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KEYBOARD STIFFENING AND SKEW REDUCTION METHOD

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Keyboard Stiffening and Skew Reduction Method

Abstract: Stiffener members heat staked to a plastic keyboard tray reduces skew and increases stiffness of the keyboard.

This disclosure relates to the field of keyboards.

A technique is disclosed that reduces skew and increases stiffness of keyboard translation in embedded product application.

Some keyboards, such as for example keyboards incorporated into other electronic products, such as for example multifunction printers, may appear or feel flimsy or cheap. This can lead to at least a perception of inferior quality of the products into which such a keyboard is embedded.

According to the present disclosure, and as understood with reference to the Figure, a keyboard base assembly 10 is provided to increase stiffness of the keyboard and improve customer perception of the keyboard's look and feel.

In the keyboard base assembly 10, injection-molded stiffener members 20 are heat staked to mating slots 30 of a plastic keyboard tray 40. The resulting keyboard base assembly 10 has increased stiffness relative to the plastic keyboard tray 40.

When the keyboard base assembly 10 is used in the keyboard, the keyboard has a stiffer feels and an improved perception of quality.

Disclosed by Steve Frane, Kacey Bowen Nelson, and Hans Leidenfrost, HP Inc.

