Flexible Access System for Touch Screen Devices

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WARF: P95259US
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The Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF) is seeking commercial partners interested in developing an EZ ACCESS touch screen system for people with disabilities.

OVERVIEW

Touch screen systems have many advantages, including simplification of the user's task and elimination of a separate keyboard. However, touch screen systems present an insurmountable barrier to many people with disabilities.

THE INVENTION

A UW–Madison researcher has developed a touch screen system that provides an access screen presenting multiple paths of communication and multiple methods of input for a variety of users. That is, people with disabilities can configure the touch screen for their particular communication needs, allowing people with and without disabilities to efficiently use the touch screen system.

This system also is particularly useful for foreign countries where kiosks often have to handle a large number of different languages. These users, as well as users that have difficulty interpreting written legends, can use a distinct access button to provide an augmented legend for those buttons on an "as needed" basis.

APPLICATIONS

• Cross-disability access to public information and transaction machines

KEY BENEFITS

• Provides a touch screen that is usable by a larger segment of the population, including the vision impaired, hearing impaired and individuals who have trouble reading the text messages
• Does not affect the layout and operation of the touch screen for users who are not
disabled

- Assistance is provided such that individuals familiar with the general layout of the screen can move rapidly through the system (only invoking descriptions when needed).
- Users may modify the touch screen to meet their particular needs.
- Can be used on any touch screen, including personal computers, ATMs, information kiosks, cell phones, copy machines and fax machines

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Related Technologies
WARF reference number P95077US provides a touch screen system for the vision impaired.
WARF reference number P00245US provides additional features, including a page guard.
WARF reference number P00268US describes the control panel design for the touch screen system.
EZ Access® is a trademark of the UW-Madison Trace Center. For more information on EZ Access, including examples of how the technology is used, visit the inventor's website.

Tech Fields
Information Technology - Software
Medical Devices - Adaptive design

CONTACT INFORMATION

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