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Ettinger

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(54) **VIRTUAL SYMBOLS-BASED KEYBOARD**

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USPC **345/171**; 345/156; 345/169; 345/173

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A system for allowing a user to input text related data using a mobile device having an input and presentation unit. The system includes a virtual symbols keyboard, which includes virtual keys, each indicative of a graphical symbol, each graphically represents at least a part of a character, where the virtual symbols keyboard is configured to allow a user to input each character by touching a designated intermediate area between adjacent keys or by directly touching a virtual key using a single touch for inputting each character; and a processing module, which enables identifying a touch event over the virtual symbols keyboard, occurring over each virtual key and/or over each intermediate area and associating each touch event with a respective associated character according to the identified touch area. The processing module further allows presenting each identified associated character over the input and presentation unit.

18 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets