

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the:
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

BALDWINS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
PO Box 5999
Wellesley Street
1141 Auckland
New Zealand

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43*bis*.1)

Date of mailing (*day/month/year*)
08 July 2013

Applicant's or agent's file reference
BEH509811PCT

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/NZ2013/000045

International filing date (*day/month/year*)
20 March 2013

Priority date (*day/month/year*)
20 March 2012

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
H02J 7/00 (2006.01)

Applicant
COVIC, Grant Anthony et al.

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43*bis*.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1*bis*(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA

AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE
PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606,
AUSTRALIA
Email address: pct@ipaustalia.gov.au
Facsimile No. +61 2 6283 7999

Date of completion of this opinion
8 July 2013

Authorised Officer

Soosa Gnanasingham
AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE
(ISO 9001 Quality Certified Service)
Telephone No. 0262832172

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/NZ2013/000045

Box No. I **Basis of this opinion**

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - The international application in the language in which it was filed
 - A translation of the international application into, , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).
2. This opinion has been established taking into account **the rectification of an obvious mistake** authorized by or notified to this Authority under Rule 91 (Rule 43*bis*.1(a))
3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, this opinion has been established on the basis of a sequence listing filed or furnished:
 - a. (means)
 - on paper
 - in electronic form
 - b. (time)
 - in the international application as filed
 - together with the international application in electronic form
 - subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search
4. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
5. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International Application No.

PCT/NZ2013/000045

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims 1- 19	YES
	Claims NONE	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims NONE	YES
	Claims 1- 19	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1- 19	YES
	Claims NONE	NO

2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS:

CITATIONS

D1: US 6222443 B1 (BEESON et al.) 24 April 2001

D2: US 4829223 A (BROBERG et al.) 09 May 1989

D3: US 5801921 A (MILLER) 01 September 1998

NOVELTY (N)

D1 which is directed to a wireless power transfer system between a tow vehicle and the trailer, in regard to claim 1, discloses a wireless power transfer system (abstract) and a wiring harness (column 6 lines 30-41) but it does not disclose any details of the wiring harness. Therefore claim 1 and the appended claims 2 and 3 are all novel.

D3, which discloses a communication network assembly, in regard to claim 4, discloses a wiring harness comprising a plurality of cables; a first connector portion connected to a first end of the cables and wherein an end of each of the cables is soldered into the respective recessed ends (Fig 6).

Claim 4 differs from the disclosure of D3 in that each of the cables comprises a plurality of conductive filaments and that the first connector portion comprises a plurality of pins each comprising a recessed end. Claim 4 and the other independent claim 15, which discloses a similar invention, are both novel. The appended claims 5-14, and 16 to 19 add further features to claims 4 and 15 respectively and are therefore novel.

Therefore the subject matter of claims 1- 19 is new and meets the requirements of Article 33(2) of the PCT with regard to novelty.

INVENTIVE STEP (IS)

D1, as discussed under novelty above, discloses a wireless power transfer system with wiring harnesses but does not disclose the features of the wiring harness in detail.

D2 which is directed to a vehicle battery charger discloses a wiring harness (cable 16 in Fig 1, 2) to connect the battery to a terminal of the charger. In regard to claim 1, D2 discloses the wiring harness (cable 16) with a first connector portion at one end of the cable, the first end connector portion being configured to be removably connected to the first connector portion and a second end connector portion at the other end of the cable, configured to be removably connected to the second connector portion (the terminals of connector 16 are removably connectable as is evident from Fig 2).

Therefore a person skilled in the art would import the features of D2 onto D1 and arrive at the invention of D1 without the exercise of any inventive skills. Claim 1 and also claims 2 and 3 therefore do not involve an inventive step.

Claim 4, as discussed under novelty above, differs from the disclosure of D3 in that each of the cables comprises a plurality of conductive filaments and the first connector portion comprises a plurality of pins each comprising a recessed end. However, these relate to arrangements that are merely matters of design choice when the general technical knowledge about the state of the art is used and therefore cannot contribute to providing a patentable inventive step. A similar discussion is applicable to the independent claim 15, which defines conventional manufacturing techniques. Claims 4 and 15 therefore do not involve an inventive step.

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International Application No.

PCT/NZ2013/000045

The dependent claims 5-14 and 16- 19 relate to arrangements that are merely matters of design choice (for example claims 5, 6, 10) or conventional manufacturing techniques (for example claims 8, 13) or features that could be found by trial and error (for example claims 11,19) when the general technical knowledge about the state of the art is used and therefore cannot contribute to providing a patentable inventive step. Claims 5-14 and 16- 19 therefore do not involve an inventive step.

Therefore the subject matter of all of claims 1- 19 is obvious and does not meet the requirements of Article 33(3) of the PCT with regard to inventive step.

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY (IA)

The invention defined in the claims 1- 19 is considered to meet the requirements of Industrial Applicability under Article 33(4) of the PCT because it can be made by, or used in, industry.