

# SHOEMAKER AND MATTARE, LTD.

CHARLES W. FALLOW  
D.C. & VA BARS

INTELLECTUAL  
PROPERTY

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

ALLEN P. ROSENBERG  
VA, NY & PA BARS  
OF COUNSEL

10 POST OFFICE ROAD, SUITE 100  
SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20910

TELE. (301) 589-8900  
FAX (301) 589-8885

WWW.SHOMAT.COM

August 19, 2008

\*SENT VIA\*

- Fax
- Email
- Post
- Overnight

National Widget Company  
Attn: John Doe, President  
123 Maple Grove Avenue  
Somewhere, California

Re: Widget with Power Amplifier  
Your ref. "Widgemax"  
Our ref. 08-0182

Dear Mr. Doe:

In response to your request, received by email on August 14, we have conducted a patentability search on the device shown in the drawings attached to your message.

Our search was directed to a widget of the type having a elliptical pin interconnecting opposed pintles and adapted to generate a torque between the pintles. We understand such widgets are well known. The particular improvement is the addition of a power amplifier which produces power pulses that enable the widget to create much higher peak torque and thus provide reliable pintle movement even in very cold environments.

As a result of the search, we have identified the following references:

U.S. Patents

7070341 - Smith [see Fig. 7, items 31 and 52]  
4712340 - Jones  
D213444 - Brown

Published Pending Applications

20060123456 - Parvesian et al.

Foreign Patents

(none)

Literature

[www.shoemaker.com/archive/understandingwidgets.html](http://www.shoemaker.com/archive/understandingwidgets.html)

This search was conducted in Class 294, subclasses 100 - 103 and in Class 340, subclass 43.

The Jones patent, which was granted to your company, was cited for its disclosure of a widget which interconnects two pintles, for the purpose of producing relative movement between the pintles. There is no power amplifier; the only power supply disclosed is three "AAA" batteries.

The Smith patent shows a widget having a power amplifier; however, the amplifier does not produce pulses, and it is installed in a carburetor throttle actuator linkage, rather than between pintles.

The Brown design patent may be of interest for the appearance of the widget shown in Fig. 3.

The web page cited above is a primer on widget design and may be of interest as background.

#### OPINION

You requested we provide our opinion on whether any portion of this invention is patentable.

In our opinion, claims to this invention, particularly reciting the pulsing feature in conjunction with the other elements recited in the second paragraph of this letter, are likely to be found patentable over the references we found during this search. It may, however, be necessary to prove to a patent examiner that the pulsing feature does in fact produce superior operation in cold environments, so any test results on this aspect of the invention should be preserved.

We cannot guarantee a patent examiner will agree with our appraisal of the references, or that he will not find other documents or evidence to support a rejection. New documents will become available between now and when any application you file is examined. Please also remember that you will have a duty to inform the patent examiner of prior art you know of. Should you discover any pertinent information, we will be pleased to reconsider this opinion

Yours very truly,

*Docket No. 6182*  
*August 19, 2008*  
*Page 3 of 3*

---

**Enclosures:**

patent copies in .pdf format (by email only)  
invoice