

Decision on opposition

Opposition No. 2017-700410

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The case of opposition regarding Japanese Patent No. 6016459, entitled "Support structure of noise absorbing device," has resulted in the following decision.

Conclusion

The patent according to claims 1 and 2 of Japanese Patent No. 6016459 is maintained.

Reason

No. 1 History of the procedures

The application of the patent according to claims 1 and 2 of Japanese Patent No. 6016459 was filed on June 5, 2012. The establishment of the patent right was registered on October 7, 2016, and after that, the opposition to the patent was filed on April 25, 2017 by the opponent, TOKUDA Akemi.

No. 2 The Invention

The inventions according to Claims 1 and 2 of Japanese Patent No. 6016459 (hereinafter referred to as "Inventions 1 and 2") are specified by the matters described in Claims 1 and 2 of the scope of claims. Inventions 1 and 2 are as follows.

"[Claim 1]

A support structure of a noise absorbing device consists of the noise absorbing device having a cylindrical case containing a core inside and a support tool to support the noise absorbing device on a substrate, and characterized in that the case has a locking groove formed in a part in an axial direction on an outer peripheral surface, that the locking groove is formed as a groove with a cross section having circumferentially flat groove bottom surfaces formed on both surfaces facing in a radial direction, that the support tool includes an openable upper side section, a holding section formed in a rectangular frame shape by a U-shaped left side section, a right side section, and a lower side section to hold the case, and a fitting section located on the lower of the lower side section and detachably fitted to a hole formed on the substrate, that the left side section and the right side section are locked in close contact with the groove bottom surfaces of the locking groove when the case is inserted in the holding section, and that the case is locked in the axial direction and rotation direction.

[Claim 2]

The support structure of a noise absorbing device described in Claim 1 characterized in that the fitting section of the support tool includes a fitting piece which is fitted in the hole formed on the substrate when inserted in the hole, and a release piece which releases the fitting state between the fitting piece and the hole when pinched from both sides."

No. 3 Outline of grounds for opposition

The opponent submitted the following Evidences A No. 1 to No. 6 as evidences and alleges that the Inventions 1 and 2 could be easily made by a person skilled in the art on the basis of the invention described in Evidence A No. 1 and the matters described in Evidences A No. 2 to No. 6, therefore, the patent according to Claims 1 and 2 violates the provisions of Article 29(2) of the Patent act, falls under Article 113(2) of the Act, and the patent according to Claims 1 and 2 should be cancelled.

Note (List of the evidences)

Evidence A No. 1: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H10-79589

Evidence A No. 2: Registered Utility Model Publication No. 3154135

Evidence A No. 3: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2012-99707

Evidence A No. 4: Microfilm of Japanese Utility Model Application No. S63-126850 (Japanese Unexamined Utility Model Application Publication No. H2-47099)

Evidence A No. 5: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2004-274073

Evidence A No. 6: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2004-278703

No. 4 Matters described in Evidences A No. 1 to No. 6

1. Evidence A No. 1 (Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H10-79589)

In Evidence A No. 1, the following matters relating to "Noise absorbing device" are described with drawings. (Underlines were added by the body.)

(1) "[0001]

[Field of the Invention] This invention relates to a device that absorbs surrounding electromagnetic induction noise affecting a signal cable which transmits electric signals.

[0002]

[Conventional art] This type of noise absorbing device is conventionally configured by using a pair of half-cylinders (41, 41) made of ferrite as shown in FIG. 11, combining the pair of half-cylinders (41, 41), inserting a cable (42) thereinto, attaching a half-divided case (43) on the outside shown in FIG. 12, and pinching the cable (42) with holes (44, 44) at both ends of the case (43) (for example, Japanese Examined Utility Model Publication No. H7-51772).

[0003]

[Problem to be solved by the invention] In the above conventional structure, there are problems that the cost is high since the case (43) is required and noise absorbing efficiency is low since the cable (42) supported by the holes (44, 44) at both ends of the case (43) causes poor contact with an inner surface of the ferrite half-cylinders."

(2) "[0005]

[Embodiments of the invention] FIG. 1 to FIG. 4 illustrate one example of the invention. In the figures, (1A) is a half-cylinder made of a ferrite material. The inside (2A) of the half-cylinder (1A) is formed in a polygonal shape (half-pentagonal shape in this example). Both edges (3A, 3A) are formed in an irregular shape. A belt groove (4A) is formed in the center.

[0006] (1B) is another half-cylinder made of a ferrite material. The inside (2B) of the half-cylinder (1B) is formed in a polygonal shape (half-pentagonal shape in this example). Both edges (3B, 3B) are formed in an irregular shape (3C, 3D) so as to be engaged with each other. The irregular shape (3C, 3D) are wave shape or pulse shape.

[0007] The half-cylinders (1A, 1B) are combined, as shown in FIG. 2, with two cables (5, 5), for example, held inside, and fixed and bound with a belt (6) with buckle (6A) or a cord stretched on the belt grooves (4A, 4B), to constitute the noise absorbing device (1). The two cables (5, 5) are pinched by the half-cylinders (1A, 1B) in a hexagonal cable insertion hole (2) formed by the inside (2A, 2B) of the half-cylinders (1A, 1B), as shown in FIG. 3, and brought into close contact with the inside of the half-cylinders (1A, 1B). The half-cylinders (1A, 1B) are combined to constitute the cylinder (1). Both edges (3A, 3A, 3B, 3B) of the half-cylinders (1A, 1B) are formed in engageable irregular shape (3A, 3D), thereby increasing contact area of the half-cylinders (1A, 1B) and significantly improving noise absorbing characteristics, accordingly."

(3) "[0011] FIG. 8 to FIG. 10 illustrate other examples. In the figures, (31A, 31B) are a pair of half-cylinders which are same as the examples shown in FIGS. 1 to 4. The insides (32A, 32B) of the half-cylinders (31A, 31B) are formed in a polygonal shape (half-pentagonal shape). Both edges (33A, 33A, 33B, 33B) are formed in irregular shape. Belt grooves (34A, 34B) are formed in the center. In the examples, projections (35A, 35B) for preventing cable come-off are formed in the inside (32A, 32B) of the half-cylinders (31A, 31B), respectively. Recesses (36A, 36B) for allowing play of the cable (25) are formed at both ends. The pair of half-cylinders (31A, 31B) are combined, as shown in FIG. 10, to form the noise absorbing device (31). The projections (35A, 35B) of the half-cylinders (31A, 31B) bite into the outer periphery of the cable (25), which is inserted in the cable insertion hole (32), to prevent the cable (25) from coming off."

(4) "[0013]

[Advantage of the Invention] This invention provides a noise absorbing device that requires no case and improves noise absorbing characteristics."

According to (1), the conventional noise absorbing device is configured by attaching the half-divided case on the outside of a pair of half-cylinders made of a ferrite material, which requires a case, resulting in high cost.

According to (2) and (3), belt grooves are formed in the center of the pair of half-cylinders, and the pair of half-cylinders are combined and bound with a belt with buckle stretched on the belt grooves, to form the noise absorbing device. According to (4), the noise absorbing device thus formed requires no case, favorably.

In comprehensively considering the matters described in (1) to (4) and descriptions in the drawings, the following invention (hereinafter referred to as "Invention A-1") is described in Evidence A No. 1.

"A noise absorbing device comprising a pair of half-cylinders made of a ferrite material and a belt with buckle, wherein belt grooves are formed at the center of the pair of half-cylinders, and the pair of half-cylinders are combined and bound with the belt with buckle."

2. Evidence A No. 2 (Registered Utility Model Publication No. 3154135)

In Evidence A No. 2, the following matters are described with drawings. (Underlines were added by the body.)

(5) "[Claim 1]

An integrated holder for positioning calbe, which is placed on a substrate or a frame in a device, such as a copier,

wherein the holder comprises a fixed part to be fixed to the substrate or the frame and a holding part which keeps the cable penetrating through,

the fixed part includes means for mounting on the substrate or the frame, a groove part having a recess is formed at an upper end of the holding part, and a protrusion part having a recess at a root is located on another upper end, which is fitted after the groove part is pressed to open outward and removed by sliding in an axial direction of the groove part, thereby allowing the wiring to be taken into/out of the holding part."

(6) "[Example 1]

(Omitted)

[0013]

In the figure, the holder A for positioning wiring comprises an upper holding part 2 with calbe 1 inserted therethrough, and a lower fixed part 4 to be fixed to a substrate 3.

The holding part 2 is molded integrally by a frame 13 made of flexible nylon and having a substantially quadrangle cross section. A thin part 5 is located on an upper right corner in the figure, which is bendable. In a normal state, an upper left corner end is lifted as shown by a dashed-two dotted line. In a state of use where the calbe 1 is inserted in the frame, a groove part 7 having the same thickness as the frame located on the upper end is fitting with protrusion part 6 having an arrow-shaped and the same thickness as the frame located on another upper end.

(Omitted)

[0015]

In the figure showing the state of use of the device, when the fixed part 4 of the integrated molded holder A is pushed into a round hole formed in advance on the substrate 3, a flexible part 8 is deformed inwardly to be thin due to elasticity of the material and gaps 10, 10, and enters the hole 12 to be fitted to the recess 11 with a wing 9. Both ends of the wing 9 sag originally. The wing 9 produces a force to always press down the substrate 3 since the recess 11 and the substrate 3 have substantially the same thickness, and the force of the recess 11 to pressing downward can stably fix the holder A to the substrate 3."

(7) "[Example 2]

[0017]

FIG. 4 shows an different embodiment B which is structurally different in the shape of the fixed part 4(104) from the holder A in FIGS. 1 to 3. Especially, the latter

wing 109 protrudes at both ends beyond a lateral width of the frame as compared with the former wing 9, and when the both ends are pushed inward, the fixed part 104 is deformed to attach/detach to/from the substrate. The upper part of the wing 109 having protrude at both ends on the substrate 103 touches both ends of the frame 113, and stability of the holding part can be maintained. Especially, in FIGS. 1 and 2, the device is not detachable in principle, while in FIG. 4, when the wing 109 at both sides are pressed, the holder can be easily removed from the hole on the substrate 103 and reused in other places. In the figure, 101 is wiring, 102 is a holding part, 103 is the substrate, 104 is the holding part, 105 is a thin part, 106 is an arrow-shaped protrusion part, 107 is a groove part, 108 is a fixed part, 109 is a wing, 110 and 110' are gaps, 111 is a wedge part, 112 is a hole on the substrate, and 113 is a frame of the holding part. There is no difference basically from FIG. 1."

Therefore, in comprehensively considering the matters described in (5) to (7) and descriptions in the drawings, the following technical matters are described in Evidence A No. 2.

"An integrated holder placed on a substrate for positioning cable, wherein the holder comprises a fixed part to be fixed to the substrate and a holding part which keeps the cable penetrating through, the fixed part can be attached to/detached from a hole on the substrate, the holding part is a frame having a substantially quadrangle cross section, an upper left corner end of the holding part is lifted in a normal state, and the upper left corner end of the holding part is fitted to the other upper end of the frame in a state of use where the wiring is inserted in the frame."

3. Evidence A No. 3 (Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2012-99707)

In Evidence A No. 3, the following matters are described with drawings. (Underlines were added by the body.)

(8) "[Technical field]
[0001]

This invention relates to a ferrite clamp that is, for example, attached to an electric cable of an electric device or the like, to absorb noise current, such as a noise current received by the electric cable as an antenna or a noise current generated externally and flowing into the electric device through the electric cable."

(9) "[0019]

The ferrite clamp 1 includes a pair of divided cores 3a and 3b, each of which has an open circular shape, and a pair of case parts 5a and 5b to hold divided cores 3a and 3b, respectively.

The case parts 5a, 5b are formed such that the thin case having the divided cylindrical shape along a plane including a central axis of the cylindrical shape (substantially boat shape). Divided cores 3a and 3b are fit in the case parts 5a and 5b, respectively. The case parts 5a and 5b are made of flexible resin. Projections 6a and 6b are formed in respective inner peripheral surfaces of the respective case parts 5a and 5b. In respective outer peripheral surfaces of the divided cores 3a and 3b, there are provided grooves 8a and 8b corresponding respectively to the projections 6a and 6b.

When fitting the divided core 3a in the case part 5a, the projection 6a and the groove 8a are engaged with each other, to thereby stabilize a position of the divided core 3a. Also, when fitting the divided core 3b in the case part 5b, the projection 6b and the groove 8b are engaged with each other, to thereby stabilize a position of the divided core 3b."

(10) "[0024]

The material for the divided cores 3a and 3b is a publicly known ferrite. The divided cores 3a and 3b may be formed into the aforementioned configuration by means of a publicly known forming method."

Therefore, in comprehensively considering the matters described in (8) to (10) and descriptions in the drawings, the following technical matters are described in Evidence A No. 3.

"A ferrite clamp comprising a pair of divide cores made of ferrite, and a pair of case parts having a substantially boat shape to hold the divided cores, respectively."

4. Evidence A No. 4 (Microfilm of Japanese Utility Model Application No. S63-126850 (Japanese Unexamined Utility Model Application Publication No. H2-47099))

In Evidence A No. 4, the following matters are described with drawings. (Underlines were added by the body.)

(11) "[Industrial Application Field]

This invention relates to a noise current absorbing tool which prevents propagated a noise current generated in an electric device or a noise current generated externally through an electric cable."

(p.1 l.18-p.2 l.1)

(12) "We will describe the fourth embodiment below. The noise current absorbing tool 80 shown in a perspective view of FIG. 6 and a front view of FIG. 7 shows an example in which locations of division surfaces 82 and 83 of magnetic bodies are biased toward one magnetic body and claws are used at both ends of holding members 84 to form fixing tools 86 and 87. The noise current absorbing tool 80 comprises a first magnetic body 89, and a second magnetic body 90. Fitting parts 94 and 95 are formed in outer peripheral faces 91 and 92 of the magnetic bodies 89 and 90. The holding part 84 fitted to the fitting parts 94 and 95 to hold the magnetic bodies 89 and 90 is configured to be locked to a hole 101 in a component 100 of an electric device. The noise current absorbing tool 80 with the electric cable 15 externally fitted thereto can be held so as not to separate the division surfaces 82 and 83 from each other, and can be fixed to the component 100, accordingly." (p.11 l.8-p.12 l.2)

(13) "We will describe the seventh embodiment on the basis of a perspective view of FIG. 11 and FIG. 12 showing a cross section B-B of FIG. 11 below. The noise current absorbing tool 140 in the seventh embodiment is formed by changing the holding member 130 of the noise current absorbing tool 120 in FIG. 8 and FIG. 9 to the holding member 141, to fix the noise current absorbing tool 140 to the component 143 of an electric device. The holding member 141 to be fitted to the fitting parts 157 and 159 of the first and second magnetic bodies 153 and 155 include fixing tools 160 and 162 formed at both ends of the holding member 141, to lock the holding member 141 to the hole 166 in the component 143." (p.12 l.19-p.13 l.10)

Therefore, in comprehensively considering the matters described in (11) to (13) and descriptions in the drawings, the following technical matters are described in Evidence A No. 4.

"A noise current absorbing tool configured so that fitting parts are formed on outer peripheries of first and second magnetic bodies, and a holding member to be fitted to the fitting parts to hold the magnetic bodies is locked to a hole in an electric device."

5. Evidence A No. 5 (Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2004-274073)

In Evidence A No. 5, the following matters are described with drawings. (Underlines were added by the body.)

(14) "[Technical Field]
[0001]

This invention relates to a mounting assembly, such as a cable clamp to be used for mounting an electronic component or a cable on a substrate of an electronic device, especially to a snap structure for attaching the mounting assembly on the substrate."

(15) "[0002]

In assembling an electronic device, a mounting assembly is used for mounting an electronic component on an assembly substrate (hereinafter referred to as "substrate"), such as a panel, a chassis, or a substrate, or extending a wiring component, such as a cable. For example, in extending a cable along a surface of a substrate, a cable clamp is used for attaching the cable held thereon to a chassis. In general, a snap structure is employed as a structure for attaching the cable clamp to a chassis. FIG. 17 illustrates one example thereof. A cable clamp 1D comprises a clamp part 60 holding a bundle of cables C, and a snap part 30A integrated with the clamp part 60 and fitted into a through-hole 3 formed in a substrate 2, which are formed integrally by resin molding or the like. The clamp part 60 having one end where a cover piece 62 is hinged to a U-shaped base 61, and another end locked by the lock part 63. The cables C can be inserted or removed by opening or closing the cover piece 62. The snap part 30A having a pair of snap pieces 52 protruding in an arrow shape at both ends of a post 31 projecting downwardly. When the snap part 30A is inserted into the through-hole from a surface side of the substrate 2, the pair of snap pieces 52 are reduced in diameter due to elasticity to pass through the through-hole, and increased in diameter due to elasticity recovery after passing there through, thereby allowing a step part 521 formed at a terminal end of the snap piece 52 to be locked to an inner edge of the through-hole 3. When a fan-shaped pair of leg pieces 34 facing the snap pieces 52 are brought into contact with the surface of the substrate, the locked state between the step part 521 and the through-hole 3 is retained, thereby preventing the cable clamp 1D attached to the substrate 2 from being separated from the through-hole 3."

Therefore, in comprehensively considering the matters described in (14) and (15) and descriptions in the drawings, the following technical matters are described in Evidence A No. 5.

"A cable clamp comprising a clamp part holding a bundle of cables, and a snap part

integrated with the clamp part and fitted into a through-hole formed in a substrate, wherein the clamp part has one end where a cover clamp is hinged to a U-shaped base, to be opened or closed."

6. Evidence A No. 6 (Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2004-278703)

In Evidence A No. 6, the following matters are described with drawings. (Underlines were added by the body.)

(16) "[0001]

[Field of the Invention]

This invention relates to a fixing tool to be used for mounting an electronic component or a cable on a chassis of an electronic device or the like, especially to a fixing tool which can be easily detached from a surface side of the chassis."

(17) "[0012]

[Embodiments of the invention]

We will examine the embodiments of the invention with reference to drawings below. FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the first embodiment that applies the fixing tool in this invention to a cable tie. FIGS. 2 (a) and (b) are a side view and a rear view, FIGS. 3 (a) to (c) are a front view of a main part, a bottom view, and an A-A line sectional view. In the figures, the cable tie 1 of the embodiment consist of a holding part 10 for clamping a cable (not shown) in a bound state, and a fitting part 20 to be fitted to a through-hole 3 formed in a chassis 2 so as to attach/detach the holding part 10 to/from the chassis 2, which are integrally formed by resin molding. The holding part 10 consist of a belt part 11 and a lock part 12 for locking the belt part 11 with the cable bound.

(Omitted)

[0016]

According to the cable tie 1 configured as above, in attaching the cable tie 1 to the through-hole 3 in the chassis 2, the fitting part 20 of the cable tie 1 is inserted into the through-hole 3 from a top side of the chassis 2. This insertion elastically deforms, as shown in FIG. 4 (a), a pair of fitting pieces 22 and 22 of the fitting part 20 in an inner diameter direction to reduce its diameter, and the fitting pieces can be inserted into the through-hole 3. As shown in FIG. 4 (b), after the fitting pieces 22 and 22 pass through the through-hole 3, the fitting pieces 22 and 22 recover with elasticity to increase its diameter in an outer diameter direction, and step parts 22a and 22a are locked to an inner edge of the through-hole 3 on a lower surface of the chassis 2. At the same time, tips 25a and 25a of a pair of leg parts 25 and 25 are brought into elastic contact with a surface of the chassis 2, to bias the fitting part 20 upward. The step parts 22a and 22a are pressed against the inner edge of the through-hole 3, and the locked state is maintained. Consequently, even when the cable tie 1 is pulled upward, the engagement between the step parts 22a and 22a and the through-hole 3 prevents the fitting part 20 from being separated from the through-hole 3, and the cable tie 1 can be fixed to the chassis 2.

(Omitted)

[0020]

In separating the cable tie 1 attached to the through-hole 3 in the chassis 2 from the

chassis, as shown by a dashed line in FIG. 4 (a), a force is applied to release pieces 24 and 24 with two fingers F from both sides, to deform the release pieces 24 and 24 inward. This deformation deforms also connecting pieces 23 and 23 integrated with the release pieces 24 and 24 inward, as shown in the same figure, and deforms the fitting pieces 22 and 22 integrated with the connecting pieces 23 and 23 inward to reduce the diameter, thereby releasing the step parts 22a and 22a from the inner edge of the through-hole 3. Therefore, when the cable tie 1 is pulled above the chassis 2, the fitting part 20 can be removed from the through-hole 3, and the cable tie 1 can be separated, accordingly."

(18) "[0026]

The above embodiment, which shows an embodiment that applies the invention to a cable tie, can be applied also to other fixing tools having different configurations of a holding part. For example, in applying the fitting part of the first embodiment of the invention, this invention can be applied also to a locking wire saddle 1A, as shown in FIG. 10, comprises lock piece 43 located tip of locking piece 42 for opening/closing a U-shaped saddle body 41 and saddle part 40 which can be locked to the lock part 43 to lock part 44 mounted on saddle body 41, which is configured to further prevent a cable from being separated. Extension ends 24a and 24a of a pair of release pieces 24 and 24 of the fitting part 20 may be arranged to face each other at a predetermined interval along both side surfaces of the saddle body 41."

Therefore, in comprehensively considering the matters described in (16) to (18) and descriptions in the drawings, the following technical matters are described in Evidence A No. 6.

"A locking wire saddle consist of a saddle part for holding a cable, and a fitting part to be fitted into a through-hole formed in a chassis for mounting the saddle part on the chassis, wherein the saddle part consist of a U-shaped saddle body and an openable/closable locking piece, the fitting part can be attached to/detached from the through-hole in the chassis."

No. 5 Judgment

1. Regarding the Invention

Invention 1 and Invention A-1 are compared below.

According to the description in "No. 4 1. (1)" of Evidence A No. 1, the "noise absorbing device" of Invention A-1 is a device for absorbing noise flowing in a cable, similar to the "noise absorbing device" in Invention 1. The "pair of half-cylinders made of a ferrite material" in Invention A-1 corresponds to the "core" in Invention 1.

Therefore, Invention 1 and Invention A-1 correspond to each other in the point of comprising "a noise absorbing device having a core," and are different in the following points.

<Different Feature 1>

In Invention 1, the noise absorbing device "having a cylindrical case containing a core inside," while the device in Invention A-1 does not having such a case.

<Different Feature 2>

Invention 1 is "a support structure of a noise absorbing device consist of the noise absorbing device having a cylindrical case containing a core inside and a support tool to support the noise absorbing device on a substrate," while Invention A-1 does not specify "a support tool to support the noise absorbing device on a substrate" or the "support structure" using the "support tool."

<Different Feature 3>

The support structure of Invention 1 is characterized in that "the case has a locking groove formed in a part in an axial direction on an outer peripheral surface, that the locking groove is formed as a groove with a cross section having circumferentially flat groove bottom surfaces formed on both surfaces facing in a radial direction, that the support tool includes an openable upper side section, a holding section formed in a rectangular frame shape by a U-shaped left side section, a right side section, and a lower side section to hold the case, and a fitting section located on the lower of the lower side section and detachably fitted to a hole formed on the substrate, that the left side section and the right side section are locked in close contact with the groove bottom surfaces of the locking groove when the case is inserted in the holding section, and that the case locked in the axial direction and rotation direction is held," while Invention A-1 does not specify the support structure as indicated in the <Different Feature 2>.

We will examine Different Features 1 to 3 below.

(1) Regarding Different Feature 1

In the noise absorbing device, it is well-known that a cylindrical case containing a pair of half-cylinders (cores) is used for attaching the pair of half-cylinders (cores) made of a ferrite material to a cable, as described in Evidence A No. 1 (see "No. 4 1. (1)") or Evidence A No. 3 (see "No. 4 3."), for example.

However, as described in "No. 4 1.", Invention 1 is an invention to solve the problem of high cost of a conventional noise absorbing device that requires a case, and indicates an advantage that no case is required. Therefore, it can be said that there is no motivation to apply the above well-known art in Invention A-1 i.e. to use a case in Invention A-1.

Thus, it cannot be said that a person skilled in the art can easily use a cylindrical case containing a pair of half-cylinders in Invention A-1 according to the well-known art.

The opponent alleges, in relation to Different Feature 1, "it is obvious that the "locking grooves" formed on the outer periphery of the "half-cylinders (31A, 31B)" are covered with a cylindrical case when the "half-cylinders (31A, 31B)" are contained by means of the cylindrical case," resulting in loss of technical significance, and a person skilled in the art can easily make the "locking grooves" formed on the cylindrical case when the "half-cylinders (31A, 31B)" are contained by means of the cylindrical case," on the assumption that it is well known that cylindrical case containing a pair of half-cylinders (cores) is used, and that a person skilled in the art can easily conceive of containing the pair of half-cylinders (cores) in Invention A-1 by means of the cylindrical case.

However, the "locking groove" in the allegation of the opponent can be recognized as the "belt groove" formed at the center of the pair of half-cylinders in Invention A-1. The belt groove is required for binding the pair of half-cylinders with a

belt with buckle. When the pair of half-cylinders are contained in the case, there is no need to bind the pair of half-cylinders with the belt with buckle, and there is no need to form the "belt groove" for bringing with the belt with buckle on the pair of half-cylinders and case. Thus, the above allegation of the opponent cannot be accepted.

(2) Regarding Different Features 2 and 3

Evidence A No. 4 describes that a noise current absorbing tool consist of a first magnetic body and a second magnetic body with fitting parts formed on their outer peripheries are fixed to a component of an electronic device with a holding member to be fitted to the fitting parts (see "No. 4 4.").

However, the noise current absorbing tool described in Evidence A No. 4 does not use a case for containing the first and second magnetic bodies, similar to the noise absorbing device in Invention A-1, and the first and second magnetic bodies are directly connected to the component of the electronic device. Evidence A No. 4 does not describe a support tool or support structure for fixing a "cylindrical case containing cores inside" to the component of the electronic device. Evidence A No.4 describe about the problem in reduction in size when a case is used according to the description in [Problem to be solved by the device] of Evidence A No. 4, and that maximum reduction in size can be achieved due to required minimum configuration except magnetic bodies according to the description in [Advantage of the device], it can be said that there is no motivation to use a case also in the noise current absorbing tool described in Evidence A No. 4.

According to Invention A-1 and the technical matters described in Evidence A No. 4, a "support structure comprising a support tool to support a noise absorbing device on a substrate having a cylindrical case containing a core inside" cannot be derived.

Evidence A No. 2 describes an "integrated holder placed on a substrate for positioning cable," Evidence A No. 3 describes a "ferrite clamp," Evidence A No. 5 describes a "cable clamp," and Evidence A No. 6 describes a "locking wire saddle." None of them describes or indicates about supporting a "noise absorbing device having a cylindrical case containing a core inside" on a substrate by means of a support tool, or a specific support structure according to Different Feature 3.

In Invention 1, each of the "noise absorbing device having a cylindrical case containing a core inside" and the "support tool to support the noise absorbing device on a substrate" has a specific support structure according to Different Feature 3, thereby "preventing a cable with the noise absorbing device attached thereto from being displaced in a longitudinal direction and preventing the cable from being twisted," ([0008]) advantageously.

Therefore, according to Invention A-1 and the technical matters described in Evidences A No. 2 to No. 6, it cannot be said that a person skilled in the art can easily achieve Different Features 2 and 3.

As described above, it cannot be said that Invention 1 could be easily made by a person skilled in the art on the basis of Invention A-1 and the technical matters described in Evidences No. 2 to No. 6.

2. Regarding Invention 2

Invention 2 is further restriction of "the fitting parts of the support tool" in Invention 1. It cannot be said that a person skilled in the art could made Invention 2, on the basis of Invention A-1 and the technical matters described in Evidences A No. 2 to No. 6, for the same reason as Invention 1.

3. Summary

As described above, it cannot be said that the patent according to Claims 1 and 2 violates the provisions of Article 29(2) of the Patent Act.

No. 6 Closing

Therefore, according to the reasons and evidences of the opposition to the patent, the patent according to Claims 1 and 2 cannot be cancelled.

No other reason for cancelling the patent according to Claims 1 and 2 can be found.

Therefore, the decision shall be made as described in the conclusion.

July 4, 2017

Chief administrative judge: MORIKAWA, Yukitoshi

Administrative judge: KOKUBU, Naoki

Administrative judge: INOUE, Shinichi