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Computer input output apparatus integral with vessel passenger seat

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Abstract

There is disclosed a computer input output apparatus to be employed by a passenger in a vessel. The apparatus includes a tray, which is mounted on the rear of a vessel passenger seat. The tray has an aperture on the top surface into which is fitted an input output device which surface faces upwards to the passenger when the tray is placed in a usable position. The computer input output device operates to provide an input device that operates computer-based systems accessible to the passenger. The computer input output device also includes output elements, which are coupled to the computer-based systems including an electronic notepad for handwritten notes. The computer input output device is connected to the vessel communications network and passenger systems by cable or wireless means.

AUSTRALIA

Patents Act 1990

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

INNOVATION PATENT

Computer input output apparatus integral with vessel passenger seat.

The following statement is a full description of this invention, including the best method of performing it known to me.

EDITORIAL NOTE:

Page 3 of this description appears as the claims.

Page 4 of the description appears at the end of the description as 'Description of Drawings'.

Field of Invention

The present invention relates to a computer input output apparatus and more particularly to an embodiment of such in a passenger vessel integral with a passenger seat and tray table therein.

Background

Passenger vessels, such as aircraft, ferries and trains, generally provide means of entertainment at passengers. Although often limited, it is known to offer video games and interactive games, and at least music, and movies. More advanced systems currently provide a limited range of on-demand movies and games, with a video apparatus often attached proximal to the passenger seat.

In the future vessel operators will find it advantageous to provide a greater range of entertainment, including more interactive entertainment and more interactive customer services. This will include much greater two-way interaction than at present. Applications will include passenger to passenger chat, email, instant messaging and video/keyboard dialogues and interaction. Similar applications in communication with the Internet will also be available.

A problem with more intensive interaction is the potential disturbance to other passengers. For example voice input would be disturbing to close neighbours, and keyboard input is noisy and mechanically disturbing to people in close proximity. It is known in the art to provide screen based video games with special purpose controllers, which are relatively undisturbing to other passengers. However with greater keyboard interaction required by future on-board entertainment systems a quite interaction means is needed.

Thus, a need exists for an apparatus to provide silent input with a full range of input functions and capabilities which provides for future on-board passenger systems.

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