

Claim amendments

1. (Currently Amended) A vehicle comprising:

a cabin interior;

a trim panel component located in the cabin interior, wherein the trim panel component comprises a dashboard;

a desk supported on the trim panel component and movable between a stowed position on the trim panel component and a deployed position extending outward from the trim panel component, the desk comprising a plurality of interconnected panels having support arms configured to engage a track to wrap around at least a curved portion of the trim panel component, and wherein the desk operably moves along the track when moved between the stowed position and the deployed position; and

a steering wheel that is configured to be stowed when the desk is in the deployed position, wherein the desk extends over at least a portion of the steering wheel in the deployed position;

wherein the dashboard is vehicle-forward of a seat comprising a cross beam, and the desk bends around at least a portion of the cross beam.

2-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The vehicle of claim 4-1, wherein the dashboard comprises a storage bin, wherein the storage bin is covered by the desk in the stowed position and is exposed when the desk is in the deployed position.

6. (Currently Amended) The vehicle of claim 4-1, further comprising a display screen proximate the dashboard, wherein the display screen is stowable in the bin and deployable from the bin when the desk is in the deployed position.

7. (Original) The vehicle of claim 1, wherein the support arms comprise bearings engaged within the track.

8. (Currently Amended) The vehicle of claim 2-1 further comprising a steering wheel that is configured to be stowed when the desk is in the deployed position.

9. (Original) The vehicle of claim 8, wherein the desk extends over at least a portion of the steering wheel in the deployed position.

10. (Original) The vehicle of claim 1, wherein the desk comprises a first main panel, a second panel and a third panel interconnected in series.

11. (Currently Amended) A vehicle comprising:

a body defining a cabin having an interior;

a seat;

a dashboard located in the interior of the cabin forward of the seat;

a track located in the dashboard; and

a desk supported on the dashboard in the track and movable between a stowed position on the dashboard and a deployed position extending outward from the dashboard, the desk comprising a plurality of interconnected panels having support arms configured to engage the track to bend around at least a portion of the dashboard, and wherein the desk operably moves along the track when moved between the stowed position and the deployed position, wherein the dashboard further comprises a cross beam, wherein the desk bends around at least a portion of the cross beam.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The vehicle of claim 42 11, wherein the dashboard further comprises a storage bin, wherein the storage bin is covered by the desk in the stowed position and is exposed when the desk is in the deployed position.

14. (Currently Amended) The vehicle of claim 43 11 further comprising a display screen stowable in the bin and deployable from the bin when the desk is in the deployed position.

15. (Currently Amended) The vehicle of claim 12 11 further comprising a steering wheel that is configured to be stowed when the desk is in the deployed position, and wherein the desk extends over at least a portion of the steering wheel in the deployed position.

16. (Original) The vehicle of claim 11, wherein the support arms comprise bearings engaged within the track.

17. (Original) The vehicle of claim 11, wherein the desk comprises a first main panel, a second panel and a third panel interconnected in series.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of deploying a desk in a vehicle, the method comprising:

providing a desk located on a dashboard and movable between a stowed position on the dashboard and a deployed position extending outward from the dashboard, the desk comprising a plurality of interconnect panels having arms configured to engage a track to bend around at least a portion of the dashboard, wherein the desk operably moves along the track when moved between the stowed position and the deployed position, wherein the dashboard is vehicle-forward of a seat comprising a cross beam, and the desk bends around at least a portion of the cross beam; and

extending the desk from the dashboard such that the support arms move in the track.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18 further comprising deploying a display screen from the a bin when the desk is in the deployed position.

20. (Original) The method of claim 18 further comprising stowing a steering wheel when the desk is in the deployed position such that the desk extends over at least a portion of the steering wheel.

Remarks in Response to the Office Action

Amendment Status

Claims 1, 5, 6, 11, 13-15, and 18-20 have been amended. Claims 2-4, and 12 have been cancelled. All claims from 1-20 remain pending. The applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the amended claims and allowance of the application.

Correction of Formalities

Claim 19 was previously objected to due to formality issues. The applicant has amended claim 19 to correct the informality and comply with the patent requirements.

Summary of Rejections

Claims 1-3, 10-11, and 17-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on the teachings of Mpakaris in view of Hodgson. Claims 7 and 16 faced rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on Mpakaris in view of Hodgson and further in view of Boinais. Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Mpakaris in view of Hodgson and further in view of Ory.

Presentation of Allowable Claims

The Examiner has acknowledged that claims 4-6, 9, 12-15, and 20 contain allowable subject matter if rewritten in independent form.

Details of Amendments

The applicant has amended the independent claims to incorporate the allowable subject matter to further delineate the inventive aspects from the prior art. Specifically:

- Claim 1 has been revised to include the allowable limitations of the previously dependent claim 4, and intervening claims 2 and 3 have been cancelled.
- Independent claim 11 has been amended to include the allowable limitations of the previously dependent claim 12, which has been cancelled.
- Independent claim 18 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter similar to that acknowledged in claim 4.

Conclusion of Amendments

The applicant has amended the independent claims to incorporate the allowable subject matter, placing the application in condition for allowance. These amendments and arguments are believed to address all the concerns raised in the Office Action.

Closing Remarks

The applicant appreciates the Examiner's consideration of these responses and encourages the Examiner to contact the applicant's attorney should there be any questions regarding the patentability of the amended claims or any other matter that may expedite the prosecution of this application.