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(54) **DEVICE HOLDER AND SOLAR POWERED CHARGER UNIT FOR SMART DEVICE COOLER**

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G06F 1/16 (2006.01)

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(52) **U.S. Cl.**
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(21) Appl. No.: **18/107,454**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Related U.S. Application Data

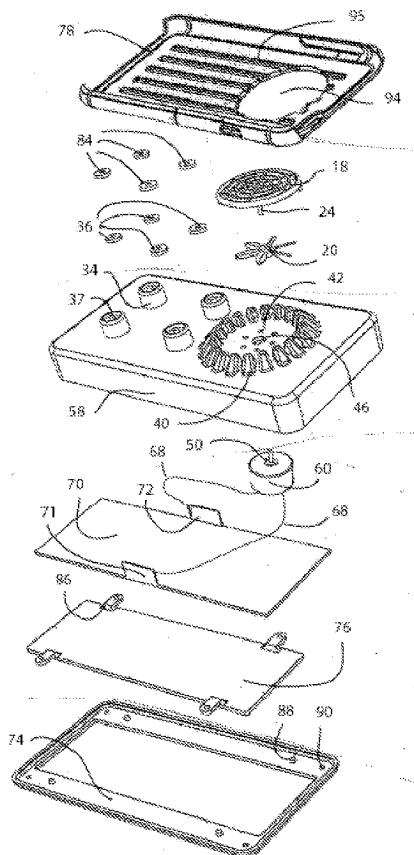
(60) Division of application No. 17/137,117, filed on Dec. 29, 2020, now Pat. No. 11,586,260, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 15/911,154, filed on Mar. 4, 2018, now Pat. No. 10,886,875.

(60) Provisional application No. 62/600,948, filed on Mar. 6, 2017.

Publication Classification

(51) **Int. Cl.**
G06F 1/20 (2006.01)
H02S 40/42 (2006.01)
H02J 7/00 (2006.01)

A solar powered cooler for a smart device such as a smartphone or smart tablet is provided, optionally with a device holder and a solar powered charger unit. The cooler may include an upper fan casing, an optional bottom fan casing, smart device holder, and an air passage formed between the upper fan casing and the smart device holder. The heat dissipation structure of the smart device holder for holding a smart device is disposed in the close proximity space of the smart device to provide a good heat dissipation effect by way of active cooling (forced convection) and passive cooling (natural convection) so as to enhance the heat dissipation performance of the smart device.



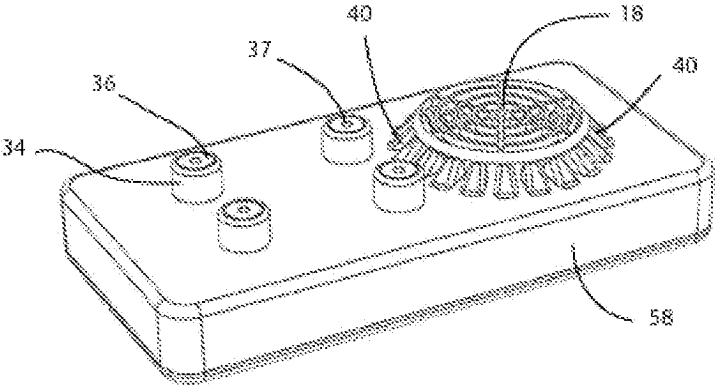


FIG. 1

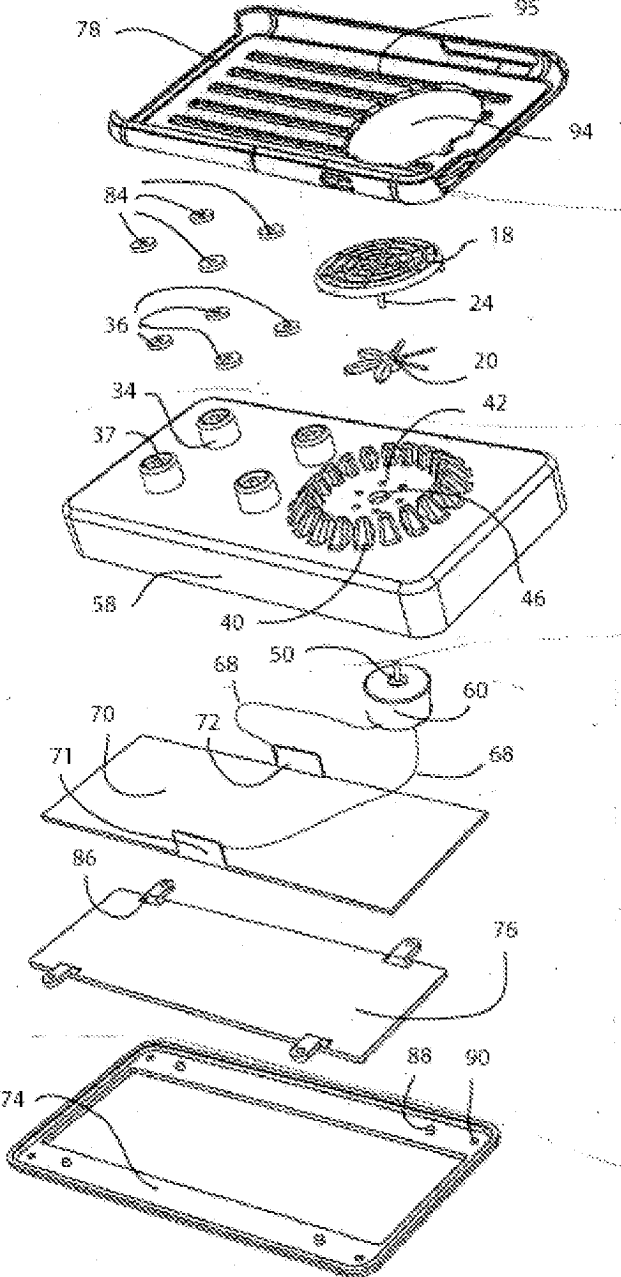


FIG. 2

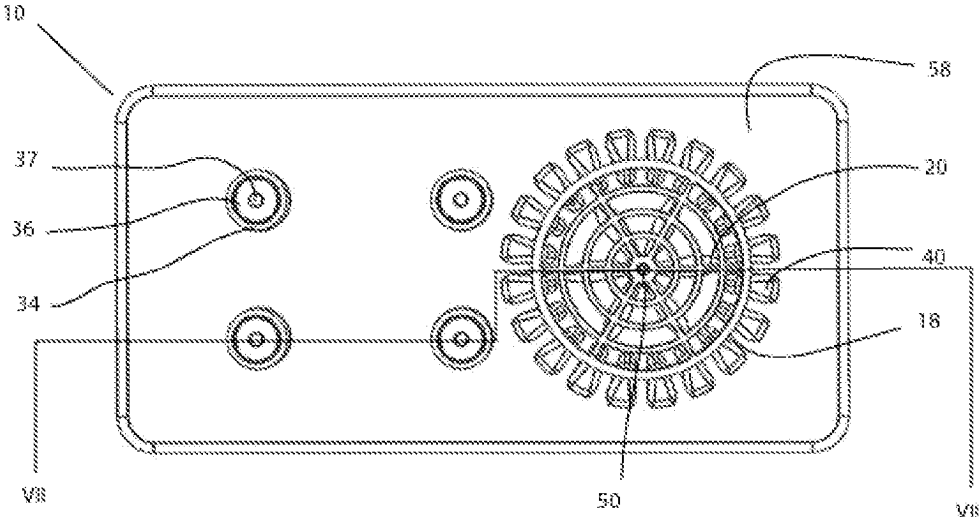


FIG. 3

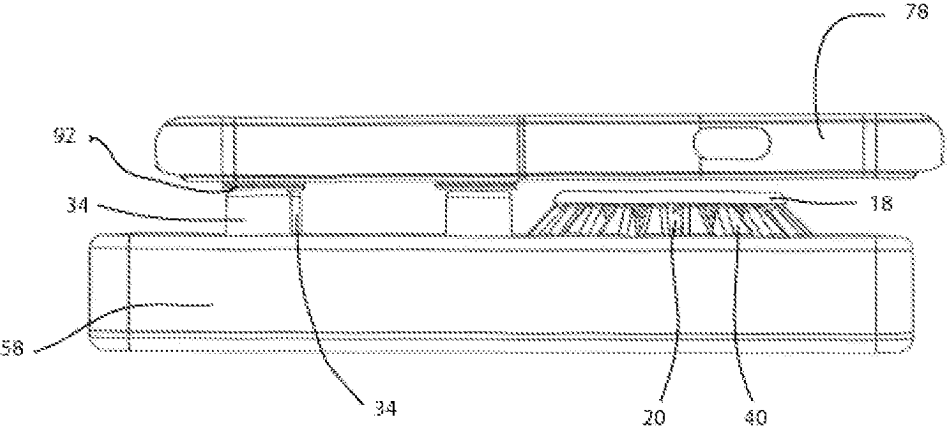


FIG. 4

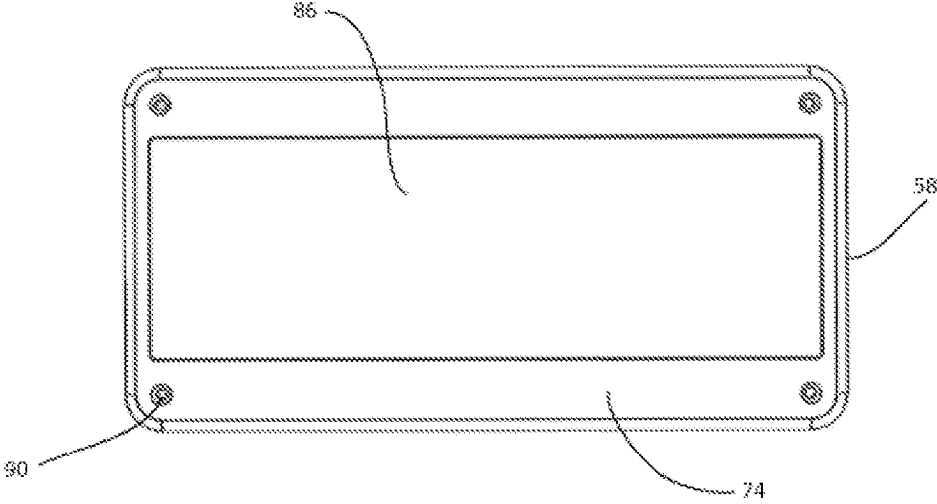


FIG. 5

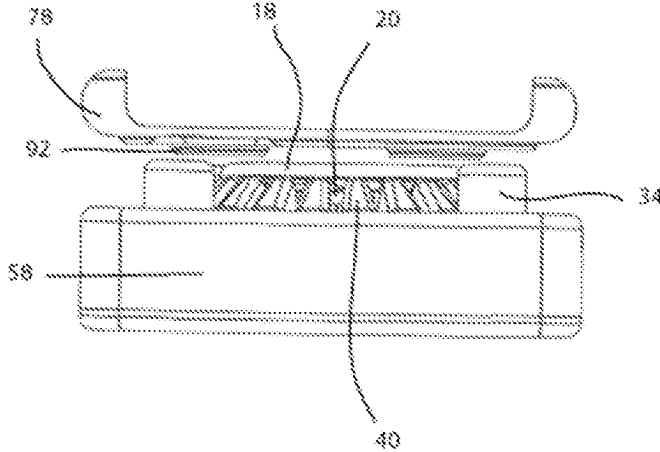


FIG. 6

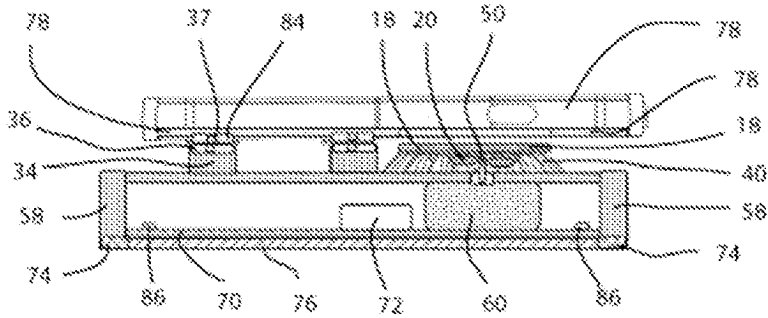


FIG. 7

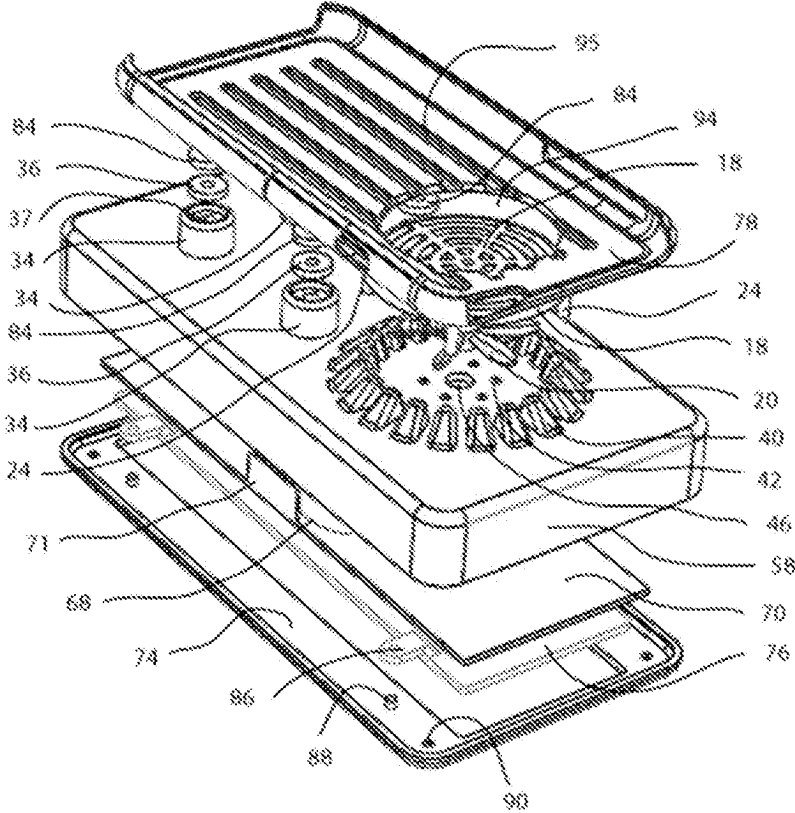


FIG. 8

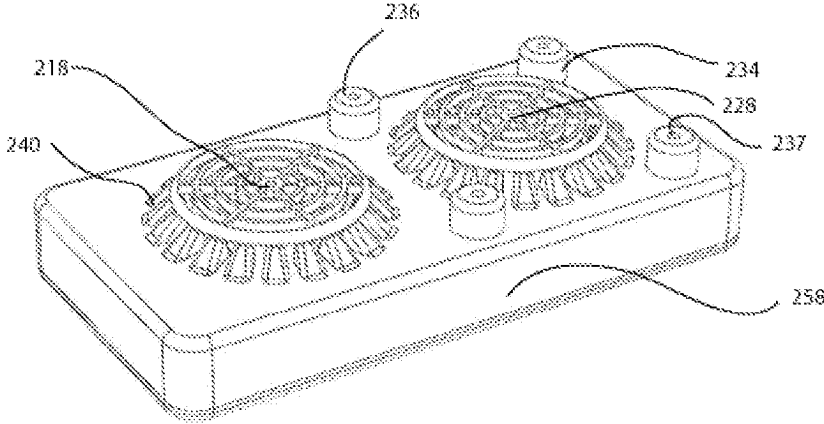


FIG. 9

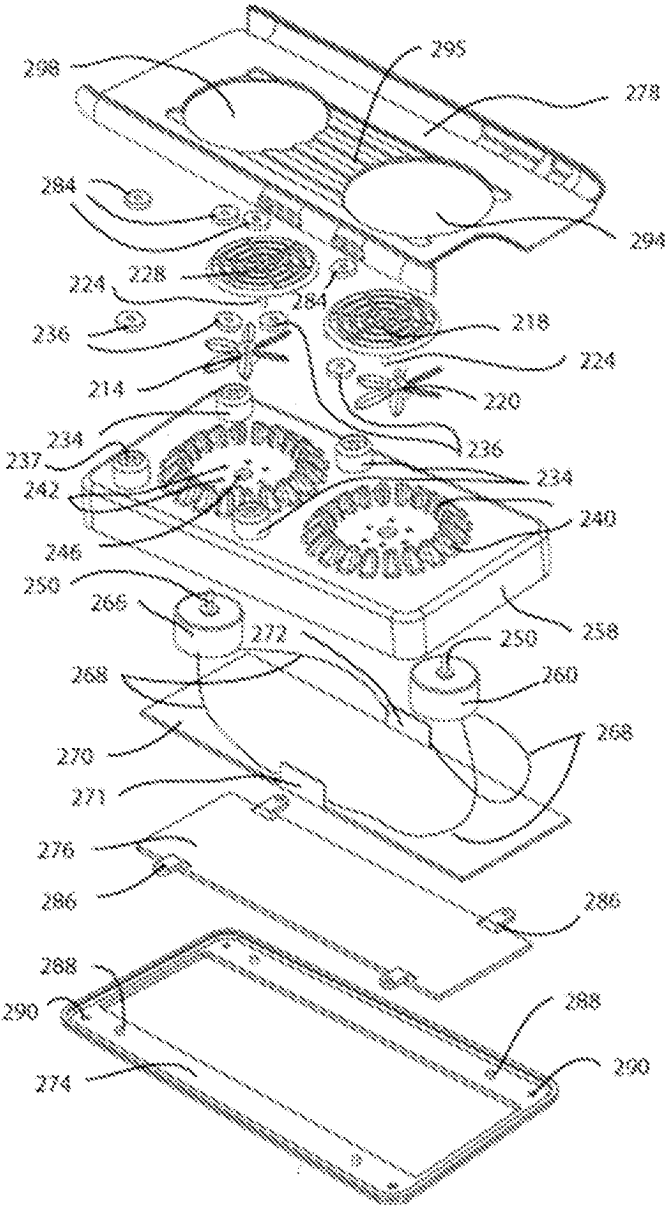


FIG. 10

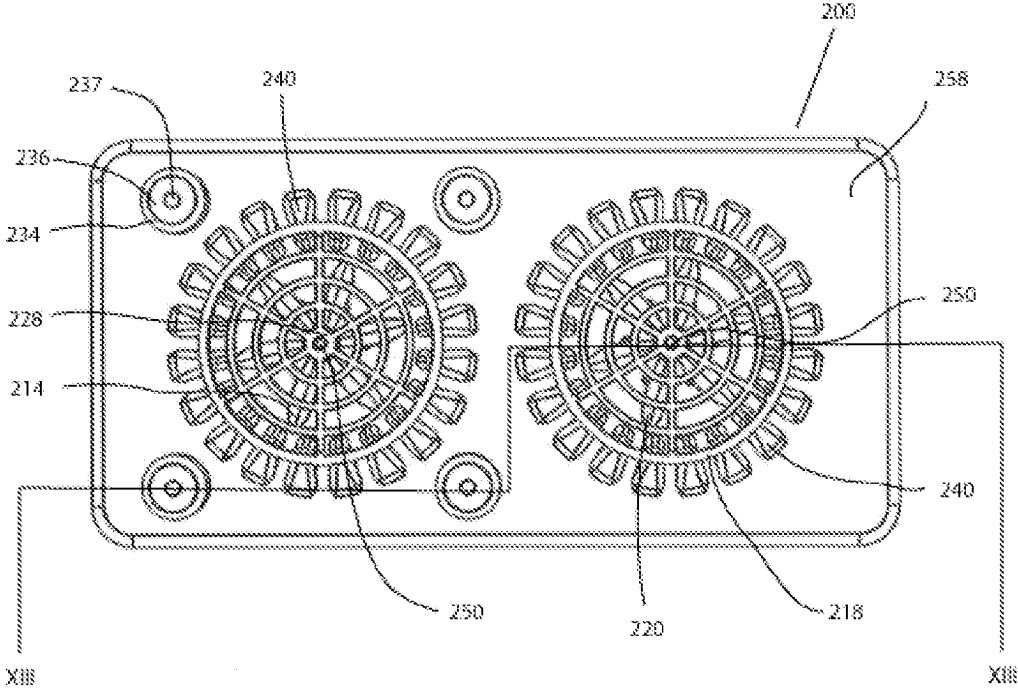


FIG. 11

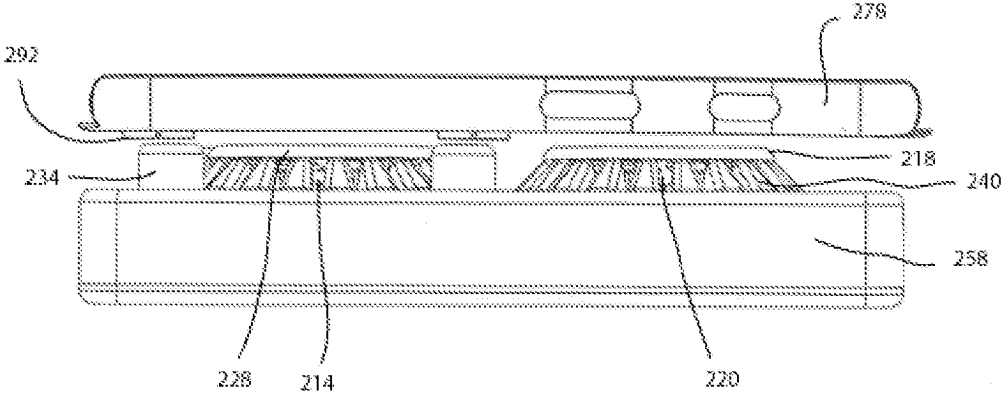


FIG. 12

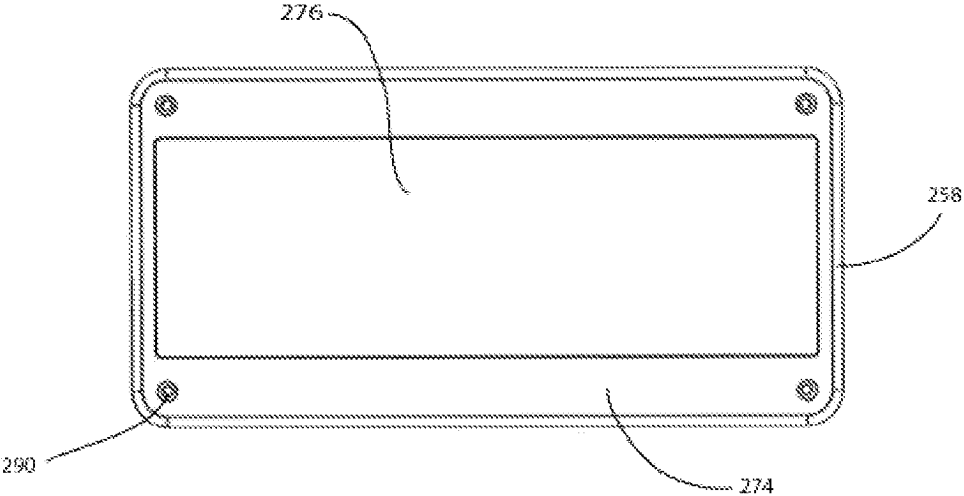


FIG. 13

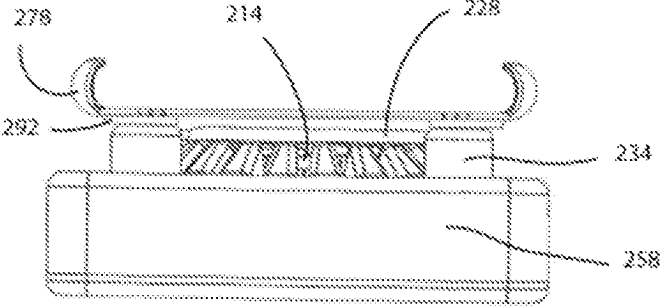


FIG. 14

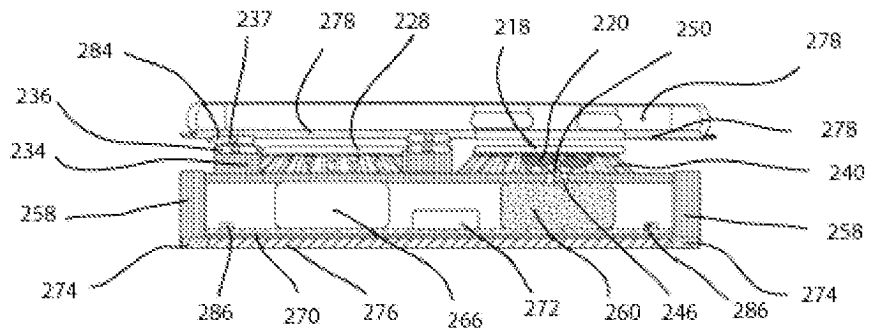


FIG. 15

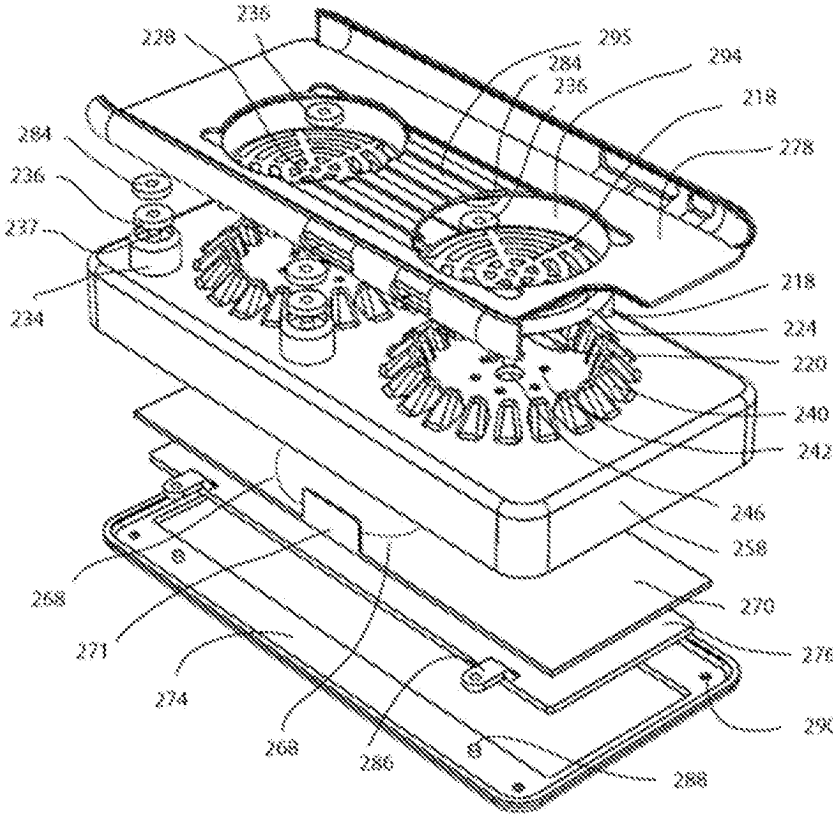


FIG. 16

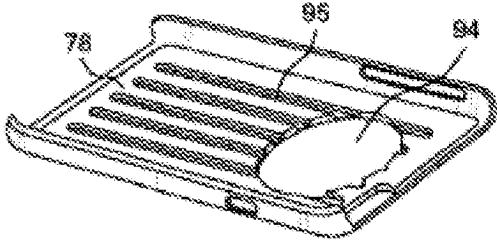


FIG. 17

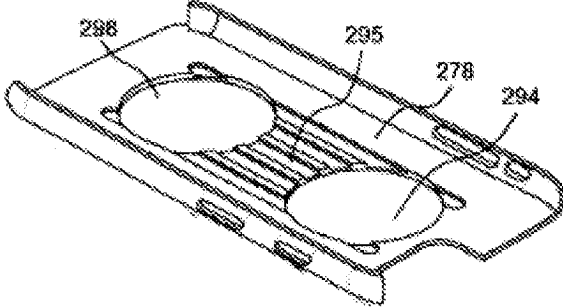


FIG. 18

DEVICE HOLDER AND SOLAR POWERED CHARGER UNIT FOR SMART DEVICE COOLER

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED CASES

[0001] This case is a divisional of parent case U.S. patent application Ser. No. 17/137,117, filed Dec. 29, 2020, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/911,154, filed Mar. 4, 2018, which claims benefit of U.S. provisional application Ser. No. 62/600,948, filed on Mar. 6, 2017, the disclosures of which are incorporated by reference in their entireties. This case also claims benefit of priority to U.S. provisional application Ser. No. 63/205,117, and benefit of priority to U.S. provisional application Ser. No. 63/205,292, the disclosures of which are also incorporated in their entireties.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

[0002] The present invention relates generally to fans and, more specifically, to a solar powered cooling unit which provides a housing that can be comfortably hand held with a smart device.

Description of Related Art

[0003] There is a need for solar cooling units. For example, a number of solar powered fan devices have been designed for personal cooling or ventilation. Typical of these is U.S. Pat. No. 4,899,645 issued to Wolfe, et al. on Feb. 13, 1990.

[0004] Another patent was issued to Hwang on Nov. 27, 1990 as U.S. Pat. No. 4,974,126. Yet another U.S. Pat. No. 4,986,169 was issued to Chen on Jan. 22, 1991, and still yet another was issued on Sep. 3, 1991 to Wu, et al. as U.S. Pat. No. 5,044,258.

[0005] Another patent was issued to Juang on Sep. 22, 1992 as U.S. Pat. No. 5,148,736. Yet another U.S. Pat. No. 5,250,265 was issued to Kawaguchi, et al. on Oct. 5, 1993. Another was issued to Ferng on Dec. 31, 1996 as U.S. Pat. No. 5,588,909, and still yet another was issued on Mar. 7, 2000 to Asenguah, et al. as U.S. Pat. No. 6,032,291.

[0006] Another patent was issued to Sibbe on May 30, 1984 as German Patent No. DE3337241. Yet another U.K. Patent No. GB2241378 was issued to Forsyth on Aug. 28, 1991. Another was issued to Takahashi on Oct. 3, 1995 as Japan Patent No. JP7253096, and still yet another was issued on Jul. 18, 2003 to Sha as Japan Patent No. JP2003201990. Another patent was issued to Patel on Jan. 11, 2011 as U.S. Pat. No. 7,866,958.

[0007] There is also a need for holders for smart devices. Typical of these is U.S. Pat. No. 8,861,714 issued to Leibenhaut et al on Oct. 14, 2014. Another patent was issued to Crome et al. on Apr. 23, 2013 as U.S. Pat. No. 8,428,665. Another patent was issued to Leibenhaut, et al on Oct. 20, 2015 as U.S. Pat. No. 9,167,062. Yet another patent application was submitted by Chu on Sep. 15, 2014 as U.S. Pat. App. Publ. No. 2016/0076547.

[0008] Another patent was issued to An et al on Dec. 13, 2016 as U.S. Pat. No. 9,521,224, and still yet another was issued on Apr. 29, 2014 to Trinh et al as U.S. Pat. No. 8,711,553.

[0009] Yet another patent application was submitted by Ross III on Sep. 17, 2009 as U.S. Pat. App. Publ. No. 2009/0233656. Yet another patent application submitted by Backman et al on Oct. 18, 2015 as U.S. Pat. App. Publ. No. 2015/0283950.

[0010] There is a further need solar power car ventilators. Typical of these is U.S. Pat. No. 5,148,736 issued to Juang on Sep. 22, 1992 and still yet another was issued on Oct. 8, 2011 to Tarnowsky et al as U.S. Pat. No. 8,039,988.

[0011] There is also a need for heat dissipation for mobile devices. A patent was issued C. Lin et al. on Jul. 5, 2016 as U.S. Pat. No. 9,381,717. Yet another patent application submitted by T. Huang on May 2, 2006 as U.S. Pat. Appl. Publ. No. 2007/0258206.

[0012] Additional information relating to thermal issues associated with smart devices can be found in S. Kang et al. "Fire in your hands: Understanding thermal behavior of smartphones", MobiCom '19, Oct. 21-25, 2019, Los Cabos, Mexico.

[0013] In order to prevent alien article and moisture from entering the interior of a mobile device, the mobile device is generally simply formed with earphone port or connector port without any other opening in communication with ambient air. Therefore, convection can hardly take place between the internal air of the mobile device and the ambient air.

[0014] However, none of the above-identified publications specifically addresses drawbacks associated with the heat generated by battery powered smart devices. Similarly, none of the above-identified publication addresses drawbacks associated with the operation of smart devices in excessively hot environments.

[0015] Thus, opportunities exist to provide an easily car-riable fan for smart devices such as smart phone and smart tablets with one or more solar panels, which can be used outdoors with no power supply. Additional opportunities exist to provide improvements to existing technologies using passive cooling (natural convection) characteristics of the smart device holder for holding a smart device by allowing the dissipation of thermal heat to cool the bottom surface of a smart device.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0016] A first object of the present invention is to provide one or more solar powered fans for smart devices.

[0017] Another object of the present invention is to provide compact rectangular housing that can be comfortably hand held powered by means of one or more solar panels. The intensity of solar energy may work to control power to one or more fan motors.

[0018] A further object of the present invention is to provide a small, portable solar panel to power the one or more fans.

[0019] In a first embodiment, then, a solar powered cooler is provided for a smart device such as a smartphone or smart tablet. The cooler includes an upper fan casing, an optional bottom fan casing, smart device holder, and an air passage formed between the upper fan casing and the smart device holder. Also provided are one or more cooling fans drawing air into the air passage along a substantially vertical direction. One or more solar panels allows the cooler to harvest solar energy and deliver electric power to the one or more fans, or motors thereof. The solar panels are connected by one or more, e.g., a pair of, connector cables to the motor.

[0020] Optionally, a solar panel protector cover may be provided over the solar panel. The cover may include a clear plastic window and may be secured to the solar panel with snap fastener and insert elements.

[0021] Typically, the one or more cooling fans are located between the upper and lower fan casings, and each fan rotate about a substantially vertical axis to draw air into the air passage along the substantially vertical direction. In addition (or in the alternative), one or more cooling fans may rotate about a horizontal axis.

[0022] Thus, one or more vent holes may be formed in the upper and/or lower fan casing. Air drawn in by the one or more cooling fans may be forced through the air passage and discharged through the one or more vent holes in order to cool the bottom surface of a smart device in the smart device holder.

[0023] The smart device holder is typically constructed to contain a smart device such as a smartphone or smart tablet. The holder may have a construction that allows horizontal airflow over a bottom surface of the smart device. Optionally, the holder allows the smart device to be securely attached to the upper fan casing, e.g., by magnetic means.

[0024] In another embodiment, a solar powered cooler similar to the embodiment described above is provided, wherein the upper fan casing including one or more vent holes. The bottom fan casing may include one or more air inlet holes. The upper and lower fan casings define an air passage to allow air to flow from the air inlet holes to the one or more vent holes. The one or more air inlet holes may be located at an edge or near an edge of the bottom fan casing. Air drawn in by the one or more cooling fans may be forced out through the air passage in a horizontal direction and discharged through the one or more vent holes in order to cool the smart device.

[0025] In a further embodiment, a solar powered cooler similar to the embodiment described above is provided, wherein the one or more air inlet holes are located at an edge or near an edge of the bottom fan casing. One or more cooling fans are located on the bottom fan casing covering the one or more air inlet holes, wherein the one or more cooling fans are located between the upper fan casing and the bottom fan casing.

[0026] The upper surface of a smart device holder for holding a smart device may address the passive cooling (natural convection) characteristics of smart devices to cool the bottom surface of a smart device. The thermal heat generated by a smart device escapes from the smart device holder by passive cooling (natural convection) when the smart device holder is used as a standalone component of this invention in the absence of solar power.

[0027] In a further embodiment, the upper surface of a smart device holder for holding a smart device addresses the active cooling (forced convection) characteristics of smart devices to cool the bottom surface of a smart device by providing active cooling (forced convection) by forcing the thermal heat generated to escape from the smart device holder. Air drawn in by the one or more cooling fans may be forced through the air passage and discharged through the one or more vent holes in order to cool the bottom surface of a smart device in the smart device holder.

[0028] Additional embodiments of the invention are possible. For example, a solar powered cooler for a smart device may be provided. The cooler may comprising: an upper fan casing; a bottom fan casing; a smart device holder for

holding a smart device; one or more cooling fans effective to draw air into an air passage formed between the upper fan casing and the smart device holder, thereby forcing air to flow along a substantially vertical direction toward a bottom surface of the smart device in a substantially horizontal orientation; and one or more solar panels for harvesting solar energy and delivering electric power to the one or more cooling fans, the one or more solar panels connected to the one or more fans via one or more connector cables.

[0029] Further provided is a solar powered cooler for a smart device that comprises: an upper fan casing including one or more vent holes; a bottom fan casing including one or more air inlet holes located at or near an edge of the bottom fan casing, the upper and bottom fan casing defining an air passage to allow air flow from the one or more air inlet holes to the one or more vent holes; a smart device holder for holding a smart device to dissipate thermal heat generated by smart device to be released by active cooling (forced convection) forced through the air passages and discharged through the one or more vent holes in order to cool the bottom surface of a smart device in the smart device holder; one or more cooling fans effective to draw air into the air passage so as to force air to flow along a substantially vertical direction through the one or more vent holes toward a bottom surface of the smart device; and one or more solar panels for harvesting solar energy and delivering electric power to the one or more cooling fans, the one or more solar panels connected to the one or more fans via one or more connector cables.

[0030] Additionally provided is a cooler comprising: a smart device holder to dissipate thermal heat generated by smart device to be released by passive cooling (natural convection) and radiation forced through the air passages and discharged through the one or more vent holes in order to cool the bottom surface of a smart device in the smart device holder when the smart device holder is used as a standalone component; and the upper surface of smart device holder addresses the passive cooling (natural convection) characteristics of smart devices to cool the bottom surface of a smart device by allowing the thermal heat generated to escape from the smart device holder by passive cooling (natural convection) when the smart device holder is used as a standalone component.

[0031] Alternatively, a solar powered cooler may include: an upper fan and charger unit casing; a bottom fan and charger unit casing; a smart device holder for holding a smart device; one or more charger units for charging the power supply for a smart device; one or more cooling fans effective to draw air into an air passage formed between the upper fan casing and the smart device holder, thereby forcing air to flow along a substantially vertical direction toward a bottom surface of the smart device in a substantially horizontal orientation; and one or more solar panels for harvesting light energy and delivering electric power to the one or more cooling fans and one or more charger units for charging the power supply for a smart device, the one or more solar panels connected to the one or more fans and one or more charger units via one or more connector cables.

[0032] Further alternatively, the cooler may include: an upper fan and charger unit casing including one or more vent holes and one or more receiving holes for charger units; a bottom fan and charger unit casing including one or more air inlet holes located at or near an edge of the bottom fan and charger unit casing, the upper and bottom fan and charger

unit casing defining an air passage to allow air flow from the one or more air inlet holes to the one or more vent holes and one or more receiving holes for charger units; a smart device holder for holding a smart device; one or more cooling fans effective to draw air into the air passage so as to force air to flow along a substantially vertical direction through the one or more vent holes toward a bottom surface of the smart device; and one or more solar panels for harvesting light energy and delivering electric power to the one or more cooling fans and one or more charger units, the one or more solar panels connected to the one or more fans and one or more charger units via one or more connector cables.

[0033] Still further alternatively, the cooler for a smart device may comprise: an upper fan casing including one or more vent holes; a bottom fan and charger unit casing including one or more air inlet holes located at or near an edge of the bottom fan casing, the upper and bottom fan casing defining an air passage to allow air flow from the one or more air inlet holes to the one or more vent holes; a smart device holder for holding a smart device; one or more cooling fans and one or more charger units located between the upper and lower fan and charger unit casings, the one or more cooling fans covering the one or more air inlet holes effective to draw air into the air passage so as to force air to flow along a substantially vertical direction toward a bottom surface of the smart device and the one or more charger units capable of charging power supply for the smart device; and one or more solar panels for harvesting electromagnetic energy in the form of light and delivering electric power to the one or more cooling fans and one or more charger units, the one or more solar panels connected to the one or more fans and one or more charger units via one or more connector cables.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0034] FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a single fan solar powered cooler for a smart device such as a smartphone or smart tablet, in accordance with the parent case.

[0035] FIG. 2 is an exploded perspective view of the single fan solar powered cooler of FIG. 1 with the corresponding smart device holder, in accordance with the parent case.

[0036] FIG. 3 is a top view of a single fan solar powered cooler, in accordance with the parent case.

[0037] FIG. 4 is a side view of the single fan solar powered cooler of FIG. 1 with the corresponding smart device holder, in accordance with the parent case.

[0038] FIG. 5 is a bottom view of the single fan solar powered cooler, in accordance with the parent case.

[0039] FIG. 6 is the rear view of the single fan solar powered cooler of FIG. 1 with the corresponding smart device holder, in accordance with the parent case.

[0040] FIG. 7 is a side sectional view of the single fan solar powered cooler of FIG. 3 with the corresponding smart device holder along cut lines VII-VII, in accordance with the parent case.

[0041] FIG. 8 is a condensed exploded perspective view of the single fan solar powered cooler of FIG. 2, in accordance with the parent case.

[0042] FIG. 9 is a perspective view of a dual fan solar powered cooler for a smart device such as a smartphone or smart tablet, in accordance with the parent case.

[0043] FIG. 10 is an exploded perspective view of the dual fan solar powered cooler of FIG. 9 with the corresponding smart device holder, in accordance with the parent case.

[0044] FIG. 11 is a top view of a dual fan solar powered cooler, in accordance with the parent case.

[0045] FIG. 12 is a side view of the dual fan solar powered cooler of FIG. 9 with the corresponding smart device holder, in accordance with the parent case.

[0046] FIG. 13 is a bottom view of the dual fan solar powered cooler of FIG. 9 with the corresponding smart device holder, in accordance with the parent case.

[0047] FIG. 14 is the rear view of the dual fan solar powered cooler of dual fan solar powered cooler of FIG. 9, in accordance with the parent case.

[0048] FIG. 15 is a side sectional view of the dual fan solar powered cooler of FIG. 11 with the corresponding smart device holder along cut lines XIII-XIII, in accordance with the parent case.

[0049] FIG. 16 is a condensed exploded perspective view of the dual fan solar powered cooler of FIG. 10, in accordance with the parent case.

[0050] FIG. 17 is a perspective view of the smart device holder for the single fan solar powered cooler of FIG. 2.

[0051] FIG. 18 is a perspective view of the smart device holder for the dual fan solar powered cooler of FIG. 10.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0052] Before describing the present invention in detail, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited to specific separation devices or types of analytical instrumentation, as such may vary. It is also to be understood that the terminology used herein is for the purpose of describing particular embodiments only, and is not intended to be limiting.

[0053] In addition, as used in this specification and the appended claims, the singular article forms “a,” “an,” and “the” include both singular and plural referents unless the context clearly dictates otherwise. Thus, for example, reference to “a fan” includes a plurality of fans as well as a single fan, reference to a “solar panel” includes a single solar panel as well as a combination of solar panels, and the like.

[0054] Furthermore, terminology indicative or suggestive of a particular spatial relationship between elements of the invention is to be construed in a relative sense rather than an absolute sense unless the context of usage clearly dictates to the contrary. For example, the terms “over” and “on” as used to describe the spatial orientation of a first item relative to a second item does not necessarily indicate that the first item is located above the second item. Thus, in a cooler that includes a holder placed on or over a smart device, the holder may be located above, at the same level as, or below the smart device depending on the cooler’s orientation. Similarly, an “upper” surface of a smart device may lie above, at the same level as, or below other portions of the device depending on the orientation of the device.

[0055] In general, then, the invention pertains to units associated with smart devices. The inventive units typically have a small, compact, rectangular design that includes a fan and may be easily stored and transported on one’s person, in a brief case or beach bag. The heat dissipation structure of the smart device holder for holding a smart device is disposed in the close proximity space of the smart device to provide a good heat dissipation effect by way of active

cooling (forced convection) and passive cooling (natural convection) so as to enhance the heat dissipation performance of the smart device. The smart device holder for holding a smart device to dissipate thermal heat generated by smart device to be released by active cooling (forced convection) and passive cooling (natural convection) forced through the air passages and discharged through the one or more vent holes in order to cool the bottom surface of a smart device in the smart device holder. The passive cooling (natural convection) characteristics of the smart device holder for holding a smart device allows dissipation of thermal heat to cool the bottom surface of a smart device by allowing the thermal heat generated to escape from the smart device holder when the smart device holder is used as a standalone component of this invention in the absence of solar power.

[0056] The thermal heat generated by a smart device escapes from the smart device holder by passive cooling (natural convection) when the smart device holder is used as a standalone component of this invention in the absence of solar power.

[0057] Smart device users have recognized thermal problems, as many reviews and articles, empirically highlight the smart device overheating issues. Heat, if not handled properly, can not only degrade the processors' performance and damage the battery, but also degrade user experiences, aggravate a thermal regulatory disorder, and pose health threats (e.g., thermal pain, skin burns, skin aging). Overheating problem is well known in the field of electronic devices and various cooling technologies have been proposed (e.g., using proper thermal conductivity materials, dynamic voltage and frequency scaling (DVFS), etc.).

[0058] Measurements of the surface temperature of a wide range of smart devices such as Android reference phones (Nexus 5, Nexus 5X, Nexus 6, Pixel, and Pixel 6. iOS phones (iPhone 7, iPhone 7+, and iPhone 8), and Android phones (Galaxy S7 and Huawei P20) by considering representative workloads such as video chatting, video recording, voice calling, gaming, and charging (with and without running applications) have been conducted. These were applications that are often used in our daily lives. It was concluded that the small form factor and light weight requirements of smart devices prevent the adoption of active cooling, such as force air, and smart devices thus mostly rely on passive cooling (natural convection).

[0059] Smart devices are comprised of multiple layers of electric components (integrated circuits and wires) with different thermal conductivities that generate heat due to power dissipation and Joule heating. Because of the layers' wide surface area and thinness, heat transfer mostly occurs in vertical directions across multiple layers, while relatively minor transfer occurs in horizontal directions. This means that more heat transfer occurs via conduction than convection, and the air gap between layers acts as an insulator. Overall, the heat generated from a number of heat sources is transferred through the adjacent materials and is finally released to the atmosphere. Typically, the rate of temperature change steadily decreases and reaches the steady-state (called the steady-state temperature).

[0060] However, the small form factor and light weight requirements of smart devices prevent adopting active cooling (forced convection) and smart devices thus mostly rely on passive cooling (natural convection). Besides these cooling techniques, thermal management also happens at an

electronic component level. Modern application processors (APs) support DVFS and central processing unit (CPU) hot-plug to manage power consumption and protect devices from overheating. A thermal protection mechanism suppresses temperature increase by reducing power consumption via lowering operating voltage/frequency of a CPU, or turning off CPU cores.

[0061] The thermal management in some smart devices is carried out by the kernel's thermal engine. This engine monitors CPU temperatures from on-die sensors and controls the temperature by mainly using two algorithms: dynamic control and threshold control. The dynamic control algorithm checks whether the core temperatures exceed the threshold values and determines whether to throttle clock frequency or turn off cores. The threshold values are manufacturer-dependent and set by the threshold control algorithm. Some smart device manufacturers also implement an additional thermal protection mechanism by which a device is shut down when the battery temperature exceeds the threshold (e.g., 68° C.). In practice, device manufactures may configure different thresholds owing to the heterogeneity of temperature sensors and device characteristics.

[0062] Thermal concerns are broadly classified as follows: performance degradation, negative user experiences, and health risks. System performance degrades as the temperature increases as mobile thermal management algorithms throttle operating CPU clock frequencies and switch off cores when devices overheat. In addition, overheating could hamper user experience and might even result in skin damage. Discomfort due to overheating is a concern that smart device users often complain.

[0063] Thus, in this specification and in the claims that follow, reference will be made to a number of terms that shall be defined to have the following meanings, unless the context in which they are employed clearly indicates otherwise:

[0064] The terms "electronic," "electronically," and the like are used in their ordinary sense and relate to structures, e.g., semiconductor microstructures, that provide controlled conduction of electrons, holes and/or other charge carriers.

[0065] "Optional" or "optionally" means that the subsequently described circumstance may or may not occur, so that the description includes instances where the circumstance occurs and instances where it does not.

[0066] The term "smart device" is used herein in its ordinary sense and refers to an electronic device, generally connected to other devices or networks via different wireless protocols such as Bluetooth, NFC, Wi-Fi, 3G, etc., that can operate to some extent interactively and autonomously. Exemplary smart devices include smart phones, tablets, handhelds, etc.

[0067] The term "solar panel" is used herein in its ordinary sense and refers to a photovoltaic panel designed to absorb sunlight and/or other photonic radiation as a source of energy for generating electricity.

[0068] The terms "active cooling" (forced convection) and "passive cooling" (natural convection) are used herein in their ordinary sense and refer to a smart device holder that enhances the heat dissipation performance of the smart device.

[0069] In general, the invention provides an easily carryable or portable cooler that includes a fan powered by with one or more solar panels. The fan directs air toward a holder for a smart device such as a smart phone or a smart tablet,

thereby cooling the smart device. The cooler can be used outdoors with no power supply, and overcomes the shortcomings of the prior art. That is, a solar powered smart device fan is provided with a much broader spectrum of both portable and fixed operating applications, whereas prior art is application specific.

[0070] In some embodiments, the upper surface of a smart device holder for holding a smart device addresses the passive cooling (natural convection) characteristics of smart devices to cool the bottom surface of a smart device. The thermal heat generated by a smart device escapes from the smart device holder by passive cooling (natural convection) when the smart device holder is used as a standalone component of this invention in the absence of solar power.

[0071] Turning now descriptively to the drawings, i.e., FIGS. 1 to 18, in which like reference numbers denote like elements throughout the several views, various embodiments of the invention are depicted. With regard to the reference numerals used, the following numbering is used throughout the various drawing figures for single fan embodiments of the invention.

- [0072] 18 protective grille for 20 fan blade
- [0073] 20 fan blade
- [0074] 24 protective grille insertion pegs
- [0075] 34 magnet holders for the upper fan casing
- [0076] 37 magnet holder placement peg
- [0077] 40 smart device air flow passage
- [0078] 42 circular vent holes for 60 front fan motor
- [0079] 46 receiving hole for 50 front fan motor spindle
- [0080] 50 fan motor spindle
- [0081] 58 upper fan casing for 60 front fan motor
- [0082] 60 front fan motor
- [0083] 68 electric connector wiring
- [0084] 70 solar panel
- [0085] 71 positive terminal point
- [0086] 72 negative terminal point
- [0087] 74 bottom fan casing
- [0088] 76 transparent cover for 70 solar panel
- [0089] 78 smart device holder
- [0090] 84 magnets for 78 smart device holder
- [0091] 86 upper snap fastener
- [0092] 88 lower snap fastener insert
- [0093] 90 bottom fan casing air inlet in 74 bottom fan casing
- [0094] 94 air passage opening in 78 smart device holder for air flow

[0095] 95 air flow grooves in 78 smart device holder

[0096] A single fan solar powered cooler for a smart device such as a smartphone or smart tablet is shown in FIGS. 1 through 8. FIG. 1 provides a perspective view of certain assembled components of the single fan solar powered cooler for a smart device. FIG. 2 and FIG. 8 are exploded perspective views of a single fan solar powered cooler for a smart device. The device is magnetically connected to smart device holder 78. The holder 78 incorporates air passage opening 94 corresponding in position and size to the location of the protective grille 18 for fan blade 20 coupled to a fan motor spindle 50 for the front fan motor 60. The protective grille 18 is attached to the upper fan casing 58 using protective grille insertion pegs 24. Air flow is distributed over the bottom surface of a smart device by air flow grooves 95 which are long narrow shapes coupled with the circular air passage opening 94 incorporated in the upper surface of smart device holder 78. Thus, FIG. 1, FIG. 2, and

FIG. 8 show the single fan solar powered cooler which includes an upper fan casing 58 for front fan motor 60, housing a protective grille 18 for fan blade 20, magnet holders for upper fan casing 34, magnets for the for connecting the smart device holder 36 held in place by magnet holder placement pegs 37, circular vent holes 42 for front fan motor 60, receiving hole 46 for fan motor spindle 50, electric connector wiring 68, solar panel 70, positive terminal point 71, negative terminal point 72. FIG. 5 shows the bottom fan casing 74 providing support for the transparent cover 76 for solar panel 70 and incorporates upper snap fastener 86, lower snap fastener insert 88, and bottom fan casing air inlets 90 in bottom fan casing 78.

[0097] Returning to FIG. 2, circular vent holes 42 for front fan motor 60 are formed in the upper fan casing 58. Smart device air flow passage 40 and circular vent holes 42 for front fan motor 60 corresponding in position and size to the location of the protective grille 18 for fan blade 20 coupled to the fan motor spindle 50 for the front fan motor 60.

[0098] FIG. 7 is a side sectional view along cut line VII-VII of FIG. 3. FIG. 7 illustrates the smart device wherein a single fan solar powered cooler is magnetically connected to smart device holder 78. The air flow within and parallel to smart device such as a smartphone or smart tablet wherein the single fan solar powered cooler is magnetically connected to smart device holder 78 is blown vertically by the fan blade 20 coupled to the fan motor spindle 50 for the front fan motor 60. The smart device such as a smartphone or smart tablet is cooled by the air flow produced by the fan blade 20 coupled to the fan motor spindle 50 for the front fan motor 60.

[0099] The single fan solar powered cooler for a smart device addresses specific portions of the bottom surface of the smart device which are to be cooled. That is, the air blown up by the fan blade 20 coupled to the fan motor spindle 50 for the front fan motor 60, which are axial fans, into the smart device holder 78 is directly discharged horizontally through air flow grooves 95 which are long narrow shapes coupled with the circular air passage opening 94. Accordingly, the entire area of the bottom surface of the smart device such as a smartphone or smart tablet is cooled.

[0100] Referring to FIG. 2, FIG. 3, FIG. 4, FIG. 6, FIG. 7 and FIG. 8, air exiting smart device air flow passage 40 and circular vent holes 42 is moved along the bottom surface of the smart device contained within the smart device holder 78, thereby cooling the bottom surface of the smart device. Heat dissipation is carried out at portions of the bottom surface of the smart device with which the air collides. As a result, desired cooling is achieved.

[0101] That is, as shown in FIG. 2, the smart device may be magnetically connected to smart device holder 78 which incorporates air passage opening 94 corresponding in position and size to the location of the protective grille 18 for fan blade 20 coupled to the fan motor spindle 50 for the front fan motor 60 facilitates the continuous vertical alignment of air passage opening 94 with the corresponding protective grille 18 for fan blade 20 coupled to the fan motor spindle 50 for the front fan motor 60. The air passage opening 94 acts as a conduit for guiding air drawn by the fan blade 20 coupled to the fan motor spindle 50 for the front fan motor. The front fan motor 60 are not limited to their positions and number as long as they can blow air into the air passage opening 94. Additionally, a reduction in the height of the front fan motor

60 and the fan motor spindle **50** can reduce the total height of the single fan solar powered cooler for a smart device.

[0102] The single fan solar powered cooler for a smart device constructed as described above can cool the entire bottom surface area of the smart device such as a smartphone or smart tablet by magnetically connecting to smart device holder **78** to the upper fan casing **58**. All of the individual components may be glued to their corresponding connecting parts to remain in place, respectively. Additionally, cooling can be achieved as shown in other embodiments such as the dual fan solar powered cooler for a smart device such as a smartphone or smart tablet.

[0103] In sum, in one embodiment of the present invention, air suction openings for single fan solar powered cooler for smart device include air flow passage **40**, circular vent holes **42** is formed on the top surface of a housing upper fan casing **58** for front fan motor **60**, and bottom fan casing air inlet **90** in bottom fan casing **74**. An exhaust opening is formed on the top surface of a housing upper fan casing **58** through protective grille **18** for front fan blade **20** coupled to front fan motor **60** circulating air flow through a smart device holder **78** with an air passage opening **94** and air flow grooves **95** in smart device holder **78** for cooling the bottom surface of the smart device. The solar panel **70** for front fan motor **60** is connected to positive terminal point **71** and negative terminal point **72** using electric connector wiring **68** so that the fan motor may be driven by means of its power generation output. Thus, this portable type solar powered fan can be used simply without any place restrictions.

[0104] Referring to FIG. 17, the passive cooling (natural convection) characteristics of the smart device holder **78**, for holding a smart device allows dissipation of thermal heat to cool the bottom surface of a smart device by allowing the thermal heat generated to escape from the smart device holder when the smart device holder is used as a standalone component of this invention in the absence of solar power. Heat dissipation is carried out at portions of the bottom surface of the smart device with which the air collides. As a result, desired cooling is achieved.

[0105] The following numbering is used throughout the various drawing figures for dual fan embodiments of the invention.

[0106] **218** front protective grille for **220** front fan blade
 [0107] **228** rear protective grille for **214** rear fan blade
 [0108] **220** front fan blade
 [0109] **214** rear fan blade
 [0110] **224** protective grille insertion pegs
 [0111] **234** magnet holders for upper fan casing
 [0112] **236** magnets for the upper fan casing
 [0113] **237** magnet holder placement peg
 [0114] **240** smart device air flow passage
 [0115] **242** circular vent holes for **260** front fan motor and **266** rear fan motor
 [0116] **246** receiving hole for **250** fan motor spindle
 [0117] **250** fan motor spindle
 [0118] **258** upper fan casing for **260** front fan motor and **266** rear fan motor
 [0119] **260** front fan motor
 [0120] **266** rear fan motor
 [0121] **268** electric connector wiring
 [0122] **270** solar panel
 [0123] **271** positive terminal point
 [0124] **272** negative terminal point
 [0125] **274** bottom fan casing

[0126] **276** transparent cover for **270** solar panel
 [0127] **278** smart device holder
 [0128] **284** magnets for **278** smart device holder
 [0129] **286** upper snap fastener
 [0130] **288** lower snap fastener insert
 [0131] **290** bottom fan casing air inlet in **274** bottom fan casing

[0132] **294** air passage opening in **278** smart device holder for air flow

[0133] **295** air flow grooves in **278** smart device holder

[0134] **298** air passage opening in **278** smart device holder for air flow

[0135] In another embodiment, the invention provides a dual fan solar powered cooler for a smart device, e.g., as shown in FIGS. 9 through 16. FIG. 9 provides a perspective view of certain assembled components of the dual fan solar powered cooler for a smart device. FIG. 10 and FIG. 16 are exploded perspective views of a dual fan solar powered cooler for a smart device. The device is magnetically connected to smart device holder **278**. The holder **278** incorporates air passage opening **294** corresponding in position and size to the location of the front protective grille **218** for front fan blade **220**. The holder **278** incorporates air passage opening **298** corresponding in position and size to the location of and rear protective grille **228** for rear fan blade **214**. Blade **220** are coupled to the fan motor spindle **250** for the front fan motor **260**. The front protective grille **218** and rear protective grille **228** are attached to the upper fan casing **258** using protective grille insertion pegs **224**. Air flow is distributed over the bottom surface of smart device by air flow grooves **295** which are long narrow shapes coupled with the circular air passage opening **294** incorporated in the upper surface of smart device holder **278**.

[0136] FIG. 10 and FIG. 16 show a dual fan solar powered cooler which includes an upper fan casing **258** for a pair of motors, i.e., front fan motor **260** and rear fan motor **266**. Also shown housed by the casing **258** is a front protective grille **218** for front fan blade **220** and a rear protective grille **228** for rear fan blade **214**, respectively. Additionally, provided are magnet holders for upper fan casing **234** and magnets for connecting the smart device holder **236**, which are held in place by magnet holder placement pegs **237**. Further provided are circular vent holes **242** for front fan motor **260** and rear fan motor **266**, receiving hole **246** for fan motor spindle **250**, electric connector wiring **268**, solar panel **270**, positive terminal point **271**, and negative terminal point **272**.

[0137] FIG. 13 shows the bottom fan casing **274** that provides support for the transparent cover **276** for solar panel **270**. As shown in FIG. 10, the bottom fan casing **274** also incorporates upper snap fastener **286**, lower snap fastener insert **288**, and bottom fan casing air inlets **290**. Circular vent holes **242** are formed in the upper fan casing **258** for front fan motor **260** and rear fan motor **266**. Smart device air flow passage **240** and circular vent holes **242** for front fan motor **260** and rear fan motor **266** correspond in position and size to the location of the front protective grille **218** for front fan blade **220** and rear protective grille **228** for rear fan blade **214**, which are coupled to the fan motor spindle **250** for front fan motor **260** and rear fan motor **266**, respectively.

[0138] FIG. 15 is a side sectional view along cut line XIII-XIII of FIG. 11 illustrates the smart device wherein the dual fan solar powered cooler is magnetically connected to

smart device holder 278. Air flow within and parallel to smart device wherein the dual fan solar powered cooler is magnetically connected to smart device holder 278 is forced perpendicular to the front fan blade 220 and rear fan blade 214 coupled to their fan motor spindle 250 for front fan motor 260 and rear fan motor 266, respectively. The smart device is thereby cooled by the air flow produced by the front fan blade 220 and rear fan blade 214 coupled to their fan motor spindle 250 for front fan motor 260 and rear fan motor 266, respectively.

[0139] As shown FIG. 10 and FIG. 16, the dual fan solar powered cooler for a smart device addresses specific portions of the bottom surface of the smart device which are to be cooled. That is, the air is blown upward by the front fan blade 220 and rear fan blade 214, which are coupled to their fan motor spindle 250 for the front fan motor 260 and rear fan motor 266, respectively. Air from these axial fans is introduced into the smart device holder 278 and directly discharged upward flowing air through air flow grooves 295 which are long narrow shapes coupled with the circular air passage opening 294. Accordingly, the entire area of the bottom surface of the smart device such as a smartphone or smart tablet is cooled.

[0140] Referring to FIG. 11, FIG. 12, FIG. 14, and FIG. 15, the air exiting smart device air flow passage 240 and circular vent holes 242 is moved along the bottom surface of the smart device such as a smartphone or smart tablet contained within the smart device holder 278, thereby cooling the bottom surface of the smart device such as a smartphone or smart tablet. Portions of the bottom surface of the smart device with which the air collides are cooled via heat dissipation. That is, magnetically connected to smart device holder 278 which incorporates air passage opening 294 corresponding in position and size to the location of the front protective grille 218 for front fan blade 220 and rear protective grille 228 for rear fan blade 214. Fan motor spindle 250 for the front fan motor 260 facilitates the continuous vertical alignment of air passage opening 294 with the corresponding front protective grille 218 and rear protective grille 228 coupled to their fan motor spindle 250, respectively. The air passage opening 294 acts as a conduit for guiding air drawn by the front fan blade 220 and rear fan blade 214 coupled to their fan motor spindle 250 for the front fan motor, respectively. The front fan motor 260 and rear fan motor 266, are not limited to their positions and number as long as they can blow air into the air passage opening 294. Additionally, a reduction in the height of the front fan motor 260 and rear fan motor 266, and their respective fan motor spindle 250 can reduce the total height of the dual fan solar powered cooler for a smart device.

[0141] The dual fan solar powered cooler for a smart device constructed as described above can cool the entire bottom surface area of the smart device such as a smartphone or smart tablet by magnetically connected to smart device holder 278 to the upper fan casing 258. All of the individual components are glued to their corresponding connecting parts to remain in place, respectively.

[0142] In sum, air suction openings for dual fan solar powered cooler for smart device are shown as smart device air flow passage 240. Circular vent holes 242 are formed on top surface of a housing upper fan casing 258 for front fan motor 260 and rear fan motor 266. Bottom fan casing air inlet 290 is located in bottom fan casing 274. An exhaust opening is formed on the top surface of a housing upper fan

casing 258 through front protective grille 218 for front fan blade 220 and through rear protective grille 228 for rear fan blade 214, each circulating air flow through a smart device holder 278 with dual air passage openings 294 and 298 with air flow grooves 295 in smart device holder 278 for cooling the bottom surface of the smart device. The solar panel 270 for front fan motor 260 and rear fan motor 266 is connected to positive terminal point 271 and negative terminal point 272 using electric connector wiring 268 so that the fan motors may be driven by means of its power generation output. Thus, this portable type solar powered fan can be used simply without any place restrictions.

[0143] Referring to FIG. 18, the passive cooling (natural convection) characteristics of the smart device holder 278, for holding a smart device allows dissipation of thermal heat to cool the bottom surface of a smart device by allowing the thermal heat generated to escape from the smart device holder when the smart device holder is used as a standalone component of this invention in the absence of solar power. Heat dissipation is carried out at portions of the bottom surface of the smart device with which the air collides. As a result, desired cooling is achieved.

[0144] As described above, the invention allows air to uniformly collide with a bottom surface of a smart device such as a smartphone or smart tablet. As a result, the invention provides more effectively cooling of the smart device when compared conventional implementations of fans in combination with smart devices.

[0145] The invention may exhibit a number of other advantages as well. For example, wind produced by the fan is typically effective to cool excessive temperatures, and may be directly and personally used by individual away from their usual premises and without any power mains supply available (for example train compartment etc.). That is, individuals may wish to protect themselves from or to alleviate excessive temperatures or their unpleasant attendant manifestations (including perspiration) through the use of the invention. Prior art fans are fundamentally unsuitable for this because they are generally too large and bulky and/or because they do not have an independent power supply. That is, they are tied to buildings.

[0146] In contrast, the invention provides a light, handy design and is equipped with built-in and independent power supply facilities. These independent electrical energy sources in particular may comprise an accumulator, with a charging device and a mains connection, a storage battery, also with a charging device and a mains connection, a dry battery and last but not least solar power on the basis of the photovoltaic effect.

[0147] The invention may also help prevent smart devices from overheating, or catching on fire. Some prior art devices are fundamentally unsuitable for external use outside of a motor vehicles air conditioning vent.

[0148] Variations of the invention are possible. For example, multiple solar panels can be used for two or more fan motors, in series, parallel or in the combination of these. Such panels may be formed from a plurality of photovoltaic cells immobilized relative to the smart device. The cells form a solar panel that converts sunlight and other photonic radiant energy electric power. Similarly, in some embodiments, at least one blowing fan and at least one exhaust fan and electrically connected to the output terminals of the electric connector.

[0149] As a first variant, the smart device holder may have a construction that allows horizontal air flow over a bottom surface of the smart device by active cooling (forced convection) or passive cooling (natural convection).

[0150] As a second variant, the smart device holder may have one or more vent holes in conjunction with one or more air flow grooves which are elongated narrow shapes coupled with one or more circular air passage openings incorporated in the upper surface of smart device holder.

[0151] As a third variant, the heat dissipation structure of the smart device holder may be disposed in the close proximity space of the smart device to provide a good heat dissipation effect by way of active cooling (forced convection) and passive cooling (natural convection) so as to enhance the heat dissipation performance of the smart device.

[0152] As a fourth variant, the upper surface of smart device holder may address the active cooling (forced convection) characteristics of smart devices to cool the bottom surface of a smart device by providing active cooling (forced convection) by forcing the thermal heat generated to escape from the smart device holder.

[0153] As a fifth variant, air drawn in by the one or more cooling fans may be forced through the air passage and discharged through the one or more vent holes in order to cool the bottom surface of a smart device in the smart device holder.

[0154] As a sixth variant, the smart device may be provided in a manner such that air directed toward the bottom surface of the smart device flows horizontally over the bottom surface.

[0155] As a seventh variant, the upper surface of smart device holder may address the passive cooling (natural convection) characteristics of smart devices to cool the bottom surface of a smart device by allowing the thermal heat generated to escape from the smart device holder by passive cooling (natural convection) when the smart device holder is used as a standalone component.

[0156] As an eighth variant, a solar panel protector cover may be provided having a clear plastic window over the solar panel, the solar panel protector cover secured to the solar panel with snap fastener and insert elements.

[0157] As a ninth variant, one or more cooling fans and one or more charger units may be provided for charging the power supply for a smart device. They may be located between the upper fan and charger unit casing and the bottom fan and charger unit casing with a construction that allows horizontal air flow over a bottom surface of the smart device by active cooling (forced convection) or passive cooling (natural convection).

[0158] As a tenth variant, at least one fan may rotate about a substantially vertical axis. In such a case, the heat dissipation structure of the smart device holder may be disposed in the close proximity space of the smart device to provide a good heat dissipation effect by way of active cooling (forced convection) and passive cooling (natural convection) so as to enhance the heat dissipation performance of the smart device.

[0159] As an eleventh variant, the inventive cooler may have one or more vent holes and one or more receiving hole for the solar powered charger unit formed in the upper and/or lower fan and charger unit casing in conjunction with one or more air flow grooves which are elongated narrow shapes coupled with one or more circular air passage open-

ings incorporated in the upper surface of smart device holder. The smart device holder may contain the smart device in a manner such that air directed toward the bottom surface of the smart device flows horizontally over the bottom surface may be forced through the air passage and discharged through the one or more vent holes in order to cool the bottom surface of a smart device in the smart device holder.

[0160] It is to be understood that, while the invention has been described in conjunction with the preferred specific embodiments thereof, the foregoing description merely illustrates and does not limit the scope of the invention. Numerous alternatives and equivalents exist which do not depart from the invention set forth above. For example, any particular embodiment of the invention, e.g., those depicted in any drawing herein, may be modified to include or exclude features of other embodiments. Other aspects, advantages, and modifications within the scope of the invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art to which the invention pertains.

I claim:

1. A solar powered cooler for a smart device, comprising:
 - a) an upper fan casing including one or more vent holes;
 - a) a bottom fan casing including one or more air inlet holes located at or near an edge of the bottom fan casing, the upper and bottom fan casing defining an air passage to allow air flow from the one or more air inlet holes to the one or more vent holes;
 - a) a smart device holder for holding a smart device to dissipate thermal heat generated by smart device to be released by active cooling forced through the air passages and discharged through the one or more vent holes in order to cool the bottom surface of a smart device in the smart device holder;
 - one or more cooling fans effective to draw air into the air passage so as to force air to flow along a substantially vertical direction through the one or more vent holes toward a bottom surface of the smart device; and
 - one or more solar panels for harvesting solar energy and delivering electric power to the one or more cooling fans, the one or more solar panels connected to the one or more fans via one or more connector cables.
2. A solar powered cooler for a smart device, comprising:
 - a) a smart device holder to dissipate thermal heat generated by smart device to be released by passive cooling and radiation forced through the air passages and discharged through the one or more vent holes in order to cool the bottom surface of a smart device in the smart device holder when the smart device holder is used as a standalone component; and
 - an upper surface of smart device holder addressing passive cooling characteristics of the smart device to cool the bottom surface of the smart device by allowing the thermal heat generated to escape from the smart device holder by passive cooling when the smart device holder is used as a standalone component.
3. A solar powered cooler for a smart device, comprising:
 - a) an upper fan and charger unit casing including one or more vent holes and one or more receiving holes for charger units;
 - a) a bottom fan and charger unit casing including one or more air inlet holes located at or near an edge of the bottom fan and charger unit casing, the upper and bottom fan and charger unit casing defining an air

passage to allow air flow from the one or more air inlet holes to the one or more vent holes and one or more receiving holes for charger units;

a smart device holder for holding a smart device; one or more cooling fans effective to draw air into the air passage so as to force air to flow along a substantially vertical direction through the one or more vent holes toward a bottom surface of the smart device; and

one or more solar panels for harvesting solar energy and delivering electric power to the one or more cooling fans and one or more charger units, the one or more solar panels connected to the one or more fans and one or more charger units via one or more connector cables.

4. A solar powered cooler for a smart device, comprising:

an upper fan casing including one or more vent holes;

a bottom fan and charger unit casing including one or more air inlet holes located at or near an edge of the bottom fan casing, the upper and bottom fan casing

defining an air passage to allow air flow from the one or more air inlet holes to the one or more vent holes;

a smart device holder for holding a smart device;

one or more cooling fans and one or more charger units located between the upper and lower fan and charger unit casings, the one or more cooling fans covering the one or more air inlet holes effective to draw air into the air passage so as to force air to flow along a substantially vertical direction toward a bottom surface of the smart device and the one or more charger units capable of charging power supply for the smart device; and

one or more solar panels for harvesting solar energy and delivering electric power to the one or more cooling fans and one or more charger units, the one or more solar panels connected to the one or more fans and one or more charger units via one or more connector cables.

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