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POINTING DEVICE ON COMPUTING DEVICE STAND

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Pointing Device on Computing Device Stand

Abstract: A pointing device is integrated into the stand for a computing device.

This disclosure relates to the field of computing devices.

A technique is disclosed that integrates a pointing device into the stand for a computing device.

Some computing devices, which may include desktop or notebook computers, printing devices including multifunction printers, and other such electronic devices, have at least occasional need for a user interface which allows users to point and select among options presented to the user via a display.

Some of these computing devices may be designed to operate only with the stand, while others may alternatively be operated in the user's hand, detached from the stand. Some of the devices may have a pointing device integrated with the display, which works well for handheld operation but can be awkward to use when the device is stand-mounted.

Presently, the solution for stand-mounted operation is for a separate mouse or trackball to be used to provide the pointing functions. To this end, a mouse or trackball may be included along with a stand, or a user may need to provide his own mouse or trackball. Both solutions can be problematic.

According to the present disclosure, and as understood with reference to the Figure, a pointing device is integrated in the stand 20 for a computing device 10. The pointing device may be, for example, a touchpad 30 or a trackball 40.

Integrating the pointing device in the stand advantageously eliminates the need for attaching an external mouse or trackball to the device or the stand. It does not add to the footprint of the device or stand, which is desirable in limited-space environments. It eliminates the need to include a separate pointing component in the box along with the stand.

Disclosed by Pony Hsieh, HP Inc.

