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04706450.6 / 1 589 878

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(54) **System for use with a modular apparatus for diagnostic ultrasound**

(57) The present invention describes a system for use with a core module for diagnostic ultrasound, the system comprising at least one core module having a housing, system electronics package and I/O port and one or more docking station(s) in electronic communication with a plurality of peripheral devices, the docking station capable of releasable connection to the core module. The invention further details the individual modular components of the system, being a receptacle connector, a docking station, a multiple transducer adaptor and a mobile docking station.

tion with a plurality of peripheral devices, the docking station capable of releasable connection to the core module. The invention further details the individual modular components of the system, being a receptacle connector, a docking station, a multiple transducer adaptor and a mobile docking station.

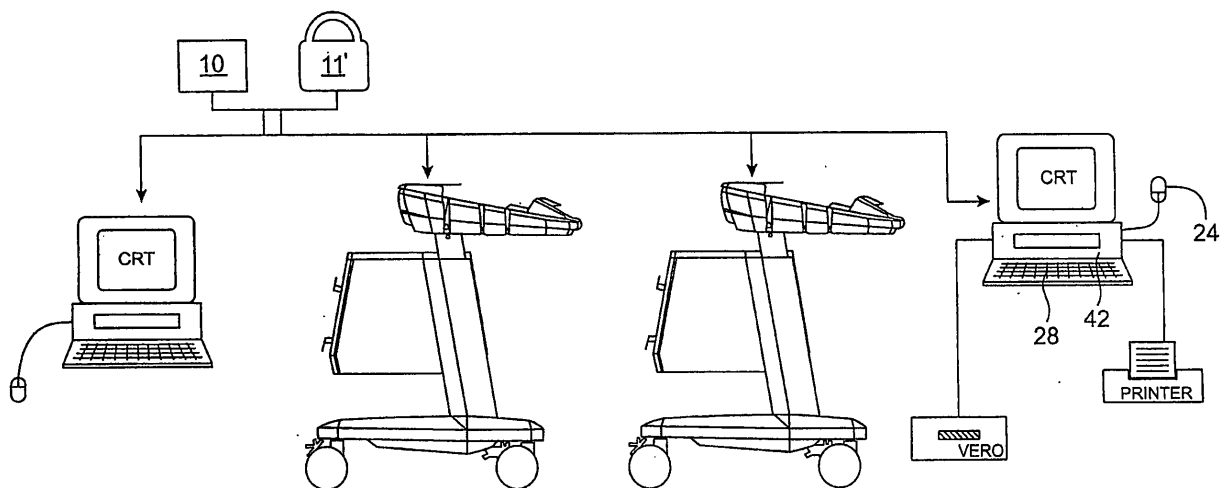


FIG. 6

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 09 07 5402

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	US 5 505 203 A (DEITRICH THOMAS L [US]; WASHBURN MICHAEL J [US]) 9 April 1996 (1996-04-09) * column 2, line 36 - column 3, line 43 * -----	1-3	INV. A61B8/00
X	EP 0 451 463 A2 (ACOUSTIC IMAGING TECH [US]) 16 October 1991 (1991-10-16) * column 2, line 39 - column 3, line 38 * -----	1-2	
X	US 5 213 104 A (REYNOLDS CHARLES A [US]) 25 May 1993 (1993-05-25) * abstract * * figure 2 *	1,3	
A	US 2003/013965 A1 (QUISTGAARD JENS U ET AL) 16 January 2003 (2003-01-16) * paragraphs [0038] - [0041] * -----	1-3	
-----			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			A61B G01S G06F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 30 September 2009	Examiner Lohmann, Stefan
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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EPO FORM 1503 03.02 (P04C01)



Application Number

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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

- Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:
1-3
- The present supplementary European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims (Rule 164 (1) EPC).



**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number
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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-3

A multi-transducer connector module comprising a housing, recess connectors and a switch by which an operator can select which transducer be used.

2. claims: 4-12

A mobile docking station comprising a base having a plurality of castors, a tower and a docking station.

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 09 07 5402

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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30-09-2009

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EPO FORM P0459

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82

专利名称(译)	用于诊断超声的模块化设备的系统		
公开(公告)号	EP2116186A3	公开(公告)日	2010-02-03
申请号	EP2009075402	申请日	2004-01-29
[标]申请(专利权)人(译)	索诺塞特公司		
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当前申请(专利权)人(译)	SONOSITE INC.		
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发明人	HOLMBERG, RANDY T. LITTLE, BLAKE W. BUNCE, STEVEN		
IPC分类号	A61B8/00		
CPC分类号	A61B8/4411 A61B8/00 A61B8/4405 A61B8/4427 A61B8/4433 A61B8/56 A61B2560/0456 G01S7/52079 G01S7/52082		
优先权	10/356401 2003-01-31 US		
其他公开文献	EP2116186A2		
外部链接	Espacenet		

摘要(译)

本发明描述了一种与用于诊断超声的核心模块一起使用的系统，该系统包括至少一个核心模块，该核心模块具有外壳，系统电子设备包和I/O端口以及与之电子通信的一个或多个扩展坞。多个外围设备，对接站能够可释放地连接到核心模块。本发明进一步详述了系统的各个模块化部件，即插座连接器，扩展坞，多换能器适配器和移动扩展坞。

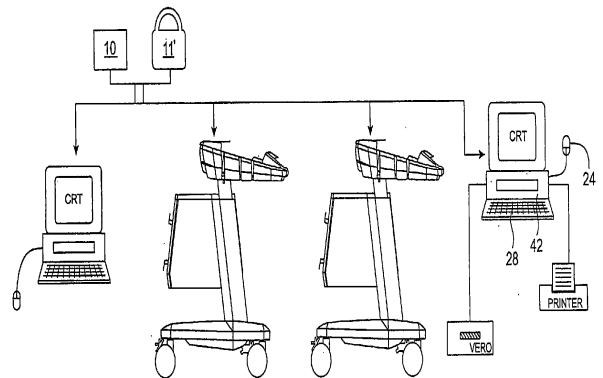


FIG. 6