <p>A. filing a <b><u>petition for extension of time</u></b> to extend the time period for filing a reply;</p> <p>B. filing an <b><u>amendment to amend the application to contain more than four independent claims, more than thirty total claims</u></b>, or a multiple dependent claim;</p> <p>C. filing a <b><u>request for continued examination</u></b>;</p> <p>D. filing a notice of appeal;</p> <p>E. filing a request for suspension of action;</p> <p>F. mailing of a notice of allowance;</p> <p>G. mailing of a final Office action;</p> <p>H. completion of examination as defined in 37 CFR 41.102; or</p> <p>I. abandonment of the application.</p> <p>Telephone inquiries with regard to this decision should be directed to <b><u>Michelle R. Eason</u></b> at (571) 272-4231. In his/her absence, calls may be directed to Brian W. Brown at (571) 272-5338.</p> <p><u>/Michelle R. Eason/</u> (Signature)</p> <p><u>Paralegal Specialist, Office of Petitions</u> (Title)</p>	

<b>PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD</b>						Application or Docket Number 13/595,703					
Substitute for Form PTO-875											
<b>APPLICATION AS FILED - PART I</b>											
(Column 1)		(Column 2)		SMALL ENTITY		OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY				
FOR	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA		RATE(\$)	FEE(\$)		RATE(\$)	FEE(\$)			
BASIC FEE <small>(37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))</small>	N/A	N/A		N/A	95		N/A				
SEARCH FEE <small>(37 CFR 1.16(k), (i), or (m))</small>	N/A	N/A		N/A	310		N/A				
EXAMINATION FEE <small>(37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))</small>	N/A	N/A		N/A	125		N/A				
TOTAL CLAIMS <small>(37 CFR 1.16(i))</small>	7	minus	20 =	*	x 30 =	0.00	OR				
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS <small>(37 CFR 1.16(h))</small>	1	minus	3 =	*	x 125 =	0.00					
APPLICATION SIZE FEE <small>(37 CFR 1.16(s))</small>	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).				0.00						
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT <small>(37 CFR 1.16(j))</small>					0.00						
				TOTAL	530		TOTAL				
* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.											
<b>APPLICATION AS AMENDED - PART II</b>											
(Column 1)		(Column 2)		(Column 3)		SMALL ENTITY		OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY		
AMENDMENT A	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE(\$)	ADDITIONAL FEE(\$)		RATE(\$)	ADDITIONAL FEE(\$)	
	Total <small>(37 CFR 1.16(i))</small>	*	Minus	**	=	x	=	OR	x	=	
	Independent <small>(37 CFR 1.16(h))</small>	*	Minus	***	=	x	=	OR	x	=	
	Application Size Fee <small>(37 CFR 1.16(s))</small>								OR		
	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM <small>(37 CFR 1.16(j))</small>								OR		
					TOTAL ADD'L FEE			OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE		
(Column 1)		(Column 2)		(Column 3)		SMALL ENTITY		OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY		
AMENDMENT B	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE(\$)	ADDITIONAL FEE(\$)		RATE(\$)	ADDITIONAL FEE(\$)	
	Total <small>(37 CFR 1.16(i))</small>	*	Minus	**	=	x	=	OR	x	=	
	Independent <small>(37 CFR 1.16(h))</small>	*	Minus	***	=	x	=	OR	x	=	
	Application Size Fee <small>(37 CFR 1.16(s))</small>								OR		
	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM <small>(37 CFR 1.16(j))</small>								OR		
					TOTAL ADD'L FEE			OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE		
<p>* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.</p> <p>** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".</p> <p>*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".</p> <p>The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest found in the appropriate box in column 1.</p>											



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Table with 6 columns: APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING or 371(c) DATE, GRP ART UNIT, FIL FEE REC'D, ATTY.DOCKET.NO, TOT CLAIMS, IND CLAIMS. Values: 13/595,703, 08/27/2012, 3612, 830, 31700.000322, 7, 1

CONFIRMATION NO. 8216

FILING RECEIPT

64770
Momkus McCluskey, LLC
1001 Warrenville Road, Suite 500
Lisle, IL 60532



Date Mailed: 09/11/2012

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)

David F. MACNEIL, Hinsdale, IL;
Scott A. VARGO, Lombard, IL;

Assignment For Published Patent Application

MACNEIL IP LLC, Bolingbrook, IL

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 64770

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a CON of 12/879,899 09/10/2010 PAT 8267459 \*
which is a CON of 11/463,203 08/08/2006 ABN
which is a DIV of 10/976,441 10/29/2004 PAT 7316847
(\*)Data provided by applicant is not consistent with PTO records.

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: 09/06/2012

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is US 13/595,703

Projected Publication Date: 12/20/2012

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

\*\* SMALL ENTITY \*\*

**Title**

VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY

**Preliminary Class**

296

**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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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
13/595,703	08/27/2012	David F. MACNEIL	31700.000322

**CONFIRMATION NO. 8216**

**POA ACCEPTANCE LETTER**

64770  
Momkus McCluskey, LLC  
1001 Warrenville Road, Suite 500  
Lisle, IL 60532



Date Mailed: 09/11/2012

**NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF POWER OF ATTORNEY**

This is in response to the Power of Attorney filed 08/27/2012.

The Power of Attorney in this application is accepted. Correspondence in this application will be mailed to the above address as provided by 37 CFR 1.33.

/dberios/

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

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventors: David F. MACNEIL et al.  
Title: VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY  
Filed: Herewith

**UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL**

*New nonprovisional application under 37 CFR 1.53(b), Electronic Filing*

- 1.  Specification, including claims and abstract [Total Pages  42 ]
- 2.  Drawing(s) [Total Pages  12 ]
- 3.  Declaration of Inventor(s) [Total Pages  3 ]
  - a.  Newly executed
  - b.  Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d))  
*(for continuation/divisional with Box 15 completed)*  
**[Note Box 4 below]**
    - i.  DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)  
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application  
(see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b)).
- 4.  Incorporation By Reference (*useable if Box 3b is checked*). The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 3b, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.
- 5.  Application Data Sheet
- 6.  CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix)

**DOCUMENTS ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS**

- 8.  Assignment Papers (cover sheet and documents, submitted for recordation via EPAS)
- 9.  37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement and Power of Attorney  Power of Attorney  
*(when there is an assignee)*
- 10.  English Translation Document (*if applicable*)

11.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO/SB/08A,B  Copy of those listed references which are not US patents or US patent application publications
12.  Preliminary Amendment
13.  Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed)
14.  Other: Form SB/424 Certification and Request for Prioritized Examination  
 ..... under 37 CFR § 1.17(c) .....

15. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check the appropriate box and supply the requisite information.  
 Continuation  Division  Continuation-in-part (CIP) ...of prior application No.: 12/879,899  
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 REGISTRATION NUMBER: 31,407  
 DATE: August 27, 2012

**APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES PATENT**

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**TITLE:           VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY**

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## **DESIGNING AND MANUFACTURING VEHICLE FLOOR TRAYS**

### **RELATED APPLICATIONS**

[0001] This application is a continuation of copending United States Nonprovisional Application No. 12/879,899 filed on September 10, 2010, which is in turn a continuation of United States Nonprovisional Application No. 11/463,203 filed on August 8, 2006, now abandoned, which is in turn a division of United States Nonprovisional Application No. 10/976,441 filed on October 29, 2004, now United States Patent No. 7,316,847. The disclosures and drawings of those applications are fully incorporated by reference herein.

### **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

[0002] Motor vehicles are almost always operated in the out of doors and are frequently parked there. It is therefore very common for their occupants to have wet or muddy feet – if the occupants have not just finished an outdoor activity, at least they have had to walk across a possibly wet, snowy or muddy surface to access their vehicles. For decades, therefore, vehicle owners have been attempting to protect the enclosed interiors of their vehicles (cars, trucks, SUVs) from what they themselves track into them. The conventional solution to this has been to provide a vehicle floor mat which may be periodically removed by the owner and cleaned.

[0003] Human beings have a tendency to move their feet around, and foot motion is an absolute requirement in operating most vehicles. This has caused a problem, in that the occupants of a vehicle have a tendency to push around the floor mats with their feet. The floor mats end up not being centered on the area protected, or pushed up so as to occlude the gas, brake or clutch pedals, or bunched up or folded over – all undesirable conditions. One objective of floor mat

manufacturers has therefore been to provide a floor mat that will stay put and which will not adversely affect vehicle operation.

[0004] The foot wells of cars, trucks and SUVs vary in size in shape from one model of vehicle to the next. Floor mat manufacturers have noticed that floor mats which at least approximately conform to the shape of the bottom surface of the foot well stay in place better and offer more protection. It is also common for such floor mats, where provided for front seat foot wells, to have portions which are meant to lie against the firewalls or front surfaces of the foot wells. Even as so extended it is not too hard to provide a floor mat of flexible material that will approximately conform to these two surfaces, as the designer only has to mark a two-dimensional periphery of the mat in providing one which will fit reasonably well.

[0005] More recently, vehicle floor trays have come onto the market. Most front-seat vehicle foot wells are actually three-dimensional concave shapes, typically with complex curved surfaces. Floor trays have sidewalls that offer enhanced protection to the surfaces surrounding the vehicle floor, as might be needed against wearers with very muddy or snowy shoes. Conventional vehicle floor trays try to fit into these three-dimensional cavities, but so far their fit to the surfaces that they are supposed to protect has been less than optimum. A conventional vehicle floor tray is typically molded of a single-ply rubber or plastic material, exhibits enough stiffness to retain a three-dimensional shape, but is also at least somewhat flexible. Fitting such a tray to the complex three-dimensional surface of a vehicle foot well has proven to be difficult, and the products currently in the marketplace have limited consumer acceptance because of their loose fit inside the foot well. There is often, and in many places, a considerable space between the exterior wall of these conventional trays and the interior surface of the foot well. This causes

the wall to noticeably deform when the occupant's foot contacts it. Vehicle owners have a tendency to dislike floor trays which rattle, deform, shift and flop about. A need therefore persists for a floor tray that will have a more exact fit to the vehicle foot well for which it is provided, that stays in place once it is installed, and that provides a more solid and certain feel to the occupants' feet.

[0006] Some vehicle floor mats that are now on the market have fluid reservoirs built into them. Particularly in cold or wet climates, dirty water has a tendency to be shed onto the floor mat, where it persists until it evaporates. If there is enough of it, it will leak off of the floor mat and stain the carpeting of the foot well that the mat was meant to protect. These reservoirs typically are recessed areas in the mats that provide the mats with an enhanced ability to retain snow-melt and the like, until the water evaporates or can be disposed of by the vehicle owner or user. One advanced design places treads in the middle of the reservoir, such that the feet of the occupant are held above any fluid that the reservoir collects. But including such a reservoir within a floor tray that otherwise has an acceptable fit to the surface of a vehicle foot well has not yet been done, since there are problems in incorporating a three-dimensional liquid-holding vessel into a product that ideally conforms, on its lower surface, to the surface of the foot well. Further, a reservoir which collects drip water from a large surface, such as a vehicle floor tray, will exhibit more problems in keeping the collected fluid from sloshing about in a moving vehicle.

[0007] Conventional vehicle floor mats and trays are molded from a single rubber or plastic material. The selection of this material is controlled by its cost, its resistance to shear forces, its tensile strength, its abrasion resistance, its ability to conform to the surface of the vehicle foot well, its sound-deadening properties and how slippery or nonslippery it is relative to the



occupants' feet, with nonslipperiness (having a relatively high coefficient of friction) being advantageous. Often the designer must make tradeoffs among these different design constraints in specifying the material from which the tray or mat is to be made.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0008] According to one aspect of the invention, there is provided a vehicle floor cover, mat or tray which is removably installable by a consumer and which is formed of at least three layers that are bonded together, preferably by coextrusion. The three layers include a central layer whose composition is distinct from a bottom layer and a top layer. Preferably, all three layers are formed of thermoplastic polymer materials. In another aspect of the invention, the top layer exhibits a kinetic coefficient of friction with respect to a sample meant to emulate a typical shoe outsole (neoprene rubber, Shore A Durometer 60) of at least about 0.82.

[0009] Preferably, a major portion of the central layer is a polyolefin. More preferably, the polyolefin is either a polypropylene or a polyethylene. Most preferably, the polyolefin is high molecular weight polyethylene (HMPE) as herein defined. In an alternative embodiment, the central layer can be a styrene-acrylonitrile copolymer (SAN) or an acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS) polymer blend.

[0010] Preferably, a major portion of the top layer is a thermoplastic elastomer, such as one of the proprietary compositions sold under the trademarks SANTOPRENE®, GEOLAST® and VYRAM®. VYRAM® is particularly preferred. In another embodiment, a major portion of the top layer can be an ABS polymer blend. Where ABS is used in both the top and central layers, it is preferred that the amount of the polybutadiene phase in the top layer be greater than the amount of this phase in the central layer.

[0011] It is further preferred that a major portion of the bottom layer likewise be a thermoplastic elastomer, and conveniently it can be, but does not have to be, of the same composition as the major portion of the top layer.

[0012] Preferably one or more of the layers is actually a polymer blend, in which a minor portion is preselected for its coextrusion compatibility with the adjacent layer(s). Thus, a minor portion of the top and bottom layers can consist of a polyolefin, while a minor portion of the central layer can consist of a thermoplastic elastomer. In each case, it is preferred that the minor portion be no more than about one part in four by weight of each layer, or a weight ratio of 1:3. Where all three layers are preselected to be ABS blends, the amount of polybutadiene preferably is decreased in the central layer relative to the top and bottom layers.

[0013] While the preferred embodiment of the vehicle floor cover consists of three integral layers, any one of the recited layers can in fact be made up of two or more sublayers, such that the total number of sublayers in the resultant mat or tray can exceed three.

[0014] In another embodiment, the thermoplastic elastomer constituent of the top, central and/or bottom layers described above can be replaced with a natural or synthetic rubber, including styrene butadiene rubber, butadiene rubber, acrylonitrile butadiene rubber (NBR) or ethylene propylene rubber (EPDM).

[0015] According to a related aspect of the invention, a vehicle floor cover is provided that has three layers bonded together, preferably by coextrusion. Major portions of the top and bottom layer consist of thermoplastic elastomer(s). The top and bottom layers have compositions distinct from the central layer, which can be chosen for its relatively low expense. It is preferred

that a major portion of the central layer be a polyolefin and that major portions of the top and bottom layers be one or more thermoplastic elastomers. The polyolefin may be selected from the group consisting of polypropylene and polyethylene, and preferably is a high molecular weight polyethylene (HMPE). The thermoplastic elastomer can, for example, be SANTOPRENE®, GEOLAST® or VYRAM®, with VYRAM® being particularly preferred. It is also preferred that each of the layers be a polymer blend, with a minor portion of each layer being chosen for its coextrusion compatibility with adjacent layers. For example, the top and bottom layers can consist of a 3:1 weight ratio of VYRAM®/HMPE, and the central layer of a 3:1 weight ratio of HMPE/VYRAM®.

[0016] In an embodiment alternative to the one above, the top and bottom layers can consist of ABS polymer blends and the central layer can consist of SAN or an ABS in which the polybutadiene phase is present in a smaller concentration than in the top and bottom layers.

[0017] In yet another embodiment, the thermoplastic elastomer recited in this aspect of the invention may be replaced with a natural or synthetic rubber, such as styrene butadiene rubber (SBR), butadiene rubber, acrylonitrile butadiene rubber (NBR) or ethylene propylene rubber (EPDM).

[0018] In a further aspect of the invention, a vehicle floor tray or mat according to the invention is made of three layers, wherein a top layer and a bottom layer have composition(s) distinct from the central layer, and wherein at least one of the shear strength per cross-sectional area, tensile strength per cross-sectional area and stiffness per cross-sectional area is greater than any one of the layers from which the tray or mat is composed. It has been found that a triextruded vehicle mat or floor tray according to the invention exhibits a tensile strength at yield, a tensile stress at

break, a tensile modulus, a shear strength and a flexural modulus (stiffness) which are superior to either a polyolefin-dominated single extrusion or a thermoplastic elastomer-dominated single extrusion. The triextrusion tray demonstrates these enhanced physical properties while at the same time affording an enhanced coefficient of friction to the feet of the occupant and improved tactile properties. By presenting such a surface to the shoe of the driver or passenger, the footing of the driver or passenger will be more sure and comfortable.

[0019] In a further aspect of the invention, a vehicle foot well tray is provided as a part of a system that has the vehicle foot well as its other main component. The tray has a greatly enhanced conformance to the surface of the vehicle foot well for which it is provided. At least two upstanding walls of the tray, both extending from the tray floor to a top margin, conform to respective surfaces of the vehicle foot well such that at least within that one-third of the area of the outer surface of these upstanding walls of the tray which is adjacent the top margin, 90% of that top third area departs by no more than about one-eighth of an inch from the foot well surfaces to which they mate. These upstanding tray surfaces may be opposed surfaces or adjacent surfaces, and preferably are both. In a preferred embodiment, the tray departs from a door sill surface of the vehicle foot well, and/or a sill curve of the vehicle foot well, by about 0.025 inches. The upstanding sidewalls of the floor tray conform to the foot well surfaces which they cover, even where such foot well surfaces present both concave and convex surface elements.

[0020] In a still further aspect of the invention, a top margin of a vehicle floor tray is substantially coplanar on at least two upstanding sidewalls thereof. Preferably, the top margin of the tray is substantially coplanar through three or even four continuous upstanding sidewalls.

This eases the design of the floor tray, increases hoop strength and assures that all upstanding surfaces of the vehicle foot well will receive adequate protection from muddy footwear. In a particularly preferred embodiment, the plane of the top margin is forwardly and upwardly tilted relative to a horizontal floor. This provides enhanced protection to the vehicle foot well precisely in the place where muddy footwear are likely to be, near the accelerator, brake and clutch pedals or the firewall. In a preferred embodiment, the tray is at least five inches deep at its deepest part.

[0021] In a further aspect of the invention, the above mentioned tight tolerances are made possible by a novel vehicle floor tray manufacturing method. In a first step according to the invention, points on a surface of the vehicle foot well are digitally measured with a coordinate measuring machine (CMM). These points are stored in a computer memory. A foot well surface is generated which includes these points, preferably by connecting linear groups of the points together by using B-splines, and lofting between the B-splines to create areal portions of the foot well surface. Using this typically complex three-dimensional, predominately concave surface, which may have several concavely and convexly curved portions, a corresponding substantially convex outer floor tray surface is built up such that in many regions, the distance between the outer surface of the tray and the surface of the foot well is no more than about one eighth of an inch, insuring a snug fit.

[0022] In one embodiment of the invention, a reservoir is incorporated into the tray floor as a collection and evaporation area for drip water from the feet and legs of the occupant. Combination baffles/treads are provided in the reservoir to impede lateral movement of the collected fluid. Longitudinal and transverse portions of these baffles are joined together.

Channels are cut into another portion of the central area of the tray to direct fluid to the reservoir, such that the bottom of the channels is beneath a general tray floor surface but above the bottom of the reservoir. In a preferred driver's side embodiment, the channels are omitted from a portion of the floor tray upper surface to leave a blank space where the driver's heel will rest when operating the gas and brake pedals.

[0023] In a further aspect, a vehicle floor tray has a central panel for placement on the floor of a vehicle foot well, and at least first and second upstanding panels, joined to respective longitudinal and transverse margins of the central panel, for substantial conformance to side walls of the vehicle foot well. The tray is thermoformed from a sheet of polymer material having substantially uniform thickness, and this means that the components of the tray after thermoforming will have a substantially uniform thickness. A reservoir is formed in the central panel for collection of snow melt and other fluid. Multiple treads/baffles are disposed in the reservoir. The treads/baffles each have at least two opposed ends and are elongate. Each tread/baffle is hollow and has a width, in any horizontal direction, which is more than twice its thickness as measured from the top surface thereof to the nearest point on the bottom surface thereof. The treads/baffles are adapted to elevate the foot or shoe of the occupant out of the fluid collected by the reservoir. At the same time they are adapted to impede lateral movement of the collected fluid within the reservoir, as might occur when the vehicle turns, accelerates or brakes. The fluid is forced around ends of the treads/baffles in order to reach any remote portion of the reservoir. Since any portion of the reservoir is connected to any other portion of it, a large surface area of the reservoir is available for the collected fluid to spread out and evaporate.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0024] Further aspects of the invention and their advantages can be discerned in the following detailed description, in which like characters denote like parts and in which:

[0025] FIGURE 1 is an isometric view of one embodiment of a vehicle floor tray according to the invention;

[0026] FIGURE 2 is a top view of the floor tray illustrated in FIGURE 1;

[0027] FIGURE 3 is an isometric and transverse sectional view of the floor tray seen in FIGURES 1 and 2, the section taken substantially along line 3-3 of FIGURE 2;

[0028] FIGURE 4 is an isometric and longitudinal sectional view of the floor tray shown in FIGURES 1 and 2, the section taken substantially along line 4-4 of FIGURE 2;

[0029] FIGURE 5 is a side view of the tray illustrated in FIGURE 1, taken from the outer side;

[0030] FIGURE 6 is a highly magnified sectional view of a vehicle floor tray, showing triextruded layers;

[0031] FIGURE 7 is a schematic block diagram showing steps in a design and manufacturing process according to the invention; and

[0032] FIGURE 8 is an isometric and schematic view of a digitally acquired vehicle foot well floor surface from which the illustrated floor tray was made;

[0033] FIGURE 9 is a partly transverse sectional, partly isometric view of both the floor tray illustrated in FIGURE 2 and the vehicle foot well surface illustrated in FIGURE 8, taken substantially along line 9 – 9 of FIGURE 2 and substantially along line 9 - 9 of FIGURE 8;

[0034] FIGURE 10 is a partly transverse sectional, partly isometric view of both the floor tray illustrated in FIGURE 2 and the vehicle foot well surface illustrated in FIGURE 8, taken substantially along line 10 – 10 of FIGURE 2 and substantially along line 10 – 10 of FIGURE 8;

[0035] FIGURE 11 is a detail of a firewall region of FIGURE 10;

[0036] FIGURE 12 is a detail of a seat pedestal region of FIGURE 10;

[0037] FIGURE 13 is a partly longitudinal sectional, partly isometric view of both the floor tray illustrated in FIGURE 2 and the vehicle foot well surface illustrated in FIGURE 8, taken substantially along line 13 – 13 of FIGURE 2 and substantially along line 13 – 13 of FIGURE 8; and

[0038] FIGURE 14 is a detail of a kick plate region of FIGURE 13.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0039] An isometric view of one commercial embodiment is shown in FIGURE 1. The illustrated vehicle floor tray indicated generally at 100 is preferably molded from a blank, in sheet form, of water-impervious thermoplastic polymer material having a uniform thickness, although the present invention could be fabricated from another process such as injection molding. The floor tray 100 is preferably formed of a triextruded thermoplastic material such that the properties of a central or core layer can be different than the properties of the external or



jacket layers, and such that the triextrusion is tougher and stiffer per unit thickness than any of the layers from which it is made, as will be described in more detail below.

[0040] The vehicle floor tray or cover 100 is meant to protect both the floor and at least the lower sides of a vehicle foot well, and thus takes on a much more three-dimensional shape than is typical of prior art floor mats. The floor tray 100 includes a floor or central panel 102, which in the illustrated embodiment includes a plurality of fore-to-aft or longitudinal parallel straight channels 104 that are disposed in a forward region 106 of the floor panel 102. Preferably these channels are about an eighth of an inch deep so that they will correctly channel runoff, and can be about one-quarter of an inch wide. In FIGURE 1, forward is a direction to the upper left, while rearward is the direction to the lower right, and the terms are used in conformance with the orientation of the vehicle in which the tray is designed to be placed. As used herein, “longitudinal” means for-and-aft or along the axis of vehicle travel, while “transverse” means at a ninety degree angle to such an axis, or side-to-side.

[0041] A rearward or back region 108 of the floor panel 102 is largely occupied by a reservoir 110, whose bottom is made up by a substantially planar general surface 112. General surface 112 is situated to be below a general surface 114 of the forward region 106. Preferably, the general bottom reservoir surface 112 is also below the bottommost points of the respective channels 104, as by about one-eighth of an inch, so that fluid in the channels 104 will empty into the reservoir 110.

[0042] The channels 104 are designed to channel liquid runoff from the user’s feet or footwear to the reservoir 110. In many vehicles, the portion of the vehicle floor (not shown in this Figure; see FIGURES 8 - 11) which underlies the forward region 106 slopes from front to rear, and thus

the tray 100, by simply conforming to the contour of the underlying vehicle floor portion, will channel fluid to the reservoir. For those vehicle designs in which the underlying vehicle floor is not pitched in this manner, the tray 100 can advantageously be designed to create this fluid flow, as by making the material thicker in portion 106 than in portion 108, or by giving the bottoms of channels 104 a front-to-rear slope.

[0043] The channels 104 occupy most of the forward region 106, although in this and other commercial embodiments a space 116 on the forward right hand side has been left open to receive the foot of the driver that operates the accelerator and brake pedals. In the illustrated embodiment, this space or clear area 116 is delimited by a 180 degree arc of a circle of about four inch radius (shown in dashed line). The clear area 116 is provided so that the relatively deep channels 104 do not catch the heel of the driver's shoe. In other embodiments, the clear area 116 can take other shapes or positions, so long as the heels of almost all drivers, while operating the brake and accelerator pedals of the vehicle for which the particular tray is designed, will rest within its confines.

[0044] The reservoir 110 has interspersed within it a plurality of tread surfaces or baffles 118, which have two purposes. The first purpose is to elevate the shoe or foot of the occupant above any fluid which may have collected in the reservoir 110. The second purpose is to prevent this accumulated fluid from sloshing around. To this end, most of the tread surfaces/baffles 118 have both fore-to-aft or longitudinal portions 120 and side-to-side or transverse portions 122. This prevents large fluid movement in a forward or rearward direction, as would otherwise happen during acceleration or braking of the vehicle, and also large fluid movement side-to-side, as when the vehicle is turning. Preferably, each or at least most of the fore-to-aft portions 120 are

joined to respective side-to-side portions. This further compartmentalizes and restricts the movement of collected fluid. Fluid in one portion of the reservoir 110 may make its way only slowly and through a complicated path to another distant portion of the reservoir 110, through channels 124 around the ends of the treads or baffles 118. The reservoir design thus creates a large surface area which promotes evaporation of the fluid, while at the same time restricts fluid movement prior to such evaporation.

[0045] Disposed around the central or floor panel 102 are a series of upstanding side panels, which will vary in number and configuration from one vehicle model to the next. In the illustrated embodiment these upstanding panels include a back panel 130 that is disposed adjacent the bottom of a vehicle front seat, or a vehicle pedestal for receiving same; an inner side panel 132 that closely fits a transmission tunnel or “hump” in this vehicle; a forward panel 134 that closely conforms to a vehicle firewall; and an outer side panel 136. In most embodiments, the outer side panel or kick plate panel 136 will only extend from its transition with panel 134 to a corner 138, at which point there begins a door sill curve 208 which transitions into a door sill panel 140. Unlike the other panels, the sill panel 140 is not generally upstanding but instead conforms to the sill of a vehicle door and lies in a substantially horizontal plane. In this way occupant ingress and egress is not occluded. In many embodiments, including the illustrated embodiment, the sill panel 140 is at an elevation below that of the general surface 114 of the floor forward region 106 and even below the general surface (bottom) 112 of the reservoir 110. Very large amounts of fluid (in excess of the reservoir capacity) may therefore flow right out of the vehicle without having the opportunity to damage the vehicle interior. It should be noted that in these FIGURES, the lines dividing the panels are conceptual only and do not appear in the

final part. As will be described in further detail below, the tray 100 preferably is integrally molded as a one-piece construction.

[0046] In one important aspect of the invention, the tray 100 is closely fitted to the vehicle foot well in which it is designed to be placed. Panels 130, 132, 134, 136 and 140 are all formed so as to as closely conform to the vehicle surfaces against which they are positioned, to an extent not found in prior art vehicle floor trays. In a preferred embodiment, at least throughout the top one-third of the areas of these panels that is adjacent a vehicle tray top margin 150, at least ninety percent of the points on the outer surface of the peripheral or side panels 130-136 are no more than about one-eighth of an inch from the corresponding points on the surfaces that they are formed to mate with. This close conformance occurs even where the underlying vehicular surface is complexly curved or angled. Certain portions of the vehicle foot well surface, such as kick plate transition plate 214, can have both convexly and concavely curved elements. The preferred tolerance of door sill curve 208 and sill plate 140 is even tighter, about 0.025 in.

[0047] The close conformance of the tray side panels to respective surfaces of the vehicle foot well produces a protective tray which will not be horizontally displaced under lateral forces created by the occupant's feet, or by the motion of the vehicle. Opposing pairs of the peripheral panels "nest" or "cage" the tray 100, preventing its lateral movement. Thus, outer side panel or kick plate panel 136, which closely conforms to a vehicle side wall at that position, has as its counterpart a portion 142 of the inner side panel 132. Any tendency of the tray 100 to shift leftward is stopped by panel 136; any tendency of the tray 100 to shift rightward is stopped by panel portion 142. In a similar manner, the upstanding rearward and forward panels 130 and 134 cooperate to "cage" any forward or rearward motion of the tray 100 within the vehicle foot well.

[0048] The close conformance of the outer or lower surfaces of panels 130-136, 218, 140 to their respective mating surfaces of the vehicle foot well also increases the frictional force which will oppose any lateral movement. The result of this close conformance is to provide a floor tray which will not undesirably shift position, and which will provide a steady and sure rest to the feet of the occupants.

[0049] In most commercial embodiments of the vehicle floor tray 100, the side panels 130 – 136, 140 will not be formed to abruptly extend from the bottom panel 102, but rather will be joined to the bottom or central panel 102 through transitions. These transitions may be sloped or curved and will have a varying degree of gradualness. According to the invention, the transitions between the outer and bottom surfaces of the tray 100 conform wherever possible to underlying surfaces of the vehicle foot adjacent these transitions.

[0050] In FIGURE 2, for example, there is seen a large transition or subpanel 200 which extends from forward portion 106. A further subpanel 202 joins transitional subpanel 202 to the forward sidewall 134. Inner or transmission tunnel sidewall 132 is joined to the pan 102 through a curved transitional fillet 204. The rear upstanding panel 130 is joined to the rear portion of bottom panel 102 through a small transition 206. A transition or sill curve 208 between the outer sidewall 136 and the sill panel 140 takes the form of a gradual curved surface.

[0051] The present invention also employs (typically) curved transitions between adjacent side panels. For example, a curved transition 210 joins the back panel 130 to the inner side panel 132. A curved transition 212 joins the transmission tunnel or inner side panel 132 to the front or firewall panel 134. A transition 214, which in this embodiment takes the shape of an S-curve and conforms to a portion of vehicle wheel well, joins the front panel 134 to the outer side panel

136. The close conformance (preferably to a tolerance of about 1/8 in.) wherever possible to the transitions of the vehicle foot well surface by the outer surface of the tray 100 enhances a close fit.

[0052] In the illustrated embodiment, the tray according to the invention has been made by placing a sheet of substantially uniformly thick triextruded thermoplastic material into a mold and heating the mold. When this process is used, discrete layers having different characteristics can persist into the final product, as will be described in more detail below. On the other hand, as using this manufacturing process it is difficult to provide the channels and reservoir structure according to one aspect of the invention while closely conforming the bottom surface 300 (FIGURES 3 and 4) to a mating surface of the vehicle foot well. In this central area, and according to the preferred manufacturing process, a departure away from 1/8 in. tolerance must be made in order to obtain the above-described benefits of fluid flow and retention. But because the side panels 130 – 136, 140 and their associated transitions continue to closely conform to most of the remaining vehicle foot well surfaces, the tray 100 continues to be locked in one place.

[0053] FIGURES 10 – 14 superimpose a floor tray 100 on a surface 802 of a vehicle foot well for which the tray is designed according to the invention. In the part-isometric, part-longitudinal sectional view seen in FIGURE 10, It can be seen that on the section taken there is a quite tight conformance of the lower surface 300 of the tray 100 to the modeled surface 802 of the vehicle foot well. As best seen in FIGURE 11, the outer surface of the firewall sidewall 134 stays within one-eighth of an inch of the firewall surface 826 for at least three-quarters of the length of surface 826 as measured from the top margin 150 of the tray. In areas 1000, 1002 and 1004

(FIGURE 10), the modeled surface 802 of the vehicle foot well is actually above or to the interior to the tray 100. This negative interference is tolerable and in some instances is even desirable because the surface 802 is that of a vehicle carpet, which can or even should be depressed upon the installation of the tray 100 into the vehicle foot well. Such a tight fit is particularly desirable, for example, in the region of the tray around the accelerator pedal.

[0054] FIGURE 12 is a detail of FIGURE 10 in the area of the seat pedestal and a portion of the reservoir 110. Once again, there is a very tight conformance of the outer surface of the back panel 130 to the modeled seat pedestal surface 828 throughout most of its length on this section, well within 1/8 inch.

[0055] FIGURE 13 shows a side-to-side or transverse section taken in a relatively forward location, so as to cut through the kick plate tray and foot well surfaces 136, 830 on one side and the tray and foot well transmission tunnel surfaces 132, 810 on the other. As can be seen, tolerance to within 1/8 of an inch is maintained at least for the upper one-third of the surface area of these mating surfaces. Areas 1000, 1002 (partially represented in FIGURE 13) and 1006 are areas of negative standoff or interference in which the modeled surface 802 of the vehicle foot well is positioned interiorly of the vehicle tray 100. As above explained, this mismatch is permissible if held to 1/8 inch or less, and is even desirable in some points, because the surface 802 is an image of vehicle carpeting rather than a hard surface.

[0056] In FIGURE 14, there is seen at 1400 an intentional increase of radius of the transition between kick plate panel 136 and bottom wall 102. This is done because, for the model shown, the foot well kick plate surface 830 is both vertical and is relatively deep. Therefore, sidewall 136 needs to have a draft of at least two degrees (and more preferably five degrees) relative to

the surface 830 to insure that the wall of the tray 100 will remain acceptably thick enough at the junction of walls 136, 102. The increase of the radius 1400 accomplishes this. Nonetheless, even on this section the outer surface of the kick plate 136 stays within one-eighth of an inch of the kick plate surface 830 for at least one-third of the length, as measured from margin 150.

[0057] More generally, at least ninety percent of that top one-third of the surface area of each sidewall 130 – 136 that is adjacent the top margin 150 stays within 1/8 in. of the vehicle foot well surfaces with which they are designed to mate. Alternatively, ninety percent of the top one-half of the outer surface area of all upstanding sidewalls is within this 1/8 inch tolerance of respective foot well surfaces. In even a further alternative measurement of tolerance, it is preferred that at least fifty percent of the outer area of the upstanding sidewalls 130 – 136 be within 1/8 inch of the vehicle foot wells to which they correspond, regardless of position relative to the top margin 150.

[0058] As best seen in FIGURES 1, 5 and 10, a top margin 150 of the tray 100, which terminates all of the upstanding sidewalls 130, 132, 134, 136 and 138, substantially lies in a single plane which is tilted forwardly upwardly relative to the horizontal plane. The continuous nature of the top margin 150 means that the produced tray 100 has a higher hoop strength, and better protects the vehicle carpeting from dirt or mud on the sides of the occupant's feet. The occupant's feet tend to occupy positions on the forward region 106, but the position of the top margin 150 around this region is high, being at least five inches removed from the floor of the tray at its greatest separation.



## COMPOSITION

[0059] According to one aspect of the invention, it is preferred that the tray or cover 100 not be of uniform composition throughout, but rather be a laminate having at least three layers which are bonded together. A preferred composition of the tray 100 is shown in the highly magnified sectional detail shown in FIGURE 6. In this illustrated embodiment, the tray 100 consists of a top layer 600, a central or core layer 602, and a bottom layer 604. All three layers 600 – 604 preferably consist of one or more water-impervious thermoplastic polymers, but layers 600 and 604 have properties which are at least different from core layer 602 and may even have properties which are different from each other. The trilayer cover is shown to be a three-dimensional floor tray in the drawings, but can also be a more two-dimensional floor mat of more limited coverage. Top layer 600 is made from a material selected for its tactile properties, its relatively high static and dynamic coefficients of friction with respect to typical footwear, and its resistance to chemical attack from road salt and other substances into which it may come into contact. Top layer 600 preferably includes a major portion of a thermoplastic elastomer such as VYRAM®, SANTOPRENE® or GEOLAST®, which are proprietary compositions available from Advanced Elastomer Systems. VYRAM® is preferred, particularly Grade 101-75 (indicating a Shore A hardness of 75). An upper surface 606 of the top layer 600 may be textured by a “haircell” pattern or the like so as to provide a pleasing tactile feel and visual appearance, as may a lower surface of the bottom layer 604.

[0060] It is preferred that top layer 600 be a polymer blend, in which instance a minor portion of the composition of the top layer 600 is selected for its coextrusion compatibility with core layer 602. A polyolefin polymer is preferred, such as polypropylene or more preferably polyethylene, even more particularly a high molecular weight polyethylene (HMPE). As used herein, HMPE is

a commodity product, available from many sources, and distinguished in the industry from low density polyethylene (LDPE) and high density polyethylene (HDPE) by its approximate properties:

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>LDPE</b>	<b>HDPE</b>	<b>HMPE</b>
Specific Gravity, ASTM D-792	0.918	0.96	0.95
Tensile Modulus, ASTM D-638, psi	22,500	95,000	125,000
Tensile Strength @ Yield, ASTM D-638, psi	1,800	4,500	3,600 – 3,700
Flexural Modulus, ASTM D-790, psi		225,000	165,000 – 175,000
Hardness, ASTM D-2240, Shore D	45	66	68

[0061] In the above table, the testing methods by which the properties are determined are given for the purpose of reproducibility.

[0062] Particularly where the thermoplastic elastomer and the polyolefin are respectively selected as VYRAM® and HMPE, the proportion by weight of the thermoplastic elastomer to polyolefin material in layer 600 is preferably selected to be about 3:1. It has been discovered that some polyolefin material needs to be present in layer 600 for coextrusion compatibility with central layer 602, in the instance where a major portion of the layer 602 is also a polyolefin.

[0063] In an alternative embodiment, the thermoplastic elastomer component of the top layer 600 may be replaced with an elastomer such as natural rubber, acryl-nitrile butadiene rubber (NBR), styrene butadiene rubber (SBR), or ethylene propylene diene rubber (EPDM).

[0064] In a further alternative embodiment, layer 600 can be an acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS) blend. ABS is a material in which submicroscopic particles of polybutadiene are dispersed in a phase of styrene acrylonitrile (SAN) copolymer. For layer 600, the percentage

by weight of polybutadiene, which lends elastomeric properties to the material, should be chosen as relatively high.

[0065] The core or central layer 602 preferably is composed of a thermoplastic polymer material that is selected for its toughness, stiffness and inexpensiveness rather than its tactile or frictional properties. Preferably a major portion of it is a polyolefin such as polypropylene or polyethylene. More preferably, a major portion of the layer 602 is composed of HMPE as that material has been defined above.

[0066] It is preferred that the central layer 602 be a blend, and in that instance a minor portion of layer 602 is composed of a material selected for its coextrusion compatibility with top layer 600 (and bottom layer 604 described below). In the illustrated embodiment, this minor portion is a thermoplastic elastomer such as SANTOPRENE®, GEOLAST® or VYRAM®. VYRAM® Grade 101-75 is particularly preferred. For layer 602, and particularly where the polyolefin and the thermoplastic elastomer are respectively selected as HMPE and VYRAM®, the proportion by weight of polyolefin to thermoplastic elastomer is preferred to be about 3:1. More generally, the percentages of the minor portions in layers 600 and 602 (and layer 604) are selected as being the minimum necessary for good coextrusion compatibility.

[0067] In an alternative embodiment, where layer 600 has been chosen as a polybutadiene-rich layer of ABS, layer 602 is chosen as a grade of ABS having less of a percentage by weight of polybutadiene in it, or none at all (effectively, styrene acrylonitrile copolymer or SAN).

[0068] Bottom layer 604 has a lower surface 300 which will be adjacent the vehicle foot well top surface. Typically, this surface is carpeted. The bottom layer 604 is a thermoplastic polymer

material selected for its wear characteristics, as well as its sound-deadening qualities and a yieldability that allows the layer 604 to better grip “hard points” in the vehicle foot well surface as well as conform to foot well surface irregularities. Preferably, a major portion of the layer 604 is composed of a thermoplastic elastomer, such as SANTOPRENE®, GEOLAST® or, preferably, VYRAM®. VYRAM® Grade 101-75 is particularly preferred.

[0069] It is preferred that the bottom layer 604 be a polymer blend. In this instance, a minor portion of the bottom layer 604 is selected for its coextrusion compatibility with the core layer 602. Where core layer 602 is mostly made of a polyolefin material, it is preferred that a polyolefin be used as the minor portion of the bottom layer 604. This polyolefin can be, for example, polypropylene or polyethylene, and preferably is HMPE. The amount of the minor portion is selected to be that minimum amount that assures good coextrusion compatibility. Where the polyolefin and the thermoplastic elastomer are respectively chosen to be HMPE and VYRAM®, it has been found that the thermoplastic elastomer: polyolefin ratio by weight in the layer 604 should be about 3:1.

[0070] In an alternative embodiment, the thermoplastic elastomer component of layer 604 may be replaced with a rubber, such as natural rubber, NBR, SBR or EPDM.

[0071] In another alternative embodiment, where the central layer 602 has been selected as ABS or SAN, layer 604 can be selected as a grade of ABS which has a higher percentage by weight of polybutadiene in it than in central layer 602.

[0072] Bottom jacketing layer 604 conveniently can have the same composition as top jacketing layer 600, but the two jacketing layers do not have to be similar. What is important that, where

the tray 100 is to be formed as a triextrusion (as is preferred), layers 600, 602 and 604 be sufficiently compatible that they can be triextruded as a single sheet.

[0073] It is preferred that most of the thickness of the tray 100 be made up by the core layer 602, which is used as the principal structural component of the tray 100. The core layer 602 has at least minimally acceptable tensile strength, shear strength and high flexural modulus, while at the same time being significantly less expensive than the thermoplastic elastomer-dominated jacketing layers. The jacketing layers 600 and 604 are selected to present good wear surfaces and to have a good resistance to chemical attack from substances such as road salt. Top layer 600 is selected to exhibit a relatively high coefficient of friction with respect to typical occupant footwear. The composition of bottom layer 604 is selected for its sound-deadening and yieldability qualities.

[0074] The total thickness of tray 100 is the sum of dimensions  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$ . In the illustrated embodiment, jacketing layer thicknesses  $a$  and  $c$  are each about 12.5% of the total thickness, while core layer thickness  $b$  is about 75%. In one embodiment, the total thickness of the tray 100 (or, more precisely, of the blank sheet used to mold the tray 100) is approximately 0.120 inch. Of this, core layer 602 is about 0.09 inch, while jacketing layers 600 and 604 are each about 0.0150 inch. In an alternative embodiment, the layer 600 can be made to be appreciably thicker than layer 604, as top surface 606 is a wear surface for the shoes of the occupant and will see more abrasive dirt and more wear than surface 300 in typical applications. In another alternative embodiment, the thickness of layer 604 may be increased, allowing it to even better conform to the vehicle foot well surface with which it is designed to mate and to increase sound-deadening.

[0075] A preferred embodiment of the present invention combines the high coefficient of friction, tactile qualities, sound-deadening and yieldability obtainable with a thermoplastic elastomer with the modest cost of a polyolefin. To demonstrate the technical advantages of a triextrusion tray over monoextruded prior art structures, tests measuring tensile strength, shear strength, flexural modulus and coefficient of friction were performed on (1) a triextrusion sheet material made and used according to the invention, (2) a monoextruded sheet of 75 wt. pct. VYRAM®/ 25 wt. pct. HMPE, and (3) a monoextruded sheet of wt. pct. VYRAM® / 75 wt. pct. HMPE. The particular tests and their results are described below.

[0076] The first two tests performed concern static and dynamic coefficients of friction.

Example 1

[0077] These tests determined static and kinetic coefficients of friction of a sheet of triextrusion material with respect to an object meant to emulate an typical occupant shoe outsole. This “shoe” was composed of Shore A Durometer 60 neoprene rubber, formed as a “sled” measuring 2.5 in. x 2.5 in. x 0.238 in. The “shoes” were drawn across an upper, textured surface of a .120 in. triextrusion sheet formed according to a preferred embodiment of the invention measuring 4 in. x 12 in. according to the procedure set forth in ASTM D 1894-01. The triextrusion sheet had, as its top layer, a blend of 75 wt. pct. VYRAM® Grade 101-75/25 wt. pct. HMPE. The core layer was 75 wt. pct. HMPE/25 wt. pct. VYRAM® Grade 101-75. The bottom layer was a blend of 25 wt. pct. HMPE/75 wt. pct. VYRAM® Grade 101-75. The bottom and top layers each comprised about 12.5% of the sheet thickness while the middle core layer comprised about 75% of the sheet thickness. Results are tabulated as follows.

<b>Test Number</b>	<b>Static Load (g)</b>	<b>Sled Weight (g)</b>	<b>Static Coefficient of Friction</b>	<b>Kinetic Load (g)</b>	<b>Sled Weight (g)</b>	<b>Kinetic Coefficient of Friction</b>
1	166	199.9	0.830	189	199.9	0.945
2	155	199.9	0.775	166	199.9	0.830
3	171	200.0	0.855	179	200.0	0.895
4	145	199.9	0.725	160	199.9	0.800
5	150	199.9	0.750	163	199.9	0.815
Average			0.787			0.857
Std. Dev.			0.054			0.061

Example 2

[0078] Five neoprene rubber “sleds” fabricated as above were drawn across a 4 in. x 12 in. sheet of a single-extrusion 75 wt. pct. HMPE/25 wt. pct. VYRAM® Grade 101-75, according to ASTM D 1894-01. Results are tabulated below.

<b>Test Number</b>	<b>Static Load (g)</b>	<b>Sled Weight (g)</b>	<b>Static Coefficient of Friction</b>	<b>Kinetic Load (g)</b>	<b>Sled Weight (g)</b>	<b>Kinetic Coefficient of Friction</b>
1	157	200.1	0.785	162	200.1	0.810
2	151	200.0	0.755	148	200.0	0.740
3	163	200.1	0.815	170	200.0	0.850
4	146	200.1	0.730	148	200.1	0.740
5	154	200.1	0.770	155	200.1	0.775
Average			0.771			0.783
Std. Dev.			0.032			0.047

[0079] The above tests show that with respect to a typical shoe sole composition, a material consisting mostly of a thermoplastic elastomer like VYRAM® exhibits a higher coefficient of friction than a material consisting mostly of a high molecular weight polyolefin.

Example 3

[0080] These tests compared the tensile strength of a sheet of triextruded material as above described with a sheet of single-extruded blend of material consisting of 75 wt. pct. VYRAM®, Grade 101-75, and 25 wt. pct. HMPE, and further with a sheet of a single-extruded blend of

material of 75 wt. pct. HMPE and 25 wt. pct. VYRAM® Grade 101-75. The tested single-extruded VYRAM®-dominated sheet was approximately .070 in. thick, while the HMPE-dominated sheet was approximately .137 in. thick. The triextrusion sheet was about .120 in. thick. The triextrusion sheet, the single-extruded VYRAM®-dominated sheet and the single-extruded HMPE-dominated sheet were die-cut into samples having an average width of 0.250". The test performed was according to the ASTM D 638-03 testing standard. A cross-head speed of 20 in. / min. was used. The extensiometer was set at 1000% based on 1.0" gauge length. Samples were conditioned at 40 hours at 23 Celsius and 50% relative humidity prior to testing at these conditions. Test results are tabulated below.

	Test Number	Tensile Strength at Yield (psi)	Elongation at Yield (%)	Tensile Stress at Break (psi)	Elongation at Break (%)	Tensile Modulus (Youngs) (psi)
<b>Tri-Extrusion</b>	1	1680	24	1530	730	30800
	2	1710	21	1610	710	30100
	3	1700	21	1620	730	32200
	4	1740	19	1660	770	32700
	5	1690	17	1630	700	24400
	Average	1700	20	1610	730	30000
	Std.Dev.	23	3	48	27	3320
<b>75%Vyram/ 25%HMPE</b>	1	1040	53	1400	620	15900
	2	1010	45	1430	630	17100
	3	1050	98	1390	640	17100
	4	1010	62	1430	620	16700
	5	1030	88	1420	610	17100
	Average	1030	69	1410	620	16800
	Std.Dev.	18	23	18	11	522
<b>75%HMPE/ 25%Vyram</b>	1	919	63	1130	630	30200
	2	914	61	1110	630	34100
	3	925	69	1120	650	29500
	4	910	67	1110	650	21500
	5	912	68	1140	700	24000
	Average	916	66	1120	650	27900
	Std.Dev.	6	3	13	29	5060



[0081] The above data demonstrate that a triextrusion material according to the invention exhibits markedly greater tensile strength than a thermoplastic elastomer-dominated single-extrusion material. Also of interest is that the three-layer laminate exhibited a higher strength at yield and stress at break than the HMPE-dominated material, while showing a comparable tensile Young's modulus.

Example 4

[0082] Tests were performed on the above three materials for shear strength according to Test Standard ASTM D732-02. In these tests, a 1.00 in. dia. punch was applied to a 2.0 inch square of material until shear was achieved. The crosshead moved at 0.05 in/min. The test samples were preconditioned for at least 40 hours at 23 Celsius and 50% relative humidity, which were the conditions under which the tests were performed. Test results are tabulated below.

<b>Sample Name</b>	<b>Test Number</b>	<b>Thickness (in.)</b>	<b>Shear Force (lbf)</b>	<b>Shear Strength (psi)</b>
<b>Tri-Extrusion</b>	1	0.119	747	2000
	2	0.122	783	2040
	3	0.119	747	2000
	4	0.121	757	1990
	5	0.117	734	2000
	Average		754	2010
	Std. Dev.		18	19
<b>75% VYRAM/ 25% HMPE</b>	1	0.072	423	1870
	2	0.070	416	1890
	3	0.073	489	2130
	4	0.072	481	2130
	5	0.073	455	1980
	Average		453	2000
	Std. Dev.		33	126
<b>75% HMPE/ 25% VYRAM</b>	1	0.135	680	1600
	2	0.137	688	1600
	3	0.134	687	1630

	4	0.136	724	1690
	5	0.137	687	1600
	Average		693	1620
	Std. Dev.		18	39

[0083] The above test data show that, as normalized for the different thicknesses tested, the triextrusion material is similar in shear strength to the 75%VYRAM/ 25% HMPE single-extrusion blend, and superior in shear strength to the 75%HMPE/25%VYRAM® single-extrusion blend.

Example 5

[0084] Tests were performed to determine the flexural properties of samples of a tri-extrusion material of the above-described formulation, a 75 wt. pct. Vyram/25 wt. pct. HMPE material, and a 75 wt. pct. HMPE/25wt. pct. VYRAM material (in all tests. the thermoplastic elastomer used was VYRAM® Grade 101-75). The tests were performed according to the ASTM D790-03 test method, Method I, Procedure A. For the tri-extrusion the dimensions of the samples averaged 0.490” x 0.0119” x 5.00”, the span length was 1.904 in., and the cross-head speed was 0.051 in./min. For the 75%Vyram/25%HMPE material, the dimensions of the samples averaged 0.484” x 0.072” x 5.00”, the span length was 1.152 in., and the cross-head speed was 0.031 in./min. For the 75%HMPE/25%Vyram material, the dimensions of the samples averaged 0.50” x 0.138” x 5.00”, the span length was 2.208 in., and the cross-head speed was 0.059 in/min. In all tests, the span-to-depth ratio was 16 +/- 1:1, the radius of the supports was 0.197 in., and the radius of the loading nose was 0.197 in. The tests were performed at 23 Celsius and 50% relative humidity and the samples conditioned for 40 hours at this temperature and humidity before the tests were performed. Results are tabulated below.

<b>Sample Name</b>	<b>Test Number</b>	<b>Flexural Stress At 5% Deflection (psi)</b>	<b>Flexural Modulus (tangent*)(psi)</b>
<b>Triextrusion</b>	1	294	33400
	2	317	36000
	3	304	33500
	4	318	35700
	5	305	33200
	Average	308	34400
	Std. Dev.		
<b>75%Vyram/ 25%HMPE</b>	1	234	15400
	2	238	16400
	3	230	14500
	4	225	14300
	5	228	14300
	Average	231	15000
	Std. Dev.	5	915
<b>75%HMPE/ 25%Vyram</b>	1	508	13000
	2	505	13800
	3	496	13100
	4	497	12900
	5	518	13800
	Average	505	13300
	Std. Dev.	9	444

[0085] The asterisk in the table indicates that the reported values were arrived at by computer generated curve fit. These data show that the triextrusion is significantly stiffer than either monoextruded sheet. Overall, the triextrusion demonstrates superior properties in terms of tensile strength, shear strength and stiffness per unit cross-sectional area in comparison with that of any of the layers of materials from which the laminate is made, demonstrating that a triextruded tray or mat will be tougher and stiffer than one made of either monoextruded blend by itself.

## PROCESS

[0086] FIGURES 7 and 8 provide an overview of a process for making the vehicle floor trays or covers according to the invention. The vehicle floor trays and covers are custom-fabricated for discrete vehicle models. At step 700, points on the vehicle foot well for which the floor tray is to be manufactured are digitally measured and captured. Preferably this step uses a coordinate measuring machine (CMM) which records each of a large plurality of points on the surface of the vehicle foot well to which the floor tray is to be fitted. The inventor has found that a FARO® Arm has been efficacious in obtaining these data using a contact method. It has been found that laying out points in linear groups, as by marking the locations to be measured on tape prior to measurement, is efficacious in capturing enough data points to later recreate the surface of which they are a part.

[0087] The data thus collected are stored in a file. The points of surface data are spaced from each other as a function of the complexity of the surface on which they reside. Few points of data are needed to establish large surface planes. More points of data are used in defining curved surfaces, with the density of data points varying according to the sharpness of the curve. In FIGURE 8, representative ones of these points are shown by small “x”s at 800, on a surface 802 that is reconstituted using the technique described immediately below. A typical data file will contain about a thousand points, spread over an imaged foot well surface area of about ten square feet.

[0088] The CMM data file is imported into a CAD program, which is used by a designer to reconstitute a vehicle foot well surface from the captured points. First, at step 701 different

“lines” of these points are connected together by B-splines 804. The splines 804, which the CAD program can automatically generate, are used to estimate all of the points on the line other than the captured data points of that line. The splines 804 are separated apart from each other as a function of the topographical complexity of the portion of the surface that they cover. For large flat areas, such as sill plate 806, the splines 804 may be separated far apart, as a plane between the splines is a good estimate of the surface in that area. For complex or tightly curved areas, such as sill curve 832 or kick plate transitional area 833, the splines 804 are tightly packed together because the surface segments have to be small in order to reproduce those curved surfaces of the foot well with acceptable accuracy.

[0089] Once the splines 804 have been assembled, the designer lofts an area between each pair of parallel splines 804 in order to create different areal segments 808. The “lofting” process proceeds along each of the major surfaces of the part, piecewise, until that surface is entirely recreated. For example, a transmission tunnel sidewall surface 810 is recreated by lofting an area 812 between a spline 814 to an adjacent spline 816 along the same surface. The designer then lofts the next area 818 from spline 816 to spline 820. Next, an area 822 from spline 820 to spline 824 is added, and so forth down the rest of the transmission tunnel surface 810 until that entire component of the vehicle foot well surface has been created. In similar fashion, the other major surfaces are added: a combination firewall/floor area segment 826, a pedestal sidewall 828, a kick plate segment 830, a sill plate curve 832 and the sill plate 806.

[0090] The resultant reconstructed vehicle foot well surface 802 is used, at steps 703 – 707, 709, 711, to construct a vehicle floor tray that fits the surface 802 to an enhanced degree of precision. At step 703, the designer chooses top and bottom sketch planes, which intersect the surface 802

at the top and bottom elevations of the tray to be designed. A top sketch plane intersects surface 802 at a locus high up on the sidewalls 810, 828, 830, 832 and 834. This locus is seen in FIGURE 1 as a top margin 150 of the upstanding sidewalls 130, 132, 134, 136 and the transitions between them. In the preferred embodiment, the top sketch plane is tilted and inclines upward in a forward direction. This produces a tray which is deeper near the firewall than it is near the seat, preferably producing a tray that is at least five inches deep at its deepest part. This protects the foot well carpet from the possibly muddy sides of an occupant's shoes or boots. A bottom sketch plane is defined to be coplanar with the bottom surface tray sill plate 140, spaced from the vehicle foot well sill plate 806 by a tight tolerance, such as 0.025". This bottom sketch plane does not intersect the remainder of the structure but is instead projected upward onto the vehicle foot well surface to create a locus that approximates the marginal outline of the floor/firewall segment 826.

[0091] At step 704, sidewalls are drawn in to span the top and bottom sketch planes. These prototypical sidewalls are created by first drawing a plurality of straight lines, each drawn from a point on the upper sketch plane locus to a point on the lower sketch plane locus. Since the upper sketch plane is more extensive and has a different shape from the lower sketch plane, the lateral margins of the upper and lower sketch planes are not congruent, and the straight lines drawn from the upper sketch plane may be canted at various angles to each other. In general, these lines will slope inwardly from the top sketch plane to the bottom sketch plane. The areas in between these lines can be lofted to create polygonal surfaces of a completed tray solid.

[0092] The resultant solid has a planar top surface, nearly planar bottom surface and sidewalls which make abrupt corners with them. The actual transitions between the vehicle foot well

sidewall surfaces and the floor are almost always curved, to a greater or lesser extent depending on the area in question and on the vehicle model. Therefore, at step 705, curves are fitted to the reconstructed vehicle foot well surface and these curves are substituted in for the previous abrupt angular shapes. The largest of these curves occurs across the firewall 834, to conform to that sloping and typically curved surface rather than to a horizontal extension of the bottom sketch plane. Curves are also used to modify the transitions between the floor 102 and the transmission tunnel surface 132, the kick plate 136, and the seat pedestal sidewall 130.

[0093] The above techniques aim to approximate, as closely as possible, the shape of the upstanding sidewalls 810, 828, 830 and 834, to a zero standoff from the foot well surface. In some instances, the outer surface of the tray 100 may actually extend slightly beyond the imaged side walls of the vehicle foot well (see portions 1000 – 1006 in FIGURES 10 – 14), creating a negative standoff. This is permissible to some degree because the surface to which the tray is being shaped is carpeted and the pile may be intentionally depressed at certain points.

[0094] The door sill 806 and the sill curve 832 typically are hard surfaces that must comply to close manufacturer tolerances. A vehicle door is designed to mate with these surfaces. Because of this it is important to match these surfaces carefully, and preferably this is done in this process to a preselected standoff of 0.025 inch.

[0095] At step 704, and for certain vehicle models, certain radii of the transitional surfaces are increased, in an intentional departure from the foot well surface. This is done, for example, where the curved transition is one from a deep vertical surface to the floor, as might occur between a vertical kick plate and firewall surface segments 836, 838. See transition 1400 in FIGURE 14. This is done to make sure that the preferred vacuum molding process, which uses a

female tool, does not create a thin place in the molded part at the deep corners. Where the sidewall surfaces are sloped inward by more than five degrees, such radiusing is unnecessary.

[0096] At step 707, which can be before, during or after steps 704 and 705, the tray solid is additionally modified to take into account irregularities in the reconstructed foot well surface. For example, the vehicle carpeting might have had rolls or wrinkles in it that should not be reproduced in a tray meant to fit the vehicle. This steps also smoothes out those surface irregularities which are artifacts of the surface acquisition and reconstruction steps 700 – 702.

[0097] Once a basic shape for the vehicle floor tray has been formed, it is modified at 709 in order to create the reservoir 110 and channels 104 (See Figures 1 – 4). This modification is necessary because, as has been explained, while there is a close conformance or mating between most of the exterior or lower surfaces of the floor tray on the one hand to the upper or interior surfaces of the vehicle foot well surfaces on the other, there must be a departure from this close conformance in order to create the profile needed by the reservoir and channels. In a preferred embodiment, a predetermined file containing the outer surface of the reservoir and channel surface is integrated into the floor of the tray solid. The importation of this design into the floor of the tray solid will cause a departure from the imaged vehicle surface floor of as much as  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch in the areas around the reservoir periphery. This departure decreases as a function of distance from the imported pattern. The produced vehicle floor tray will nonetheless fit tightly to the vehicle foot well, because (1) the floor carpeting will be depressed to a greater extent under the reservoir than in peripheral areas (see, e.g., region 1004 in FIGURE 10), and (2) the upstanding sidewalls continue to closely conform to the corresponding surfaces of the vehicle foot well.



[0098] At step 711, the tray solid developed at steps 703 – 707, 709 is “shelled”. This means that the solid is carved out to leave a thin layer that is a uniform thickness (preferably about .120 - .125 in.) from the outer surface.

[0099] The result is a tray data file 708 that is a complete representation of both the upper and lower surfaces of the floor tray, to a precision sufficient to create only a 1/8 in. departure or less from a large portion of the respective surfaces of the vehicle foot well. This data file, typically as translated into a .stl format that approximates surfaces with a large plurality of small triangles, is used at 710 to command a stereolithographic apparatus (SLA). The SLA creates a solid plastic image or model of the design by selectively curing liquid photopolymer using a laser. The SLA is used to determine fit to an actual vehicle foot well and to make any necessary adjustments.

[0100] As modified with experience gained from fitting the SLA, at 712 the vehicle tray data file is used to make a commercial mold for producing the vehicle floor trays or covers. Triextruded sheets or blanks 714 are placed in the mold and heated to produce the vehicle floor trays at 716.

[0101] Three-dimensional vehicle floor trays for many different vehicle models can be quickly and accurately manufactured using this method. The method can also be modified to produce double trays, in which a single tray is provided which covers both driver and passenger vehicle foot wells as well as the intervening transmission tunnel. The technique can be used to create other vehicle floor covers as well, such as the liners used in the cargo areas of minivans and SUVs.

[0102] In summary, a novel vehicle floor tray has been shown and described which fits, within tight tolerances, to the vehicle foot well for which it is created. The floor tray according to the

invention includes a reservoir and channel system for retaining runoff in a way that will not slosh around in the foot well. By using a triextruded sheet blank, the tray combines the desirable coefficient of friction and yieldability characteristics of a thermoplastic elastomer, the lower cost of a polyolefin and a toughness that exceeds either material taken alone.

[00103] While an illustrated embodiment of the present invention has been described and illustrated in the appended drawings, the present invention is not limited thereto but only by the scope and spirit of the appended claims.

**WE CLAIM:**

1. A vehicle floor tray thermoformed from a sheet of thermoplastic polymeric material of substantially uniform thickness, comprising:

a central panel substantially conforming to a floor of a vehicle foot well, the central panel of the floor tray having at least one longitudinally disposed lateral side and at least one transversely disposed lateral side;

a first panel integrally formed with the central panel of the floor tray, upwardly extending from the transversely disposed lateral side of the central panel of the floor tray, and closely conforming to a first foot well wall, the first panel of the floor tray joined to the central panel of the floor tray by a curved transition;

a second panel integrally formed with the central panel of the floor tray and the first panel, upwardly extending from the longitudinally disposed lateral side of the central panel of the floor tray, and closely conforming to a second foot well wall, the second panel of the floor tray joined to the central panel of the floor tray and to the first panel of the floor tray by curved transitions;

a reservoir disposed in the central panel of the floor tray;

a plurality of upstanding, hollow, elongate baffles disposed in the reservoir, each of the baffles having at least two ends remote from each other, the central panel, the first panel, the second panel, the reservoir and the baffles each having a thickness from a point on the upper surface to a closest point on the bottom surface thereof, said thicknesses, as a result of the tray being thermoformed from the sheet of thermoplastic polymeric material of substantially uniform

thickness, being substantially uniform throughout the tray;

the baffles each having a width, in any horizontal direction, of more than two times its thickness, the baffles adapted to elevate the shoe or foot of the occupant above fluid collected in the reservoir, and further adapted to impede lateral movement, induced by a change in vehicle speed or direction, of fluid collected in the reservoir, any portion of the reservoir connected to a remote portion of the reservoir by a path formed around ends of the baffles.

2. The floor tray of Claim 1, further comprising a third panel integrally formed with the central panel of the floor tray and joined to at least one of the first and second panels by curved transitions, the third panel upwardly extending from a third lateral side of the central panel of the floor tray.

3. The floor tray of Claim 2, further comprising a fourth panel integrally formed with the central panel of the floor tray and joined to at least one of the second and third panels by curved transitions, the fourth panel upwardly extending from a fourth lateral side of the central panel of the floor tray.

4. The floor tray of Claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second panels has a top margin, the top margin being at least five inches higher than the central panel of the floor tray at its greatest vertical separation therefrom.

5. The floor tray of Claim 1, wherein the first and second panels have top margins which are substantially coplanar with each other.

6. The floor tray of Claim 1, wherein ones of the baffles include longitudinal portions for impeding side-to-side lateral movement of fluid.

7. The floor tray of Claim 1, wherein ones of the baffles include transverse portions for impeding forward or rearward lateral movement of fluid.

**VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A vehicle floor tray is thermoformed from a polymer sheet of substantially uniform thickness. The tray has a central panel and at least first and second upstanding side panels joined to the central panel by curved transitions. Within a reservoir disposed in the central panel are plural, hollow treads/baffles. The treads/baffles have a width, in any horizontal direction, which is more than twice the substantially uniform thickness of the tray as thermoformed. The treads/baffles impede lateral motion, due to changes in vehicle speed or direction, of liquid collected in the reservoir.

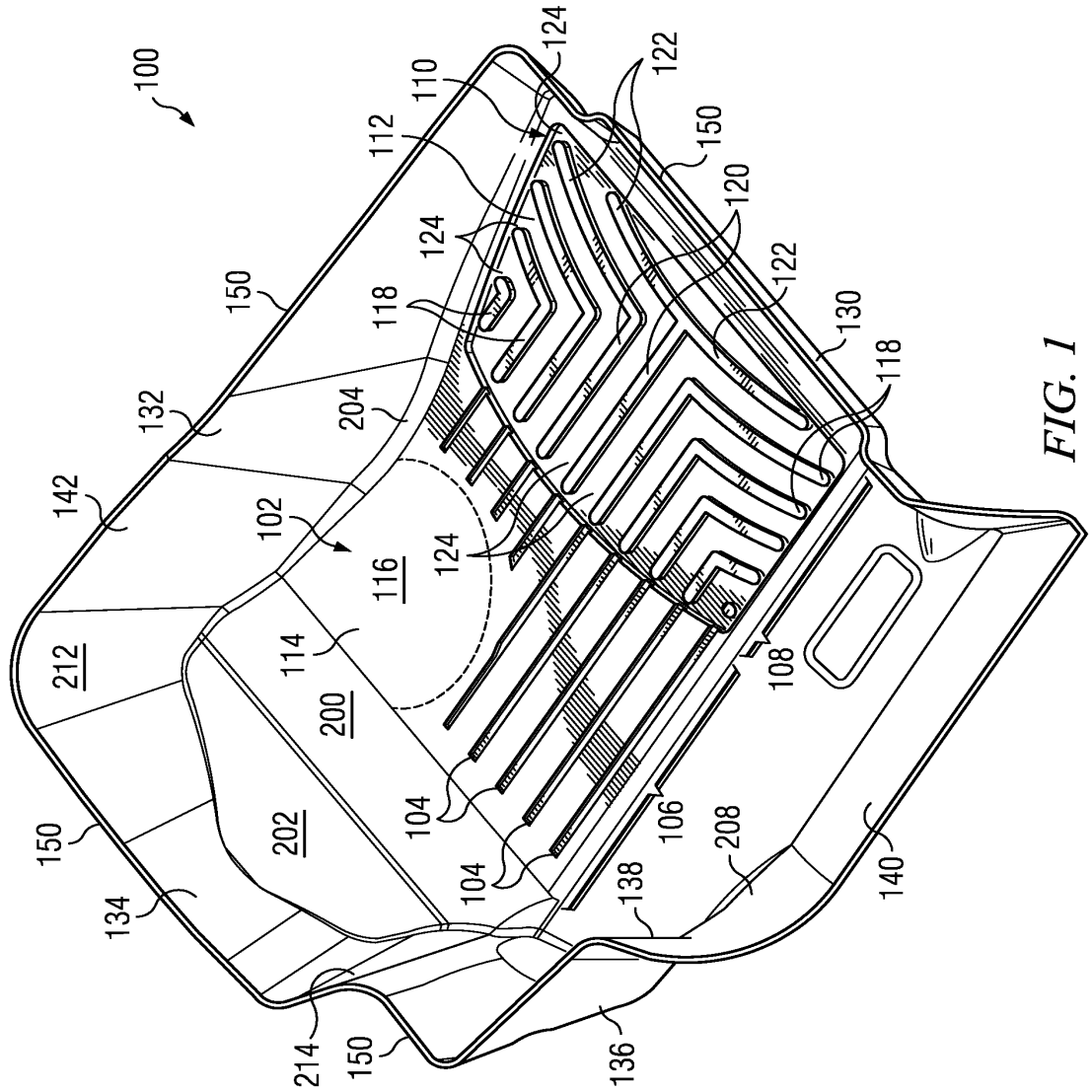


FIG. 1

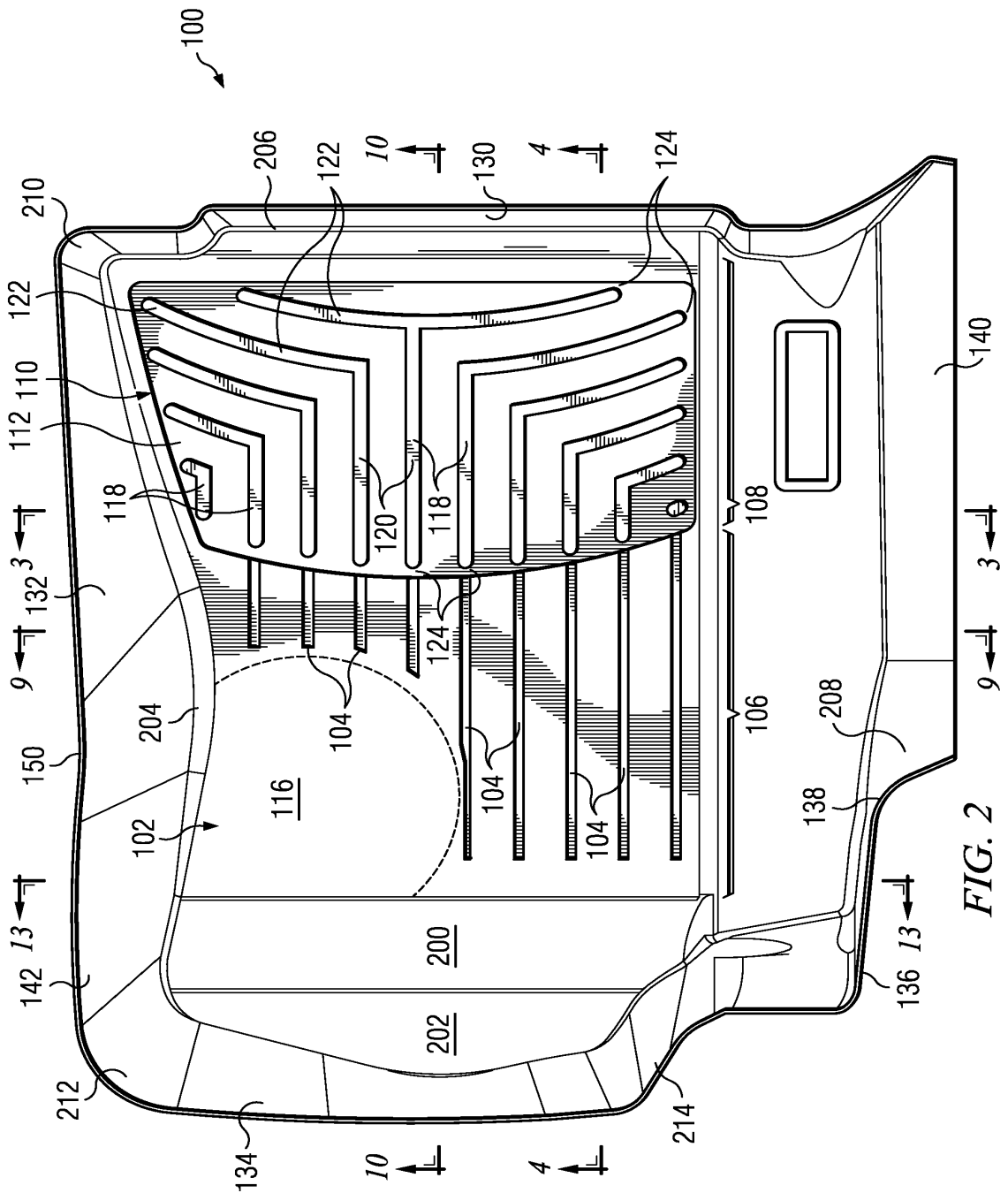


FIG. 2



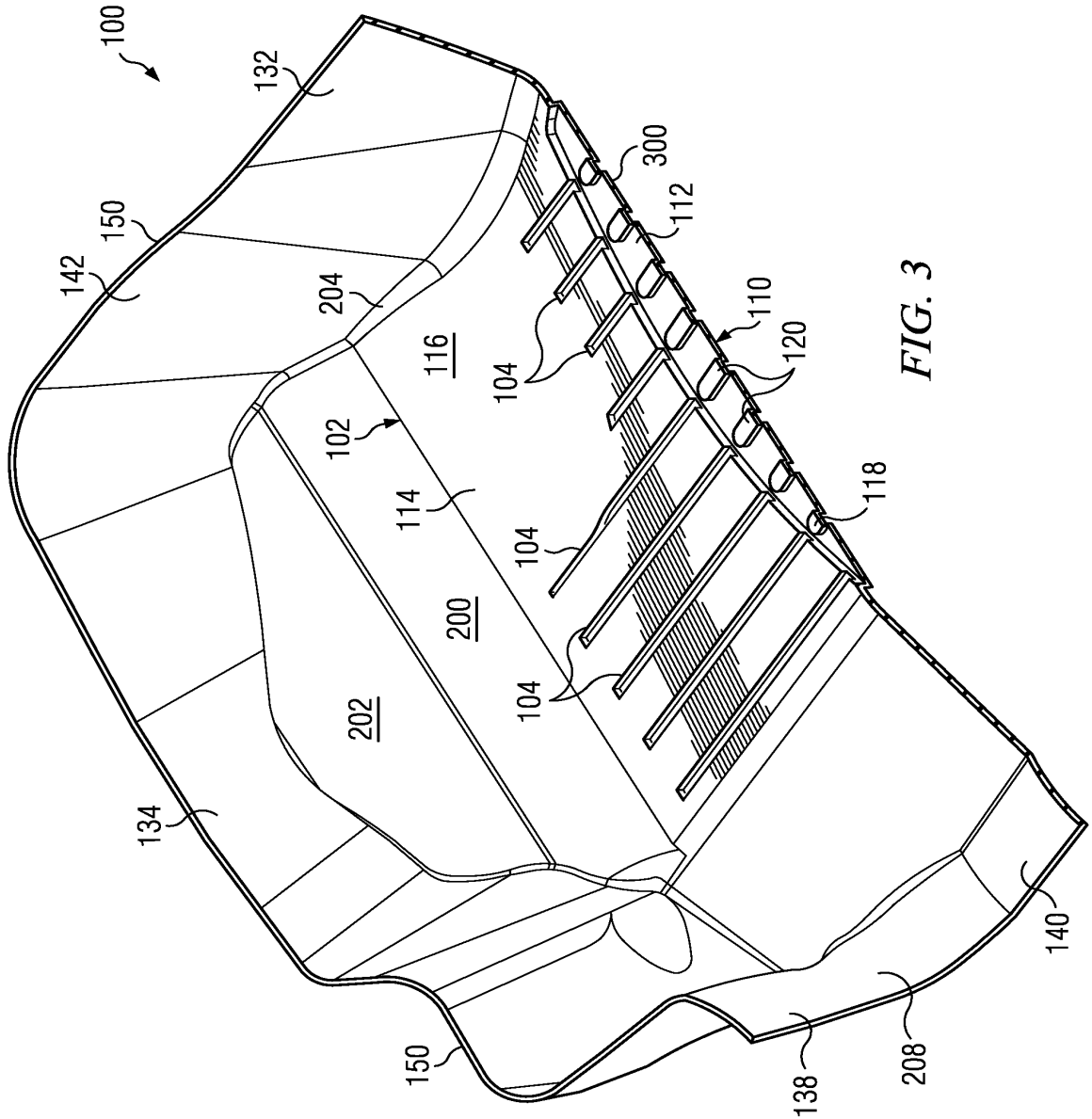


FIG. 3

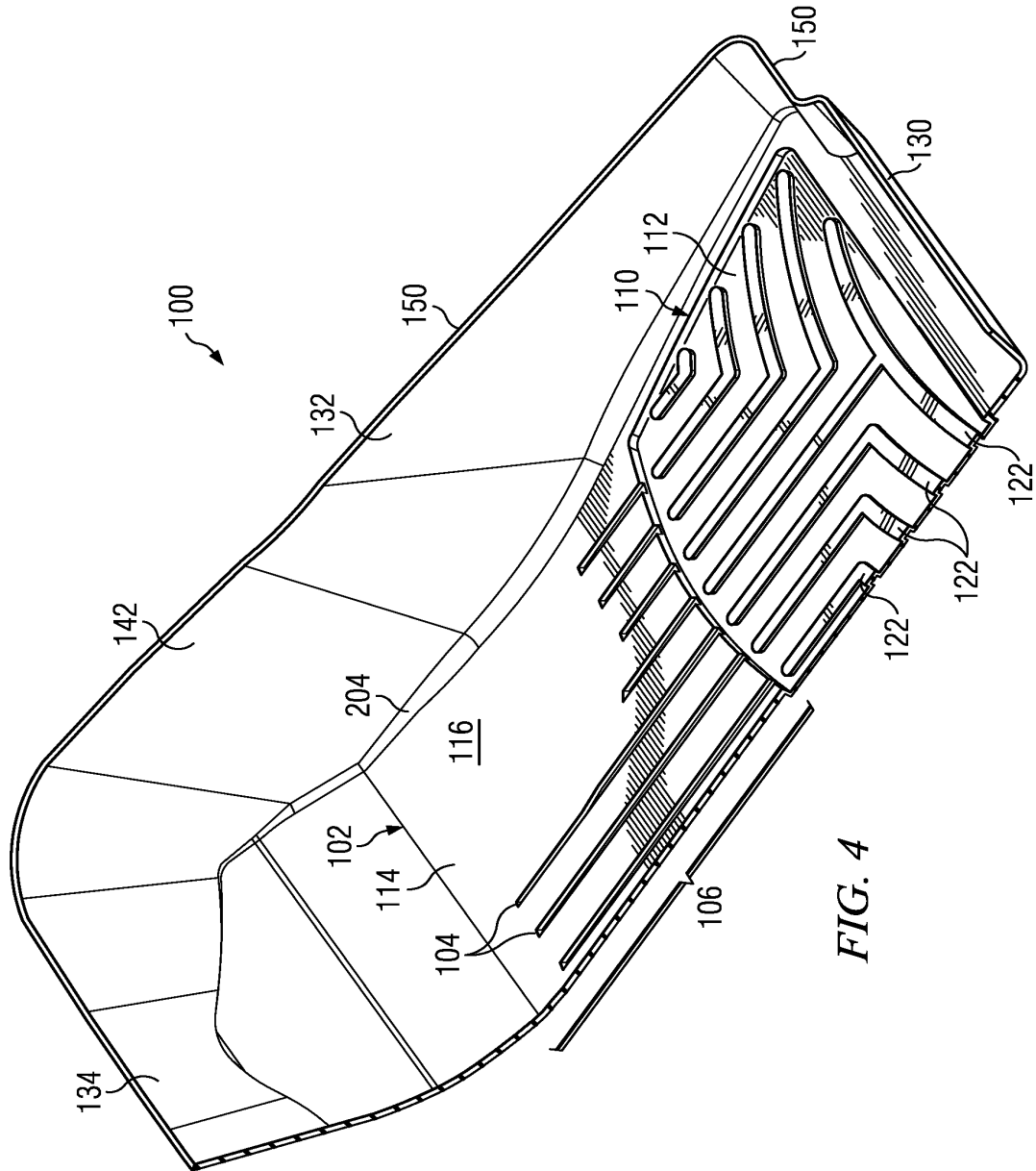


FIG. 4

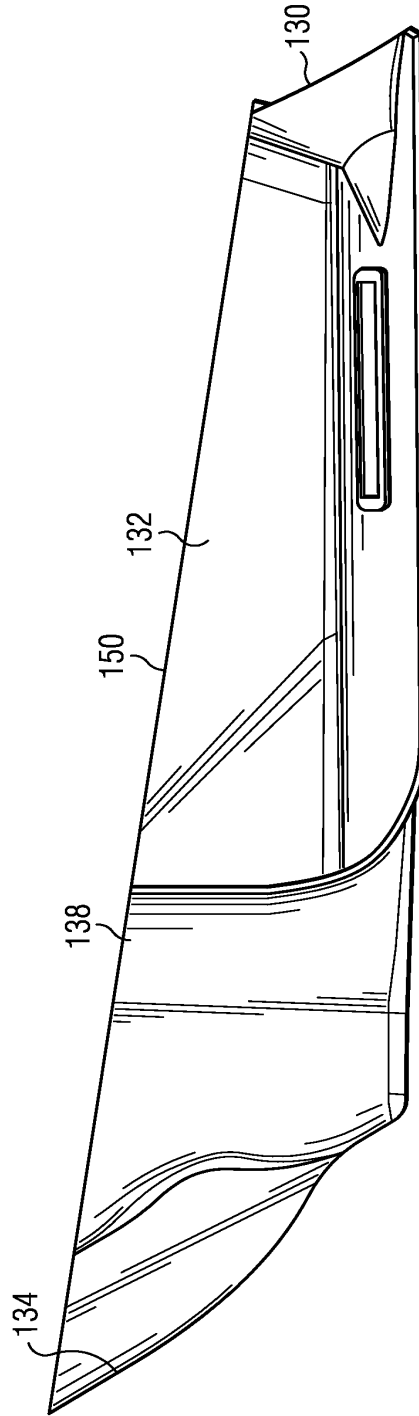


FIG. 5

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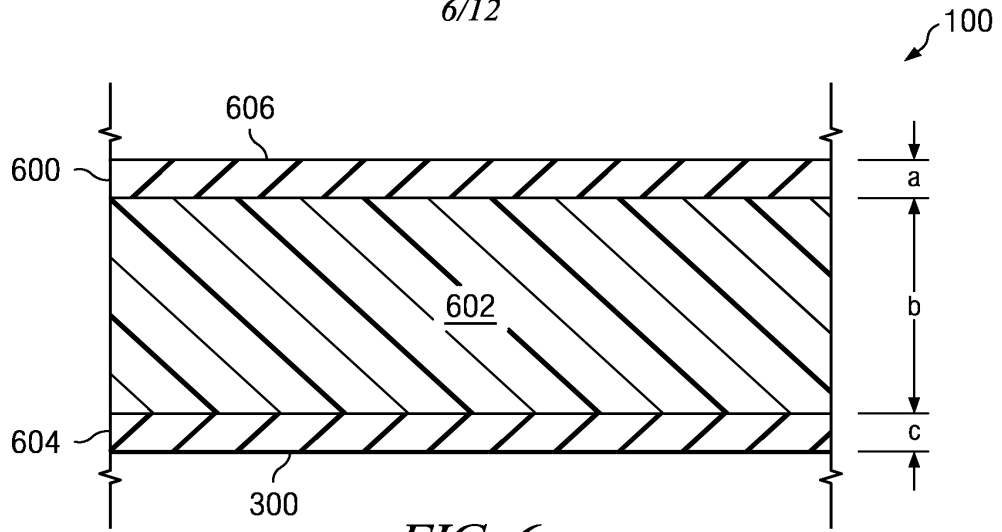


FIG. 6

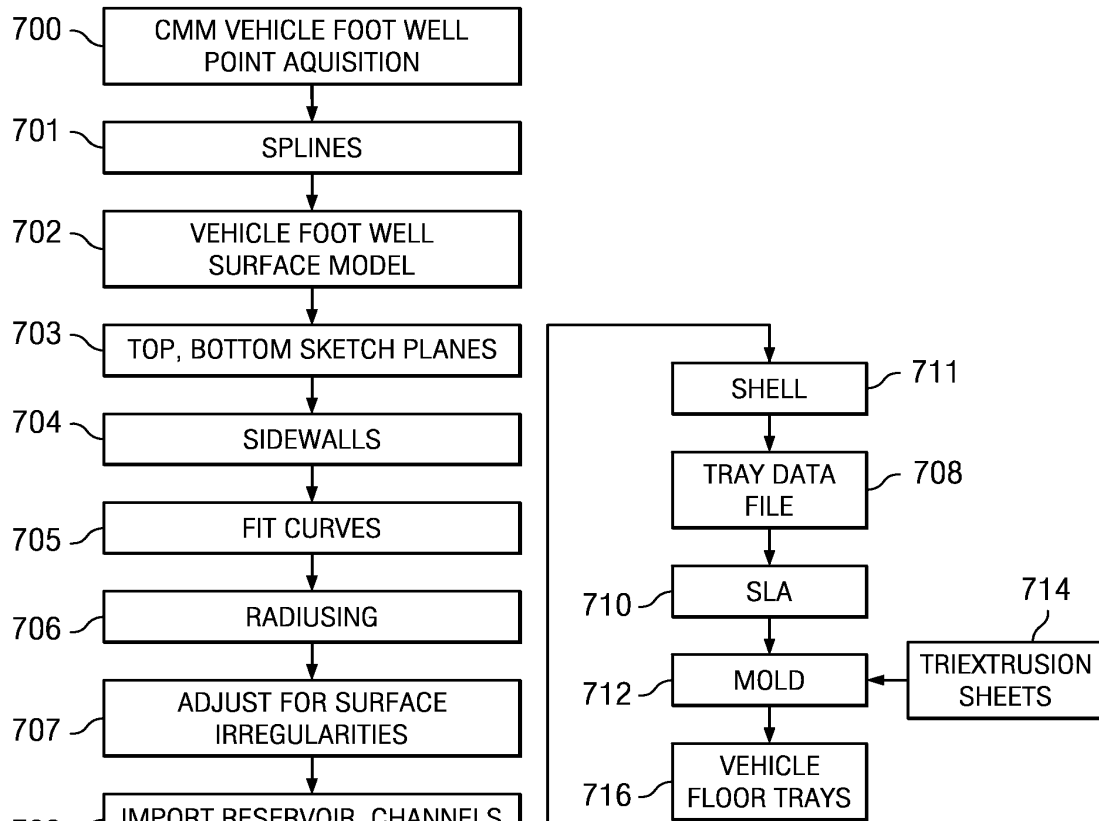


FIG. 7

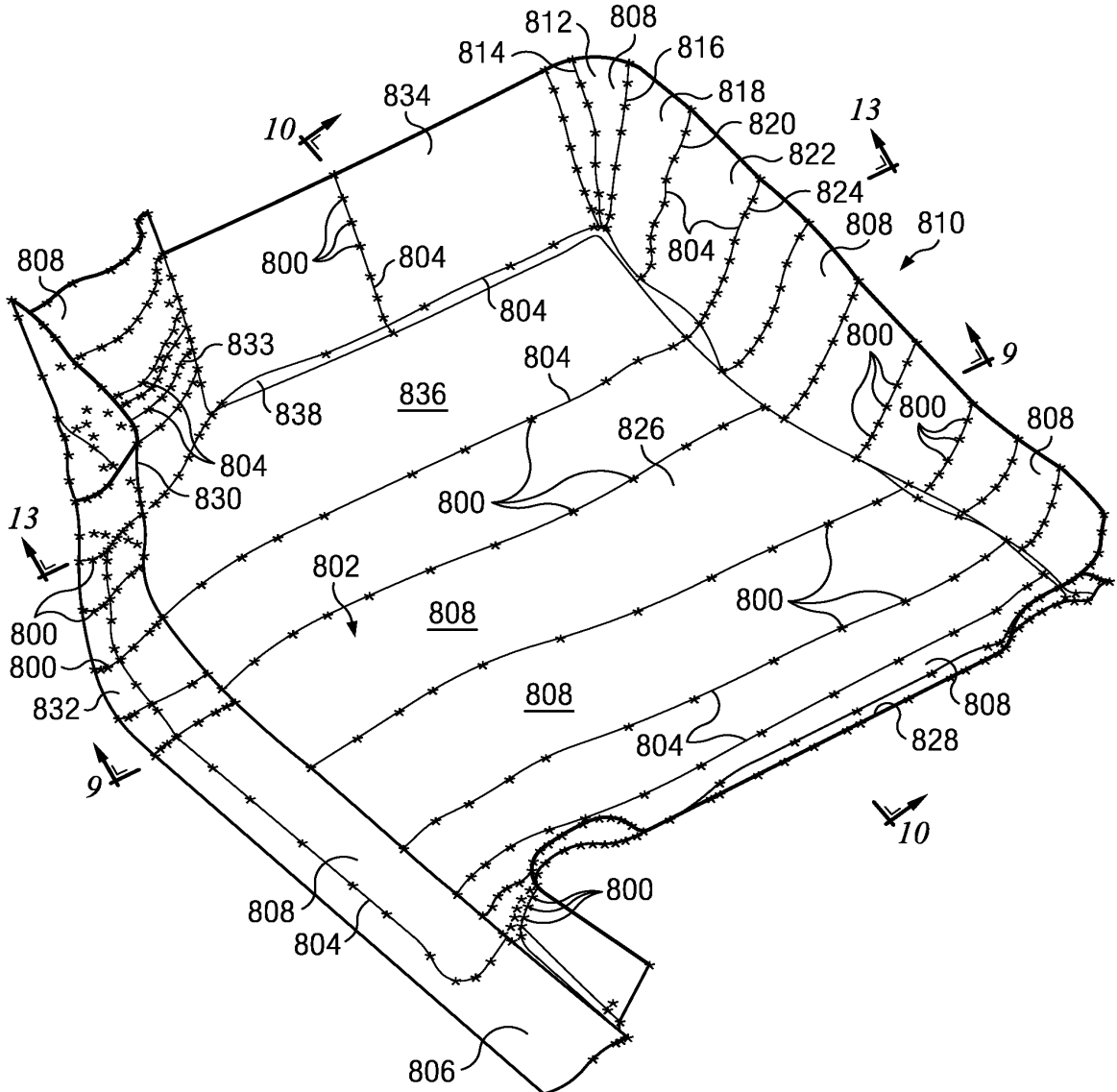


FIG. 8



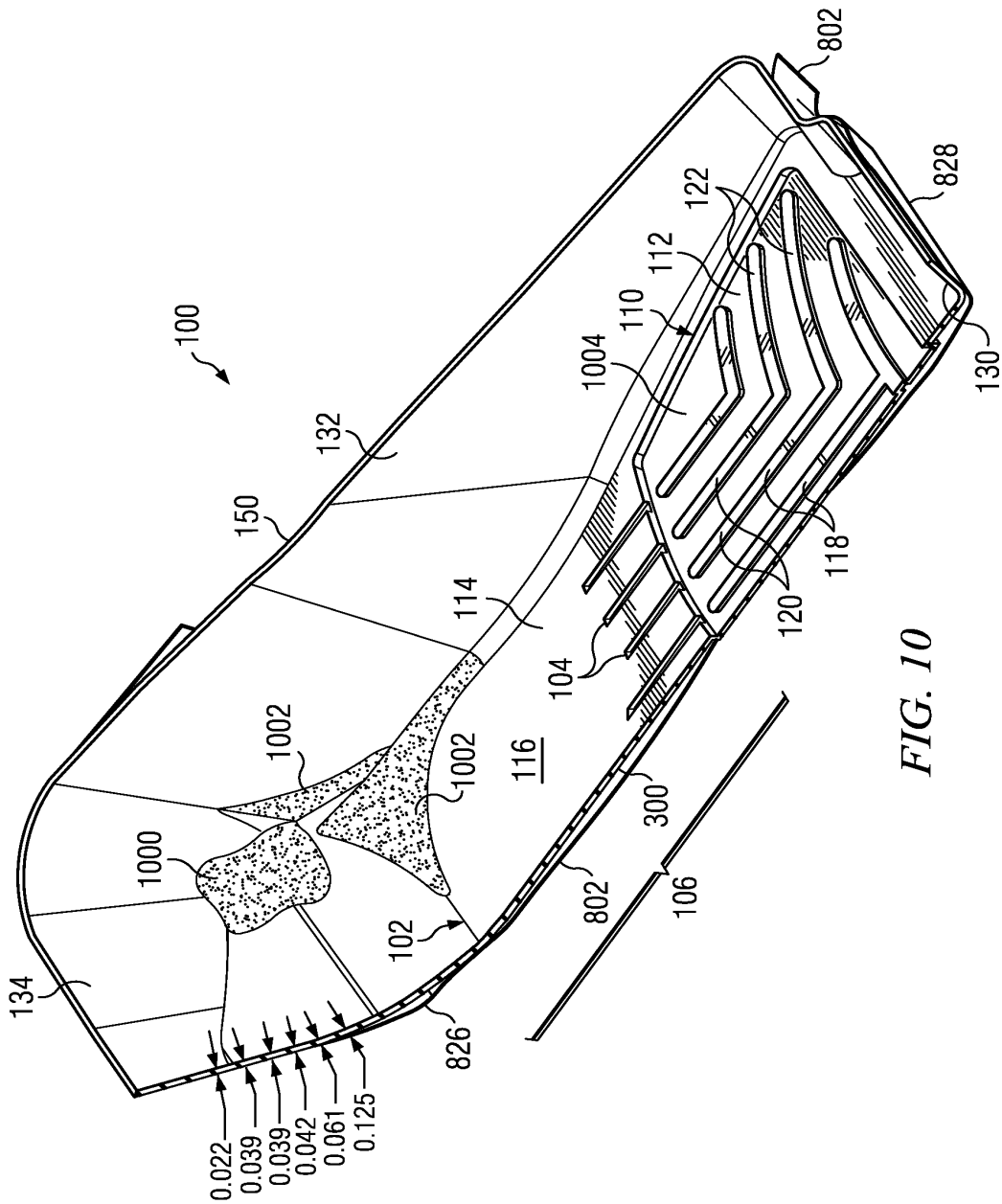


FIG. 10

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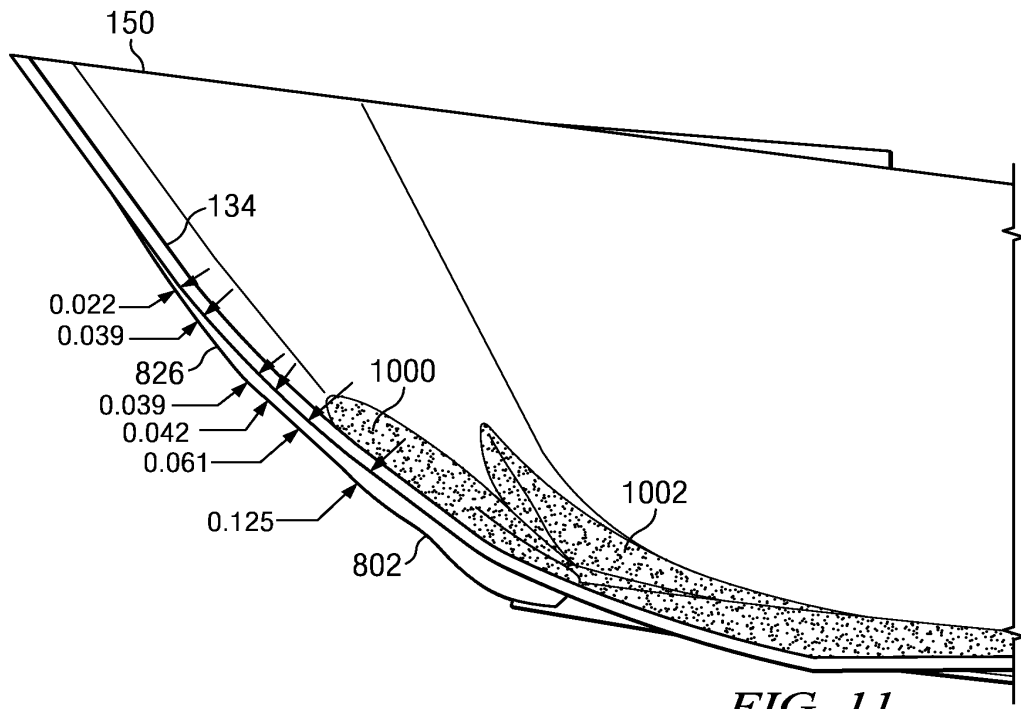


FIG. 11

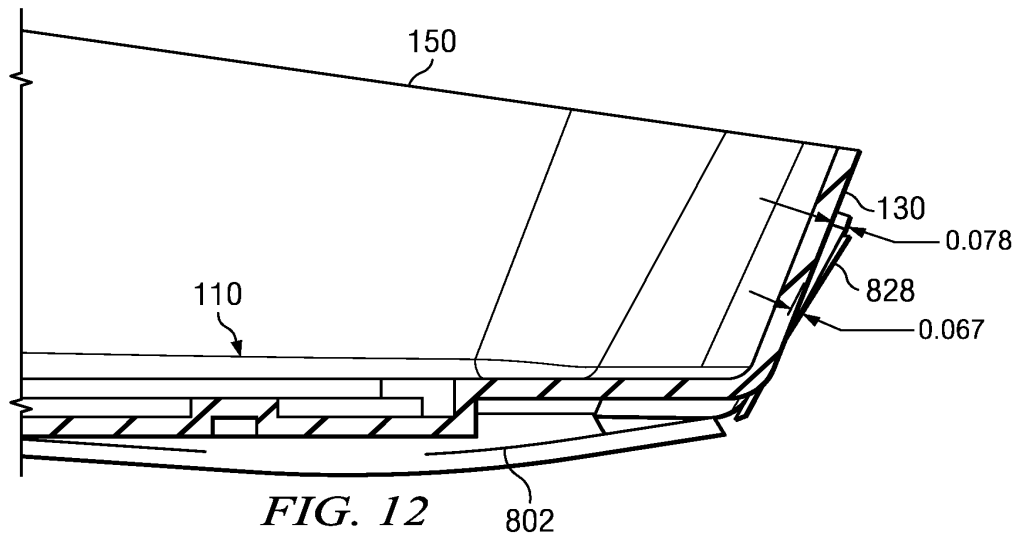


FIG. 12



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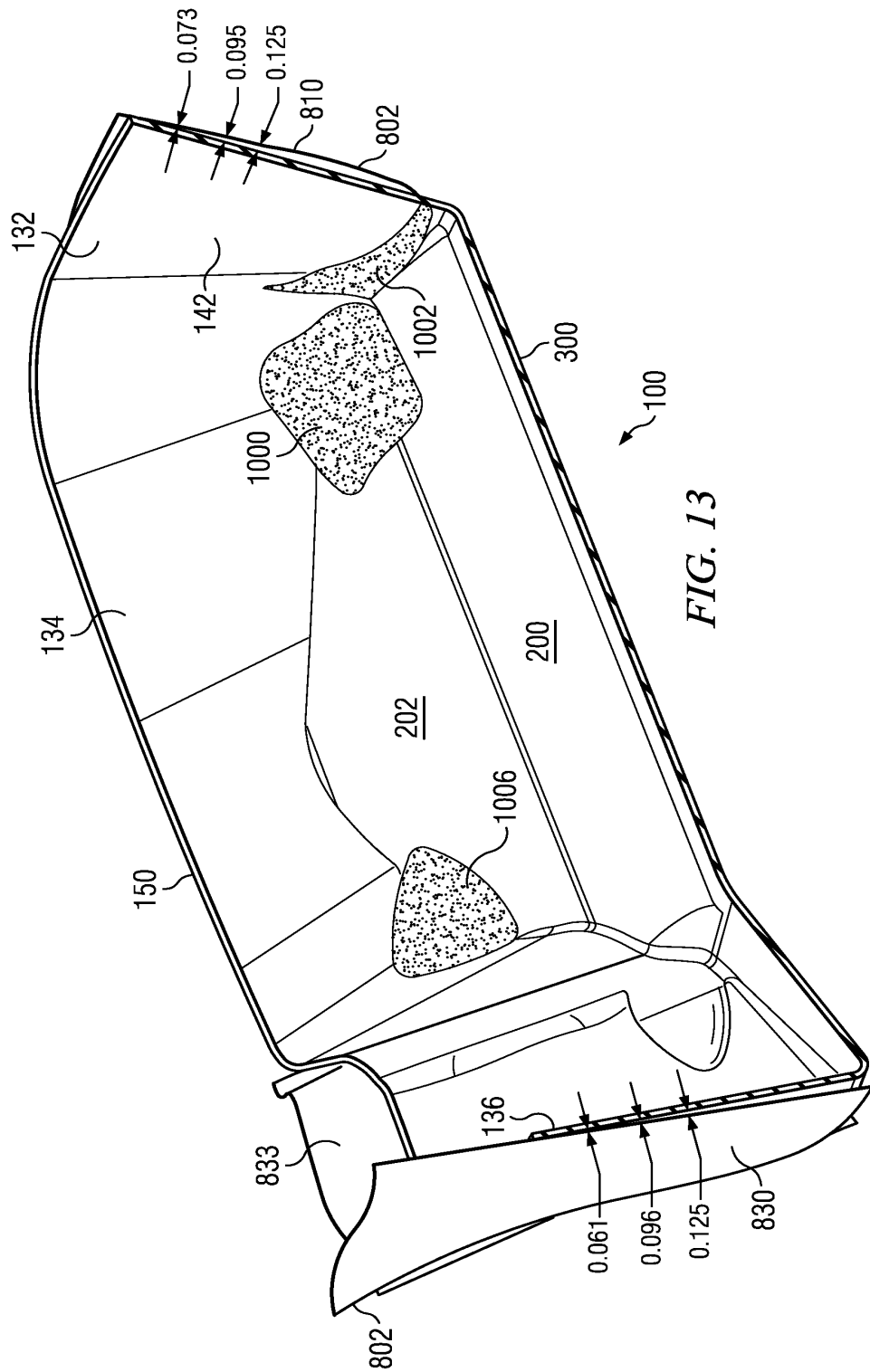


FIG. 13

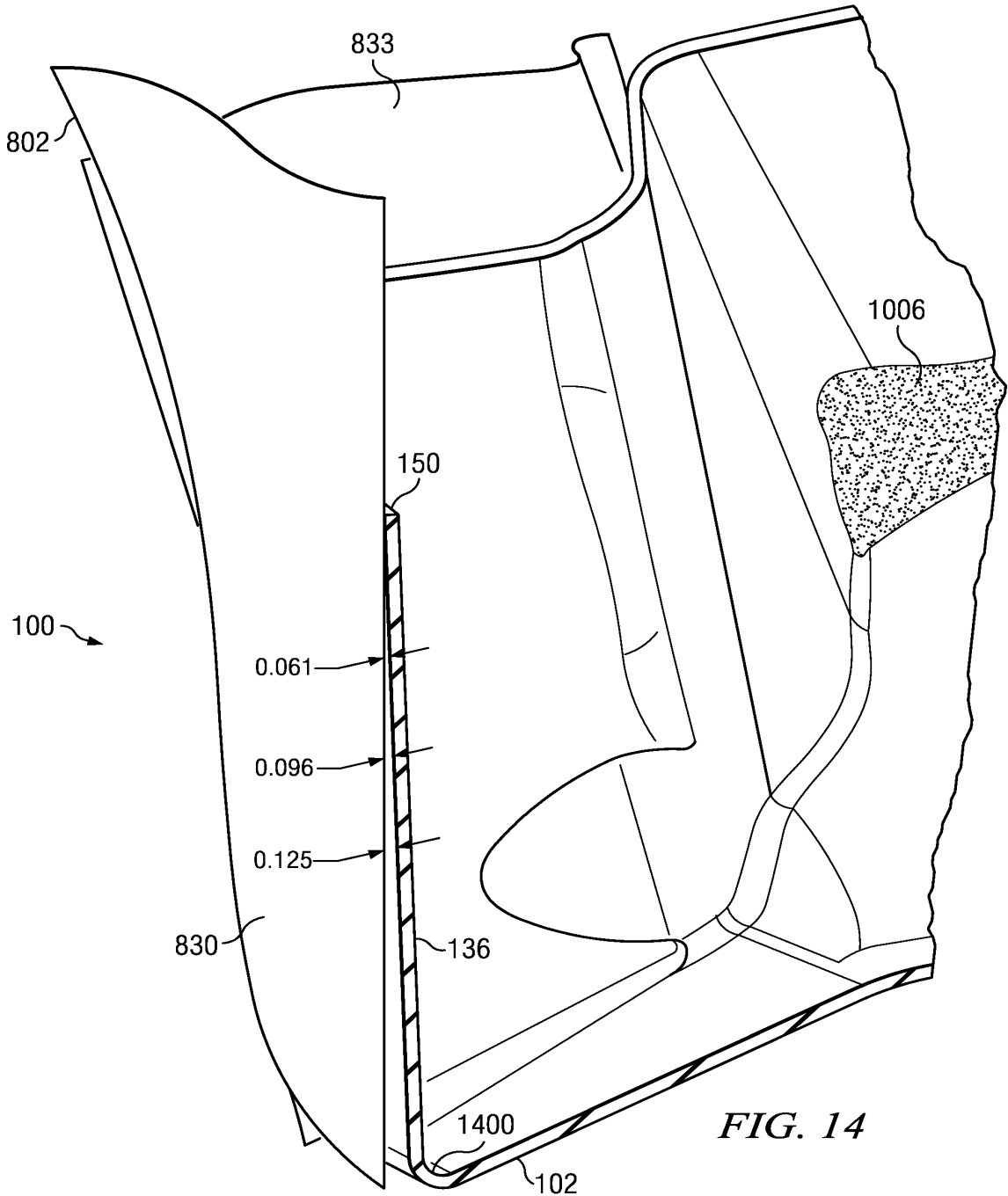


FIG. 14

## **INVENTORS' DECLARATION**

As a below named inventor, I declare that:

My citizenship is as stated below next to my name; that I believe I am the original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention or design entitled DESIGNING AND MANUFACTURING VEHICLE FLOOR TRAYS, the specification of which is filed herewith; that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified application, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above; and that I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §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.

Direct all telephone calls to Jefferson Perkins at Telephone No. (630) 434-0414.

Address all correspondence to:

**Momkus McCluskey, LLC**  
1001 Warrenville Road, Suite 500  
Lisle, Illinois 60532-4306  
email: jperkins@momlaw.com

**Customer No. 064770**

I hereby acknowledge that the attorneys of the foregoing firm represent the assignee of the above-identified invention and do not represent me.

I 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 (18 U.S.C. 1001) and may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

United States Application Number: **Not yet assigned**

Full Name of First Joint Inventor: **David F. MacNeil**

Signature of Inventor:

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Signature:

9/10/10  
\_\_\_\_\_

Citizenship:

US

Full Name of Second Joint Inventor: **Scott A. Vargo**

Signature of Inventor:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_

Citizenship:

US

I 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 (18 U.S.C. 1001) and may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

United States Application Number:	<b>Not yet assigned</b>
Full Name of First Joint Inventor:	<b>David F. MacNeil</b>
Signature of Inventor:	_____
Date of Signature:	_____
Citizenship:	US
Full Name of Second Joint Inventor:	<b>Scott A. Vargo</b>
Signature of Inventor:	<i>/Scott A. Vargo/</i> _____
Date of Signature:	September 10, 2010 _____
Citizenship:	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	31700.000322
	Application Number	
Title of Invention	VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY	
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. 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.		

### Secrecy Order 37 CFR 5.2

<input type="checkbox"/>	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>					<input type="button" value="Remove"/>		
<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>		
	David	F.	MACNEIL				
<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>	Hinsdale	<b>State/Province</b>	IL	<b>Country of Residence i</b>	US		
<b>Citizenship under 37 CFR 1.41(b) i</b>		US					
<b>Mailing Address of Applicant:</b>							
<b>Address 1</b>		1 MacNeil Court					
<b>Address 2</b>							
<b>City</b>	Bolingbrook	<b>State/Province</b>	IL				
<b>Postal Code</b>	60440	<b>Country i</b>	US				
<b>Applicant 2</b>					<input type="button" value="Remove"/>		
<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>		
	Scott	A.	VARGO				
<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>	Lombard	<b>State/Province</b>	IL	<b>Country of Residence i</b>	US		
<b>Citizenship under 37 CFR 1.41(b) i</b>		US					
<b>Mailing Address of Applicant:</b>							
<b>Address 1</b>		1 MacNeil Court					
<b>Address 2</b>							
<b>City</b>	Bolingbrook	<b>State/Province</b>	IL				
<b>Postal Code</b>	60440	<b>Country i</b>	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).
---

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<b>Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76</b>		Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY		

<input type="checkbox"/> An Address is being provided for the correspondence information of this application.			
Customer Number	64770		
Email Address	jperkins@momlaw.com	<input type="button" value="Add Email"/>	<input type="button" value="Remove Email"/>

**Application Information:**

Title of the Invention	VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY		
Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322	Small Entity Status Claimed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Application Type	Nonprovisional		
Subject Matter	Utility		
Suggested Class (if any)	296	Sub Class (if any)	07500
Suggested Technology Center (if any)	3612		
Total Number of Drawing Sheets (if any)	12	Suggested Figure for Publication (if any)	4

**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)
Customer Number	64770		

**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	12879899	2010-09-10
Prior Application Status	Abandoned	<input type="button" value="Remove"/>	

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	31700.000322		
		Application Number			
Title of Invention	VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY				
Application Number	Continuity Type	Prior Application Number	Filing Date (YYYY-MM-DD)		
12879899	Continuation of	11463203	2006-08-08		
Prior Application Status	Patented				<input type="button" value="Remove"/>
Application Number	Continuity Type	Prior Application Number	Filing Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	Patent Number	Issue Date (YYYY-MM-DD)
11463203	Division of	10976441	2004-10-29	7316847	2008-01-08
Additional Domestic Benefit/National Stage Data may be generated within this form by selecting the <b>Add</b> button.					<input type="button" value="Add"/>

**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 <sup>i</sup>	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 <b>Add</b> button.					<input type="button" value="Add"/>

**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.					
<b>Assignee 1</b>					<input type="button" value="Remove"/>
If the Assignee is an Organization check here. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Organization Name	MacNeil IP LLC				
<b>Mailing Address Information:</b>					
Address 1	1 MacNeil Court				
Address 2					
City	Bolingbrook	State/Province	IL		
Country <sup>i</sup>	US	Postal Code	60440		
Phone Number		Fax Number			
Email Address					
Additional Assignee Data may be generated within this form by selecting the <b>Add</b> button.					<input type="button" value="Add"/>

**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.					
Signature	/Jefferson Perkins/		Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2012-08-27	
First Name	Jefferson	Last Name	Perkins	Registration Number	31407



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<b>Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76</b>		Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY		

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.**

## Privacy Act Statement

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.

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the application of: David F. MACNEIL et al.

Application Number: Not yet assigned

Filed: Herewith

For: VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY

Confirmation No.: Not yet assigned

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §3.73(b)**  
**AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

I, David F. MacNeil, am the Manager of MacNeil IP LLC, an Illinois limited liability company ("Assignee"). The Assignee is the owner of the entire right, title and interest in the above-identified patent application ("the Patent Application") by virtue of an assignment from the inventors of the Patent Application.

As evidence of this assignment, the Assignee points to the assignment recorded at Reel 024971 Frame 0346

As Manager of Assignee the undersigned is empowered to sign this document on behalf of the Assignee and has full power to grant and revoke powers of attorney.

Assignee hereby appoints the Practitioners associated with Customer Number 64770 as its attorneys to prosecute this Patent Application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected with the Patent Application and with any resulting patent, said attorneys being of the firm of Momkus McCluskey, LLC, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and represent the undersigned before all competent International Authorities.

Please direct all correspondence to:

Momkus McCluskey, LLC  
1001 Warrenville Road, Suite 500  
Lisle, Illinois 60532-4306  
Fax: (630) 434-0444  
email: jperkins@momlaw.com

**CUSTOMER NUMBER 64770**

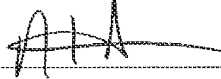
Please direct all telephone calls to:

Jefferson Perkins  
(630) 434-0414

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 are made with the knowledge that willful false statements, and the like so made, are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001, Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

MacNeil IP LLC

Signature:

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name:

David F. MacNeil

Its:

Manager

Date:

8/24/12  
\_\_\_\_\_

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: MacNeil, David F. (et al.)  
Application No.: Not yet assigned  
Filed: Herewith  
Art Unit: Not yet assigned  
Examiner: Not yet assigned  
Confirmation No.: Not yet assigned  
Title: VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via the USPTO electronic filing system in accordance with 37 CFR §1.6(a)(4) on August 27, 2012.

/Patricia Romanelli/  
Patricia Romanelli

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

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)**

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08a. Applicant encloses copies of those listed documents other than those which are US patents, US published patent applications, or which have been made of record in an application upon which Applicant relies for a priority date under 35 USC § 120. 37 CFR § 1.97(a,b) and 37 CFR § 1.98(d).

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents, and evidence that consideration of relevant portions thereof by making appropriate notations on the attached forms.

It is believed that these references either taken alone or in combination do not disclose or suggest the invention claimed by the Applicant. However, it is the Applicant's desire to have these references available in the record for both the Examiner and the public to see. The Applicant specifically reserves all rights of privilege and confidence with respect to this matter and submission of this document is not to be construed as a waiver of those rights. Moreover, submission of this document should not be considered an admission that the references cited herein are proper prior art to the aforementioned application.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

No fee is thought to be due in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b). Nonetheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 503982 of Momkus McCluskey, LLC.

Respectfully submitted,

/Jefferson Perkins/  
Jefferson Perkins  
Registration No. 31,407

**CUSTOMER NO. 64770**

MOMKUS McCLUSKEY, LLC  
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Lisle, Illinois 60532-4306  
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Email: [jperkins@momlaw.com](mailto:jperkins@momlaw.com)

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> ( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		
	Filing Date		
	First Named Inventor	David F. MACNEIL	
	Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322	

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	7215430	B2	2007-05-08	Kacyra et al.	
	2	6817649	B1	2004-11-16	Stanesic	
	3	3087752	A	1963-04-30	Winchester	
	4	7444748	B2	2008-11-04	MacNeil	
	5	7607713	B2	2009-10-27	MacNeil	
	6	6007319	A	1999-12-28	Jacobson	
	7	5019993	A	1991-05-28	Montalcini et al.	
	8	5856828	A	1999-01-05	Letcher, Jr.	



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	Examiner Name			
	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322		

	9	7316847	B2	2008-01-08	MacNeil	
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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	20060288578	A1	2006-12-28	MacNeil	
	2	20080061580	A1	2008-03-13	MacNeil	
	3	20090092795	A1	2009-04-09	MacNeil	
	4	20090230717	A1	2009-09-17	MacNeil	
	5	20030143358	A1	2003-07-31	Needles	

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<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>	Remove
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Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Foreign Document Number <sup>3</sup>	Country Code <sup>2</sup> j	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>
	1	8332976	JP	A	1996-12-17	Nishikawa Takao		<input type="checkbox"/>

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	2	200052835	JP		2000-02-22	Shengzhou Enterp. Co. Ltd.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	3	H8-85377	JP		1996-04-02	Muratsubaki Masaaki		<input type="checkbox"/>
	4	H3-47245	JP		1991-05-01		English translation unavailable	<input type="checkbox"/>
	5	2002356124	JP		2002-12-10	Japan Vilene Co. Ltd		<input type="checkbox"/>
	6	8434890	DE	U1	1985-02-28	Wurstl		<input type="checkbox"/>
	7	1863477	DE	U	1962-12-06	Krapf et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	8	1302459	CA		1992-06-02	Bailey		<input type="checkbox"/>
	9	H11-268570	JP		1999-10-05	Suzuki		<input type="checkbox"/>
If you wish to add additional Foreign Patent Document citation information please click the Add button								<b>Add</b>
<b>NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>								<b>Remove</b>
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	U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, Office Action issued on U.S. Application No. 11/463,203 on August 13, 2009.						<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322	

2	U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, Office Action issued on U.S. Application No. 11/934,320 on June 10, 2009.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, Office Action issued on U.S. Application No. 12/332,757 on June 11, 2009.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	CANADIAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE, Requisition by the Examiner dated December 17, 2009 on Canadian Patent Application No. 2,672,116.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	JAPANESE PATENT OFFICE, Rejection issued in connection with Japanese Patent Application No. 2005-317635 dispatched on January 5, 2011.	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	CANADIAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE, Requisition on CA 2,672,095, dated Jan. 14, 2011.	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	GERMAN PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, Official Action on DE 10 2005 063 533.4-21, dated September 1, 2011.	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	CANADIAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE, Requisition on CA 2,672,097, dated on Dec. 19, 2011.	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Photographs of a Highland Floor Guard with unknown date of manufacture, obtained by Applicant in 2010, and believed to be on sale and in public use prior to October 29, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	American Specialty Equipment Corp., "Big Book" catalog for "Performance Parts, Truck Accessories, And Sport Compact Equipment," 2000, page 366.	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Add-On 2002-2003 Automotive Accessory Catalog, 2002, pages 192 and 447.	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Floor Mat Comparison Chart, Stylinconcepts.com, June 2, 2002.	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322	

13	Advertisement for Highland's Black Armor Floor Guard, Stylin Concepts "Custom Truck Accessories" catalog, 2003, pp. 1, 2 and 109.	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Image from advertisement for Black Armor Floor Guard, Stylinconcepts.com; April 3, 2002, recovered from <a href="http://web.archive.org/20020403230231/stylinconcepts.com/Images/BlackArmorWLogo.jpg">http://web.archive.org/20020403230231/stylinconcepts.com/Images/BlackArmorWLogo.jpg</a> .	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	List of "front custom auto floor mats", etrailer.com (as downloaded by web.archive.org), June 4, 2004.	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Description and illustration of "Front Custom Auto floor Mats"; etrailer.com (as downloaded by web.archive.org), June 4, 2004.	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Advertisement for Highland floor guards, Counterman Info Pages, prior to Nov. 2002, page 27.	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	Highland Catalog and Jobber sheet; prior to 2004.	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Highland Application Guide, 2004.	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	Volvo Accessories brochure, 1990, pages 1 and 23.	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	Volvo 760 GLE Accessories Brochure, 1983, pages 1-3.	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	Volvo Accessories brochure, 1981, pages 1, 27.	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	Volvo Accessories brochure, 1983, page 1, 11, 16.	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322	

24	Photographs of Volvo floor mat with unknown manufacture date, obtained by Applicant in 2010, and believed to be on sale and in public use prior to October 29, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>
25	Photographs of a Husky Liner floor tray with unknown manufacture date, obtained by Applicant in 2010, and believed to be on sale and in public use prior to October 29, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>
26	Husky Liners Product Catalog, 2001, pages 1-2.	<input type="checkbox"/>
27	Husky Liners Product Catalog, 2002, selected pages.	<input type="checkbox"/>
28	Husky Liners Product Catalog, 2003 ½ , SEMA Show Edition, selected pages.	<input type="checkbox"/>
29	Photographs of Winfield's Husky Liner Model 3780 for 2000-2001 BMW X-5 possessed by Applicant, believed to be on sale and in public use prior to October 29, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>
30	1998 Lund Product Catalog, p. 24, Lund SportMat Molded Floor Trays.	<input type="checkbox"/>
31	Web advertisement for Fox Weatherboots, foxweatherboots.com (as downloaded by web.archive.org), March 3, 2000.	<input type="checkbox"/>
32	Nifty Products Catalog, 2003-2004, selected pages.	<input type="checkbox"/>
33	Advertisement of unknown publication date for Husky Liner 3D Molded Carpeted Front Floor Liners, obtained by Applicant in 2010, and believed to be on sale and in public use prior to October 29, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>
34	Photographs of Husky Liner 3D Floor Liners manufactured August 2010, in possession of Applicant, and believed to be on sale and in public use prior to October 29, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322	

35	Geomagic Press Release, "Geomagic, Inc. Wins Second Computer Graphics World Innovation Award," December 10, 1998.	<input type="checkbox"/>
36	Geomagic Press Release, "Geomagic to Introduce Unique Solution for 3D Content Creation at SIGGRAPH '99," August 3, 1999.	<input type="checkbox"/>
37	Geomagic Press Release, "Geomagic Announces Geomagic Studio 2.0," January 14, 2000.	<input type="checkbox"/>
38	Geomagic Press Release, "Geomagic, QTE Offer RevQuick, Automatic Surface Generation for Mastercam," September 25, 2000.	<input type="checkbox"/>
39	Advertisement, "Third Party Options (Romer, A CimCore Company)," 2000.	<input type="checkbox"/>
40	SON, SEOKBAE; PARK, HYUNPUNG; and LEE, KWAN; "Automated laser scanning system for reverse engineering and inspection," Int. J. Machine Tools & Manufacture, 42, 889-897 (2002).	<input type="checkbox"/>
41	"Competition Rising in Portable CMMs," Quality Magazine, May 5, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>
42	Press Release by Brown and Sharpe, "Portable K Series Optical CMMs," 9/1/2002.	<input type="checkbox"/>
43	"CAM2 software," as downloaded from <a href="http://web.archive.org/web/20040215065613/www.faro.com/Products">http://web.archive.org/web/20040215065613/www.faro.com/Products</a> on 11/4/2010.	<input type="checkbox"/>
44	"Laser Scanner edges out CMM in the race to market," Machine Design.com, February 5, 2004.	<input type="checkbox"/>
45	"Highres Delivers Complete Reverse Engineering Software Suite for SolidWorks 2001Plus," Reverse Engineering.com, April 25, 2002.	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Filing Date		
	First Named Inventor	David F. MACNEIL	
	Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322	

46	"HighRes Provides 3D Reverse Engineering Software to Higher Education Learning Institutions", ReverseEngineering.com, May 21, 2002.	<input type="checkbox"/>
47	"HighRes Reverse Engineering Software now Ships with Every Romer 3000i and Stinger II Portable CMM in North America," ReverseEngineering.com, October 14, 2002.	<input type="checkbox"/>
48	Press Release, "FARO Debuts Affordable "Advantage" Line of Measurement Products," September 4, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>
49	CANADIAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE, Requisition by the Examiner in connection with Canadian Patent Application No. 2,672,423 dated December 14, 2010.	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

**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.

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	First Named Inventor	David F. MACNEIL	
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	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322	

**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.

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

None

**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	/Jefferson Perkins/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2012-08-27
Name/Print	Jefferson Perkins	Registration Number	31,407

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.**



## Privacy Act Statement

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.

**CERTIFICATION AND REQUEST FOR PRIORITIZED EXAMINATION  
 UNDER 37 CFR 1.102(e)** (Page 1 of 1)

First Named Inventor:	David F. MACNEIL	Nonprovisional Application Number (if known):	
Title of Invention:	VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY		

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

1. The processing fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(i), the prioritized examination fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(c), and if not already paid, the publication fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.18(d) have been filed with the request. The basic filing fee, search fee, examination fee, and any required excess claims and application size fees are filed with the request or have been already been paid.
2. 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.
3. The applicable box is checked below:

**I.  Original Application (Track One) - Prioritized Examination under § 1.102(e)(1)**

- i. (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.
- ii. An executed oath or declaration under 37 CFR 1.63 is filed with the application.

**II.  Request for Continued Examination - Prioritized Examination under § 1.102(e)(2)**

- i. A request for continued examination has been filed with, or prior to, this form.
- ii. If the application is a utility application, this certification and request is being filed via EFS-Web.
- iii. The application is an original nonprovisional utility application filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(a), or is a national stage entry under 35 U.S.C. 371.
- iv. This certification and request is being filed prior to the mailing of a first Office action responsive to the request for continued examination.
- v. No prior request for continued examination has been granted prioritized examination status under 37 CFR 1.102(e)(2).

Signature	/Jefferson Perkins/	Date	August 27, 2012
Name (Print/Typed)	Jefferson Perkins	Practitioner Registration Number	31,407

**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.

## Privacy Act Statement

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 disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
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).
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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 inspection 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 Patent Application Fee Transmittal				
<b>Application Number:</b>				
<b>Filing Date:</b>				
<b>Title of Invention:</b>		VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY		
<b>First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:</b>		David F. MACNEIL		
<b>Filer:</b>		Jefferson Perkins/Patricia Romanelli		
<b>Attorney Docket Number:</b>		31700.000322		
Filed as Small Entity				
<b>Track I Prioritized Examination - Nonprovisional Application under 35 USC 111(a) Filing Fees</b>				
Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
<b>Basic Filing:</b>				
Utility filing Fee (Electronic filing)	4011	1	95	95
Utility Search Fee	2111	1	310	310
Utility Examination Fee	2311	1	125	125
Request for Prioritized Examination	2817	1	2400	2400
<b>Pages:</b>				
<b>Claims:</b>				
<b>Miscellaneous-Filing:</b>				

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
Publ. Fee- early, voluntary, or normal	1504	1	300	300
Processing Fee, except for Provis. apps	1808	1	130	130
<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>3360</b>

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<b>EFS ID:</b>	13598284
<b>Application Number:</b>	13595703
<b>International Application Number:</b>	
<b>Confirmation Number:</b>	8216
<b>Title of Invention:</b>	VEHICLE FLOOR TRAY
<b>First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:</b>	David F. MACNEIL
<b>Customer Number:</b>	64770
<b>Filer:</b>	Jefferson Perkins/Patricia Romanelli
<b>Filer Authorized By:</b>	Jefferson Perkins
<b>Attorney Docket Number:</b>	31700.000322
<b>Receipt Date:</b>	27-AUG-2012
<b>Filing Date:</b>	
<b>Time Stamp:</b>	17:34:42
<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	\$ 3360
RAM confirmation Number	6874
Deposit Account	503982
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<b>Document Number</b>	<b>Document Description</b>	<b>File Name</b>	<b>File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest</b>	<b>Multi Part /.zip</b>	<b>Pages (if appl.)</b>
1	Transmittal of New Application	Transmittal.pdf	118066 3fe2e411f090796c89ebb832c70df296d9bd02f2	no	2
<b>Warnings:</b>					
<b>Information:</b>					
2		Specification.pdf	220750 449f29c620847c95f5782393daf15f0e220fa5e6	yes	42
	<b>Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description</b>				
	<b>Document Description</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>		
	Specification	1	38		
	Claims	39	41		
	Abstract	42	42		
<b>Warnings:</b>					
<b>Information:</b>					
3	Drawings-only black and white line drawings	Drawings.pdf	552111 4a987847496f5314715bce22cd648003830bedf	no	12
<b>Warnings:</b>					
<b>Information:</b>					
4	Oath or Declaration filed	Declaration.pdf	184782 e84696df4e2083aff4611d280d8a2a471144fd21	no	3
<b>Warnings:</b>					
<b>Information:</b>					
5	Application Data Sheet	ADS.pdf	965163 ef3656769b4440169f52cd78dc94d09838fb515	no	5
<b>Warnings:</b>					
<b>Information:</b>					
6	Power of Attorney	POA.pdf	795041 90e6bacb2f5aac9b3faa5af5469f1d74862eba7d	no	2
<b>Warnings:</b>					
<b>Information:</b>					
7	Transmittal Letter	IDS_Transmittal.pdf	101856 847449144e3c01e175798afb4b7e6808f58fda71	no	3

<b>Warnings:</b>					
<b>Information:</b>					
8	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Form (SB08)	IDS.pdf	615268 2ad8190c83d9d7e0b065ad4209a7a5c851191ffb	no	12
<b>Warnings:</b>					
<b>Information:</b>					
9	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Form (SB08)	IDS2.pdf	615506 9847e6510d659a848c0e553f4b9420e4d58b618	no	10
<b>Warnings:</b>					
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10	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Form (SB08)	IDS3.pdf	612478 1ac18d3b2564243fe33b8962394312458066093c	no	4
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11	Non Patent Literature	CA_OA_2672423.pdf	2343164 4d160b4938db7dbc5090f971b545251832497b45	no	2
<b>Warnings:</b>					
<b>Information:</b>					
12	TrackOne Request	sb0424.pdf	140522 d86d460b6cd0d57ec22f6ff6e7dd2721b8386fa	no	2
<b>Warnings:</b>					
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13	Fee Worksheet (SB06)	fee-info.pdf	40067 c80e4b9ec5c5b5e14182b1bd5c62f5488c29971d	no	2
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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	David F. MACNEIL	
	Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322	

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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	D377780	S	1997-02-04	MacNeil	
	2	6027782	A	2000-02-22	Sherman	
	3	6155629	A	2000-12-05	Sherman	
	4	4591532	A	1986-05-27	Tanaka	
	5	6953545	B1	2005-10-11	Tyler	
	6	4280729	A1	1981-07-28	Morawski	
	7	4406492	A	1983-09-27	Cackowski	
	8	6793872	B1	2004-09-21	Buss	

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	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322	

	9	5776583	A1	1998-07-07	Peyton	
	10	4828898	A	1989-05-09	Bailey	
	11	4721641	A	1988-01-26	Bailey	
	12	5254384	A	1993-10-19	Gordon	
	13	5482759	A	1996-01-09	Primeau	
	14	6261667	B1	2001-07-17	Yang	
	15	6534146	B1	2003-03-18	Mentz, Jr.	
	16	D242136	S	1976-11-02	Matlock	
	17	3401975	A	1968-09-17	Oger	
	18	5474829	A	1995-12-12	Woosley	
	19	3288187	A	1966-11-29	Wheaton	

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	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322	

	20	6732030	B2	2004-05-04	Jones	
	21	6058618	A	2000-05-09	Hemmelgarn et al.	
	22	6022503	A	2000-02-08	Hudkins et al.	
	23	5208995	A	1993-05-11	McKendrick	
	24	2188342	A	1940-01-30	England	
	25	5919540	A	1999-07-06	Bailey	
	26	7401837	B2	2004-09-21	MacNeil	
	27	6794013	B1	2004-09-21	Iacovelli et al.	
	28	6605333	B2	2003-08-12	Ferreira et al.	
	29	5891546	A	1999-04-06	Sherman	
	30	5725926	A	1998-03-10	Wang	

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	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322	

	31	4420180	A	1983-12-13	Dupont et al.	
	32	3605166	A	1971-09-20	Chen	
	33	3488081	A	1970-01-06	Nolen	
	34	3390912	A	1968-07-02	Stata	
	35	4693507	A	1987-09-15	Dresen et al.	
	36	6431629	B1	2002-08-13	Emery	
	37	4579764	A	1986-04-01	Peoples, Jr. et al.	
	38	2709105	A	1955-05-24	Kramer	
	39	3450429	A	1969-06-17	Stata	
	40	D422256	S	2000-04-04	Lu	
	41	D408342	S	1999-04-20	Yang	

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	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322	

	42	D393238	S	1998-04-07	Kraines	
	43	4382986	A	1983-05-10	Reuben	
	44	D313789	S	1991-01-15	Thundercloud	
	45	D372011	S	1996-07-23	Tyler	
	46	D454323	S	2002-03-12	Lu	
	47	D432478	S	2000-10-24	Lu	
	48	D425005	S	2000-05-16	Rizvi	
	49	D420965	S	2000-02-22	Iacovelli et al.	
	50	D358571	S	1995-05-23	Thundercloud	
	51	D278525	S	1985-04-23	Morawski	
	52	5830560	A	1998-11-03	Koa	

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	Art Unit			
	Examiner Name			
	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322		

	53	4211447	A	1980-07-08	Divincenzo	
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	1	20040048036	A1	2004-03-11	Nakasuji et al.	
	2	20060091694	A1	2006-05-04	MacNeil	
	3	20010020316	A1	2001-09-13	Ferreira et al.	
	4	20040224130	A1	2004-11-11	Melucci et al.	
	5	20050191459	A1	2005-09-01	Ferreira et al.	

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	Filing Date		
	First Named Inventor	David F. MACNEIL	
	Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322	

2	1198466	CA	A	1985-12-24	Du Pont et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
3	1101016	CA	A	1981-05-12	Morawski		<input type="checkbox"/>
4	406227305	JP	A	1994-08-16	Abe		<input type="checkbox"/>
5	1292028	CA	A	1991-11-12	Altus		<input type="checkbox"/>
6	2431099	CA	A	2004-01-11	Whitaker		<input type="checkbox"/>

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	3	"Installation Instructions For Your F-150/F-250 Ford Truck Front Floor Liners", Winfield Consumer Products, February 1, 2001, downloaded from <a href="http://www.huskyliners.com">http://www.huskyliners.com</a> on January 3, 2005	<input type="checkbox"/>
	4	Husky Deep Tray Floor Liner, downloaded from <a href="http://www.truckstuffusa.com/cusfitdeepr.html">http://www.truckstuffusa.com/cusfitdeepr.html</a> on January 3, 2005	<input type="checkbox"/>



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5	Web pages featuring products from 3D Carpet Liners, Weatherboots, Nifty Products, Inc. and Husky, downloaded from <a href="http://www.premiermotoring.net">http://www.premiermotoring.net</a> on August 11, 2004	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	WeatherTech Floor Mat and Cargo Liner Product Sheets, MacNeil Automotive Products Limited, Downers Grove, IL, Nov. 1994, 4 pp.	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Faro Laser ScanArm, downloaded from <a href="http://www.faro.com/Products/ScanArm.asp">http://www.faro.com/Products/ScanArm.asp</a> on September 23, 2004	<input type="checkbox"/>
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9	"CMM Produces Bikes With Custom-Look", downloaded from <a href="http://manufacturingcenter.com/man/articles/0604/0604CMM.asp">http://manufacturingcenter.com/man/articles/0604/0604CMM.asp</a> on October 11, 2004	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	"Stereolithography (SLA) for Rapid Precision Prototypes", p.1, downloaded from <a href="http://www.boedeker.com/sla.htm">http://www.boedeker.com/sla.htm</a> on October 12, 2004	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	"About Coordinate Measuring Machines (CMM)", downloaded from <a href="http://cmm.globalspec.com">http://cmm.globalspec.com</a> on October 11, 2004	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	"Bagagerumsmattor", downloaded from <a href="http://www.autoform.se/sv/produkter_bagagerumsmattor.htm">http://www.autoform.se/sv/produkter_bagagerumsmattor.htm</a> on October 20, 2004	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	STRICTLY Catalog for Explorer/Mountaineer/Expedition/Navigator. MacNeil Automotive Products Limited, Downers Grove, IL, 1999, pp. 1- 2 and 4 - 7.	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	BRITISH PATENT OFFICE, Search Report on GB Patent Appln. No. GB 0522091.8, Claims 47 - 66, 77 and 78, 23 June 2006	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	BRITISH PATENT OFFICE, Search Report on Patent Appln. No. GB 0522091.8, Claims 67 - 70, 26 June 2006	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322	

16	BRITISH PATENT OFFICE, Search Report on Patent Appln. No. GB 0522091.8, Claims 71 -73, 27 June 2006	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	BRITISH PATENT OFFICE, Search Report on Patent Appln. No. GB 0522091.8, Claims 79 - 84 and 101 - 105, 23 June 2006	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	BRITISH PATENT OFFICE, Search Report on Patent Appln. No. GB 522091.8, claims 85 - 100, 27 June 2006	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	BRITISH PATENT OFFICE, Search Report on Patent Appln. No. GB 0522091.8, claims 1-46 and 74-76, 14 February 2006.	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	CANADIAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE, Requisition by Examiner issued on Canadian Application No. 2,524,795 on April 23, 2008.	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, Office Action issued on U.S. Application No. 11/463,215 on November 27, 2007.	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, Office Action issued on U.S. Application No. 11/463,215 on June 6, 2007.	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	BRITISH PATENT OFFICE, Search Report issued on GB Application No. 0625354.6 dated November 6, 2007.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	Art Unit	
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	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322

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	Art Unit		
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See attached certification statement.

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

None

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Signature	/Jefferson Perkins/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2012-08-27
Name/Print	Jefferson Perkins	Registration Number	31,407

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	Filing Date		
	First Named Inventor	David F. MACNEIL	
	Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322	

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	3	Photographs of Ford Windstar floor mat with unknown manufacture date, obtained by Applicant in 2010, and believed to be on sale and in public use prior to October 29, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
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	Attorney Docket Number	31700.000322	

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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	/Jefferson Perkins/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2012-08-27
Name/Print	Jefferson Perkins	Registration Number	31,407

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