

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE  
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CPC NOTICE OF CHANGES 1874

DATE: JANUARY 1, 2026

PROJECT MP12822

**The following classification changes will be effected by this Notice of Changes:**

<u>Action</u>	<u>Subclass</u>	<u>Group(s)</u>
<b>SCHEME:</b>		
Titles Changed:	G02C	11/06
	G08B	SUBCLASS
	G08B	3/00
	G08B	5/00
	G08B	6/00
	G08B	7/00
	H04R	SUBCLASS
	H04R	1/04
	H04R	3/00
	H04R	25/00
<b>DEFINITIONS:</b>		
Definitions Modified:	G02C	11/06
	G08B	6/00
	H04M	1/72478
	H04N	13/20
	H04R	1/04, 1/32, 1/40, 3/00, 3/02, 25/00

**This Notice of Changes includes the following** *[Check the ones included]:*

1. CLASSIFICATION SCHEME CHANGES

- ☒ A. New, Modified or Deleted Group(s)
- ☐ B. New, Modified or Deleted Warning(s)
- ☐ C. New, Modified or Deleted Note(s)
- ☐ D. New, Modified or Deleted Guidance Heading(s)

2. DEFINITIONS

- ☒ A. New or Modified Definitions (Full definition template)
- ☐ B. Modified or Deleted Definitions (Definitions Quick Fix)

3. ☐ REVISION CONCORDANCE LIST (RCL)

4. ☐ CHANGES TO THE CPC-TO-IPC CONCORDANCE LIST (CICL)

5. ☐ CHANGES TO THE CROSS-REFERENCE LIST (CRL)

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## 1. CLASSIFICATION SCHEME CHANGES

A. New, Modified or Deleted Group(s)**SUBCLASS G02C- SPECTACLES; SUNGLASSES OR GOGGLES INsofar AS THEY HAVE THE SAME FEATURES AS SPECTACLES; CONTACT LENSES**

<u>Type*</u>	<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Indent Level Number of dots (e.g. 0, 1, 2)</u>	<u>Title</u> “CPC only” text should normally be enclosed in {curly brackets}**	<u>Transferred to<sup>#</sup></u>
M	G02C 11/06	1	Hearing aids (construction of electric hearing aids H04R 25/00)	

**SUBCLASS G08B –SIGNALLING OR CALLING SYSTEMS; ORDER TELEGRAPHS; ALARM SYSTEMS**

<u>Type*</u>	<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Indent Level Number of dots (e.g. 0, 1, 2)</u>	<u>Title</u> “CPC only” text should normally be enclosed in {curly brackets}**	<u>Transferred to<sup>#</sup></u>
M	G08B	Subclass	SIGNALLING SYSTEMS, e.g. PERSONAL CALLING SYSTEMS; ORDER TELEGRAPHS; ALARM SYSTEMS	
M	G08B 3/00	0	Audible signalling systems, e.g. audible personal calling systems	
M	G08B 5/00	0	Visible signalling systems, e.g. visible personal calling systems or remote indication of seats occupied	
M	G08B 6/00	0	Tactile signalling systems, e.g. tactile personal calling systems	
M	G08B 7/00	0	Signalling systems according to two or more of groups G08B 3/00 - G08B 6/00	

**SUBCLASS H04R - LOUDSPEAKERS, MICROPHONES, GRAMOPHONE PICK-UPS OR LIKE ACOUSTIC ELECTROMECHANICAL TRANSDUCERS; DEAF-AID SETS; PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEMS**

<u>Type*</u>	<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Indent Level Number of dots (e.g. 0, 1, 2)</u>	<u>Title</u> “CPC only” text should normally be enclosed in {curly brackets}**	<u>Transferred to<sup>#</sup></u>
M	H04R	Subclass	LOUDSPEAKERS, MICROPHONES, GRAMOPHONE PICK-UPS OR LIKE ACOUSTIC ELECTROMECHANICAL TRANSDUCERS; ELECTRIC HEARING AIDS; PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEMS	

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<u>Type*</u>	<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Indent Level Number of dots (e.g. 0, 1, 2)</u>	<u>Title</u> <u>“CPC only” text should normally be enclosed in {curly brackets}**</u>	<u>Transferred to#</u>
			(producing sounds with frequency not determined by supply frequency G10K)	
M	H04R 1/04	2	Structural association of microphone with electric circuitry therefor (in electric hearing aids H04R 25/00)	
M	H04R 3/00	0	Circuits for transducers (arrangements for producing a reverberation or echo sound G10K 15/08; amplifiers H03F)	
M	H04R 25/00	0	Electric hearing aids	

\*N = new entries where reclassification into entries is involved; C = entries with modified file scope where reclassification of documents from the entries is involved; Q = new entries which are firstly populated with documents via administrative transfers from deleted (D) entries. Afterwards, the transferred documents into the Q entry will either stay or be moved to more appropriate entries, as determined by intellectual reclassification; T = existing entries with enlarged file scope, which receive documents from C or D entries, e.g. when a limiting reference is removed from the entry title; M = entries with no change to the file scope (no reclassification); D = deleted entries; F = frozen entries will be deleted once reclassification of documents from the entries is completed; U = entries that are unchanged.

## NOTES:

- \*\*No {curly brackets} are used for titles in CPC only subclasses, e.g. C12Y, A23Y; 2000 series symbol titles of groups found at the end of schemes (orthogonal codes); or the Y section titles. The {curly brackets} are used for 2000 series symbol titles found interspersed throughout the main trunk schemes (breakdown codes).
- U groups: it is obligatory to display the required “anchor” symbol (U group), i.e. the entry immediately preceding a new group or an array of new groups to be created (in case new groups are not clearly subgroups of C-type groups). Always include the symbol, indent level and title of the U group in the table above.
- All entry types should be included in the scheme changes table above for better understanding of the overall scheme change picture. Symbol, indent level, and title are required for all types.
- “Transferred to” column must be completed for all C, D, F, and Q type entries. F groups will be deleted once reclassification is completed.
- When multiple symbols are included in the “Transferred to” column, avoid using ranges of symbols in order to be as precise as possible.
- For administrative transfer of documents, the following text should be used: “< administrative transfer to XX>”, “<administrative transfer to XX and YY simultaneously>”, or “<administrative transfer to XX, YY, ...and ZZ simultaneously>” when administrative transfer of the same documents is to more than one place.
- Administrative transfer to main trunk groups is assumed to be the source allocation type, unless otherwise indicated.
- Administrative transfer to 2000/Y series groups is assumed to be “additional information”.
- If needed, instructions for allocation type should be indicated within the angle brackets using the abbreviations “ADD” or “INV”: <administrative transfer to XX ADD> , <administrative transfer to XX INV>, or < administrative transfer to XX ADD, YY INV, ... and ZZ ADD simultaneously>.
- In certain situations, the “D” entries of 2000-series or Y-series groups may not require a destination (“Transferred to”) symbol, however it is required to specify “<no transfer>” in the “Transferred to” column for such cases.
- For finalisation projects, the deleted “F” symbols should have <no transfer> in the “Transferred to” column.
- For more details about the types of scheme change, see CPC Guide.

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## 2. A. DEFINITIONS (modified)

### G02C 11/06

Replace: The existing Definition statement text with the following updated text.

#### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Specially adapted (parts of) spectacles for attaching or having attached hearing aids.

#### References

Insert: The following new Limiting references section.

#### Limiting references

*This place does not cover:*

Construction of electric hearing aids	H04R 25/00
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Delete: The following reference from the Informative references table.

#### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Hearing aids per se	H04R 25/00
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### G08B 6/00

#### References

Insert: The following new Application-oriented references section.

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**Application-oriented references**

*Examples of places where the subject matter of this place is covered when specially adapted, used for a particular purpose, or incorporated in a larger system:*

Indication of time by feeling	<a href="#">G04B 25/02</a>
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Replace: The existing Informative references table with the following updated table.

**Informative references**

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Processes or apparatus for generating mechanical vibrations of infrasonic, sonic or ultrasonic frequency	<a href="#">B06B 1/00</a>
Apparatus for generating mechanical vibrations	<a href="#">B06B 1/045</a>
Motors converting reciprocating into rotary movement or vice-versa	<a href="#">H02K 7/06</a>
Motors with reciprocating, oscillating or vibrating magnet, armature or coil system	<a href="#">H02K 33/00</a>
Telephone hand set vibration alarms	<a href="#">H04M 19/047</a>
Electric hearing aids	<a href="#">H04R 25/00</a>

**H04M1/72478****References**

Replace: The existing Informative references table with the following updated table.

**Informative references**

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Electric hearing aids	<a href="#">H04R 25/00</a>
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## H04N13/20

Replace: The existing Definition statement text with the following updated text.

### Definition statement

This place covers:

- The generation of electronic image signals representative of stereoscopic or multi-view images.
- Computer-generated stereoscopic or multi-view image signals.
- Signal processing and control systems therefor.

Note:

The generated stereoscopic signals may be in any format, e.g. L + R, 2D + depth map, 3D + depth map. Note, however, that the devices which do not capture optical images (e.g. 3D scanners, time-of-flight cameras, rangefinders, etc.) are not classified in H04N 13/00, they are classified in groups H04N 13/204 - H04N 13/246.

Replace: The existing Relationships text with the following updated text.

### Relationships with other classification places

Monoscopic plenoptic cameras generating a single viewpoint are classified in the relevant groups H04N 23/00.

Plenoptic cameras/integral imaging cameras, which provide more than one viewpoint, are to be classified in H04N 13/20, in particular in H04N 13/282 if they provide more than two different geometrical viewpoints.

### References

Replace: The existing Informative references table with the following updated table.

#### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Projection displays	H04N 5/74, H04N 9/31
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Recording, including multiplexing another television signal	H04N 5/92, H04N 9/82
Video standards conversion	H04N 7/01
Colour signal processing circuits	H04N 9/64
Video stream synchronization/multiplexing/packetization aspects	H04N 21/00
Video signal reformatting	H04N21/4402, H04N 21/2343
Aspects concerning subtitles or other OSD information	H04N 21/488
Generation or processing of metadata	H04N 21/84
Television cameras	H04N 23/00
Arrangements of television cameras (not for capturing stereoscopic images)	H04N 23/90
Time-of-flight [TOF] cameras	G01S 17/894
Optical systems for producing stereoscopic or other three-dimensional effects	G02B 30/00
Stereoscopic photography by sequential recording	G03B 35/02
Stereoscopic photography by simultaneously recording	G03B 35/08
3D scanners	G06F 3/01
Depth or shape recovery	G06T 7/50
Generation of a depth map from stereoscopic image signals	G06T 7/593
Calculation or rendering of a monoscopic view of a 3D graphics object	G06T 15/20
Generation of 3D graphical models or scenes	G06T 17/00
Manipulating 3D models or images for computer graphics	G06T 19/00

**H04R1/04**

Replace: The existing Definition statement text with the following updated text. The image should remain as-is.

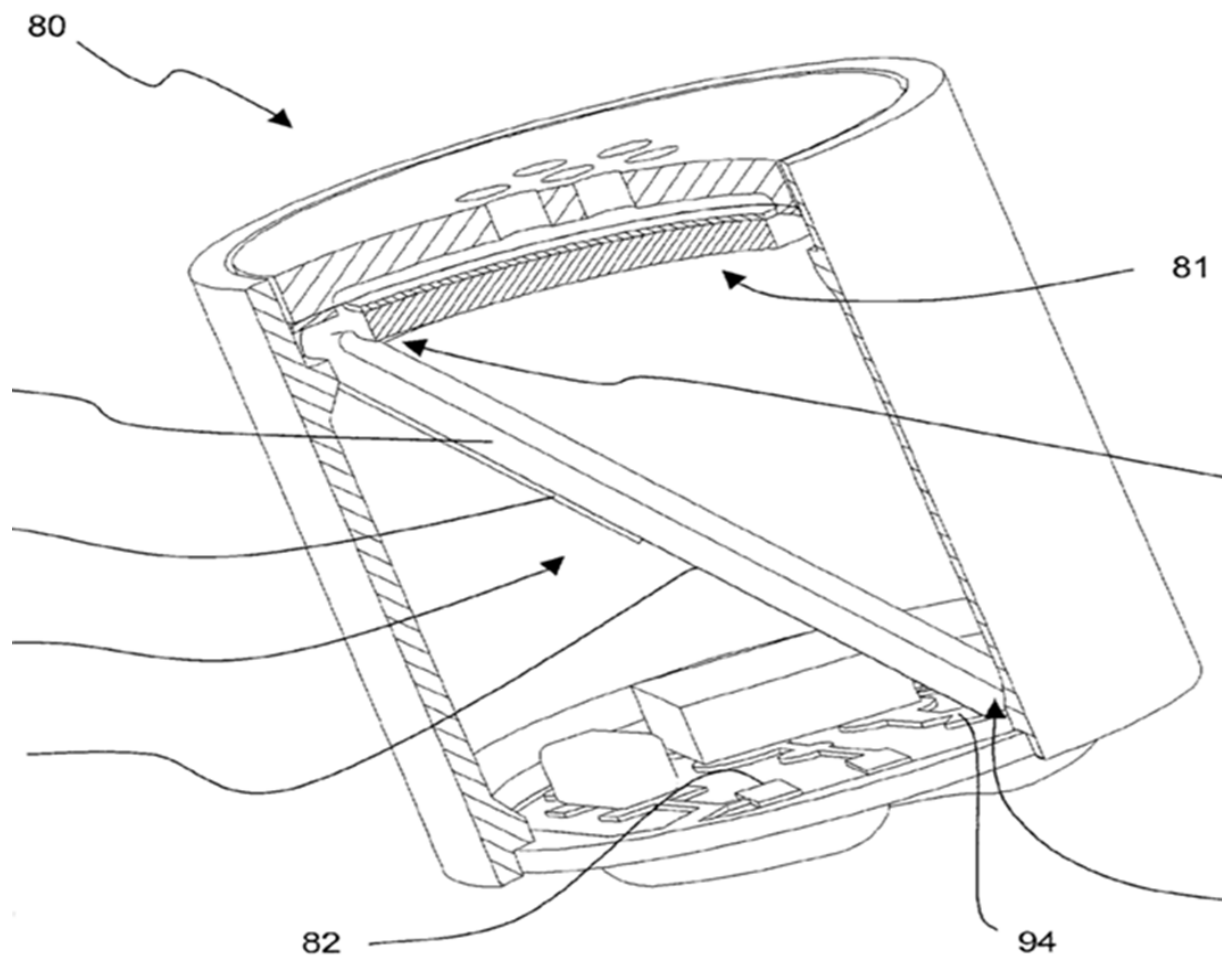
**Definition statement**

This place covers:

Illustrative example of the subject matter classified in this place:

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The Figure illustrates circuitry (81) that can be mounted inside the microphone (80).

### References

Replace: The existing Limiting references table with the following updated table.

### Limiting references

*This place does not cover:*

Structural association of microphone with electric circuitry therefor in electric hearing aids
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H04R 25/00
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**H04R1/32****References**

Replace: The existing Application-oriented references table with the following updated table.

***Application-oriented references***

*Examples of places where the subject matter of this place is covered when specially adapted, used for a particular purpose, or incorporated in a larger system:*

Arrangements in electric hearing aids for obtaining desired directional characteristic	<a href="#">H04R 25/40</a>
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Replace: The existing Special rules text with the following updated text.

**Special rules of classification**

If a frequency effect is also addressed, classification in [H04R 1/22](#) or subgroups as additional information is required as well.

Further detail is covered by Indexing Code [H04R 2410/01](#). Classification is obligatory.

**H04R1/40****References**

Replace: The existing Application-oriented references table with the following updated table.

***Application-oriented references***

*Examples of places where the subject matter of this place is covered when specially adapted, used for a particular purpose, or incorporated in a larger system:*

Combining a number of identical transducers specially adapted for electric hearing aids	<a href="#">H04R 25/405</a>
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Insert: The following new reference in the Informative references table.

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**Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Circuits for distributing signals to two or more loudspeakers	H04R 3/12
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**H04R3/00**

Replace: The existing Definition statement text with the following updated text.

**Definition statement**

*This place covers:*

Circuits for transducers, e.g.:

- Motional feedback or like circuit arrangements for transducers.
- Circuits for combining the signals of two or more microphones.
- Protection circuits for transducers.
- Circuits for preventing acoustic reaction.
- Circuits for distributing a signal to a plurality of loudspeakers.
- Circuits for correcting the frequency response of transducers.

**References**

Delete: The following reference from the Limiting references table.

**Limiting references**

*This place does not cover:*

Testing of transducer, loudspeaker or microphone connection for non-stereophonic purposes	H04R 29/001; H04R 29/004
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Replace: The existing Application-oriented references table with the following updated table.

**Application-oriented references**

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*Examples of places where the subject matter of this place is covered when specially adapted, used for a particular purpose, or incorporated in a larger system:*

Circuits for combining the signals of two or more microphones or loudspeakers specially adapted for electric hearing aids	<a href="#">H04R 25/407</a>
Public address systems, e.g. circuits therefor	<a href="#">H04R 27/00</a>

Replace: The existing Informative references table with the following updated table.

### ***Informative references***

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Driving circuits for generating mechanical vibrations of infrasonic, sonic or ultrasonic frequency (specially adapted for particular applications, see the relevant subclass)	<a href="#">B06B 1/0207</a>
Audio-frequency transformers or mutual inductances, i.e. not suitable for handling frequencies considerably beyond the audio range	<a href="#">H01F 19/02</a>
Low frequency amplifiers, e.g. audio preamplifiers	<a href="#">H03F 3/181</a>
Power amplifiers using a combination of several semiconductor amplifiers	<a href="#">H03F 3/211</a>
Combinations of amplifiers using coupling networks with distributed constants	<a href="#">H03F 3/602</a>
Combinations of amplifiers, e.g. multi-channel amplifiers for stereophonics	<a href="#">H03F 3/68</a>
Control of amplification	<a href="#">H03G</a>
Remote control of amplification, tone or bandwidth	<a href="#">H03G 1/02</a>
Arrangements for preventing acoustic feedback	<a href="#">H04M 1/20</a>
Two-way loud-speaking telephone systems with means for conditioning the signal, e.g. for suppressing echoes for one or both directions of traffic	<a href="#">H04M 9/08</a>
Circuits for stereophonic arrangements	<a href="#">H04R 5/04</a>
Stereophonic systems	<a href="#">H04S</a>

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## H04R3/02

### References

Replace: The existing Application-oriented references table with the following updated table.

#### Application-oriented references

*Examples of places where the subject matter of this place is covered when specially adapted, used for a particular purpose, or incorporated in a larger system:*

Circuits for prevention of acoustic reaction specially adapted for electric hearing aids	<a href="#">H04R 25/453</a>
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## H04R25/00

Replace: The existing Definition statement text with the following updated text.

### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Electric hearing aids providing an auditory perception.

Electrical or mechanical aspects thereof, e.g.:

- Electro-acoustic or electro-mechanical hearing aids.
- Electric tinnitus maskers providing an auditory perception.
- Signal processing, e.g. beamforming, prevention of acoustic reaction or noise reduction, noise reduction, in dependence of listening situation.
- Electronic fitting, i.e. initial or subsequent adaptation using audiological test signals, e.g. by a hearing aid acoustician, testing or monitoring.
- Wired or wireless external connection or remote control.
- Manufacture or assembly, e.g. mounting of transducers or batteries.
- Ear tips, ear moulds or their manufacture.

### References

Delete: The entire Limiting references section.

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**Informative references**

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Constructions of transducers per se	<a href="#">H04R 9/00 - H04R 23/00</a>
Amplifying systems for the deaf	<a href="#">H04R 27/02</a>
Monitoring arrangements; Testing arrangements in general	<a href="#">H04R 29/00</a>
Ornaments for ears	<a href="#">A44C 7/00</a>
Earphones measuring physiological sounds, e.g. heartrate, breathing, pulse	<a href="#">A61B 5/02</a>
Methods or devices for treatment of the ears, e.g. surgery	<a href="#">A61F 11/00</a>
Devices or methods enabling ear patients to replace direct auditory perception	<a href="#">A61F 11/04</a>
Internal protective devices for the ears, e.g. earplugs	<a href="#">A61F 11/08</a>
Non-electric hearing aids	<a href="#">A61F 11/30</a>
Cochlear implants	<a href="#">A61N</a>
Structural combination of hearing aids with spectacle frames	<a href="#">G02C 11/06</a>
Teaching or communicating with deaf persons	<a href="#">G09B 21/009</a>
Directing sound using electrical steering of transducer arrays, e.g. beam steering	<a href="#">G10K 11/34</a>
Coding or decoding of speech or audio signal, using source filter models or psychoacoustic analysis	<a href="#">G10L 19/00</a>
Processing of speech signals	<a href="#">G10L 21/00</a>
Automatic gain control in audio amplifiers	<a href="#">H03G 3/3005</a>
Telephone sets for the hearing impaired	<a href="#">H04M 1/2475</a>
Mobile telephones for the hearing impaired	<a href="#">H04M 1/72478</a>

Replace: The existing Special rules text with the following updated text.

**Special rules of classification**

Classification should be directed to groups [H04R 25/02](#), [H04R 25/04](#) and [H04R 25/50](#) and its subgroups, if and only if the technical subject in consideration cannot be classified elsewhere under this main group.

Concerning inventions relating to hearing devices, if an application describes and shows the invention using only embodiments relating to hearing aids, then [H04R 25/00](#) or

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subgroups should be given as invention information. Dependent on the case, the mere statement that the invention is also applicable to ear- or headphones may render classification under [H04R 1/10](#) or [H04R 5/033](#) useful, but only as additional information. Only if specific non-trivial embodiments for ear- or headphones are also shown, classification under [H04R 1/10](#) or [H04R 5/033](#) as invention information may be considered as well.

Further details are covered by indexing groups [H04R 2225/31](#), [H04R 2225/33](#), [H04R 2410/07](#), [H04R 2430/03](#), [H04R 2460/03](#), [H04R 2460/13](#) and [H04R 2460/17](#). Classification is obligatory.