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(54) **Apparatus and method for providing a linear effect**

(57) Apparatus (11) for providing an output of (i) electromagnetic waves, (ii) sound waves or (iii) both electromagnetic and sound waves comprises a power supply, support structure (13), control means and a plurality of transmitters (15) arranged in a linear array on said support structure (13) and in electrical contact with said control means, wherein each transmitter (15) is controllable individually and independently from other transmitters. To provide a coloured lighting effect, apparatus can comprise a first source of light of a first colour, a second source of light of a second colour, different from the first colour and a diffuser (12) for diffusing the light from the first and second sources so that the diffused light from the diffuser is perceived to have different colour, shade or hue. Uses of the apparatus are described, for applications such as entertainment, safety, directional and speed control, such as in providing a linear sound and/or lighting effect in which the output is perceived as emanating from a substantially continuous sound and/or light source rather than from a plurality of individual sources.

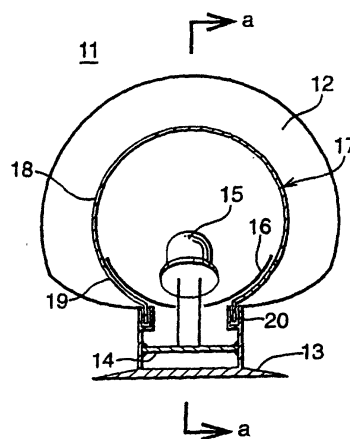
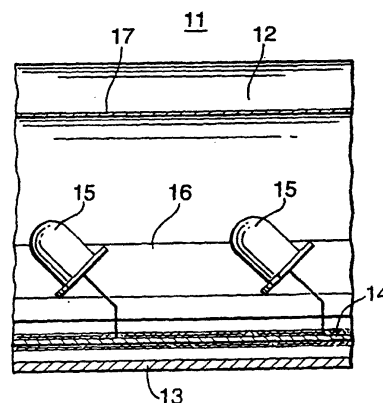


FIG. 9



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Application Number
EP 03 01 1110

CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims 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 the first ten claims.

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 8

- ☐ 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:

1-10, 16-20



European Patent
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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: 1-10, 16-20

An apparatus and a method for providing a lighting effect comprising a plurality of light sources of the same colour (or light sources and sound transducers) arranged in a line on one side of an elongate diffuser and means for independently controlling each light source. Outputting the light form a plurality of light sources simultaneously via the diffuser so as to be perceived by a viewer as emanating from a continuous light source.

2. claims: 11-15

An apparatus for providing a sound output comprising a plurality of sound transducers in a line and means for independently controlling each sound transducer.

3. claim: 21

An apparatus for providing a sound output for indication or instruction of direction or speed, comprising a plurality of sound transducers in a line and means for independently controlling each sound transducer.

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

EP 03 01 1110

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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08-11-2004

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