

(19)



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

(11) Publication number:

0 232 137
A3

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(21) Application number: 87300806.4

(51) Int. Cl.4: **H01H 13/70**

(22) Date of filing: 29.01.87

(30) Priority: 30.01.86 GB 8602288

(43) Date of publication of application:
12.08.87 Bulletin 87/33(84) Designated Contracting States:
CH DE FR GB IT LI SE(88) Date of deferred publication of the search report:
06.09.89 Bulletin 89/36

(71) Applicant: **Dowty Electronic Components Limited**
Fassetts Road Loudwater
High Wycombe Buckinghamshire HP10
9UT(GB)

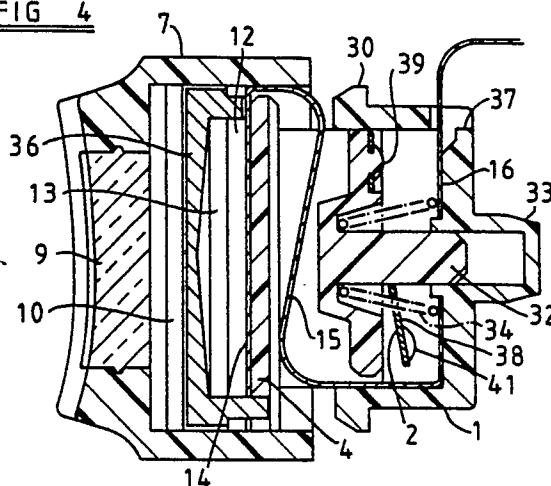
(72) Inventor: **Little, Philip Vernon**
39 Hill Avenue Hazelmere
High Wycombe Buckinghamshire, HP15
7JX(GB)
Inventor: **Beckett, Nicholas David**
110B Shenley Road
London SE5 8NF(GB)

(74) Representative: **Harding, Richard Patrick et al**
Arthur R. Davies & Co. 27 Imperial Square
Cheltenham GL50 1RQ(GB)

(54) Improvements in or relating to relegendable pushbutton switches.

(57) In order to accommodate relative movement between the movable button 7 and the fixed part 1 of the switch, a plurality of leads 14 connecting a display 10 mounted in the button 7 to the fixed part 1 follow an S-shaped path 15 with first ends extending into the button 7 and second ends extending into the fixed part 1. The leads 14 may be in the form of conductive tracks on a flexible printed circuit board. Such a switch may be used in a typewriter or computer keyboard, for example, and may be controlled to display different legends corresponding to different selectable functions of the switch.

FIG 4



EP 0 232 137 A3



EP 87 30 0806

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4)
A	WO-A-8502460 (R. MUELLER) * page 6, last paragraph - page 7, paragraph 1; figure 5 *	1	H01H13/70
A	DE-U-8212658 (TELDIX GMBH) * page 3, paragraph 2 *	1	
A	EP-A-0122642 (OMRON TATEISI ELECTRONICS CO.) * page 5, paragraph 2; figure 3 *	1	
A	US-A-3467802 (CLARE-PENDAR CO.) * figures 1, 2 *	1	
A	DE-B-1193140 (BUSCH-JAEGER)		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
			H01H
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 06 JULY 1989	Examiner JANSSENS DE VROOM P
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			