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PREVENTING LOSS OF STYLUS PEN

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Preventing Loss of Stylus Pen

Abstract: Loss or theft of stylus pens for providing input on a touchscreen of a computing device is discouraged or prevented. The stylus pen includes bluetooth capability. A pairing process pairs a new stylus pen with a computing device by tracing and recording a custom pattern on the touchscreen. If a user attempts to pair the stylus pen with a different device, the user must re-trace the pattern before the stylus pen can pair.

This disclosure relates to the field of user input devices.

A technique is disclosed that prevents loss or theft of stylus pens.

Stylus pens are often used for providing input on a touchscreen of a computing device, such as a tablet, cell phone, or other mobile device. However, stylus pens are small, and can easily be misplaced. Furthermore, because the stylus pens are easily interchangeable among devices, a person who finds a misplaced stylus pen may just pick it up and take it with him to use with his own computing device.

According to the present disclosure, and as understood with reference to the Figure, a stylus pen 10 includes a processor and bluetooth capability. To use a new stylus pen with a computing device 20, a pairing process that includes creation of a custom pattern 30 is first performed. The pattern 30 is then stored in the pen 10 and in the computing device 20.

If a user attempts to pair the stylus pen 10 with a different device 20, as part of the pairing process the user must re-trace the pattern 30 with the stylus pen 10 on the new device 20. If the user does not properly trace the pattern 30, the stylus pen 10 won't pair with the computing device 20, thus preventing the stylus pen 10 from being used with that computing device 20.

In other words, the pattern 30 stored in a stylus pen 10 must be verified at first use on each device 20.

The disclosed technique advantageously discourages theft of stylus pens by rendering the stylus pen unusable with another computing device without knowledge of the created pattern.

Disclosed by Calvin Chang, HP Inc.