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The Director

of the United States Patent and Trademark Office has received an application for a patent for a new and useful invention. The title and description of the invention are enclosed. The requirements of law have been complied with, and it has been determined that a patent on the invention shall be granted under the law.

Therefore, this United States

Patent

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Katherine Kelly Vidal

DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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If the application for this patent was filed on or after December 12, 1980, maintenance fees are due three years and six months, seven years and six months, and eleven years and six months after the date of this grant, or within a grace period of six months thereafter upon payment of a surcharge as provided by law. The amount, number and timing of the maintenance fees required may be changed by law or regulation. Unless payment of the applicable maintenance fee is received in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on or before the date the fee is due or within a grace period of six months thereafter, the patent will expire as of the end of such grace period.

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If the application for this patent was filed on or after June 8, 1995, the term of this patent begins on the date on which this patent issues and ends twenty years from the filing date of the application or, if the application contains a specific reference to an earlier filed application or applications under 35 U.S.C. 120, 121, 365(c), or 386(c), twenty years from the filing date of the earliest such application (“the twenty-year term”), subject to the payment of maintenance fees as provided by 35 U.S.C. 41(b), and any extension as provided by 35 U.S.C. 154(b) or 156 or any disclaimer under 35 U.S.C. 253.

If this application was filed prior to June 8, 1995, the term of this patent begins on the date on which this patent issues and ends on the later of seventeen years from the date of the grant of this patent or the twenty-year term set forth above for patents resulting from applications filed on or after June 8, 1995, subject to the payment of maintenance fees as provided by 35 U.S.C. 41(b) and any extension as provided by 35 U.S.C. 156 or any disclaimer under 35 U.S.C. 253.



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Moss, Jr.

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(54) **POINT-OF-CARE GUIDANCE SYSTEM FOR
DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC
MEDICAL PROCEDURES**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
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U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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A61B 8/00 (2006.01)
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A guidance apparatus is provided for use with a portable imaging apparatus and an image display. The guidance apparatus comprises a coupling mechanism which may include a slip ring portion structured for receiving the imaging apparatus therein. The coupling mechanism can be structured for: facilitating orienting the image display device to provide a direct line of sight of an area imaged by the imaging apparatus; adjusting to facilitate rotation of the image display device in at least one 360-degree plane of rotation about a longitudinal axis extending through the imaging apparatus; allowing selection of an image display device position associated with a viewing angle of the image display device; and allowing the coupling mechanism, the image display device, and the imaging apparatus, in combination, to be held in a single hand of a user during performance of an imaging procedure.

18 Claims, 53 Drawing Sheets

