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(54) **PORTABLE DISPLAY BOARD FOR MULTIMEDIA DEVICES**

**Publication Classification**

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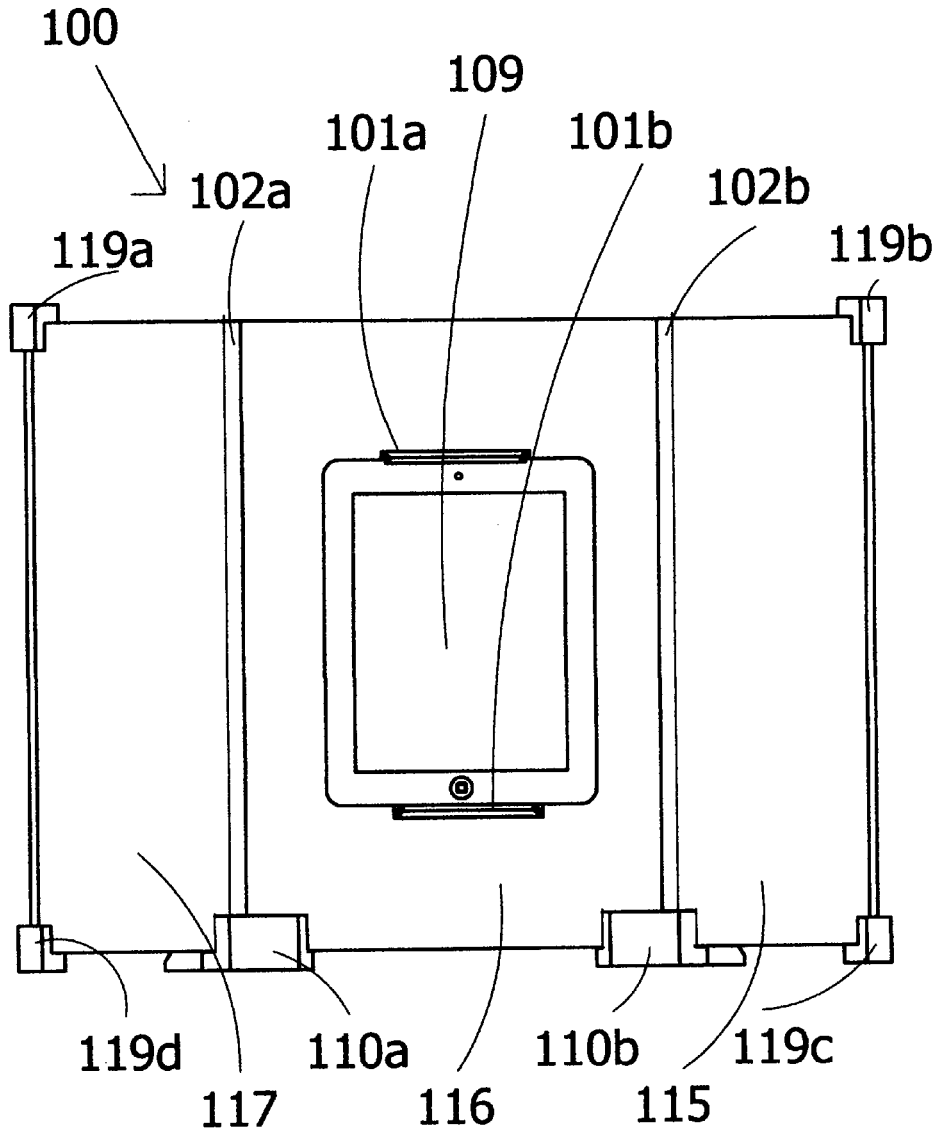
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Portable display boards of the type commonly used for business and educational presentation in conferences, trade shows and fairs, for example, that can be made from a variety of materials including foam board and rigid paper pulp are provided with multimedia device mounts for attaching a multimedia device to the front face of a display board and base stands.

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(22) Filed: **Aug. 9, 2017**



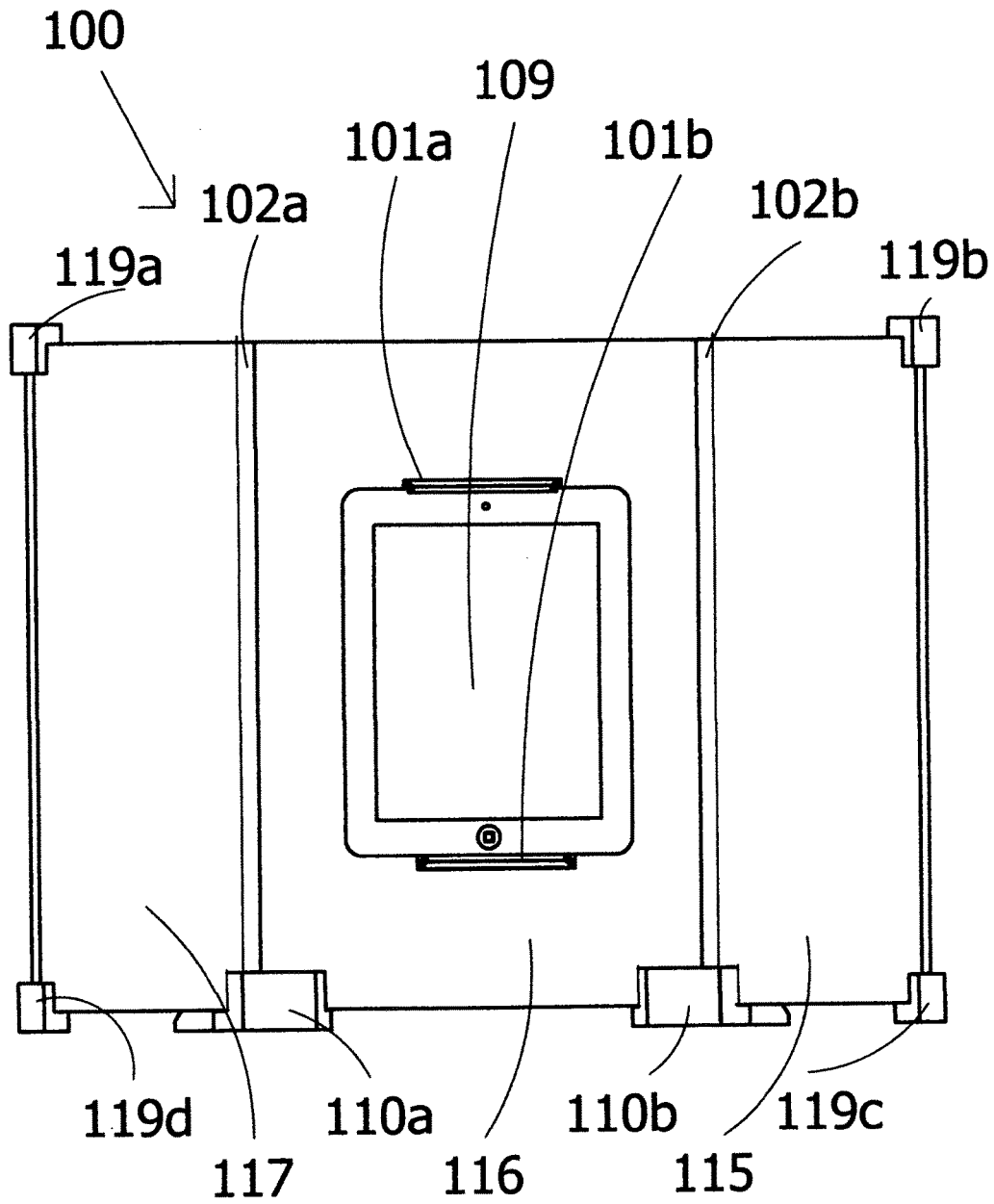


Fig. 1

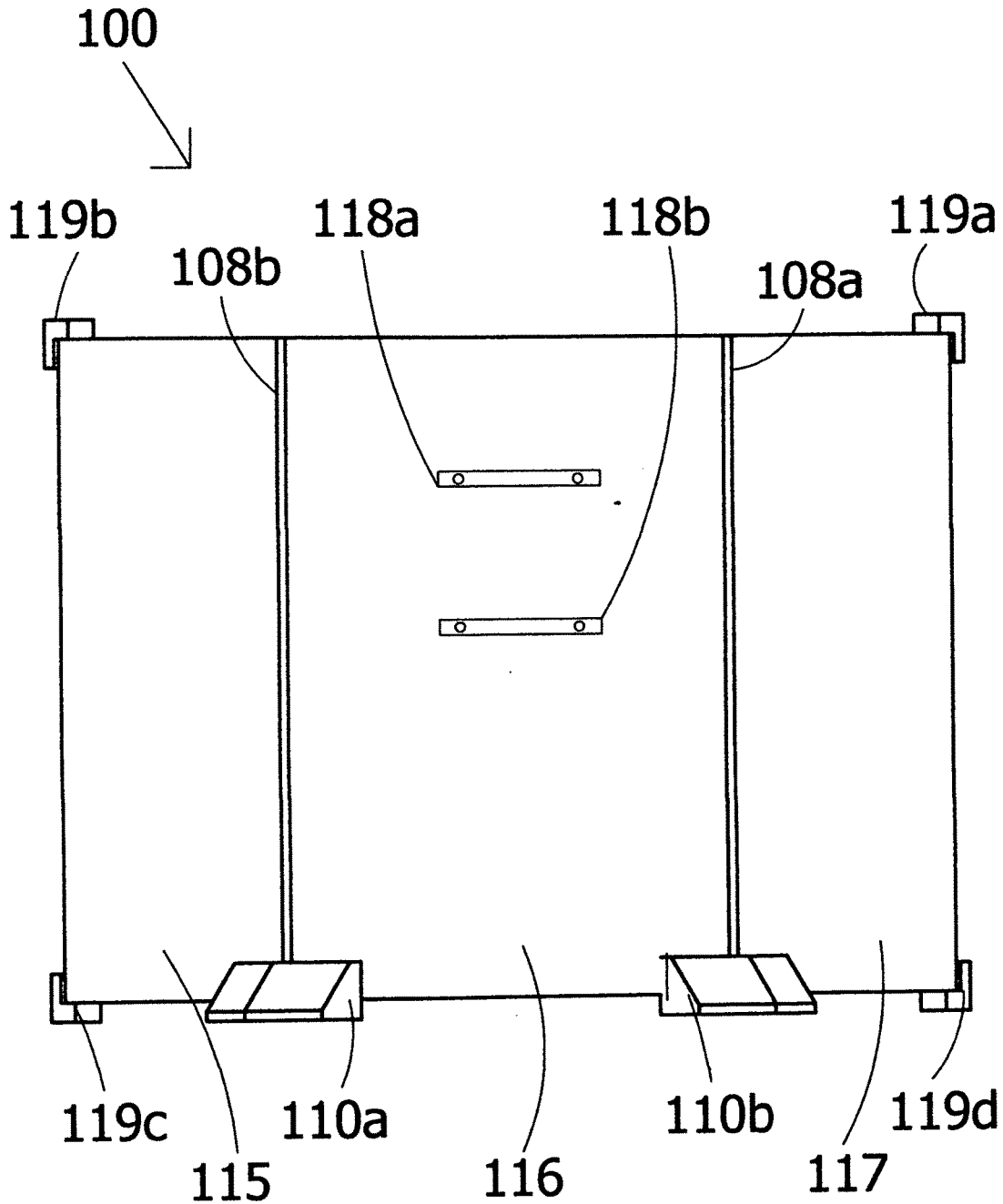


Fig. 2

100

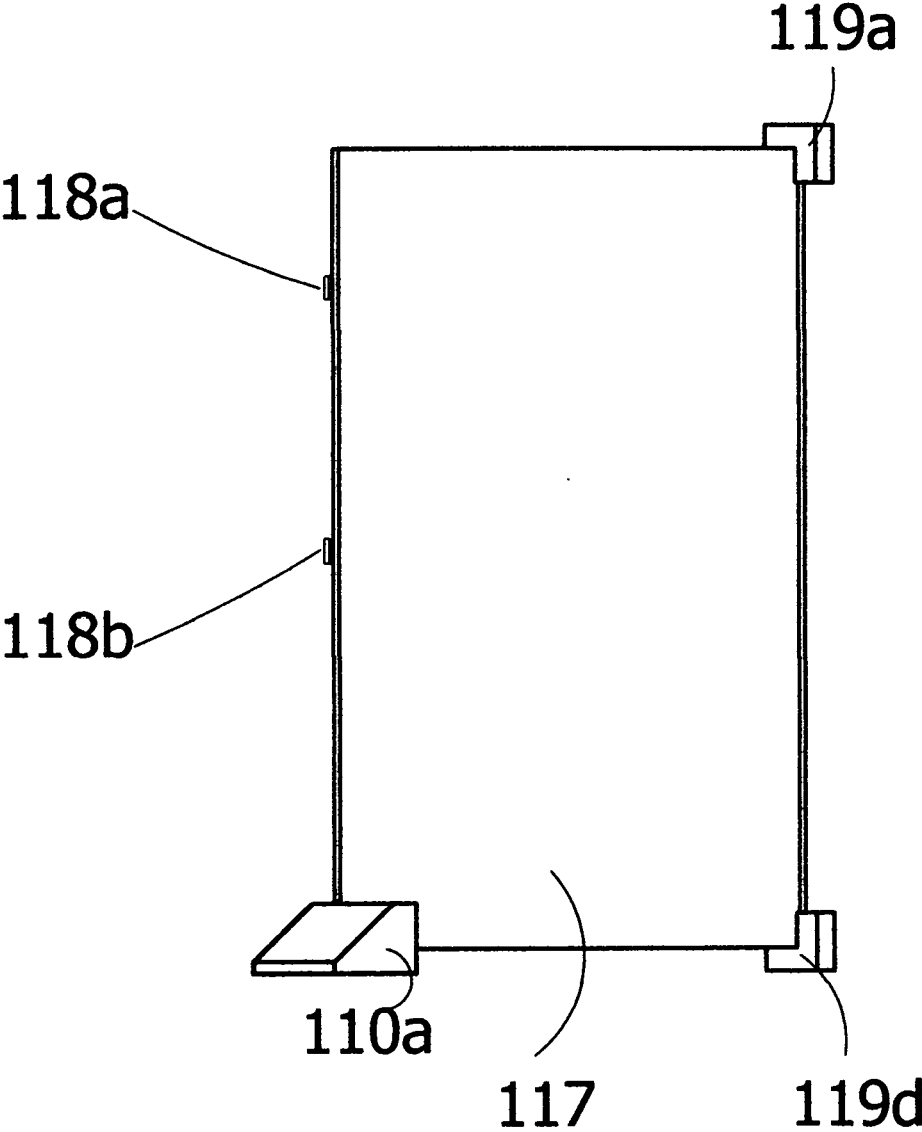


Fig. 3

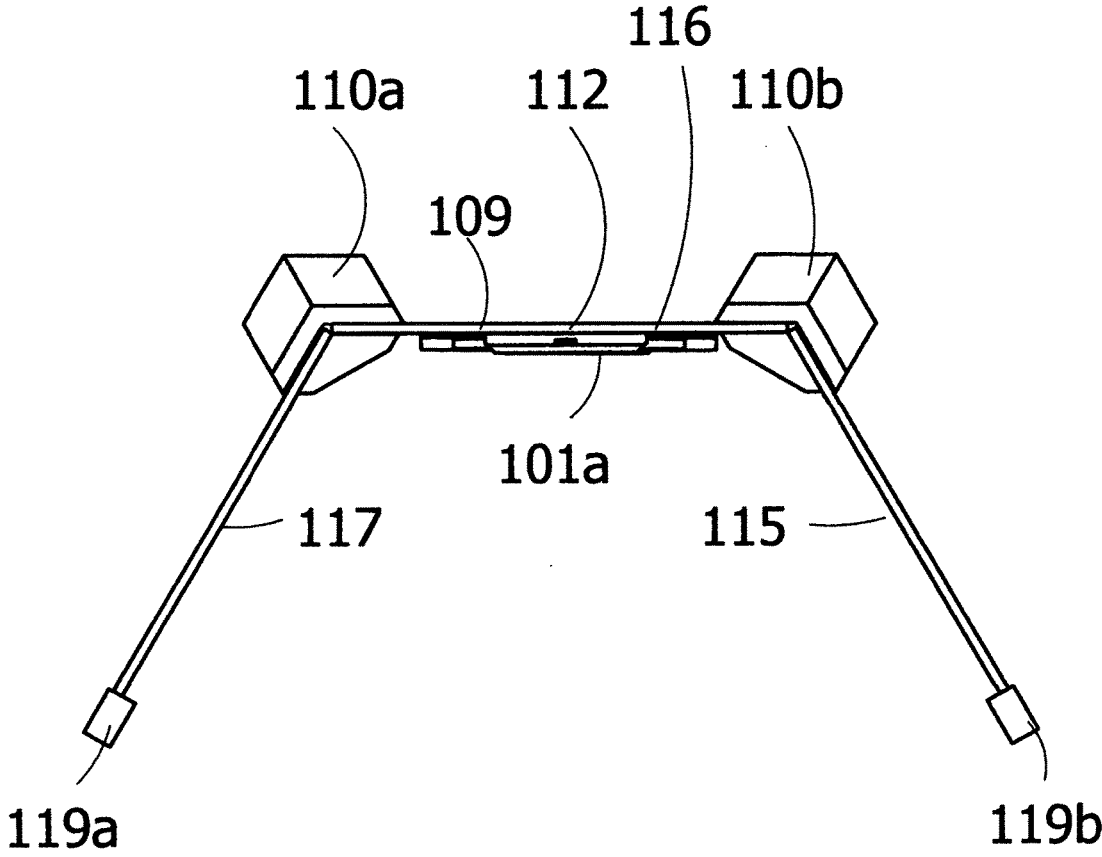


Fig. 4

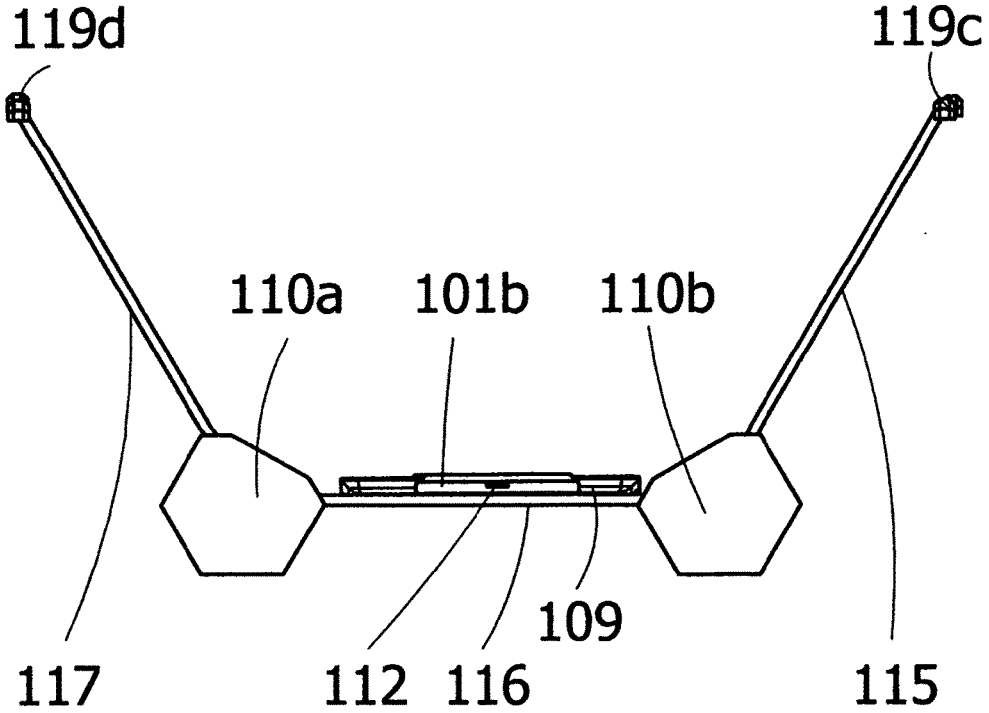


Fig. 5

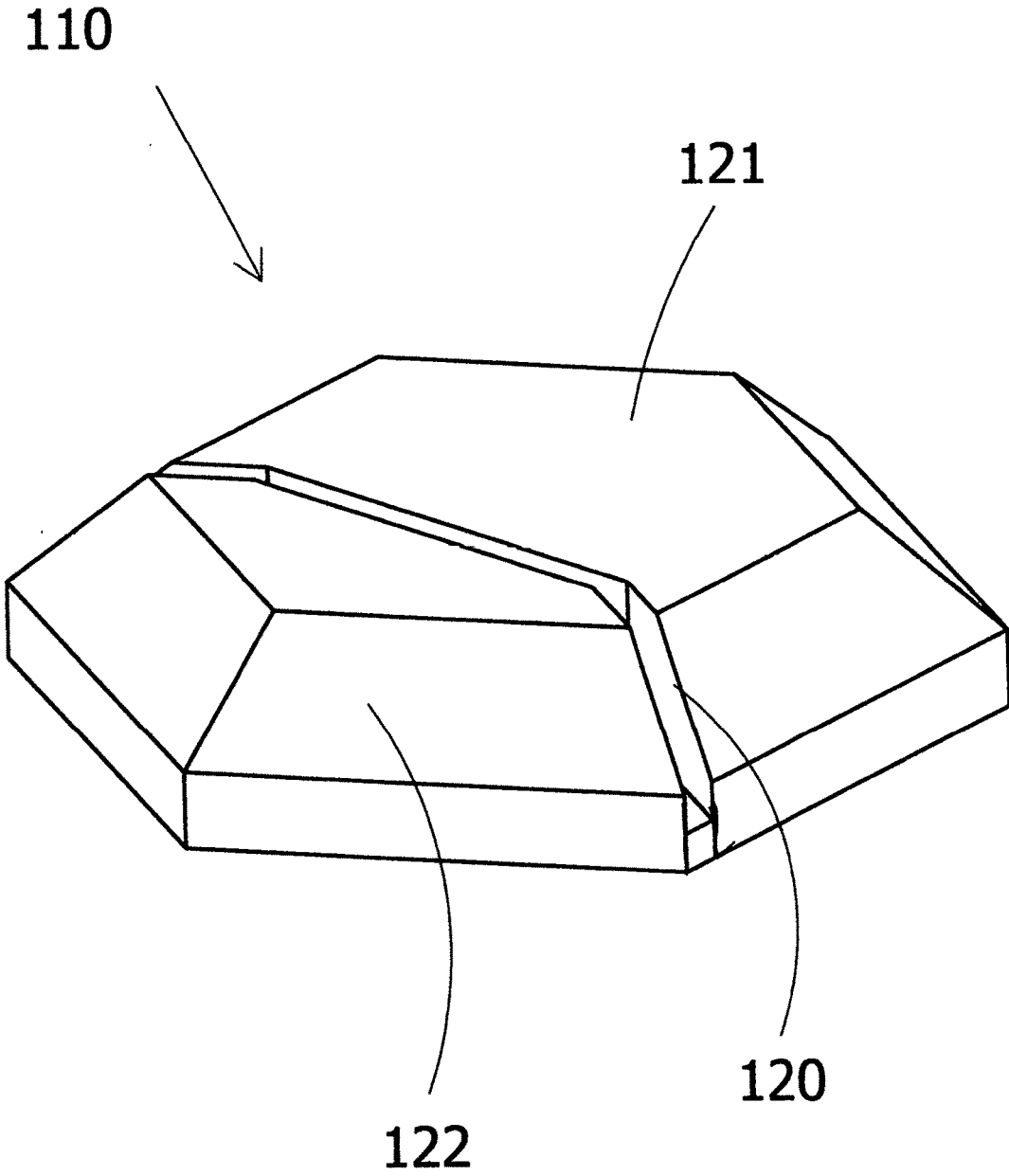


Fig. 6

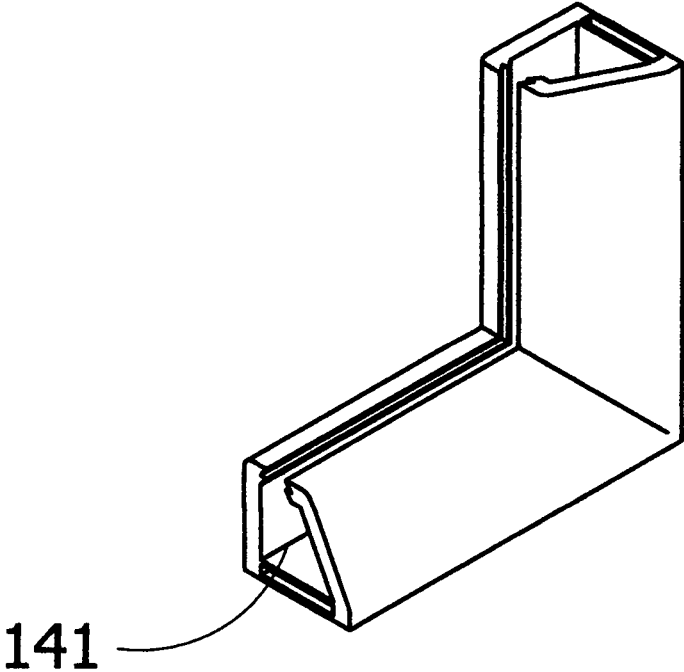


Fig. 7



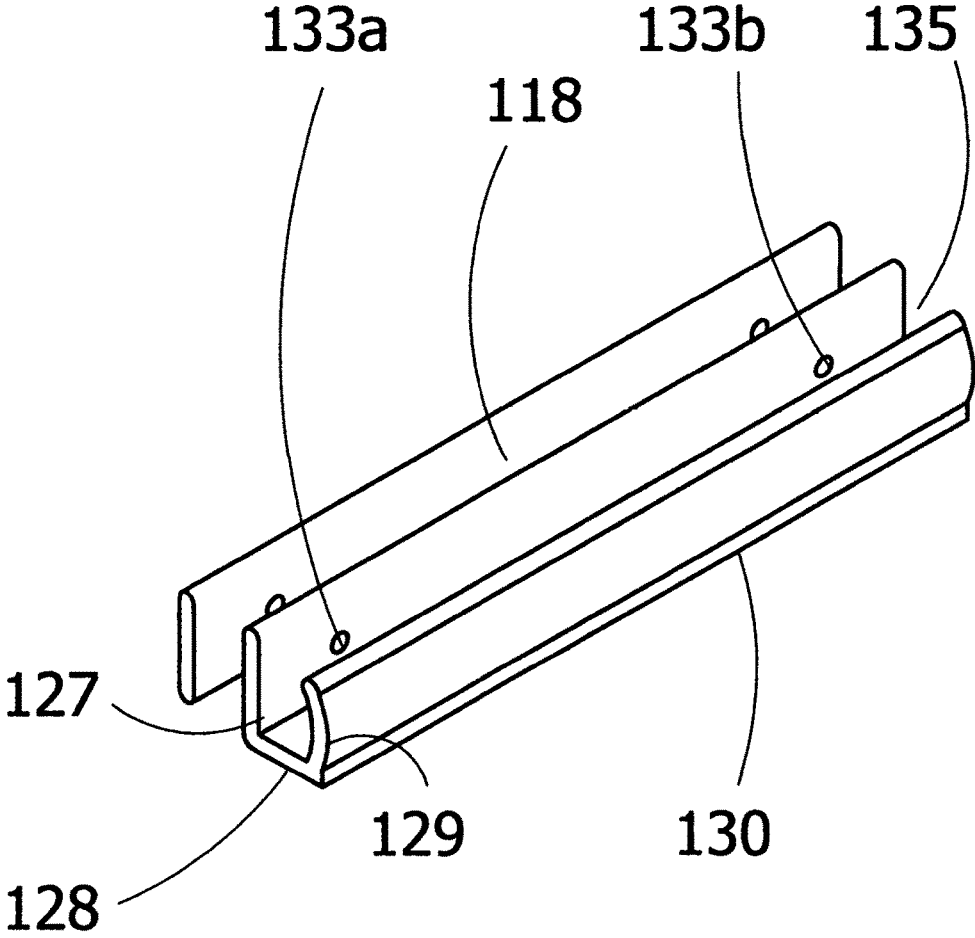


Fig. 8

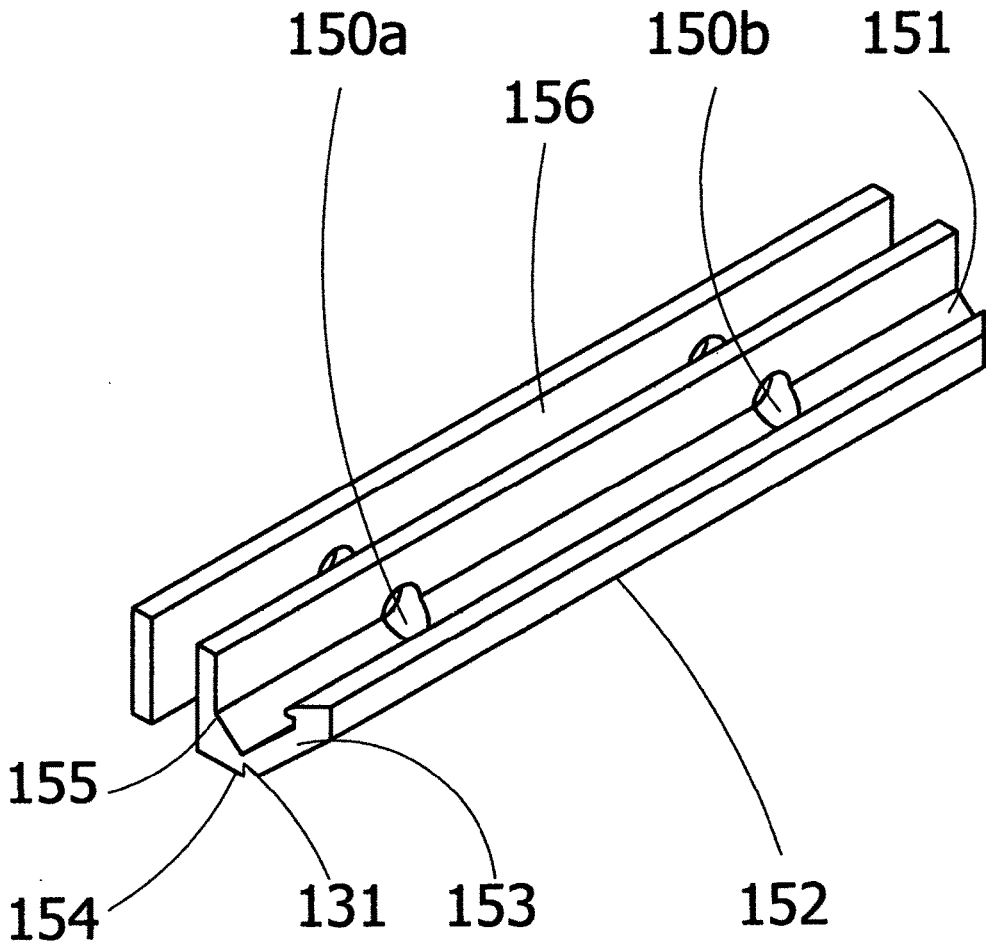


Fig. 9

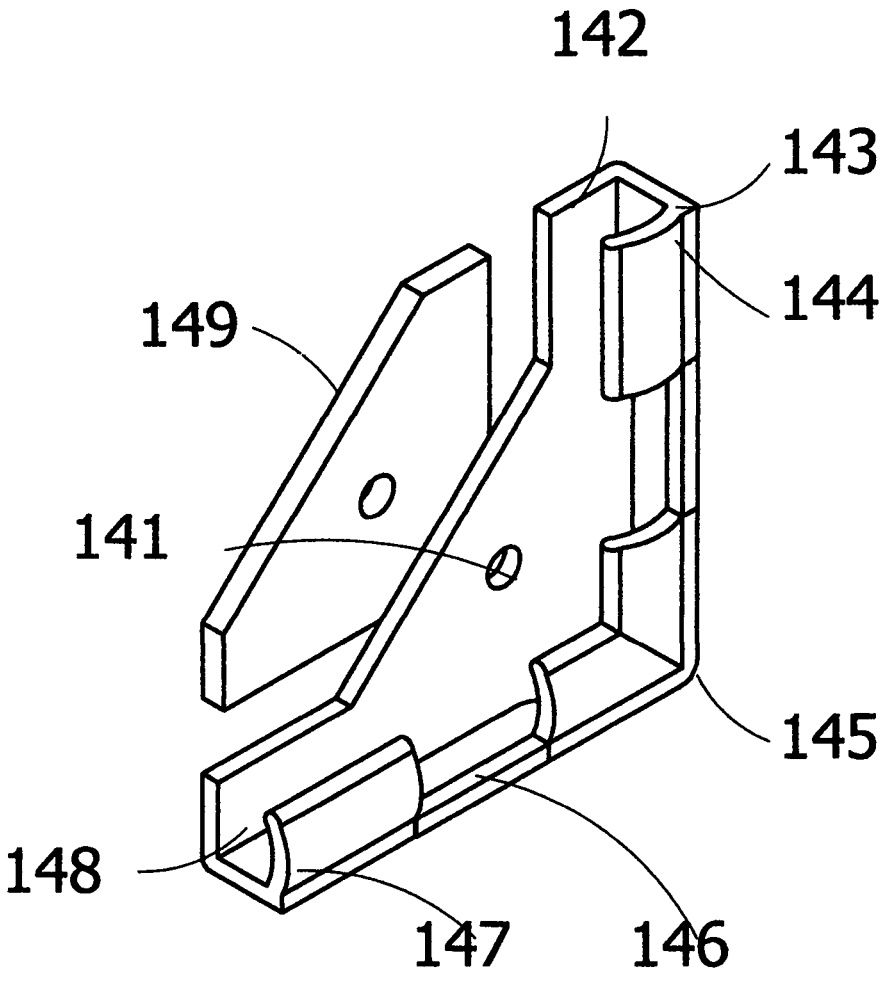


Fig. 10

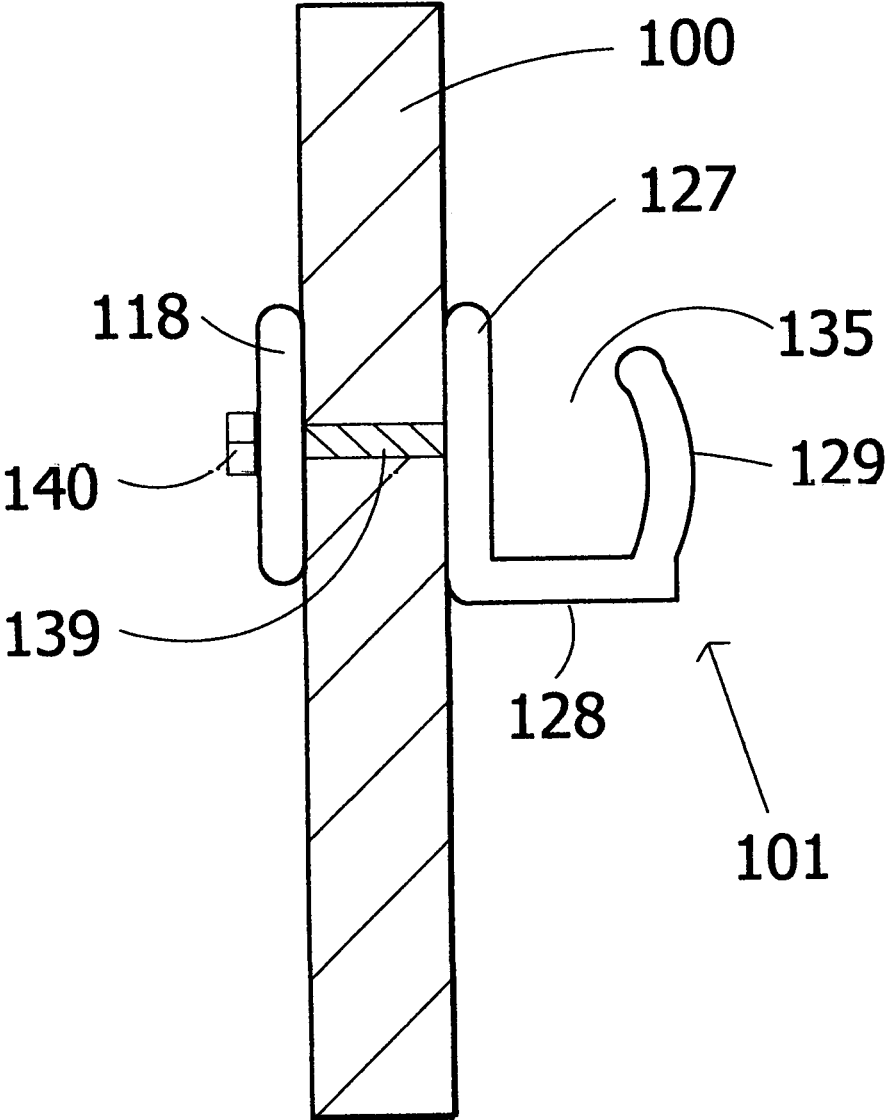


Fig. 11

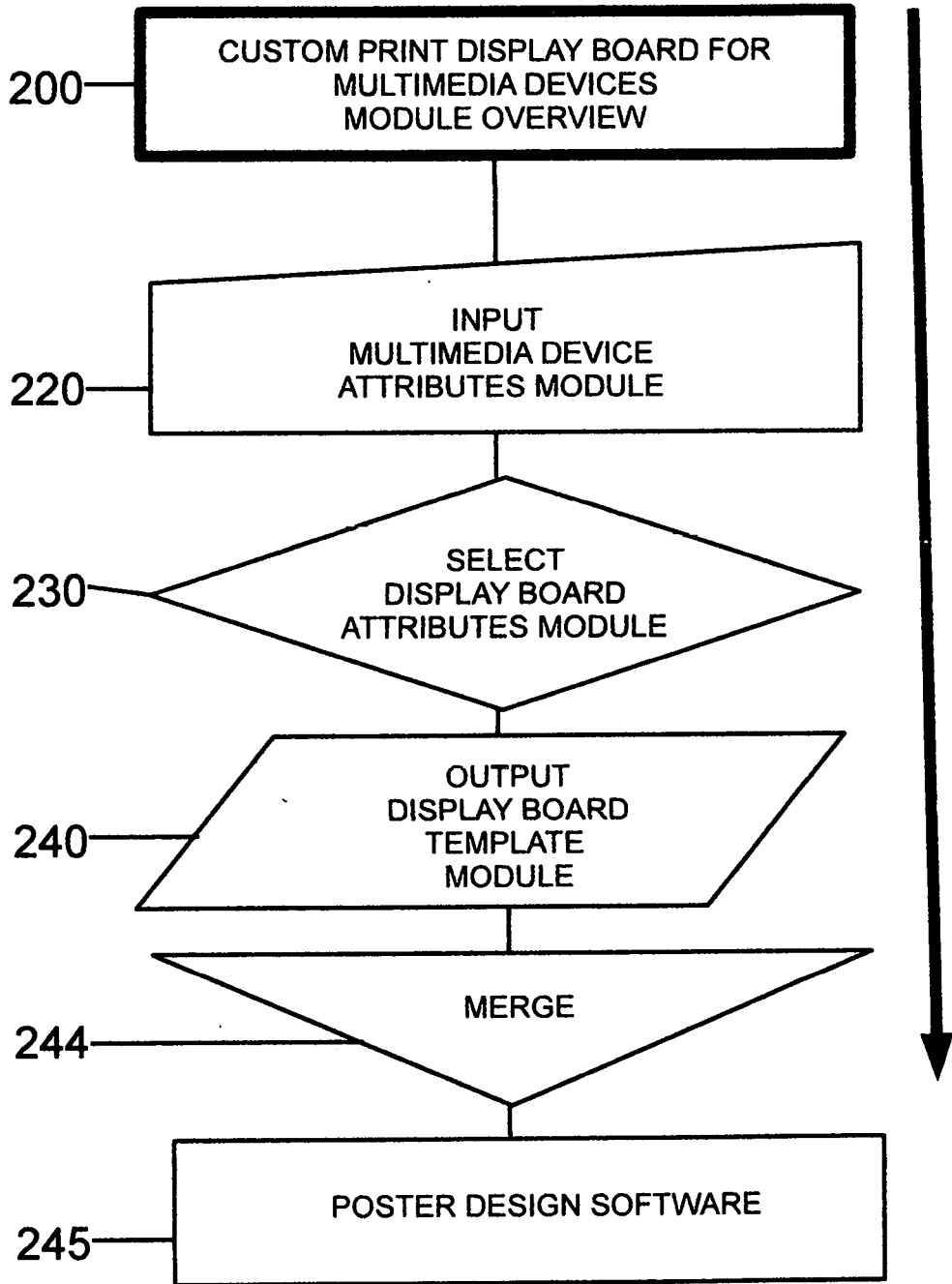


Fig.12

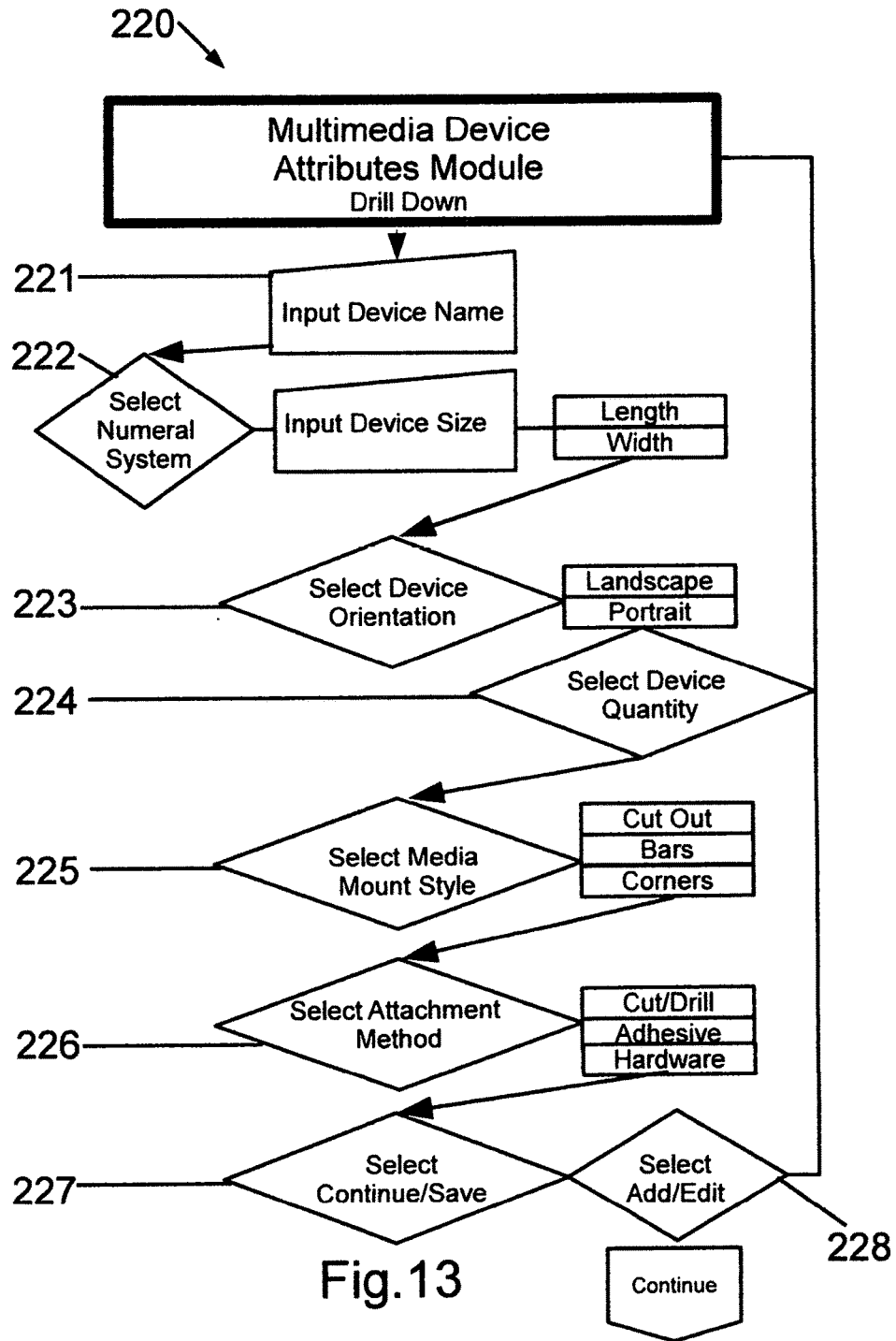


Fig. 13

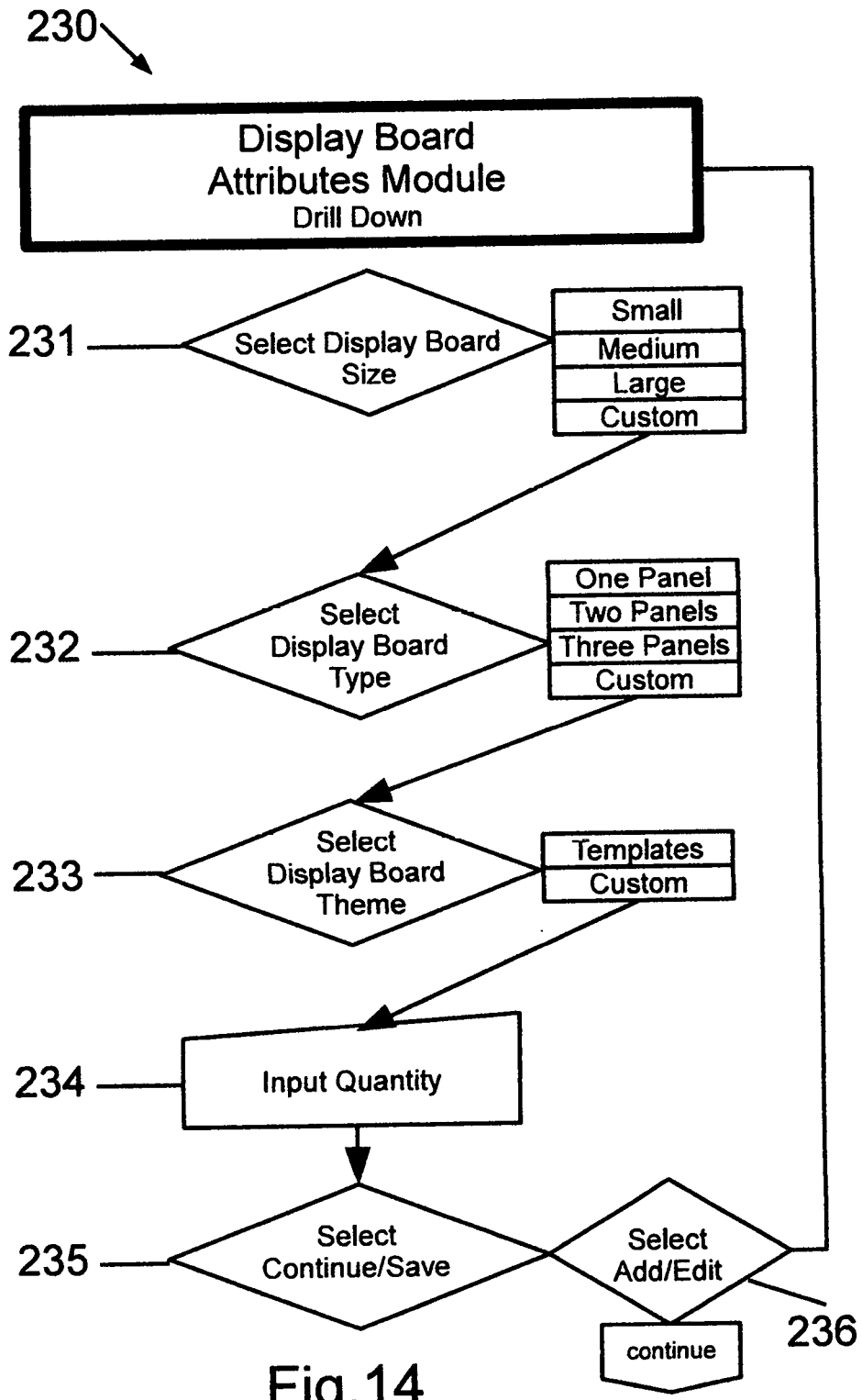


Fig. 14

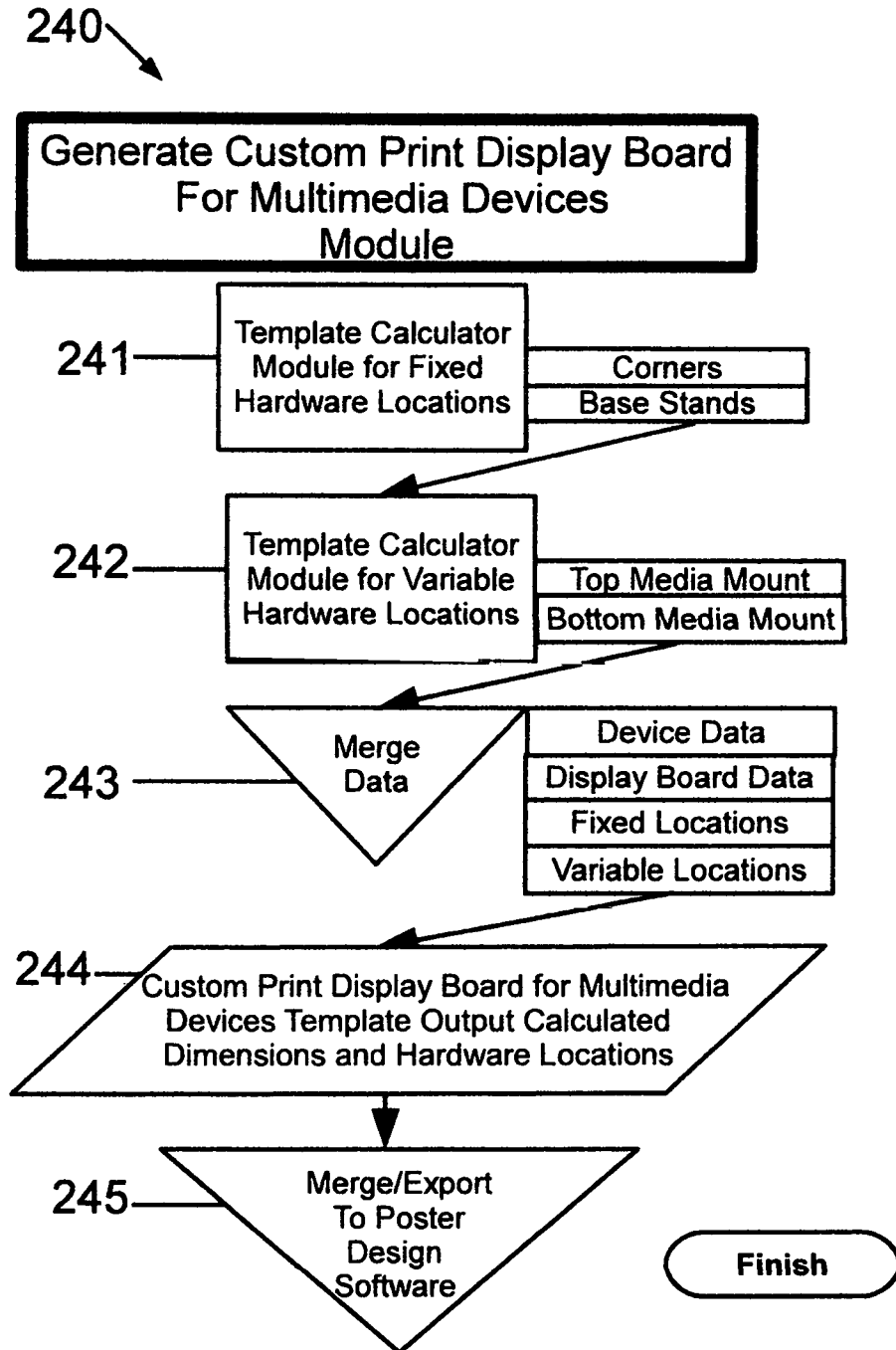


Fig.15



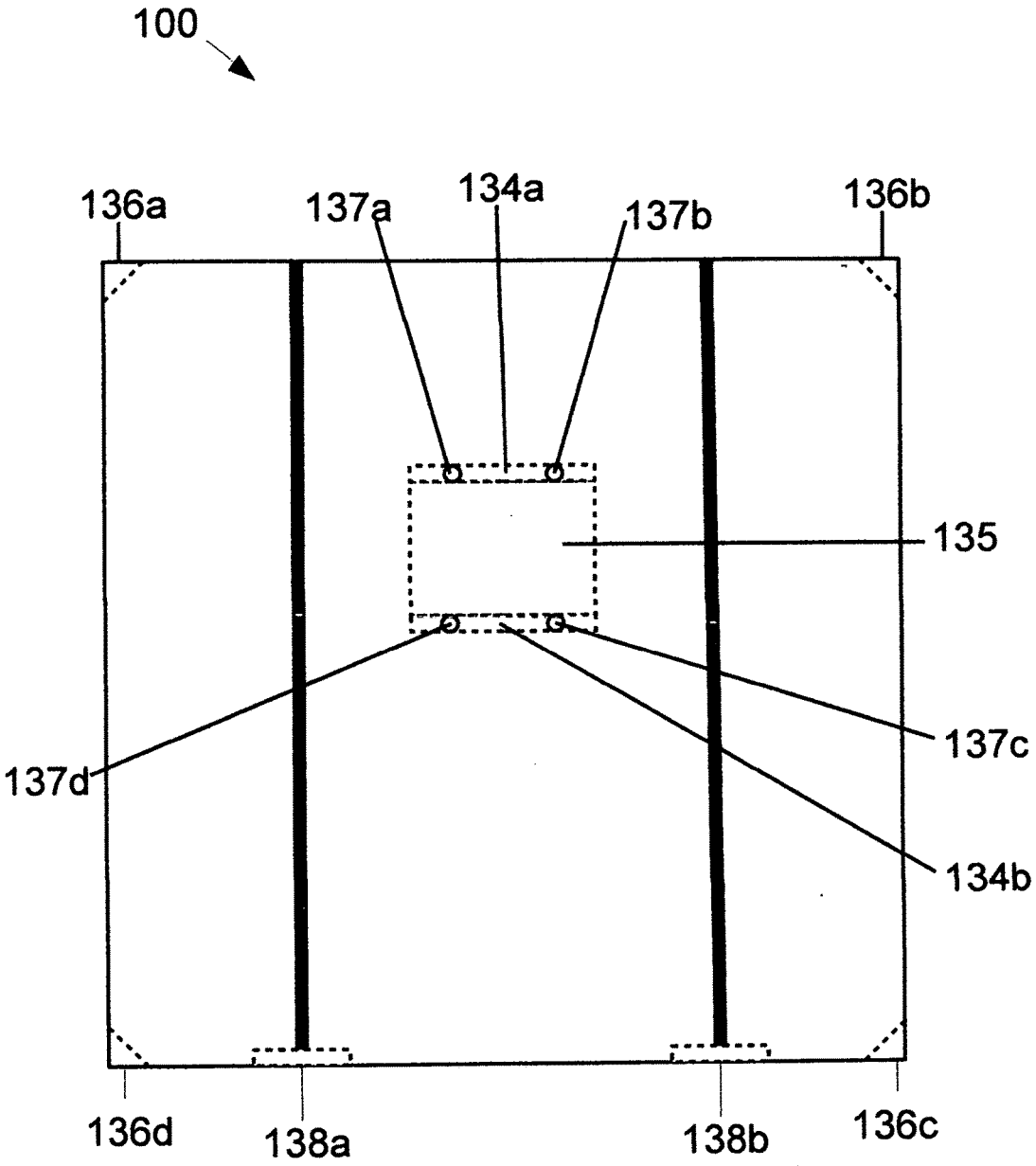


Fig. 16

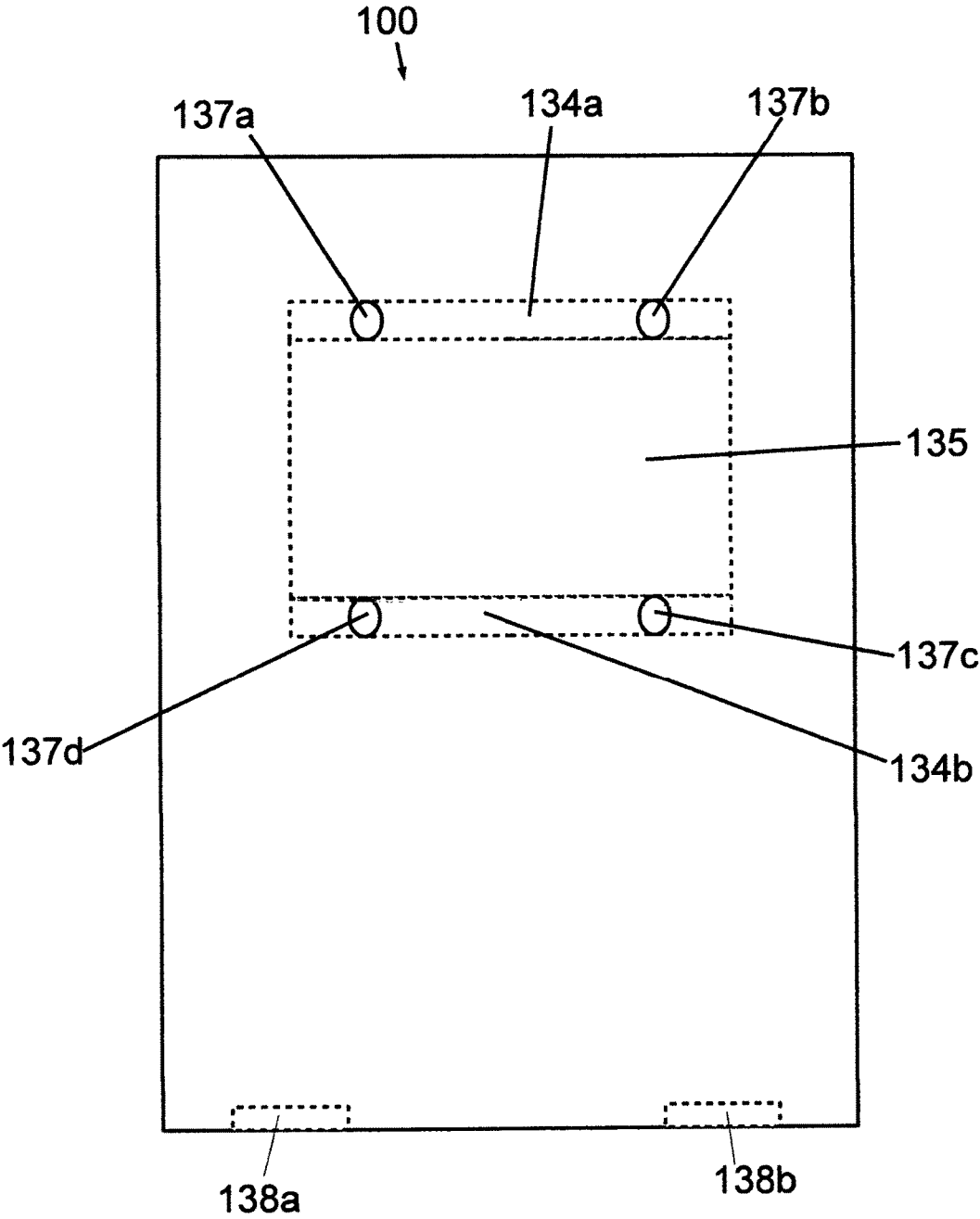


Fig. 17

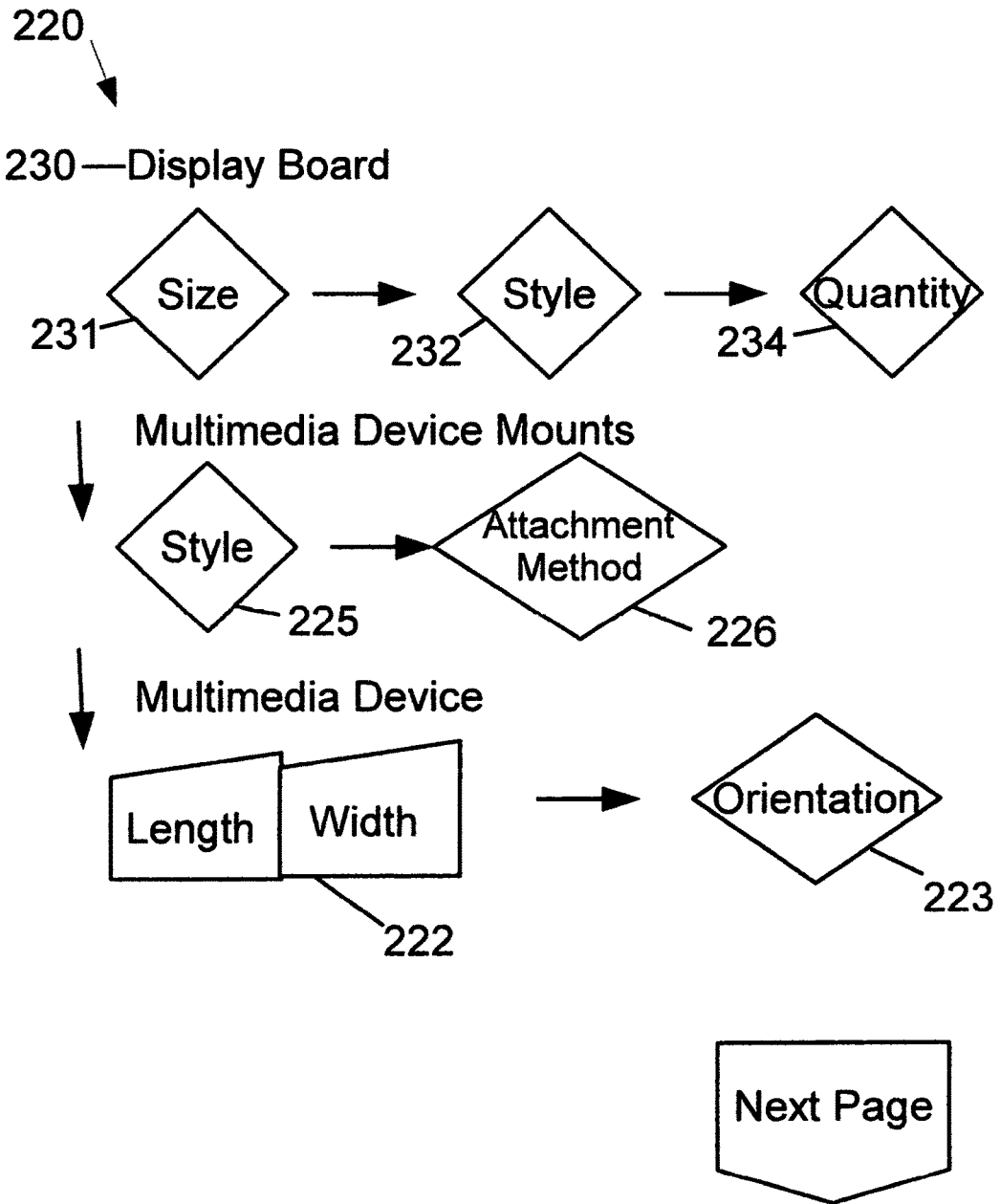


Fig.18

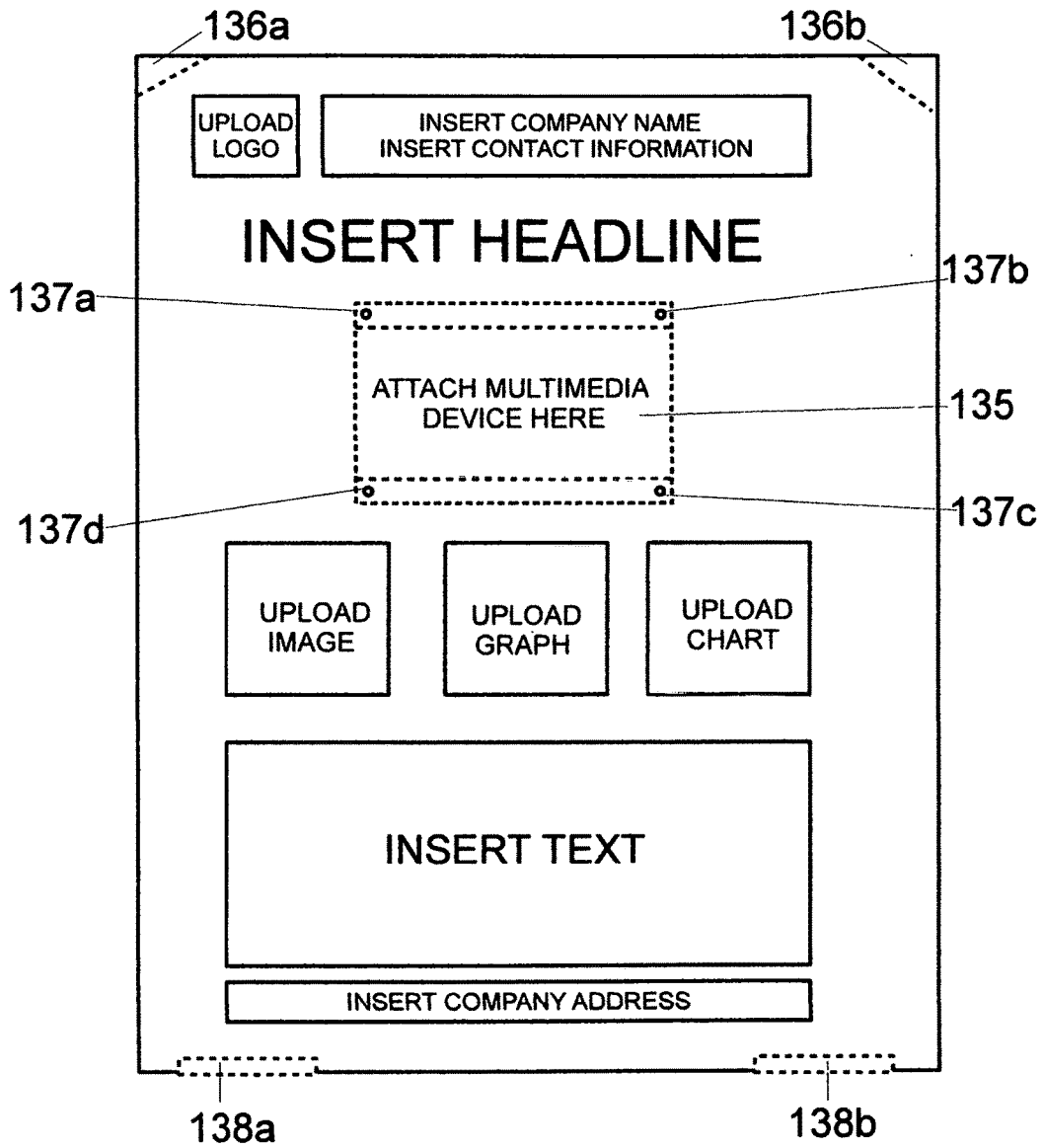


Fig.19

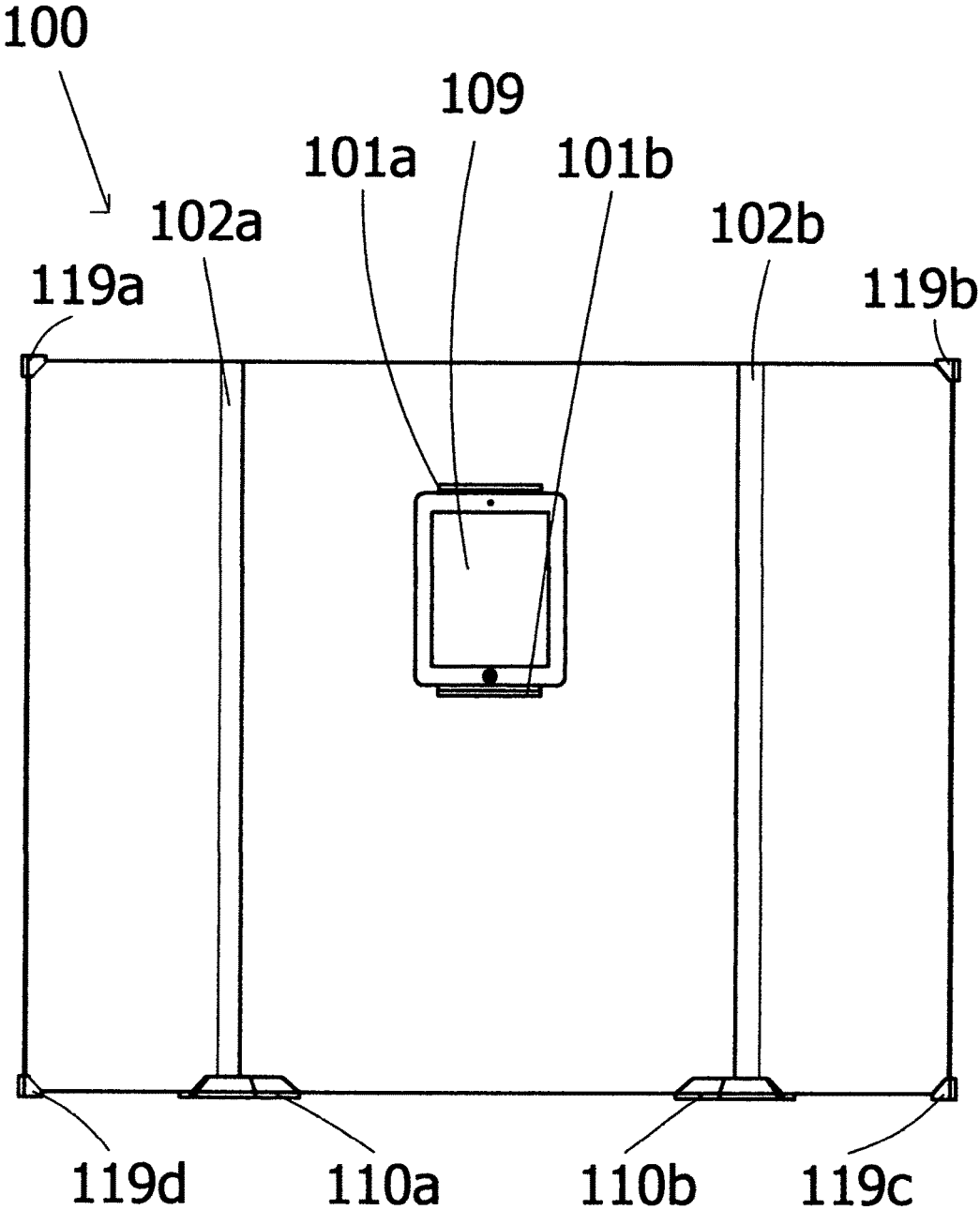


Fig. 20

100

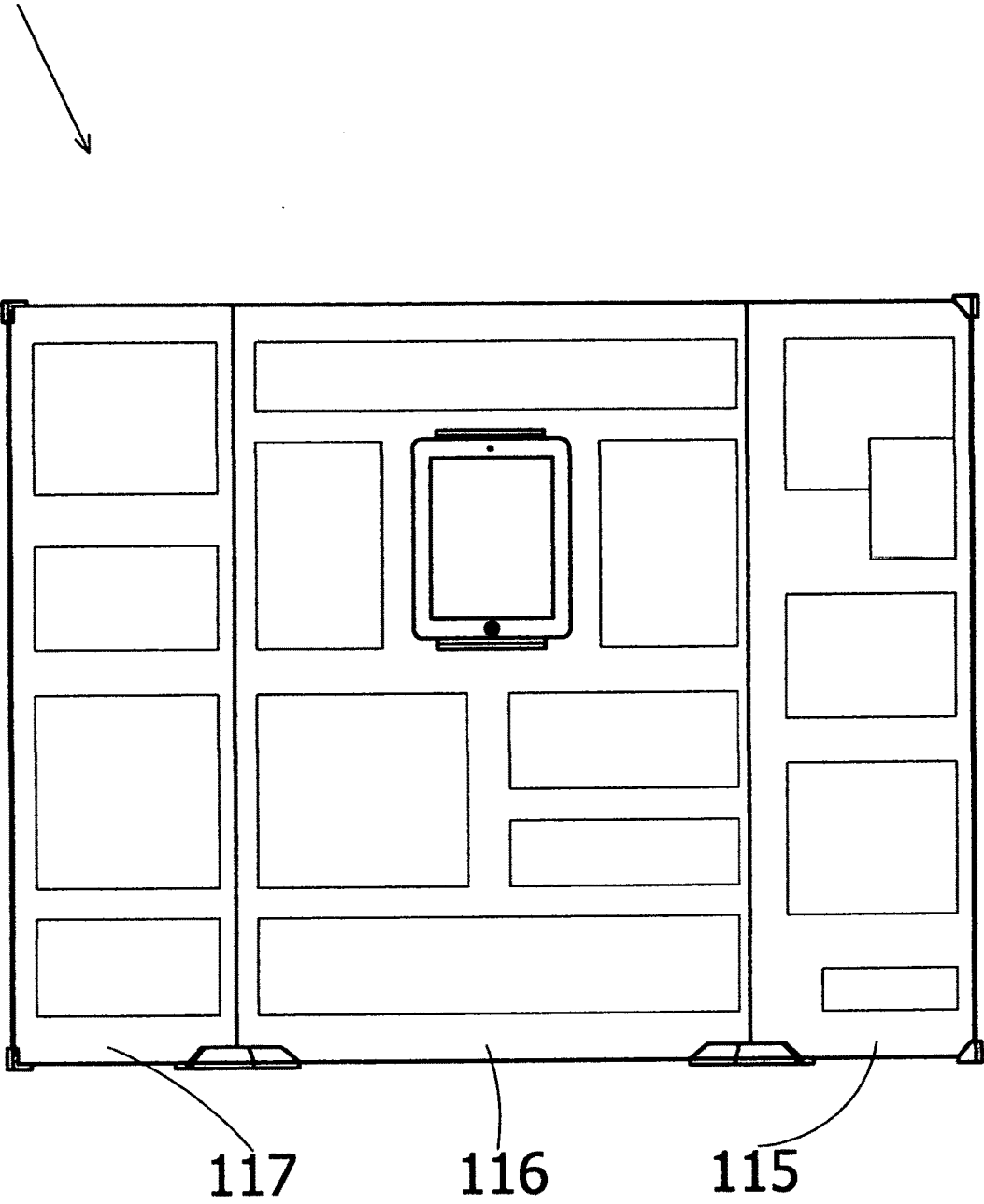


Fig. 21

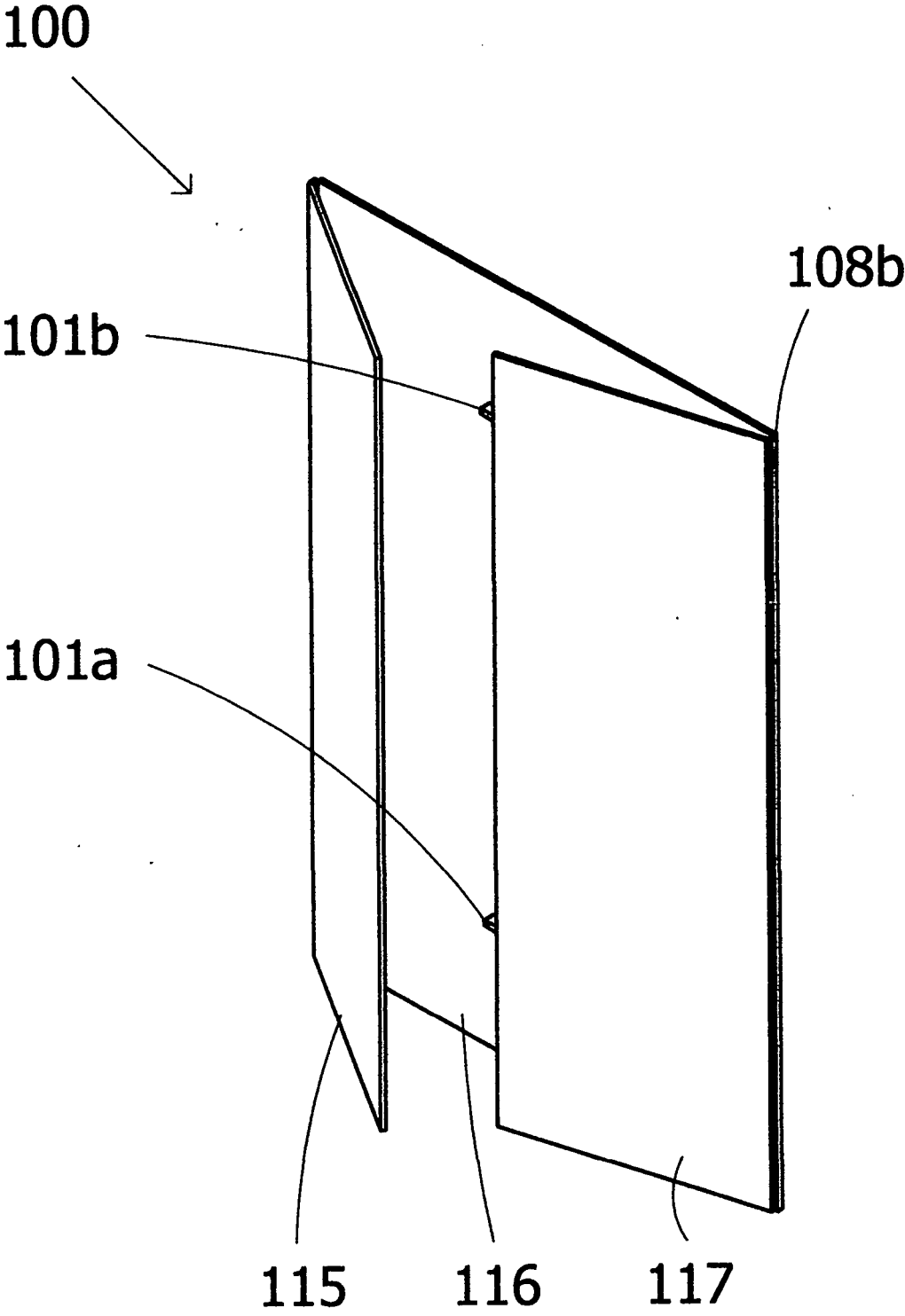


Fig. 22

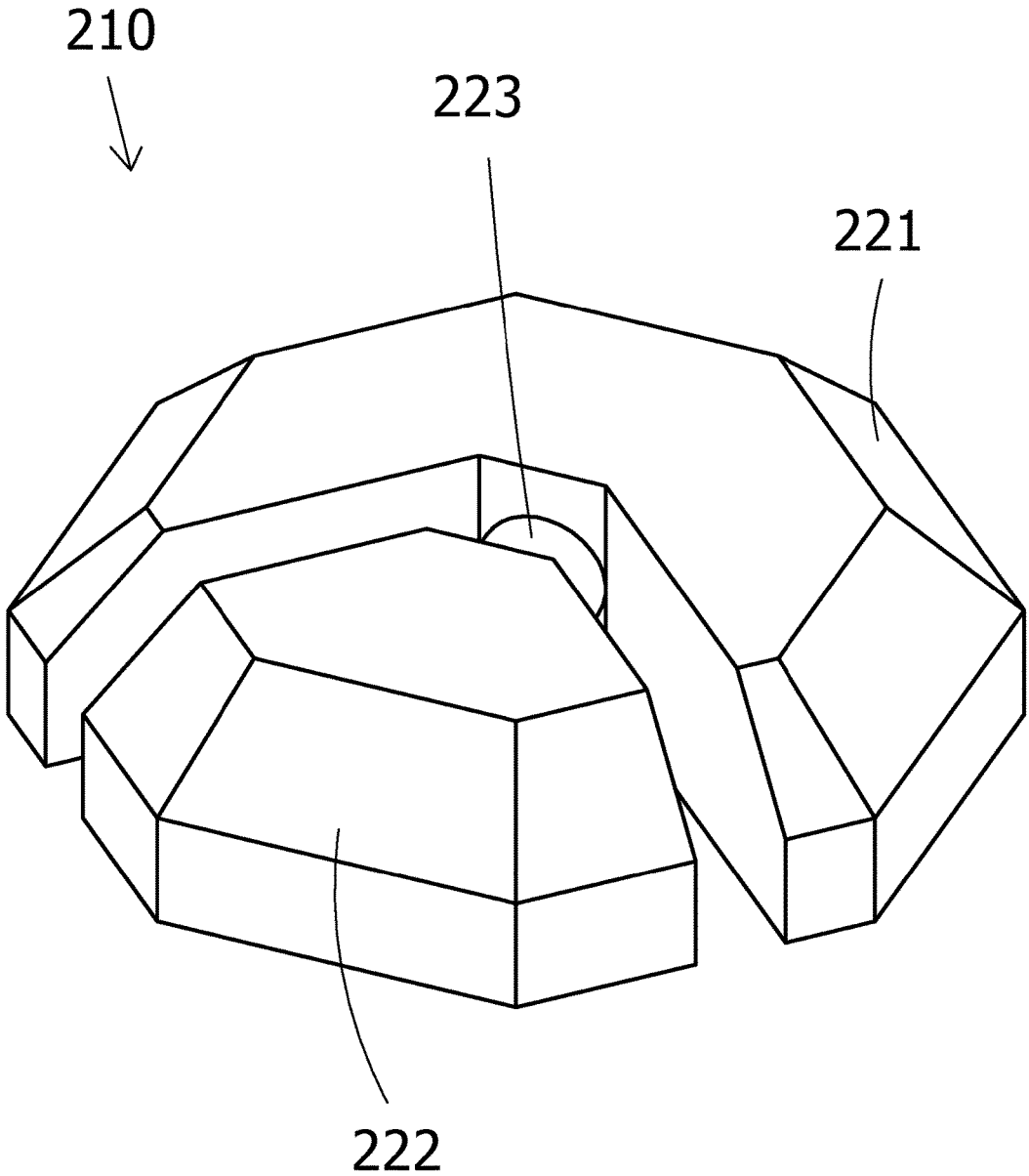


Fig. 23



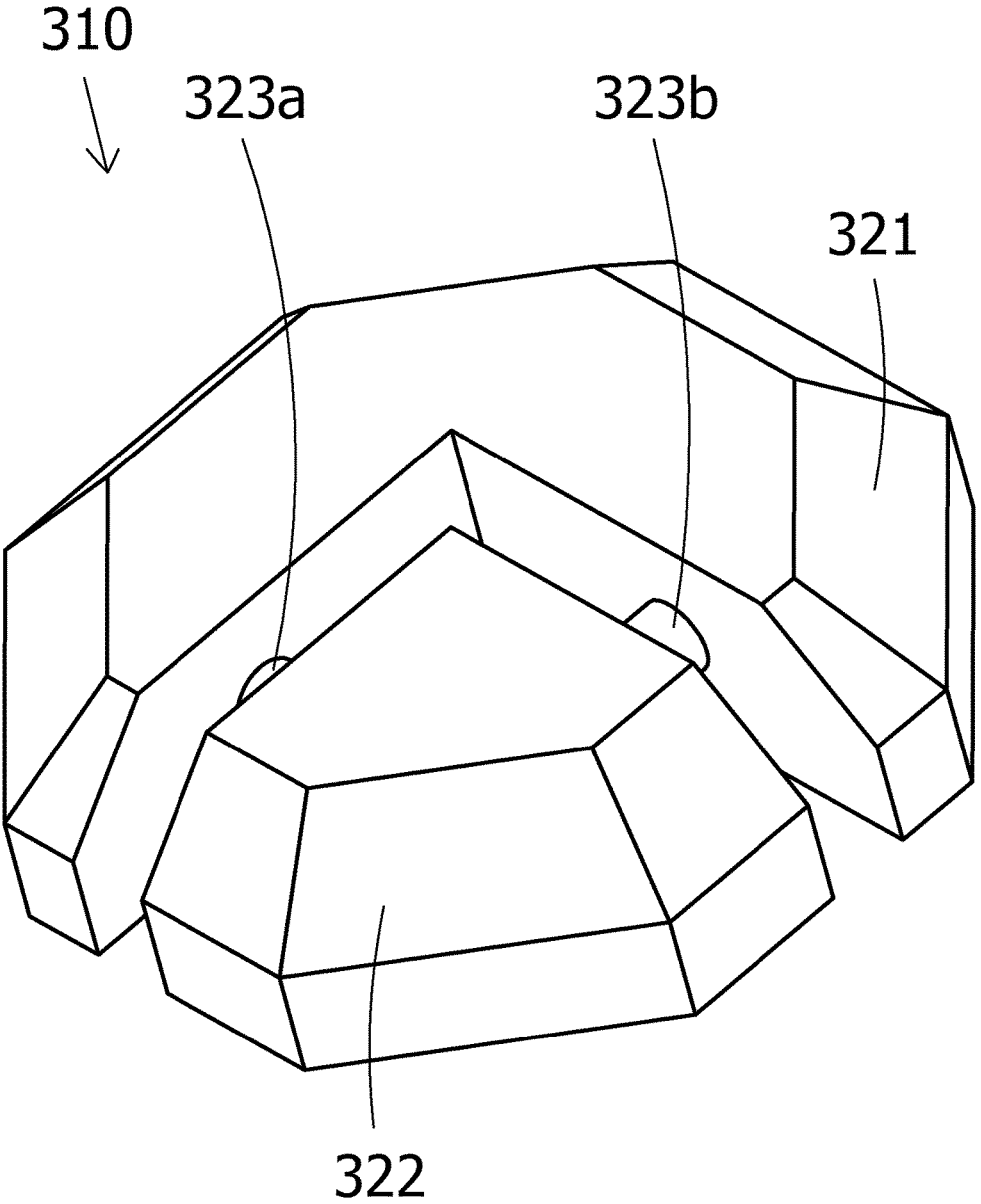


Fig. 24

**PORTABLE DISPLAY BOARD FOR  
MULTIMEDIA DEVICES****CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED  
APPLICATIONS**

[0001] This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 14/738,898, filed on Jun. 14, 2015 and titled "Portable Display Board for Multimedia Devices," which is pending and claimed the benefit of Provisional Application No. 62/144,888, filed on Apr. 8, 2015, Provisional Application No. 62/087,268, filed on Dec. 4, 2014, and Provisional Application No. 62/058,748, filed on Oct. 2, 2014.

**STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY  
SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT**

[0002] Not applicable.

**FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

[0003] This invention relates to poster or display boards for presentations.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

[0004] Display boards are manufactured in a variety of shapes and styles, the most popular being tri-fold display boards made of rigid paper pulp and/or foam material that is divided into folding panels with single score marks. Collage style display boards are used for the public display of individual pieces of printed information that are adhered to the front surface of the display board in a scrapbook like fashion.

[0005] Typically display boards are placed on tables and are used for presentations or exhibitions, usually in educational or business settings. In these contexts, the display boards are often accompanied by multimedia devices, such as tablets, e-readers and laptop computers that can display related and/or interactive content. When used in this manner, a multimedia device typically rests separately on a table near the base of the display board, which is often not at eye level. The positioning of the multimedia device on the table does not support its ease of viewing or integration with the other information on the display board. More recently, Quick Response Codes (QR Codes) have been employed to add dynamic content to display materials. This method, while enhancing dynamic content, requires the viewer to take a second step which can result in the viewer losing interest.

[0006] Other current techniques, such as simply gluing printed materials and a multimedia device to standard display boards can appear less professional and can make it difficult to remove the multimedia device and printed materials from the display board without damage. In addition, when multimedia devices are attached to the display board it can become top heavy and increase the chance of the display falling over and may no longer be able to fold flat. Lastly, display board corners can be damaged during transportation, set up or break down, which can degrade the appearance and limit the life of the display board.

[0007] Therefore, what is needed is a portable display board for multimedia devices that folds flat and can interface with custom print services.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

[0008] The present invention provides a portable display board with removable multimedia mounts and washer plates for securing a multimedia device to the front of the display board, base stands for stabilization, and corner protectors to maintain the aesthetic appearance of the display board, dual score marks for folding, and for a technique that determines the mounting method on the display board.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

[0009] Many aspects of the present invention can be better understood with reference to the following drawings. The components in the drawings are not necessarily drawn to scale, the emphasis instead being placed upon clearly illustrating the invention principles.

[0010] FIG. 1 is a front view of a display board of the present invention.

[0011] FIG. 2 is a rear view of a display board of the present invention.

[0012] FIG. 3 is a side view of a display board of the present invention.

[0013] FIG. 4 is a top view of the present invention.

[0014] FIG. 5 is a bottom view of the present invention.

[0015] FIG. 6 is a perspective view of base stands of the present invention.

[0016] FIG. 7 is a perspective view of display board protective corners.

[0017] FIG. 8 is a perspective view of bar mounts and washer plates of the present invention.

[0018] FIG. 9 is a perspective view of another bar mount embodiment.

[0019] FIG. 10 is a perspective view of a corner mount of the present invention.

[0020] FIG. 11 is a side view of bar mounts and washer plates embodiment.

[0021] FIG. 12 is a flowchart for a custom print feature of the present invention.

[0022] FIG. 13 is a flowchart for an aspect of a custom print feature of the present invention.

[0023] FIG. 14 is a flowchart for another aspect of a custom print feature of the present invention.

[0024] FIG. 15 is a flowchart for another aspect of a custom print feature of the present invention.

[0025] FIG. 16 depicts a custom print template for a display board with three panels of the present invention.

[0026] FIG. 17 depicts an example of a custom print template for a portable display board with one panel of the present invention.

[0027] FIG. 18 depicts an aspect of an embodiment of the print/layout feature of the present invention.

[0028] FIG. 19 depicts an example of a possible outcome of the print/layout feature of the present invention.

[0029] FIG. 20 depicts an example of a portable display board for multimedia devices using the print/layout feature of the present invention.

[0030] FIG. 21 depicts an in use example of one embodiment of a custom printed and mounted display board of the present invention.

[0031] FIG. 22 depicts an example of how one embodiment of the present invention folds for storage and transportation.

[0032] FIG. 23 is a perspective view of a mated base stand of the present invention.

[0033] FIG. 24 is a perspective view of another mated base stand of the present invention.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

[0034] Portable display boards for use in presentations and exhibitions are typically constructed of foam board or paper pulp, including cardboard. A common example is a tri-fold board in which the display board has three panels connected by a single hinge or fold so that the board can both be folded up for easier transport and storage and be stood up on a table or other surface while being displayed.

[0035] FIG. 1 shows an improved tri-fold display board 100 of such type that includes two sets of dual score marks 102a and 102b that are folded to form a left panel 117, center panel 116 and right panel 115, and that includes one set of removable multimedia device mounts (101a, 101b), but it will be understood that display boards of the present invention may have more than one set of multimedia mounts for attaching more than one multimedia device and that display boards may have one or more panels. Multimedia device mounts 101a and 101b are depicted as generally bar like shapes FIG. 8 and FIG. 9 with a somewhat irregular quadrilateral profile, but they can be any shape, depending on the intended use and type of multimedia device and display board. Mounts may have three sides, back 127, base 128 and front 129, as shown in FIG. 8, back 155, base 154 and front 153 as shown in FIG. 9, and back 142, base 143, and front 144 as shown in FIG. 10 and may include a hinge 131 for device release as shown in FIG. 9.

[0036] Multimedia device mounts 101a and 101b (as shown in FIG. 1) may be sized for a variety of kinds of multimedia devices, including tablets and e readers, for example. Multimedia device mounts 101a and 101b may include a contoured access carve out 112 (as shown in FIG. 4 FIG. 5) and opening 152 (FIG. 9) and opening 146 (FIG. 10) for allowing access to operational control buttons or power cords on a multimedia device while the device is attached to the display board 100. Multimedia device mounts 101a and 101b may be adjusted to accommodate a variety of multimedia devices and display boards. Multimedia device mounts 101a and 101b may be made of any suitable material, including the display board 100 material, plastic, wood, metals and composite materials including materials with magnetic properties. Multimedia device mounts 101a and 101b may be mesh, solid, or frames and can be attached to the front of a display board 100 by any suitable mechanism, including adhesives (for example: glue or dual sided tape), threaded pins FIG. 11, 135, rivets, hook and loop, via hinges, folds or hooks or self-hooking methods, or magnetically. Further, multimedia device mounts 101a and 101b may include a power cord opening 112, as shown in FIG. 4, FIG. 5, and FIG. 10.

[0037] In operation, a multimedia device 109 can be attached to the front of a display board 100 by first using techniques described below or any other way for locating the desired placement of the multimedia device mounts 101a and 101b on the display board 100. Once multimedia device mounts 101a and 101b locations are determined, the multimedia device mount method for example holes (137a, 137b, 137c, 137d, as shown in FIG. 17) are prepared using a suitable tool like a punch or drill. Any suitable mechanism, for example a threaded pin 139 as shown in FIG. 11, is inserted through the multimedia device mounts 101a and

101b, the holes 137a, 137b, 137c and 137d in the display board 100, and the multimedia washer plates 118a and 118b and secured with a nut type fastener 140. The multimedia device 109 is then slid into the multimedia mounts 101a and 101b. Other methods for insertion and attachment of the multimedia device 109 into the multimedia mounts 101a and 101b on to the display board 100 may be used, for example dual sided tape may be first attached on to the multimedia device mounts 101a and 101b, followed by the insertion of the multimedia device 109 into the multimedia device mounts 101a and 101b. Then the tape backing paper is removed and the mounted multimedia device is then adhered to the display board. However, it will be understood that the multimedia device mounts 101a and 101b may be affixed to the display board 100 by any suitable mechanism, including adhesives, threaded pins, rivets, hook and loop, hooks or self-hooking, hinges or folds, or magnetically. Or the multimedia device mount can be first fixed to the display board and then the device can be slid into the mounts. In addition, an access hinge 131 can be added (as shown in FIG. 9) and a locking mechanism can be used to prevent unwanted or accidental removal of device 109 from the display board 100.

[0038] Various methods can be used for the safe removal of the multimedia device 109 from the display board 100. For example, the device can be slid out of the mounts 101a and 101b or a front hinge 131 (as shown in FIG. 9) can be opened and the device removed. Alternatively, the nut and bolt like mechanism 140 can be removed from the mounts 101a and 101b, and the washer plates 118a and 118b can be detached allowing for the multimedia mounts 101a and 101b to be lifted off the display board 100. Then the device 109 is removed from the mounts 101a and 101b.

[0039] FIG. 3 shows a side perspective view of the display board 100 with display board base stands 110a and 110b (also shown in FIGS. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 and described in more detail below). The base stands 110a and 110b orient right panel 115 and left panel 117 for balance and provide additional stability to the display board 100, which may be top heavy when a multimedia device is inserted in multimedia device mounts 101a and 101b. The bottom of display board 100 is inserted between the front 122 and the back 121 segments of base stand 110 when the display board 100 is in a standing position. Base stand 110a and 110b are inserted through the somewhat bottom portion of display board 100, and are joined together in proximity of the score lines in such a fashion that the base stand 110a and 110b sit flatly against the display board making a level plane against the table. The base stands 110a and 110b extend away from the display board 100 on both the front side 122 and back side 121. Preferably, the base stands 110a and 110b could be detached from the display board 100 so that the display board can be folded flat for ease of transport and storage. The dual scores 108b (as shown in FIG. 22) allow for the display board to be folded flat over the mounts 101a and 101b with or without the device 109 inserted for storage and transportation.

[0040] In another embodiment, as shown in FIG. 23, a base stand 210 includes base segments 222 and 221 with a mating connector 223 that couples base segments 222 and 221 together. And, when connector 223 passes through a lower portion of a display board prior to coupling base segments 222 and 221 together, the display board is held more securely in base stand 210. In operation, base segments

**222** and **221** are secured together by inserting connector **223** through the display board (either through existing holes or by forcing connector **223** through the display board material) that is to be supported by base stand **210** and then inserting connector **223** into base segments **222** and **221**, which are then held securely by a friction fit, snap fit or other suitable mechanism.

[0041] In another embodiment, as shown in FIG. 24, a base stand **310** includes base segments **322** and **321** with mating connectors **324a** and **324b** that couple base stand **310** that couples base segments **322** and **321** together. And, when connectors **324a** and **324b** pass through a lower portion of a display board prior to coupling base segments **322** and **321** together, the display board is held more securely in base stand **310**. In operation, base segments **322** and **321** are secured together by inserting connectors **324a** and **324b** through the display board (either through existing holes or by forcing connectors **324a** and **324b** through the display board material) that is to be supported by base stand **310** and then inserting connectors **324a** and **324b** into base segments **322** and **321**, which are then held securely by a friction fit, snap fit or other suitable mechanism.

[0042] Base stand **310** as shown in FIG. 24 is designed to hold panels of a display board at an approximately right angle and base stand **210** as shown in FIG. 23 is designed to hold panels of a display board at an obtuse angle. It will be understood that the base stands of the present invention can be designed to hold to hold panels of a display board at any desired angle.

[0043] In addition, base stands **210** and **310** may be of any shape and have sufficient size and weight on both the front and back sides of the display board to hold the display board in an upright position.

[0044] In operation of an embodiment involving custom print and multimedia device positioning, as outlined in FIGS. 12-19, a user can input information about the multimedia device to be mounted on the display board. A user may, for example, select an identifying name for the multimedia device at step **221**. The user may alternatively select a numeral system and input the size (length and width) of the multimedia device to be mounted at **222**. The user may then select multimedia device orientation (e.g., landscape or portrait) at **223**. A user may then input the number of multimedia devices to be mounted at **224**. The user may then choose the multimedia device mount style (cut out, bar or corner) at **225**. The user may then choose the attachment method (cut/drill, adhesive or hardware) at **226**. As outlined in FIG. 14, the user may then select a display board size (e.g., small, medium, large or custom) at **231**. The user then may select a display board type (e.g., one panel, two panels, three panels or custom) at **232**. The user may then select a display board theme (e.g., templates or custom) at **233**. The user can input the quantity of display boards at **234**. As outlined in FIG. 15, a template builder module **240** determines an appropriate template or templates based on the prior user inputs. The template includes locations for multimedia device mounts, including top media mounts (**101a**) at **242** and bottom mounts (**101b**) at **242**. Data is merged, converted, compiled, and graphically illustrates information from **241** and **242** to generate a preview, such as depicted in FIG. 16, FIG. 17 and FIG. 18. The data output dimensions in FIG. 15 for example are generated for display board attachment locations at **244**, including base stands **110a** and **110b** at locations **138a** and **138b**, multimedia device mounts

**101a** and **101b** at locations **134a** and **134b**, display board drill holes at locations **137a**, **137b**, **137c**, and **137d** and protective corner covers **119a**, **119b**, **119c** and **119d** at locations **136a**, **136b**, **136c** and **136d**. The template example, as shown for example in FIG. 16, can be exported and merged into a preferred design software program at **245**.

[0045] An example of an implementation of the custom print/layout feature could be as follows: A 24 inch by inch tri-fold display board is selected that has folds 9 inches from the edges, and a tablet is selected that has dimensions of 6 inches by 9 inches and is to be displayed in a portrait orientation on the center panel. A default positioning could be to have the tablet centered midway within the upper half of the center panel. Therefore, the top of the tablet would be at a point 6 inches from the top of the display board and the center 9 inches from both folds. An appropriate multimedia display mount could include a top portion and a bottom portion of approximately 6 inches in length each. If both portions include two fastener elements spaced one inch from the ends of the portions, drill holes could be made in the display board at the following four locations, starting from the top of the display board at the rightmost fold: 6 inches down, 7 inches to the left of the fold; 6 inches down, 11 inches to the left of the fold; 15 inches down, 7 inches to the left of the fold; 15 inches down, 11 inches to the left of the fold. In addition, space for print or pasting a title could be allotted a rectangular space of 5 inches high by 17 inches long positioned with ½ inch margins from the top of the display board, each fold, and above the top portion of the multimedia device mount on the center panel of the display board.

[0046] The components of the improved display board will now be described in greater detail. Multimedia device mounts are used for removably attaching multimedia devices to a display board. In a preferred embodiment, as shown in FIG. 1, the multimedia device mounts **101a** and **101b** can have a profile that resembles a trapezium which is shown in FIG. 8 as a curved arch trapezium **127** or as shown in FIG. 9 as a short-lipped slanting trapezium **153**. This shape allows the multimedia device mounts **101a** and **101b** to retain and support tablets of various dimensions. Both an angled corner **145** (FIG. 10) and bar fasteners (FIG. 8 and FIG. 9) can be formed using a profile shape of this type or similar. The multimedia device mounts **101a** and **101b** can be constructed with two or three sides: left **127**, right **129** and bottom **128**. The right or left sides may be solid with a curve, with the opposite side straight with holes (**133a** and **133b**) to accommodate a suitable attachment method to the display board and the bottom **128** having opening **112** (as seen in FIG. 8), opening **152** (as seen in FIG. 9) and opening **146** (as seen in FIG. 10) for the insertion of multimedia device cords. The front position **135** acts as a location for a multimedia device **109**. The left side holes **133a** and **133b** can be used for holding and coupling multimedia devices to display boards with, but not limited to, various threaded pins fasteners (**137a,137b,137c** and **137d**), rivets (**137a,137b, 137c** and **137d**), adhesive (**134a** and **134b**), hook and loop (**134a** and **134b**), and magnetically (**134a** and **134b**). The front device location **135** may be any shape and for example in FIG. 8 and FIG. 9 is shown as a rectangle. Locations **135, 137a, 137b, 137c, 137d, 134a** and **134b** all provide template locations for methods of placement, attachment and or viewing of multimedia devices on display boards. These methods can involve, cutting, adhesion, and hardware type

fasteners. The multimedia device mounts **101a** and **101b** can have bent corners **130** as shown in FIG. **10** or straight bars as shown in FIG. **8** and FIG. **9**, as necessary to accommodate various multimedia devices. The multimedia device mounts **101a** and **101b** can be made from many materials that are solid and/or mesh, including but not limited to plastics, metal, wood, carbon fiber and composite materials including those with magnetic properties. In addition, as shown in FIG. **9**, the forward portions of device mounts **101a** and **101b** may be connected via a hinge to facilitate the insertion and removal of multimedia devices.

**[0047]** Multimedia mount washer plates **118a** and **118b** (shown in FIG. **8** and FIG. **9**) are used for attach when pins are preferred for attachment of the multimedia device mounts **101a** and **101b** to the display board. Washer plates **118a** and **118b** ensures a tight connection between the display board and the multimedia device mount. The multimedia device mounts **101a** and **101b** are attached to the front of the display board **100** and washer plates **118a** and **118b** are placed behind the display board **100** and connected to the multimedia device mounts **101a** and **101b** to secure the multimedia device to the display board **100** and to distribute the weight of the multimedia device **109** evenly across that portion of the display board. Washer plates **118a** and **118b** can be made from many materials that are solid and/or mesh, including but not limited to plastics, metal, wood, carbon fiber and composite materials including those with magnetic properties.

**[0048]** The life of a display board is often shortened by damage to the edges and corners. Protective corner covers **119a**, **119b**, **119c** and **119d**, as can be seen in FIG. **4** and FIG. **7**, can be placed over the corners of display boards to limit wear and damage. The protective corner covers **119a**, **119b**, **119c** and **119d** can be shaped somewhat like right angles in order to fit on the corners of display boards. Protective corner covers **119a**, **119b**, **119c** and **119d**, may be used such that when attached to the display board **100** the bottom protective corner covers **119d** and **119c**, lift the display board to the same height as base stands **110a** and **110b**, which are attached to the bottom of the display board **100** and are discussed in more detail below. Protective corner protectors **119a**, **119b**, **119c** and **119d** can be made from many materials that are solid and/or mesh including but not limited to plastics, metal, wood, carbon fiber and composite materials including those with magnetic properties.

**[0049]** The added weight of the multimedia device when attached to a display board, especially when attached toward the top of the display board, can make the display board prone to toppling over. Display board base stands can assist in stabilizing display boards with multimedia devices attached. The base stands are preferably positioned below the folds on a tri-fold display board, as shown for example in FIG. **1** and FIG. **2**. The base stands **110a** and **110b** include a slot **120** (as shown in FIG. **6**) for the insertion of the display board. The front portion of the base **122** can be somewhat shorter than the back portion **121**. The base stands **110a** and **110b** can be made from many materials that are solid and or mesh including but not limited to plastics, metal, wood, carbon fiber and composite materials including those with magnetic properties.

**[0050]** FIG. **22** shows how the dual score **108b** marks are used to fold of the display board **100** around the multimedia device **109** when mounts **101a** and **101b** are attached to the display board **100**.

#### Custom Print/Layout Feature

**[0051]** FIG. **12** is an overview of a process for determining the location and method for attaching a device to display boards. When using mounts **101a** and **101b** the method for attaching the mounts to the display boards is based on factors such as the identity of the multimedia device (and thus its size, shape and orientation), the size and shape of the display board to be used, and the number, size and style (e.g., number of display boards to be printed, the size and shape of the display board and the style of the display board). In addition, appropriate number and locations for base stands **110a** or **110b** and protective corner covers **119a**, **119b**, **119c** and **119d**, can be determined. For example, at **220**, a user could input a type of multimedia device to be mounted on a display board, or particular characteristics, such as size, of a multimedia device or devices to be mounted on the display board, as shown in more detail in FIG. **13**. Then, at **230**, as shown in more detail in FIG. **14**, a user could input information and choices regarding the display board to be used, i.e., to have the multimedia device(s) mounted on and other media attached and/or be printed on. At **240**, as shown in more detail in FIG. **15**, inputs from steps **220** and **230** are used to select or recommend templates and/or additional hardware such as base stands **110a** and **110b** and protective corner covers **119a**, **119b**, **119c** and **119d**. The resulting final output would include locations for the multimedia device mounts **101a** and **101b**, size and location for static media to be attached to and/or printed on the display board, and types and locations for other hardware such as base stands **110a** and **110b** and protective corner covers **119a**, **119b**, **119c** and **119d**. A preview may be provided such as depicted in FIG. **16** and FIG. **17**, and a user could optionally input changes to the preview that fall within possible variances as illustrated in FIG. **18** and FIG. **19**. An example of a display board layout using this feature of the present invention can be seen in FIG. **20**.

1. A base stand for a display board comprising:
  - a rear segment with a forward face, the forward face including an angle of greater than 80 degrees;
  - a front segment with a rearward portion, the rearward portion designed and configured to align with the forward face of the rear segment; and
  - at least one connector designed to couple the rear segment to the front segment while passing through a display board to be supported by the base stand, wherein when the connector couples the front segment to the rear segment, the forward face and the rearward portion form a groove sized and configured to support a portion of a bottom of a display board.
2. A mount for supporting a multimedia device on a tri-panel display board, the mount comprising:
  - an upper portion including a groove for receiving at least a portion of an edge of a multimedia device;
  - a lower portion including a groove for receiving at least a portion of an opposite edge of the multimedia device, wherein the multimedia device is removable from the mount and wherein the mount is designed and configured to be attached to a display board such that when the multimedia device is in the mount on a display board a screen of the multimedia device is displayed on the display board.

3. A base stand for a display board comprising:
  - a bottom portion;
  - a front portion;
  - a rear portion; and
  - a channel formed above the bottom portion and between the front portion and the rear portion, wherein the channel is sized and configured to accept a portion of a lower edge of a display board and wherein the base stand is sized and configured such that the display board is stabilized in an upright position when a portion of a lower edge of a display board is in the channel.
4. A holder for attaching a multimedia device to a display board comprising:
  - a top portion for receiving at least part of a side of a multimedia device;
  - a bottom portion for receiving at least part of an opposite side of the multimedia device; and
  - a plurality of openings in the holder for providing access to controls of the multimedia device when the multimedia device is within the holder;wherein the holder is designed and configured such that a screen of the multimedia device is accessible from on a front face of the display board when the holder is attached to the display board and the multimedia device is in the holder.

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