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Dear Sirs

INTERNATIONAL PATENT APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP2011/062196

Your ref : NP106-EP
Our ref : SCG/FP6914345

We have brought the above-identified International (PCT) patent application into the European Regional Phase as you requested.

Application Data

Applicant : NEW ASIA OPTICAL INDUSTRY CO., LTD.
European application number : 11856134.9
Effective European application date : 27 May 2011
Priority claim : 18 January 2011 JP 2011-007982
Title : LIGHT INTENSITY ADJUSTMENT DEVICE

Request for Examination

We have paid the examination fee.

Designation of Countries

We have paid the designation fee. All available EPC countries are designated. See List 1 below. Note that the EPO will not refund the designation fee after it has been paid, even if the application is withdrawn.

Continued....

DESCRIPTION

[Title of Invention] LIGHT INTENSITY ADJUSTER

[Technical Field]

[0001]

This invention relates to a light intensity adjuster, and more specifically, to that which is operable to have a filter intervening as necessary in an optical path for transmitting light.

[Background Art]

[0002]

There are image taking devices employing image pickup elements such as those of a CCD (charge-coupled device) or CMOS (complementary metal-oxide semiconductor), for instance, having a light intensity adjuster mounted for adjusting the intensity of light.

[0003]

Such image taking devices sometimes have an infrared ray (IR) cutoff filter mounted for cutting rays of invisible light in an infrared region, with the need of displacing the infrared ray cutoff filter out of an optical path for transmitting light at timings involving use in the night or for night vision such as those at a monitoring camera. Therefore, such image taking devices require, besides the light intensity adjuster, also a device for actuating the infrared ray cutoff filter, which might have been separately mounted for large-size cameras, but for recent types being needed to downsize, there is a way of downsizing needed to achieve while implementing integration with the light intensity adjuster.

[0004]

More specifically, there are light intensity adjusters involving, for instance, that which, as shown in Fig. 9, has a drive motor 10 mounted for adaptation to actuate a light intensity adjusting mechanism (as an iris mechanism) 30, using drive forces of the drive motor 10, thereby causing light intensity adjusting members 32 and 33 to have the area of a shape of opening defined between peripheral edges 32d and 33d thereof put in positional relations opposite each other, varied to adjust the light intensity.

[0005]