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- Phil's Christmas message



IP Scope takes this opportunity to wish all readers a Happy Christmas and offer best wishes for a prosperous New Year.

I leave the following for your amusement: a US patent granted on 30 Sept 2014 for a rotating christmas tree with built in MP3 dock and USB port that enables audio to be played from speakers arranged in the tree.

I think the patent office may well have been in a jovial mood when this was granted but the legal process does seem to have been followed appropriately. Is it obvious? Well, with hindsight, yes it is, however, the fact that no one had previously described or built such a device has given the benefit of the doubt.

US8848948: Rotatable christmas tree stand with audio player dock

Inventor(s): Duvall Daniels
Filing date: 01/Nov/2011
Issue date: 30/Sep/2014

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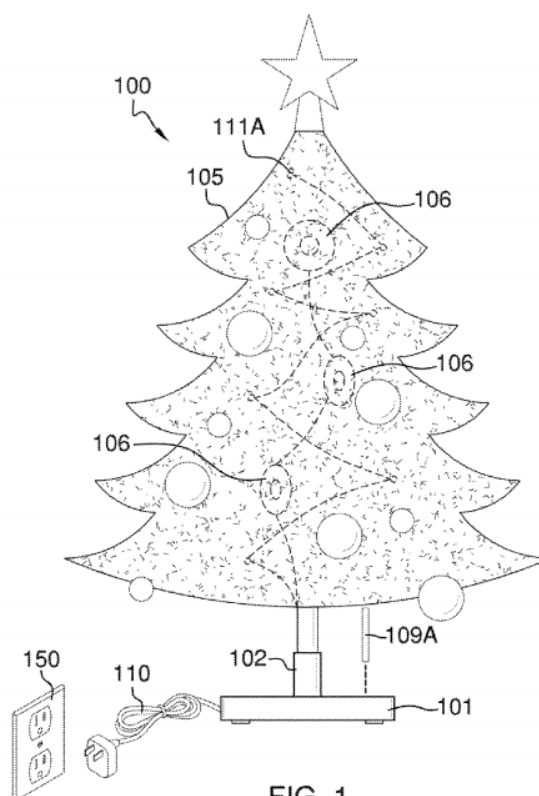


FIG. 1

First Claim:

1. A Christmas tree comprising: a Christmas tree; and a stand said stand having a rotating means that said Christmas tree is affixed thereto; wherein the rotating means and said Christmas tree are rotatable with respect to the remainder of the stand; wherein the stand includes docks for playing audio on at least one speaker located on the Christmas tree; wherein a computing means located within the stand is wiredly connected between the docks and the speakers; wherein the rotating means includes a gearing system in mechanical connection between the rotating means and a motor; wherein the motor is in wired communication with the computing means; and wherein the rotational speed of the motor can be adjusted, which in turn controls an output speed of the rotating means.

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