

## Title (en)

Handheld electronic device and keypad providing enhanced usability and reduced size, and associated method

## Title (de)

Elektronisches Handgerät und Tastatur mit verbesserter Bedienbarkeit und reduzierten Abmessungen und dazugehöriges Verfahren

## Title (fr)

Dispositif électronique portatif et clavier avec utilité améliorée et taille réduite et procédé correspondant

## Publication

**EP 1696448 A1 20060830 (EN)**

## Application

**EP 05251030 A 20050223**

## Priority

EP 05251030 A 20050223

## Abstract (en)

An improved handheld electronic device, keypad, and method in accordance with the invention meet these and other needs. An improved handheld electronic device having an improved keypad provides enhanced usability and reduced size by organizing its keys in pairs, with a pair of keys being disposed on a support. Each key of a pair of keys is individually actuatable. An actuation of a key causes a primary conductor associated with the key set to electrically connect a pair of contacts and to cause a secondary conductor associated with the key to electrically connect another pair of contacts. The primary conductor is a collapsible dome or a tactile switch that can electrically connect the pair of contacts and that can provide a particular tactile feedback to the user. The secondary conductor is a conductor other than a collapsible dome or a tactile switch. An actuation of any key or of any pair of keys thus provides to the user a consistent tactile feedback, i.e., from a collapse of a single dome. An improved method in accordance with the invention is also disclosed.

## IPC 8 full level

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## Citation (applicant)

- US 2003012368 A1 20030116 - SMALLWOOD GREGORY N [US]
- US 6452588 B2 20020917 - GRIFFIN JASON T [CA], et al
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## Citation (search report)

- [X] WO 9944212 A1 19990902 - TSO KEVIN H K [US], et al
- [X] US 2003012368 A1 20030116 - SMALLWOOD GREGORY N [US]
- [X] DE 3607689 A1 19870917 - TELEFONBAU & NORMALZEIT GMBH [DE]
- [A] US 6377685 B1 20020423 - KRISHNAN RAVI C [US]

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AL BA HR LV MK YU

## DOCDB simple family (publication)

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