

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

ONE WORLD TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
d/b/a TECHTRONIC INDUSTRIES POWER EQUIPMENT,
Petitioner,

v.

THE CHAMBERLAIN GROUP, INC.,
Patent Owner.

Case IPR2017-00214
Patent 7,196,611 B2

Before JONI Y. CHANG, JUSTIN T. ARBES, and JOHN F. HORVATH,
Administrative Patent Judges.

ARBES, *Administrative Patent Judge.*

FINAL WRITTEN DECISION
35 U.S.C. § 318(a)

I. BACKGROUND

Petitioner One World Technologies, Inc. d/b/a Techtronic Industries Power Equipment filed a Petition (Paper 2, “Pet.”) requesting *inter partes* review of claims 18–25 of U.S. Patent No. 7,196,611 B2 (Ex. 1001, “the ’611 patent”) pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 311(a). On May 16, 2017, we instituted an *inter partes* review of all challenges raised in the Petition, namely, claims 18–25 on two grounds of unpatentability. Paper 8 (“Dec. on Inst.”); *see* Pet. 5. Patent Owner The Chamberlain Group, Inc. subsequently filed a Patent Owner Response (Paper 13, “PO Resp.”) and Petitioner filed a Reply (Paper 17, “Reply”). Pursuant to our authorization (Paper 18), Patent Owner filed a list of allegedly improper arguments in Petitioner’s Reply (Paper 19) and Petitioner filed a response (Paper 24). Petitioner also filed a Motion to Exclude (Paper 22, “Mot.”) certain evidence submitted by Patent Owner, to which Patent Owner filed an Opposition (Paper 25, “Opp.”) and Petitioner filed a Reply (Paper 26). An oral hearing was held on January 18, 2018, and a transcript of the hearing is included in the record (Paper 30, “Tr.”).

We have jurisdiction under 35 U.S.C. § 6. This Final Written Decision is issued pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 318(a). For the reasons that follow, we determine that Petitioner has shown by a preponderance of the evidence that claims 18–25 are unpatentable.

A. The '611 Patent¹

The '611 patent pertains to “human interface methods” for “barrier movement operators.” Ex. 1001, col. 1, ll. 6–8. Barrier movement operators (e.g., gate operators and garage door operators), including “a motor for moving a barrier between open and closed positions and a controller for selectively energizing the motor to move the barrier,” were known in the art. *Id.* at col. 1, ll. 9–14. According to the '611 patent, as new features were added to such systems, installation and maintenance became more complicated, resulting in a need for “improved human interaction with barrier movement operators to simplify their installation and maintenance.” *Id.* at col. 1, ll. 20–28.

¹ Petitioner also challenged claims 1–8 and 10–14 of the '611 patent in Case IPR2017-00073. Case IPR2017-00073 involves different claims, different asserted prior art, and different patentability issues and arguments. Further, the parties never requested consolidation of the two proceedings. Accordingly, we did not consolidate them for purposes of trial under 35 U.S.C. § 315(d). We issued a final written decision in Case IPR2017-00073 on April 24, 2018.

Figure 1 of the '611 patent is reproduced below.

Fig. 1

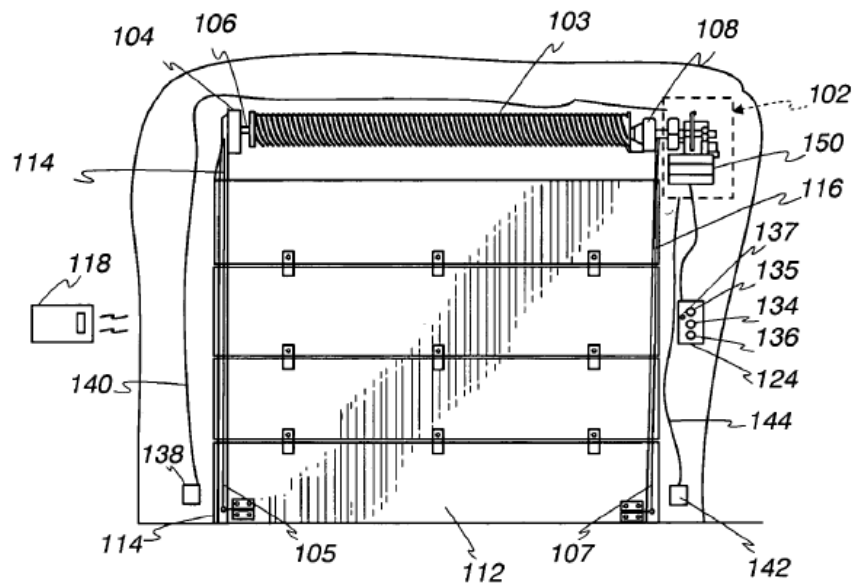


Figure 1 depicts a barrier movement operator comprising panel door 112, head end 102, motor 150, controller 208 (not shown), RF transmitter 118, and wall control 124 with light-emitting diode (LED) 137, close push button 134, open push button 135, and stop push button 136. *Id.* at col. 1, l. 47–col. 2, l. 22. When the user presses one of the buttons, wall control unit 124 signals controller 208, which energizes motor 150 to move or stop movement of panel door 112. *Id.* at col. 2, ll. 18–29, Fig. 2. Controller 208 also is connected to input/output device 147 (not shown), typically located in head end 102, which is “useful to installers and maintainers of the barrier movement operator.” *Id.* at col. 2, ll. 41–45, Fig. 2.

Figure 3 of the '611 patent is reproduced below.

Fig. 3

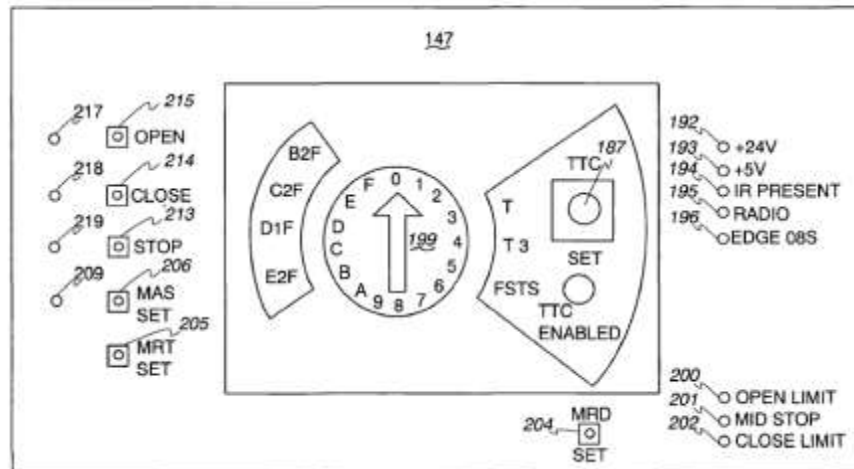


Figure 3 depicts input/output device 147 including switches (open switch 215, close switch 214, and stop switch 213) with corresponding LEDs 217, 218, and 219 to “allow maintenance personnel to control the barrier from the head end 102”; “indicator LEDs” to “advise a user of the status of particular controller functions” (24V status 192, 5V status 193, IR present 194, radio present 195, and edge obstruction 196); and LEDs that indicate the “status of the barrier” (LED 200 for the barrier’s open limit, LED 201 for the mid-travel limit, and LED 202 for the closed limit).² *Id.* at col. 2, ll. 41–60, col. 3, ll. 7–12. Controller 208 monitors the conditions represented by the “status” LEDs and causes the LEDs to be activated as necessary. *Id.* at col. 2, ll. 55–57. Controller 208 also detects errors and stores representations of the errors in memory. *Id.* at col. 3, ll. 23–27.

² The barrier status LEDs appear to be numbered incorrectly in the Specification of the '611 patent. *See* Ex. 1001, col. 2, ll. 57–60 (“LEDs 197, 198 and 199”).

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