An Introduction to Patent Translation
What kind of job is patent translation?

- Predictable
- Well paid
- Increasingly in demand
- Technically challenging
- Linguistically challenging
- Highly detail oriented
How big is the US market?

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Source: USPTO
How much of an expert do I need to be?

- technical expertise
- patent expertise

- ATA’s *Japanese Patent Translation Handbook*
- ATA’s *Patent Translation Handbook (this year)*
- *How to Write a Patent Application*, by Jeffrey G. Sheldon
What is a patent?.

- A patent is an agreement between a government and an applicant.
  - The government promises to stop anybody other than the applicant from using the invention for a fixed period of time.
  - The applicant promises to let everyone know exactly how the invention works.
Us Patent Requirements:

- new (novel)
- not obvious
- useful
- enabling
- shows possession
- distinctly claims
Why are patents translated?
Get the idea.

Make sure the idea is not already known.

Develop the invention

Draft claims and description.

File in your home country or market of choice.

File in other countries.

Defend your patent at the PTO.

Defend your patent from infringement.
Basic Methodology

1. Maintain one-to-one correspondence between source and target
2. Respect sentence breaks and carriage returns
3. Be consistent in vocabulary and phrasing
4. Use appropriate annotation
One-to-one correspondence

La présente invention concerne un dispositif complémentaire au rideau de douche.

The present invention relates to an auxiliary device for a shower curtain.

4.1 Conservation of lexemes
4.2 Equivalent phrasing
Only worry about the lexemes

- Lexemes are the basic units in “content words,” and have independent meaning.

For our purposes, we are going to say that lexemes include: nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs and numerals.

dog, gun, multitasking, run, implement, disassociate, fast, slowly, 150, five, …

- Function words are the grammatical glue that holds lexemes together.

Function word include: articles, pronouns, prepositions, postpositions, conjunctions, auxiliary verbs, interjections, and particles.

him, she, it, they, that, of, on, under, before, thereafter, thereby, and, but, for, so, unless, because, is, may, can, should, will, to, even, there
Spot the lexeme

The invention relates generally to the field of writing instruments.

The casing may also be referred to as a barrel or a sheath.
Conserving lexemes

<table>
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<th>F</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>L (jump)</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>L</th>
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<tr>
<td>The</td>
<td>quick</td>
<td>brown</td>
<td>fox</td>
<td>jumped</td>
<td>over</td>
<td>the</td>
<td>lazy</td>
<td>dog.</td>
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✓ Over the lazy dog, jumped the quick brown fox.

✓ The lazy dog was jumped over by the quick brown fox.

✓ The fox, which was quick and brown, jumped over the dog, which was lazy.

✓ The fox did jump, and did so over the dog, the fox being both quick and brown, while the dog was lazy.
**Word and phrase order**

- La présente invention est relative à un système de verrouillage des portières d'un véhicule automobile.

- The present invention relates to a system of locking of the doors of a motor vehicle.

- The present invention relates to a motor vehicle door locking system.

- The present invention relates to a door locking system for a motor vehicle.

- The present invention relates to a system whereby the doors of a motor vehicle can be locked.
Word and phrase order

- 窒素源としては、硫酸アンモニウム、塩化アンモニウム、尿素等、或いはこれらの混合物を使用することができる。

  - For the nitrogen source, ammonium sulfate, ammonium chloride, urea and the like, or a mixture thereof, can be used.

  ✓ Ammonium sulfate, ammonium chloride, urea and the like, or a mixture thereof, can be used as the nitrogen source.

  ✗ The nitrogen source can be chosen from ammonium sulfate, ammonium chloride, urea and the like, or a mixture thereof.
Parts of speech

- **Dieses Mittel wurde auf eine belichtete und ausgewaschene Photopolymer-Hochdruckplatte gesprüht ...**

- **This product was sprayed on a light-exposed and rinsed-off photopolymer letterpress printing plate ...**

  ✓ This product was sprayed on a photopolymer letterpress printing plate, **which had been exposed to light and rinsed-off** ...

  ✗ **After preparing a photopolymer letterpress printing plate by exposing it to light and rinsing it off, the product was sprayed on** ...

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La présente invention propose un système qui permette une resynchronisation fiable et économique entre émetteur et récepteur.

The present invention proposes a system which allows a reliable and economic resynchronization between transmitter and receiver.

✓ The present invention proposes a system that allows the transmitter and the receiver to be resynchronized reliably and economically.

✗ The present invention proposes a reliable and economical system for resynchronizing the transmitter and the receiver.
Equivalent Phrasing

Equivalent phrasing is using a phrase or a term in the target text that comprises different lexemes from those in the source text, but which is the functionally equivalent to a phrase or a term in the source text.
When to use Equivalent Phrasing

- When the equivalence is very well established (usually, but not always, when the equivalence is listed in a dictionary)

- When conserving the source lexemes would lead to undue confusion, or highly unnatural style
Established Equivalents

- l'homme du métier
  man of the trade
- those skilled in the art

- 特許請求の範囲
  Scope of the Patent Claims
- Claims
Avoiding Confusion

- ...電源の切り忘れを防止し得る。
  ... it is possible to prevent forgetting to turn the power off
  ... it is possible to prevent [people from] forgetting to turn the power off

- ...it is possible to prevent the power from being accidentally left on.
Appropriate annotation

- Use square brackets to indicate added text.
- Use footnotes, or italics within square brackets, to add comments.
- Use raised numbers in parenthesis to reference amendments.
Adding lexemes

- ローラの回転角に応じた個数の信号を発生する手段
  - means for generating a number of signals corresponding to the rotational angle of the roller
    - means for generating a number of signal [pulses] corresponding to the rotational angle of the roller
    - means for generating a number of signal [pulses] corresponding to [the amount by which] the roller [has been rotated]
Indicating problems

- Transmission s'effectue de la clé 20 au dispositif d'identification 20.

✓ Transmission is made from the key 20 [sic] to the identification device 20.

✗ Transmission is made from the key [30] to the identification device 20.
Difficult to translate typos

- ...同一部分には同一番号を付して詳細な説明は省略する。

✗ ...identical parts are given identical numerals and detailed descriptions thereof are the subject of a business plan [sic].

✓ ...identical parts are given identical numerals and detailed descriptions thereof are omitted¹.

¹: There is a typographical error in the original Japanese text. –trans.
How do I learn patentese?

- read patents
Advanced Search

1. Database

Select patent database: Worldwide

2. Search terms

Enter keywords in English

<table>
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Metal wood-type golf club has center of gravity lowered along longitudinal direction with respect to front wall of housing comprising weight pads

Bibliographic data

Publication number: FR2840816
Publication date: 2003-12-10
Inventor: BLISS JOHN C; SERRANO ANTHONY P
Applicant: KARSTEN MFG CORP (US)
Classification:
- international: A63B63/00; A63B63/60; A63B63/04; A63B63/06; (IPC1-7): A63B63/04
- European: A63B63/04
Application number: FR200300007252 20030617
Priority number(s): US20020173229 20020617

Also published as:
- US6777672 (B2)
- GB200322295 (A1)
- DE10537029 (A1)
- CA3432473 (A1)

Abstract of FR2840816

A housing (224) comprises the weight pads (226, 229) which are disposed towards the respective toe portion (214) and heel portion (216) of a bottom wall. The weight pads are operated to increase the moment of inertia of a golf club head (203) through a series of weight pads.
METAL WOOD GOLF CLUB WITH PROGRESSIVE WEIGHTING

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates generally to golf clubs and, in particular, to so-called metal wood-type golf clubs.

Golf clubs known as "woods" traditionally have a head made of a suitable wooden material such as maple or persimmon attached to one end of an elongated shaft. These wooden club heads are usually solid and are shaped with their weight properly distributed about their center of gravity to maximize performance. Golf club "wood" heads have also been formed of suitable metals such as stainless steel and titanium. Metal heads are usually hollow. Various attempts have been made to distribute weight in metal heads with respect to their center of gravity so that the performance is maximized. Such attempts have included placing different types and numbers of weight members at different locations inside the metal heads. Examples of such attempts are disclosed in prior U.S. Pat. No. 4,869,507 to Sahm; U.S. Pat.

FIG. 1 is a top plan view of a prior art golf club head;
FIG. 2 is a top plan view of a golf club head incorporating features of the present invention;
FIG. 3 is a sectional view taken along lines 3—3 of FIG. 2;
FIG. 4 is a sectional view of a golf club head incorporating features of the present invention having an increased loft angle;
FIG. 5 is a sectional view of a golf club head incorporating features of the present invention having a still further increased loft angle;
FIG. 6 is a top sectional view of the golf club head of FIG. 4; and
FIG. 7 is a sectional view of the golf club head of FIG. 5.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The drawing figures are intended to illustrate the general manner of construction and are not necessary to scale. In the detailed description and in the drawing figures, specific illustrative examples are shown and herein described in
ABSTRACT
A soccer ball is suspended by a line from a horizontal arm canted from an upright standard supported by a portable base. The height of the soccer ball can be adjusted by paying out or hauling in the appropriate length of line, and the line can be anchored to a cleat carried by the standard. The height of the ball is adjusted for a soccer player for instruction and practice of heading the ball. The standard is of knockdown construction for ease in transportation to a training site.

3 Claims, 4 Drawing Figures
SOCCER PRACTICE DEVICE

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a training device for practicing soccer skills. More specifically, the present invention relates to a training device used in teaching and practicing heading techniques.
SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The principal **object** of the present invention is to provide a device for use in training soccer players in effective and safe heading techniques.

It also is an **object** of the present invention to provide such a device which is of simple, inexpensive construction.

Another **object** is to provide such a device in lightweight form that can be disassembled quickly and easily for transportation to a training site, such as in the trunk of an automobile.

A further **object** is to provide such a device which, in use, will decrease the fear of inexperienced players to heading a soccer ball.
I claim:

1. A soccer practice device for use in practicing heading techniques comprising an elongated standard member formed of a plurality of elongated standard sections connectible end-to-end in aligned, nonrotative relationship, a portable base for receiving the lower portion of said standard member and for supporting said standard member in upright position, an elongated arm member cantilevered from the upper portion of said standard member so as to project generally horizontal when said standard member is in upright position, a soccer ball, a line having one end portion connected to said soccer ball, means carried by said members for guiding said line generally along the length of said arm member so as to suspend said soccer ball from the outer free end portion of said arm member at a height appropriate for practicing heading said soccer ball, and means carried by said standard member for attaching the free end portion of said line so as to maintain said soccer ball at such height and enabling adjustment of the height of the soccer ball.