



US006153835A

United States Patent [19]
Schwartz et al.

[11] Patent Number: 6,153,835
[45] Date of Patent: Nov. 28, 2000

- [54] SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR AN ELECTRONIC POSTAGE SCALE WITH VARIABLE FUNCTION KEYS AND WINDOW SCREENS
- [75] Inventors: Robert G. Schwartz, Branford; Allen A. Crowe, Prospect; James S. Emmett, Derby; Fetneh Eskandari, Middletown; Martin F. Palange, Monroe; Mark E. Simcik, Bloomfield; Robert Swanbery, Fairfield; Robert J. Japenga, Simsbury; Joseph L. Lehman, Canton; William A. Weirsmann, Orange; George P. Rahgo, Milford, all of Conn.

4,862,401	8/1989	Kubli et al.	177/25.11
4,872,119	10/1989	Kajimoto	177/25.11
4,900,904	2/1990	Wright et al.	177/25.11
4,901,237	2/1990	Hiketa et al.	364/464.01
4,969,112	11/1990	Castle	177/25.11
5,020,748	6/1991	Okajima	748/27.1
5,035,392	7/1991	Gross et al.	248/442.2
5,040,132	8/1991	Schuricht et al.	177/25.11
5,072,397	12/1991	Barns-Slavin et al.	177/25.11
5,077,660	12/1991	Haines et al.	177/25.11
5,079,712	1/1992	Ileana et al.	177/25.11
5,084,832	1/1992	Yamada et al.	177/25.11
5,097,915	3/1992	Joss et al.	177/25.11
5,107,455	4/1992	Haines et al.	395/275

(List continued on next page.)

- [73] Assignee: Ascom Hasler Mailing Systems, Inc., Shelton, Conn.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

0492439 7/1992 European Pat. Off. .

- [21] Appl. No.: 08/485,269

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- [22] Filed: Jun. 7, 1995

Japanese abstract by Yuuseishoo for patent application 58-61419 (A), published Apr. 12, 1983.

Related U.S. Application Data

Primary Examiner—Randy W. Gibson

- [62] Division of application No. 08/139,898, Oct. 14, 1993.
- [51] Int. Cl.⁷ G01G 19/22; G01G 19/413; G07B 17/02
- [52] U.S. Cl. 177/25.13; 705/407; 705/404
- [58] Field of Search 177/25.11, 25.12, 177/25.13; 364/464.02, 567

ABSTRACT

In an improved postage scale system, soft-selection keys are used for selecting options including shipping service options provided by the system. The display on such a system is adjustable for comfortable viewing thereof. The system is capable of interfacing and communicating with other devices such as a printer, a remote computer, an optical scanner, an integrated circuit (IC) card, etc. Certain data and code for use in the system can be updated by downloading new data and code from IC cards to the system. A security measure is instituted such that, after an update of the data or code, a system user is required to enter a valid authorization number in order to enable the system. Such a measure is, in part, necessary for deterring unauthorized copying of software of the system onto another similar system.

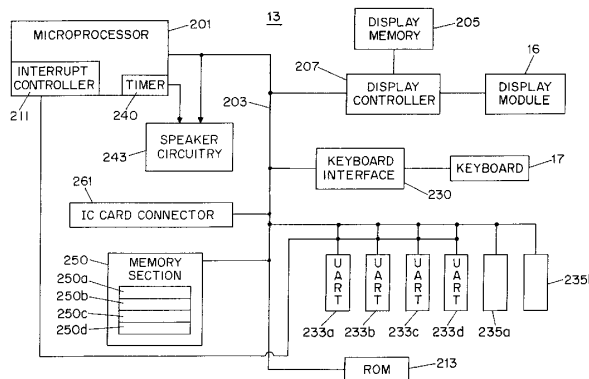
References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,064,954	12/1977	Rock	177/25.11
4,139,892	2/1979	Gudea et al.	177/25.11
4,325,441	4/1982	Nakatani et al.	177/25.11
4,379,496	4/1983	Godat et al.	177/25.11
4,462,473	7/1984	Valestin	177/25.11
4,481,587	11/1984	Daniels, Jr.	177/25.11
4,638,439	1/1987	Daniels	177/25.11
4,691,290	9/1987	Griffen	177/25.11
4,783,745	11/1988	Brookner et al.	364/464.02
4,811,256	3/1989	Yamada et al.	177/25.11
4,814,995	3/1989	Daniels, Jr.	177/25.11
4,836,309	6/1989	Sekioka	177/25.11

12 Claims, 17 Drawing Sheets

Microfiche Appendix Included
(54 Microfiche, 4342 Pages)



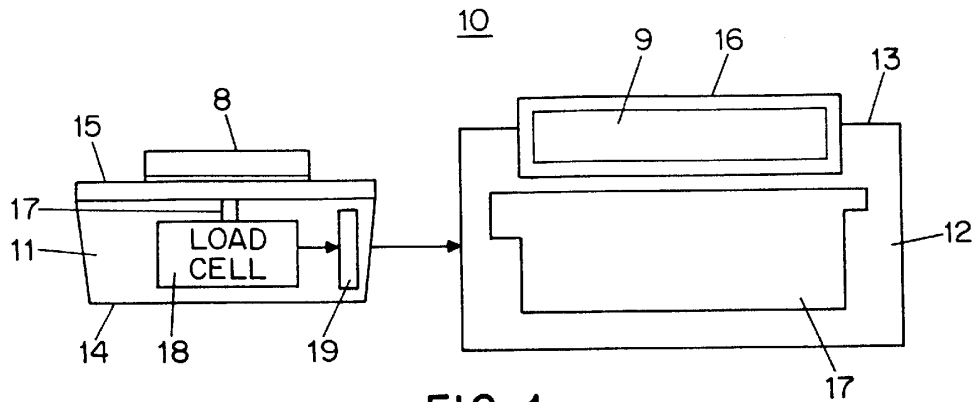


FIG. 1

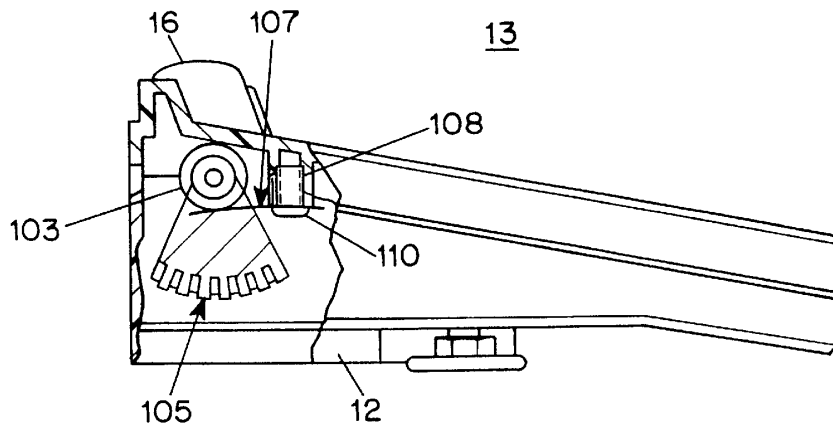


FIG. 2

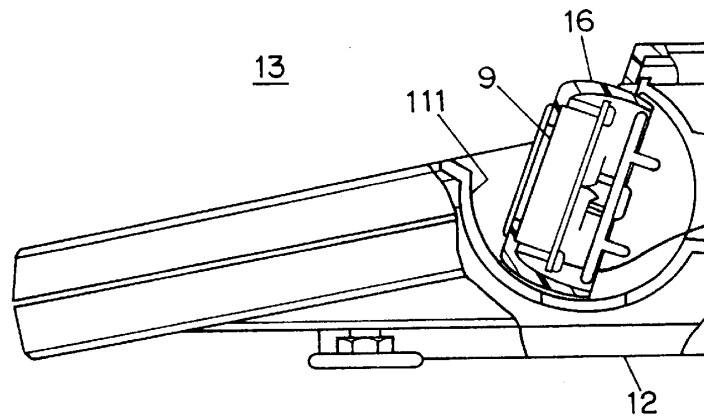


FIG. 3

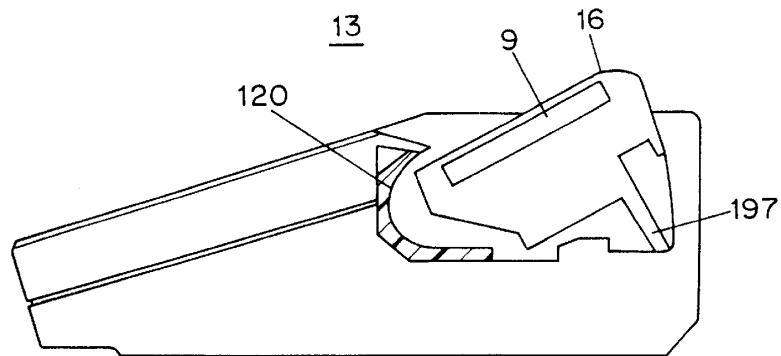


FIG. 4

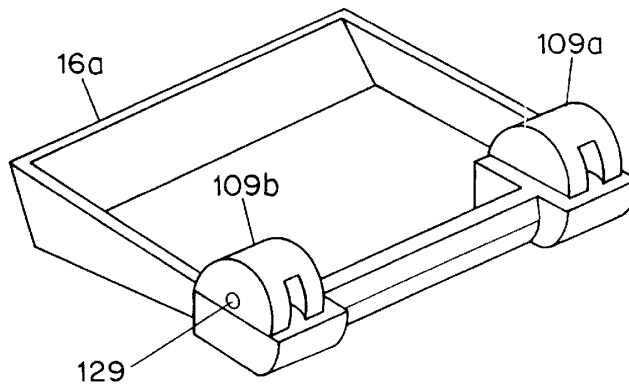


FIG. 5

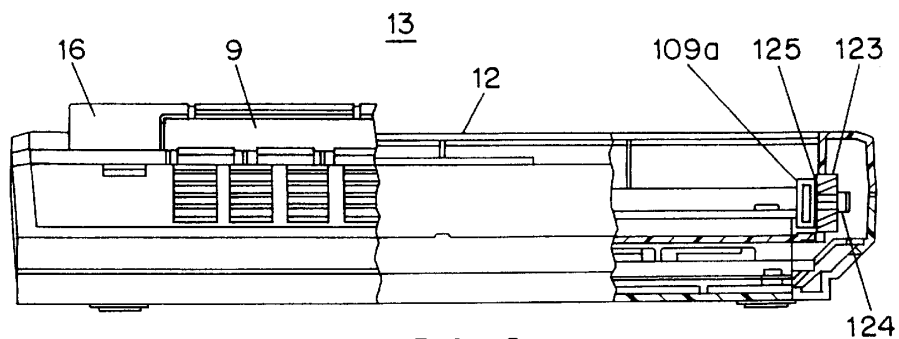


FIG. 6

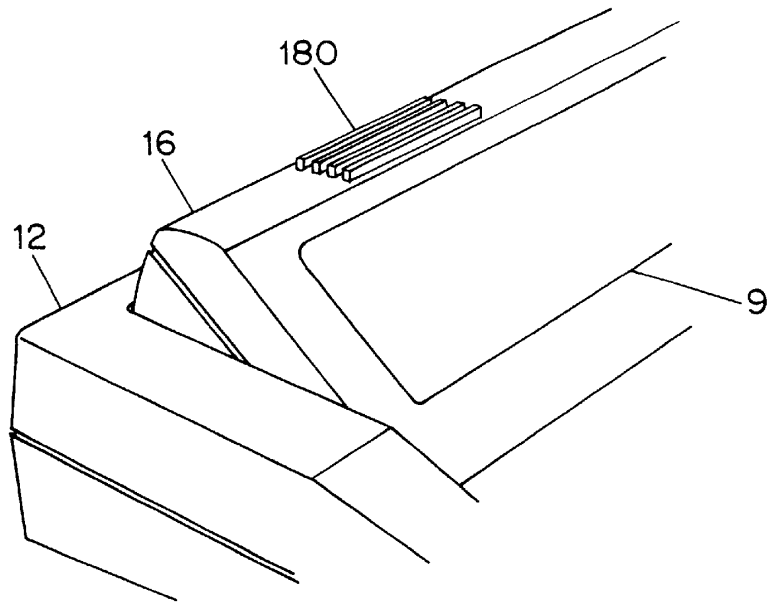


FIG. 7A

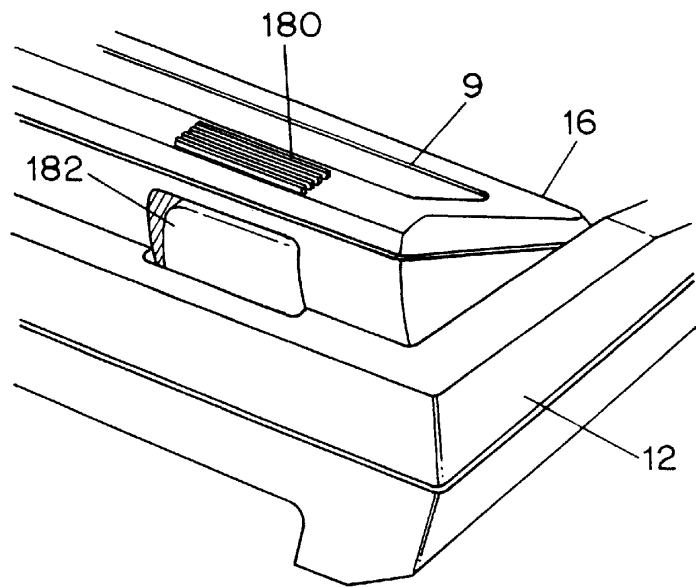


FIG. 7B

Explore Litigation Insights

Docket Alarm provides insights to develop a more informed litigation strategy and the peace of mind of knowing you're on top of things.

Real-Time Litigation Alerts



Keep your litigation team up-to-date with **real-time alerts** and advanced team management tools built for the enterprise, all while greatly reducing PACER spend.

Our comprehensive service means we can handle Federal, State, and Administrative courts across the country.

Advanced Docket Research



With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

Identify arguments that have been successful in the past with full text, pinpoint searching. Link to case law cited within any court document via Fastcase.

Analytics At Your Fingertips



Learn what happened the last time a particular judge, opposing counsel or company faced cases similar to yours.

Advanced out-of-the-box PTAB and TTAB analytics are always at your fingertips.

API

Docket Alarm offers a powerful API (application programming interface) to developers that want to integrate case filings into their apps.

LAW FIRMS

Build custom dashboards for your attorneys and clients with live data direct from the court.

Automate many repetitive legal tasks like conflict checks, document management, and marketing.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.