

Remarks

These remarks are submitted in response to the Non-Final Office Action of January 4, 2016. At the time of the Office Action, claims 1-20 were pending. No new matter has been added.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-7, 9-15 and 17-20 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-19 of U.S. Patent No. 9,190,726.

We respectfully disagree with the assertion of the double patenting rejection. However, in order to advance prosecution, a Terminal Disclaimer is submitted herewith to overcome such rejection.

Independent claims 1, 12 and 17, together with claims 2-7 and 9-11, claims 13-15, and claims 18-20 respectively dependent therefrom, are thus allowable in view of the Terminal Disclaimer.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 8 and 16, dependent from claims 1 and 12 respectively, were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim; the Examiner stated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The Examiner's statement is noted with appreciation.

As noted above, independent claims 1 and 12 are allowable in view of the Terminal Disclaimer. Claims 8 and 16 are also allowable, at least by virtue of their dependency.

