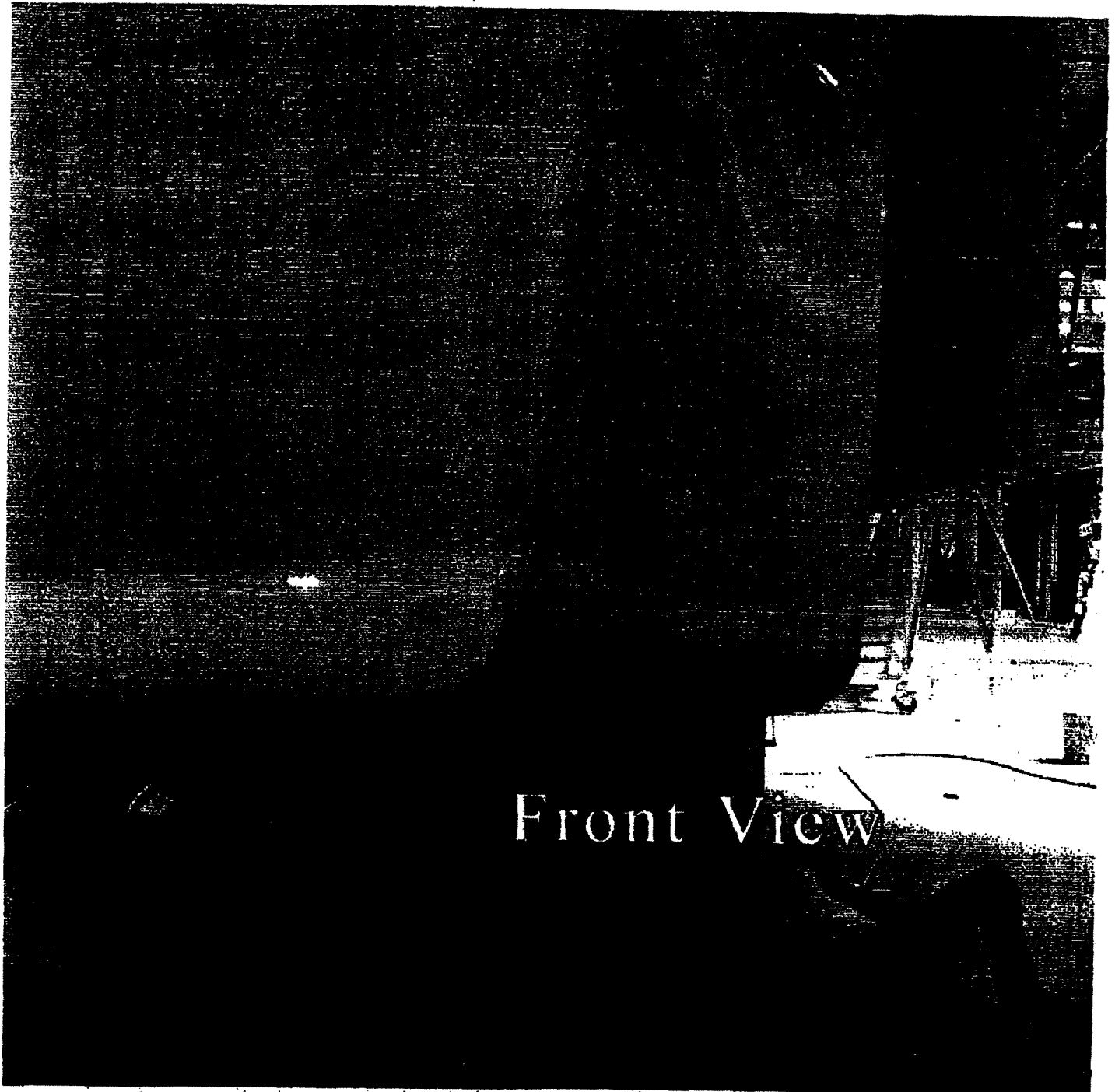
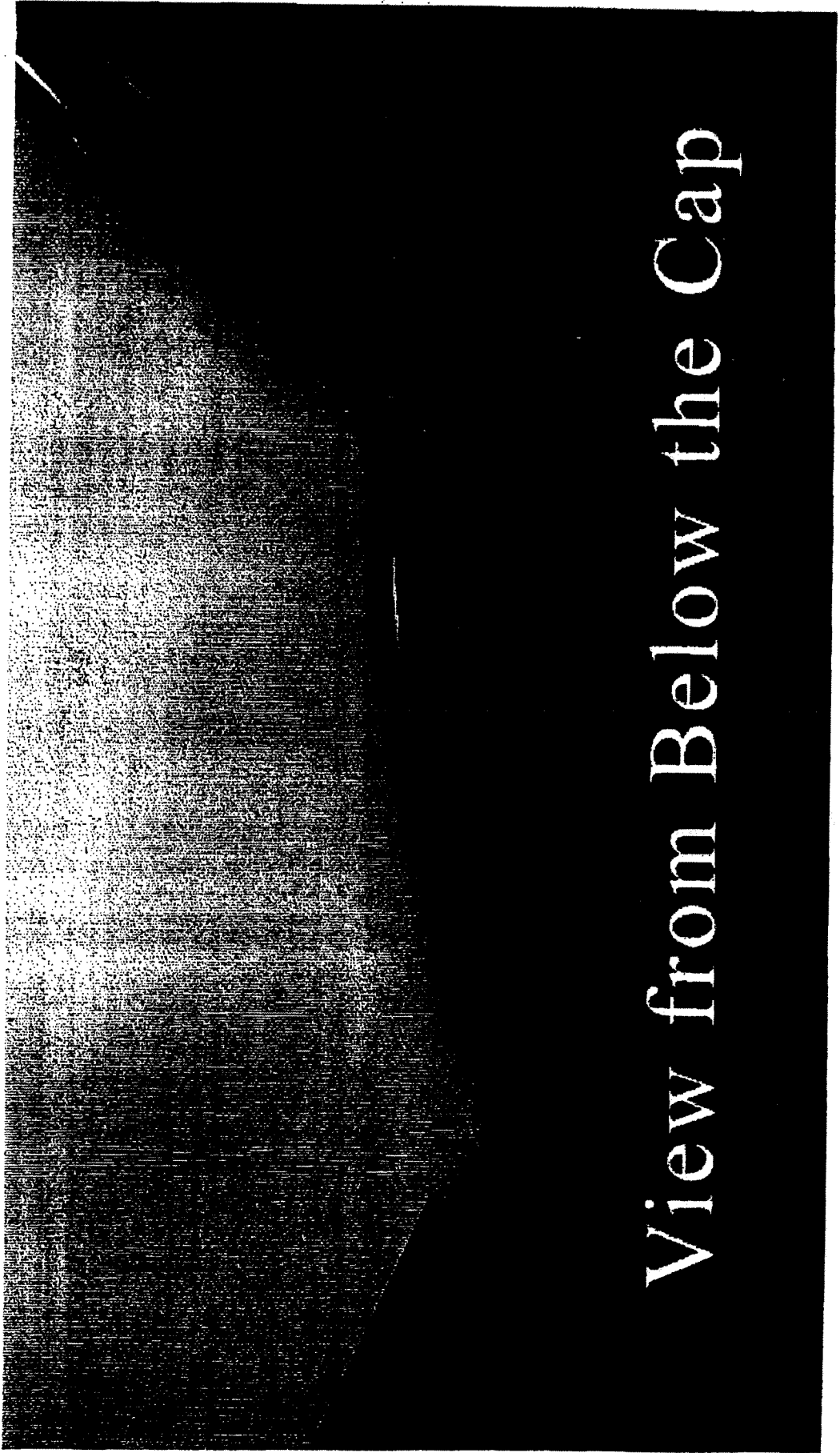


Side View



Front View



View from Below the Cap

Katt, Zellma

From: Greg Cooper
Sent: Monday, March 08, 2004 2:26 PM
To: Diana Fulton
Subject: Fwd: Heartland

Attachments: TopView.jpg; Truck2.jpg; Truck6.jpg




TopView.jpg (403 KB) Truck2.jpg (319 KB) Truck6.jpg (385 KB)

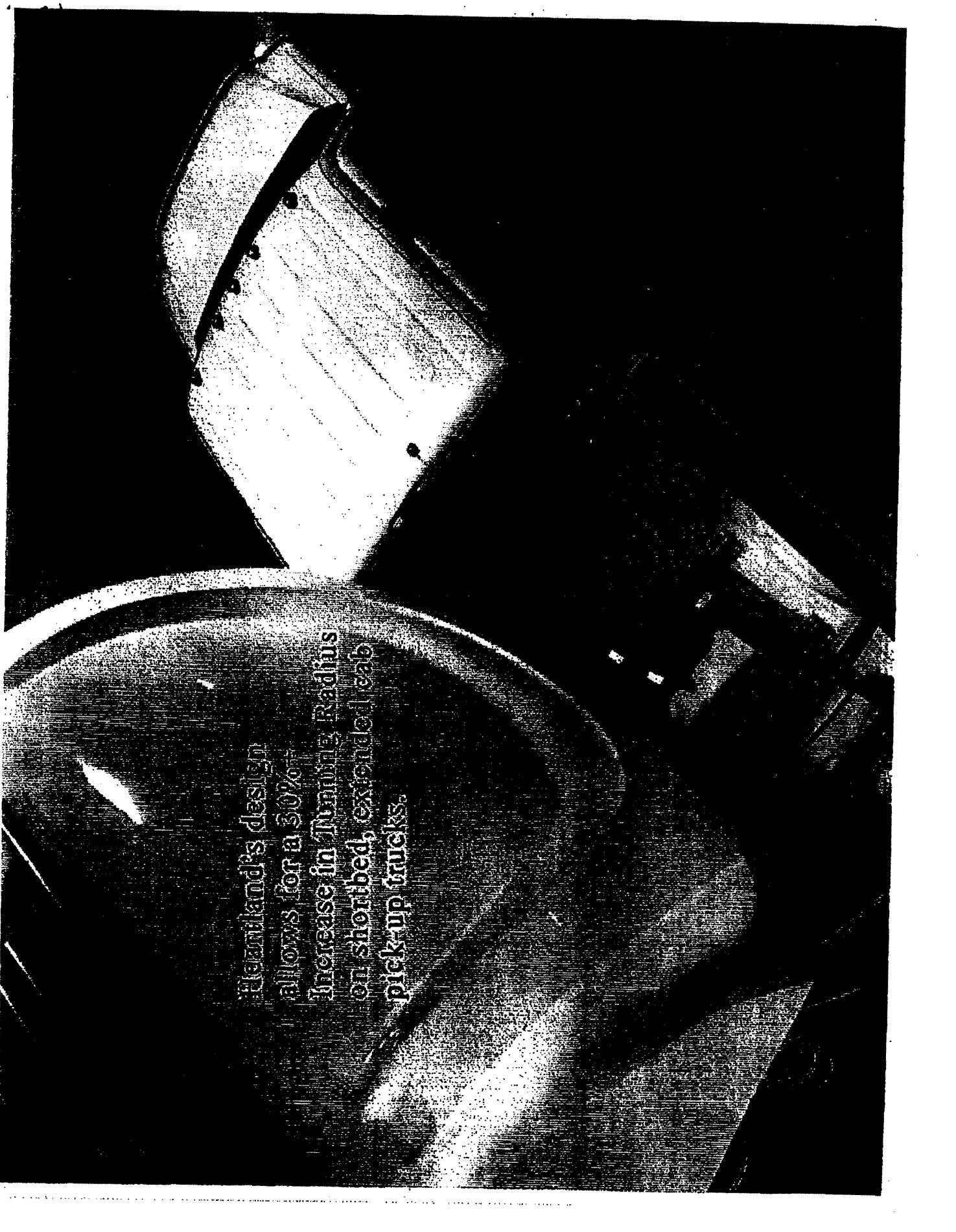
please print in color. Thanks

>>> "Scott Tuttle" <scott@mail.heartlandrvs.com> 03/08/04 12:31PM >>>

Top View

With other units
this is the
“crunch zone”
With Heartland’s
improved turning
radius, it is
not an issue.





Heanland's design
allows for a 30%
increase in Turning Radius
on shortbed, extended cab
pick-up trucks.

Katt, Zellma

From: Greg Cooper
Sent: Monday, March 08, 2004 2:26 PM
To: Diana Fulton
Subject: Fwd: Heartland - one more...

Attachments: PinPlacement.jpg

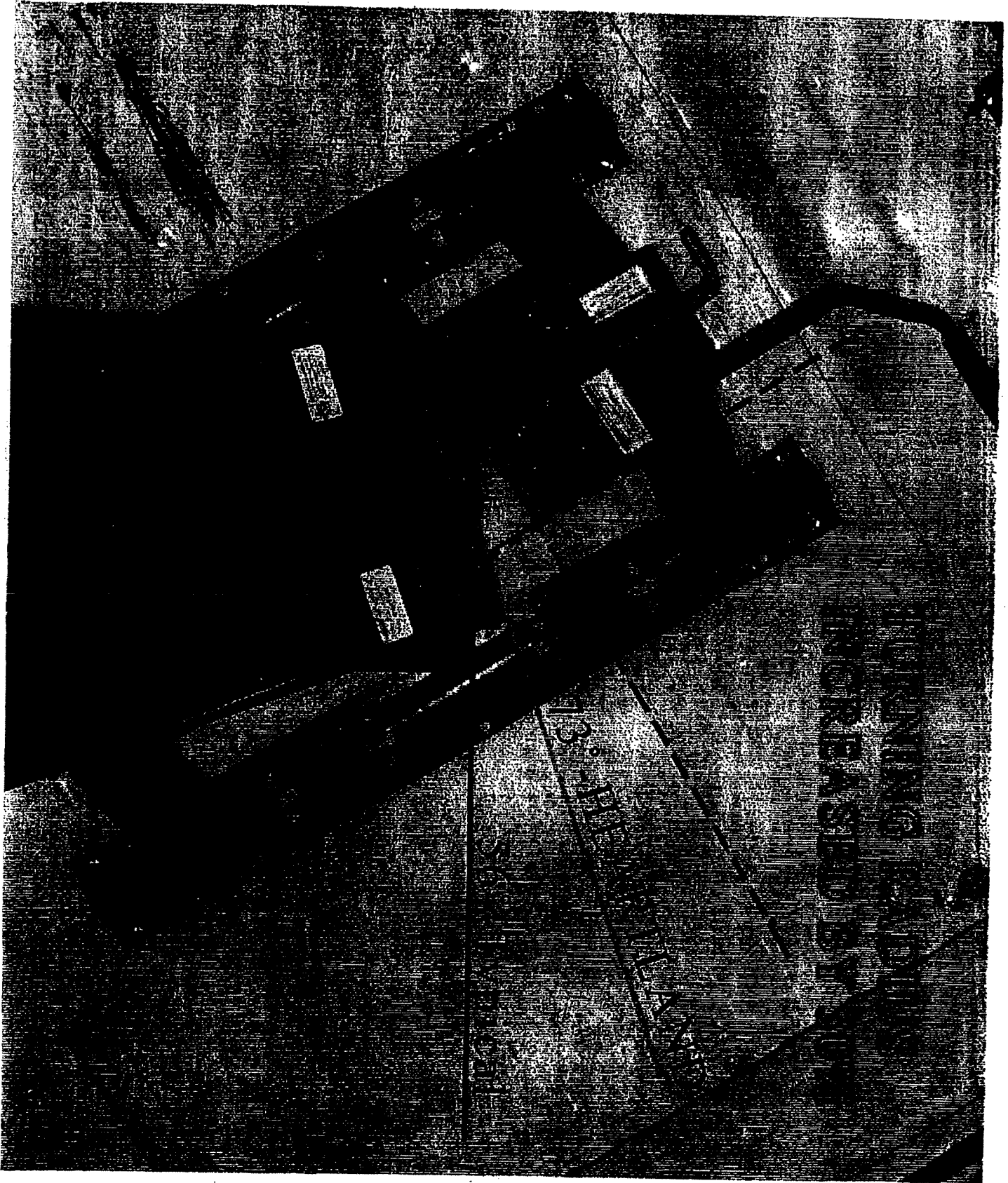


PinPlacement.jpg
(442 KB)

please print in color

>>> "Scott Tuttle" <scott@mail.heartlandrvs.com> 03/08/04 01:05PM >>>
Here is a new pin placement image with degree of angles noted.

ST



Katt, Zellma

From: Greg Cooper
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2004 11:03 AM
To: Diana Fulton
Subject: Fwd: HEARTLAND

Attachments: San. Door.jpg; SaniST.jpg



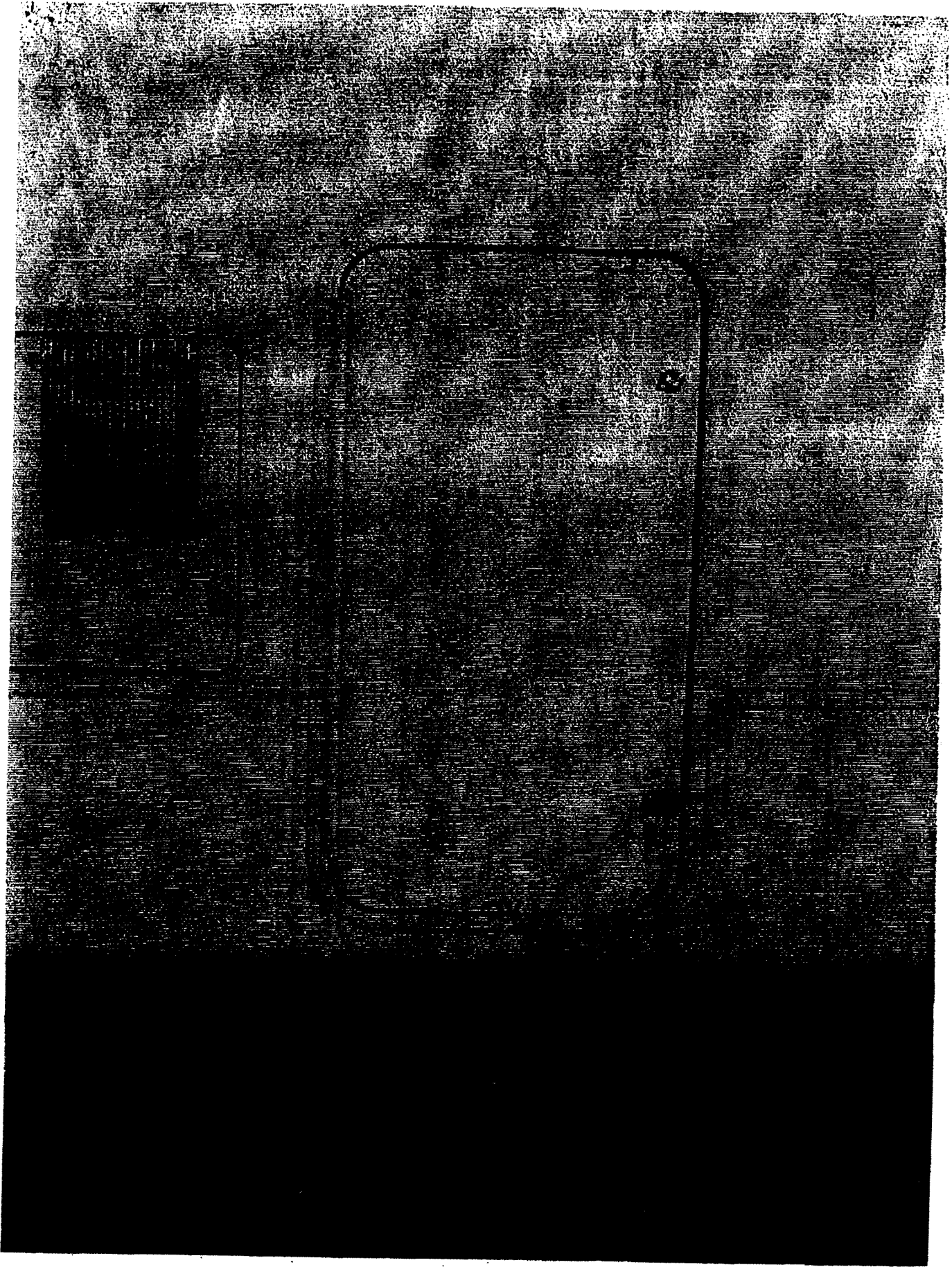
San. Door.jpg (227 KB)
SaniST.jpg (565 KB)

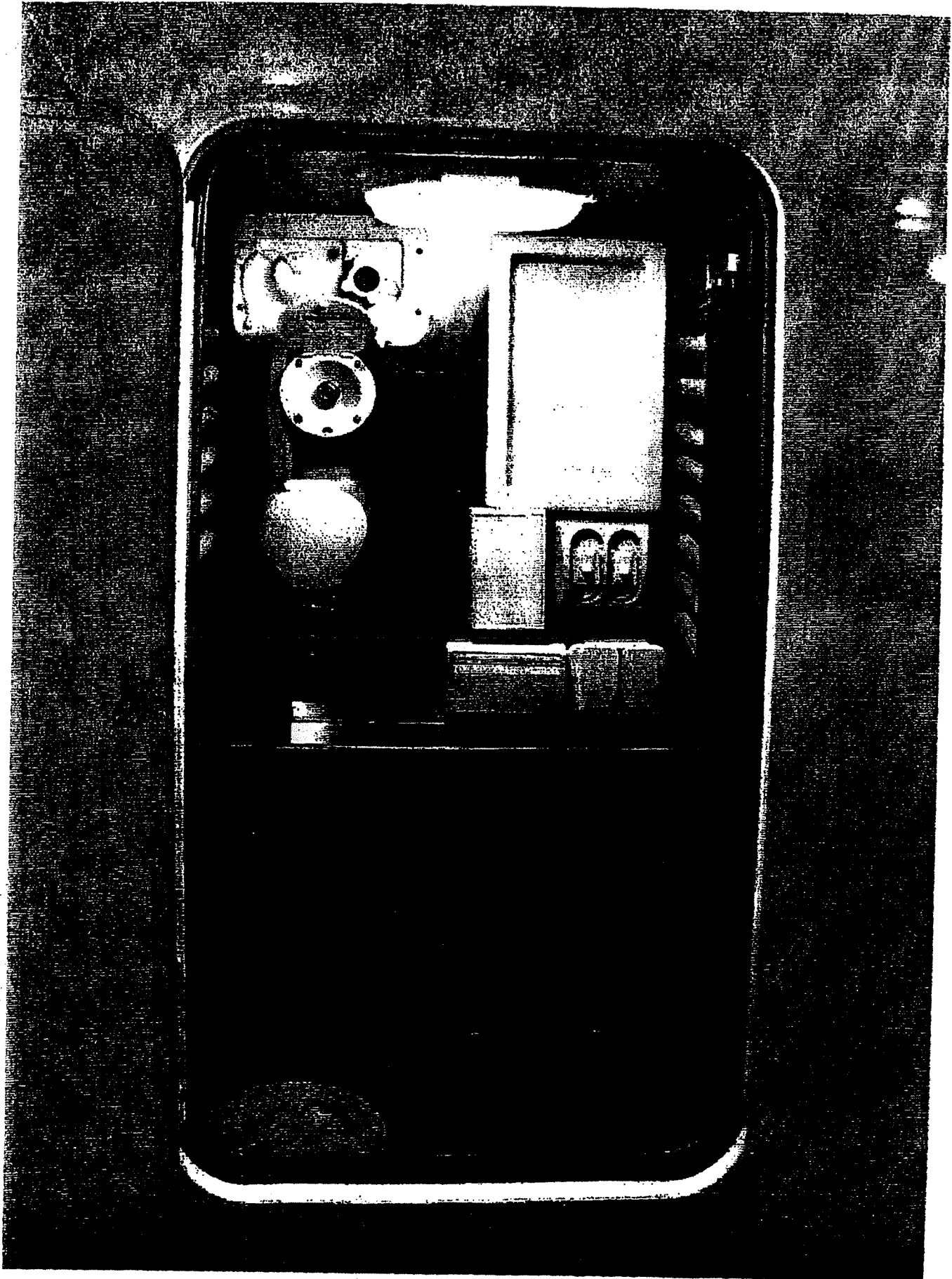
please print these in color. Thanks

>>> "Scott Tuttle" <scott@mail.heartlandrvs.com> 03/10/04 02:59PM >>>
Greg,

Attached are photos of our sanitation station.

Scott





Katt, Zelma

From: Stacey Toler [stoler@BTLaw.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2004 4:19 PM
To: scott@heartlandrva.com
Subject: Draft of Provisional Patent Application for Improved Fifth Wheel Trailer - Our Ref. 82757

Attachments: Small Entity Statement - 82757.DOC; Letter sending draft application to Scott Tuttle - 82757.DOC; Fifth Wheel Provisional Application - 82757.DOC; Figures 1-15.zip



Small Entity Statement - 82757.. Letter sending draft applicati... Fifth Wheel Provisional Applic... Figures 1-15.zip (937 KB)

Attached are a letter, Small Entity Statement, draft application for the Improved Fifth Wheel Trailer, and Figures 1-15. Should you have any problems opening any of the attachments, please advise us of the same.

Greg Cooper
260-425-4660
gcooper@btlaw.com

B&T 041

BARNES & THORNBURG

<http://www.btlaw.com>

600 One Summit Square
Fort Wayne, IN 46802-3119

Switchboard: (260) 423-9448
Fax: (260) 424-8316
Direct Dial: (260) 425-4668
E-mail: gcooper@btlaw.com

Gregory S. Cooper

March 11, 2004

VIA E-MAIL: scott@heartlandrvs.com

Mr. Scott Tuttle
VP Marketing & Dealer Services
Heartland Recreational Vehicles, LLC
28868 Paul Drive
Elkhart, Indiana 46514

Re: New U.S. Provisional Patent Application
Title: "Improved Fifth Wheel Trailer"
Our Ref.: 32757

Dear Scott:

Enclosed is a draft of a provisional patent application for the above-identified invention. Each inventor should review this draft for completeness and accuracy, and provide us with comments or suggestions concerning any changes deemed necessary or desirable. Please verify that all examples described in the application are accurate and operative and that the best mode contemplated of carrying out the invention is clearly set forth.

Please advise us of any necessary revisions or additions to the text or drawings of the enclosed provisional application. Filing a provisional application in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office provides a filing date for the subject matter described in the provisional application. Therefore, it is important that all available subject matter pertaining to the titled invention be included in this provisional application.

Please provide us with the following information for each inventor:

1. Full name (including middle name) of each inventor;
2. Physical residence address of each inventor (i.e., street address, city, state and zip code);

Chicago Elkhart Fort Wayne Grand Rapids Indianapolis South Bend Washington, D.C.

B&T 043

Mr. Scott Tuttle

July 30, 2009

Page 2

3. Residence mailing address of each inventor (if different from the physical residence address, e.g., a P. O. Box, etc.);
4. The inventor's citizenship.

We will revise the application per each inventor's comments and suggestions and send you a revised draft. After your review and approval of the revised draft, the provisional application will be placed in final form and filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Please read the important information about Patent Office Filing Deadlines and Foreign Patent Protection provided on the enclosed sheets.

Let us know as soon as possible if the application should be assigned and, if so, to what entity. Also, please let us know whether or not the application will be entitled to small entity status. To claim small entity status, please complete and sign the attached Small Entity Request Form and return it to us as soon as possible.

If you are interested in obtaining patent coverage in any foreign countries, please advise so that we may discuss the requirements and deadlines for doing so. We cannot initiate the filing of any foreign patent applications without your written authorization.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the enclosed draft provisional application, the obligations of an inventor, foreign filing, or the enclosed information sheets, please call. We look forward to receiving your comments soon.

Sincerely,

BARNES & THORNBURG

Gregory S. Cooper

GSC:set
Enclosure

FWDS01 GSC 181029_1

B&T 044

Katt, Zellma

From: Scott Tuttle [scott@mail.heartsandrvs.com]
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2004 12:22 PM
To: Greg Cooper
Subject: Inventor's info

Greg,
Here is our information for the names and addesses of those who need to go on the invention trademark application.

BT

Brian R. Brady
22664 Weatherby Lane
Elkhart, IN 46514
U.S. Citizen

John Mitchell Rhymer
6462 W. 900 N.
Nappanee, IN 46550
U.S. Citizen

Douglas Martin Lantz
13562 Shavano Peak Dr.
Middlebury, IN 46540
U.S. Citizen

Timothy Arthur Hoffman
10819 Volinia Dr.
Osceola, IN 46561
U.S. Citizen

Scott James Tuttle
56830 Brightwood Blvd.
Elkhart, IN 46516
U.S. Citizen

B&T 067

Katt, Zelma

From: Greg Cooper
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2006 5:51 PM
To: scott@heartandrive.com
Subject: Draft Trailer Patent Application

Attachments: 193446_1.DOC; drawings.zip



193446_1.DOC
(135 KB)



drawings.zip (562
KB)

Scott:

Attached is a very rough draft of the trailer application along with the draft drawings. Please bear in mind the application still requires revision for both grammar and content. Simply review the application for any glaring errors or omissions. Also, you will note that figs. 14 and 15 are not labeled with reference numerals. The final version will be labeled appropriately.

As I mentioned, if you have any revisions, please feel free to email or fax them. We will however, be preparing the final application for filing on Monday. Thus, all changes must be received by 9:00AM on Monday. As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Regards,
Greg

Greg Cooper
Barnes & Thornburg
600 One Summit Square
Fort Wayne IN 46802
(260) 425-4650
gcooper@btlaw.com

B&T 080

BARNES & THORNBURG LLP

Gregory S. Cooper
(260) 425-4660
Email: gcooper@btlaw.com

600 One Summit Square
Fort Wayne, IN 46802-3119 U.S.A.
(260) 423-9440
Fax (260) 424-8316

www.btlaw.com

April 5, 2005

Mr. Scott Tuttle
VP Marketing & Dealer Services
HEARTLAND RECREATIONAL VEHICLES, LLC
28868 Paul Drive
Elkhart, Indiana 46514

Re: New U.S. Utility Patent Application
Title: "TRAVEL TRAILER HAVING IMPROVED TURNING RADIUS"
Our Ref.: 36743/82922

Dear Mr. Tuttle:

Enclosed is a copy of the U.S. utility patent application for the above-identified invention as filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") on March 28, 2005. This application names Brian R. Brady, John Mitchell Rhymer, Douglas Martin Lantz, Timothy Arthur Hoffman, and you as inventors. We will send you a copy of the official filing receipt for this application after we receive it from the Patent Office.

Also enclosed is a Declaration and Power of Attorney for each inventor to sign and return to us for filing in the Patent Office. By signing the Declaration, you are declaring that you are an inventor of the claimed subject matter and that you have reviewed and understood the contents of the application including the patent claims.

PRIOR ART DISCLOSURE TO PATENT OFFICE

The next action we need to take on this application is to file an Information Disclosure Statement with the USPTO which identifies all patent and non-patent publications and other facts that a reasonable examiner may consider to be important to an assessment of patentability of the claimed invention. Such other facts include public demonstrations or sales or offers of sale of products pertaining to the invention and information any of the inventors received from others prior to making the invention. Each person involved in the preparation and prosecution of the patent application has an obligation to disclose such publications and facts to the USPTO.

Please send us any published articles or other information that you believe may be pertinent to the claimed invention as soon as possible. We will then prepare an Information Disclosure Statement for filing with the USPTO within three months of the filing date.

Chicago Elkhart Fort Wayne Grand Rapids Indianapolis South Bend Washington, D.C.

B&T 143

Mr. Scott Tuttle
April 5, 2005
Page 2

We will keep you advised of all future developments regarding this application.

Sincerely,

BARNES & THORNBURG LLP



Gregory S. Cooper

GSC:zmg
Enclosure

FWDS01 GZC193967_1

BARNES & THORNBURG LLP

B&T 144

ASSIGNMENT
(World Wide Patent Rights)

For good and valuable consideration, the sufficiency and receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, as a below named inventor, we hereby sell, assign and transfer to Heartland Recreational Vehicles, LLC, a Domestic Limited Liability Company of the state of Indiana, having its principal office at 28868 Paul Drive, Elkhart, Indiana 46514, its successors and assigns or other legal representatives, all our rights, title and interest in and to the invention entitled

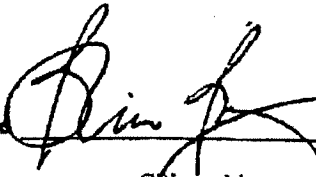
Improved Fifth Wheel Trailer

invented by us and to any United States and foreign patents to be obtained therefore, as described in the application for United States Letters Patent therefore, the said interest being the entire ownership of the invention, said U.S. Letters Patent and any foreign Letters Patent when granted, to be held and enjoyed by said Heartland Recreational Vehicles, LLC, its successors, assigns or other legal representatives, to the full end of the term for which said Letters Patents may be granted, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by us if this assignment and sale had not been made.

And we hereby agree to sign and execute any further documents or instruments which may be necessary, lawful, and proper in the prosecution of the above-named application or in the preparation and prosecution of any continuing, continuation-in-part, substitute, divisional, renewal, reviewed or reissue applications or in any amendment, extension, or interference

proceedings, as well as any papers necessary to procure foreign patents on said invention, or otherwise to secure the title thereto in said assignee.

And we do hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents to issue said Letters Patent to said Heartland Recreational Vehicles, LLC.

Date 7-2-04 Signature 

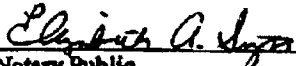
Inventor Brian R. Brady Citizenship U.S.A.

Post Office Address 22664 Weatherby Lane, Elkhart, Indiana 46514

Residence Address 22664 Weatherby Lane, Elkhart, Indiana 46514

STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
 COUNTY OF Elkhart)

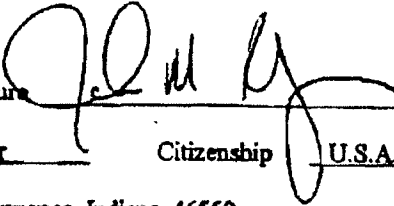
On this 2nd day of July, 2004, before me, a Notary Public in and for the County and State aforesaid, appeared Brian R. Brady, to me personally known to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he executed said instrument as his free and voluntary act and for the uses and purposes therein expressed.


 Notary Public

Elizabeth A. Jantz
 Printed Name

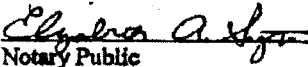
My Commission Expires: January 11, 2009

County of Residence: Elkhart

Date 7-2-04 Signature 
 Inventor John Mitchell Rhymer Citizenship U.S.A.
 Post Office Address 6462 W. 900 N. Nappanee, Indiana 46550
 Residence Address 6462 W. 900 N. Nappanee, Indiana 46550

STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
 COUNTY OF Elkhart)

On this 2nd day of July, 2004, before me, a Notary Public in and for the County and State aforesaid, appeared John Mitchell Rhymer, to me personally known to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he executed said instrument as his free and voluntary act and for the uses and purposes therein expressed.


 Notary Public

Elizabeth A. Smith
 Printed Name

My Commission Expires: January 11, 2009
 County of Residence: Elkhart

Date 7-2-04 Signature Douglas M. Lantz

Inventor Douglas Martin Lantz Citizenship U.S.A.

Post Office Address 13562 Shavano Peak Drive, Middlebury, Indiana 46540

Residence Address 13562 Shavano Peak Drive, Middlebury, Indiana 46540

STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF Elkhart)

On this 2nd day of July, 2004, before me, a Notary Public in and for the County and State aforesaid, appeared Douglas Martin Lantz, to me personally known to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he executed said instrument as his free and voluntary act and for the uses and purposes therein expressed.

Elizabeth A. [Signature]
Notary Public

Elizabeth A. [Printed Name]
Printed Name

My Commission Expires: January 11, 2009

County of Residence: Elkhart

Date 7-2-04 Signature Timothy Arthur Hoffman

Inventor Timothy Arthur Hoffman Citizenship U.S.A.

Post Office Address 10819 Volinia Drive, Osceola, Indiana 46561

Residence Address 10819 Volinia Drive, Osceola, Indiana 46561

STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF Elkhart)

On this 2nd day of July, 2004, before me, a Notary Public in and for the County and State aforesaid, appeared Timothy Arthur Hoffman, to me personally known to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he executed said instrument as his free and voluntary act and for the uses and purposes therein expressed.

Elizabeth A. Smith
Notary Public

Elizabeth A. Smith
Printed Name

My Commission Expires: January 11, 2009

County of Residence: Elkhart

Date 7/2/04 Signature Scott J. Tuttle

Inventor Scott James Tuttle Citizenship U.S.A.

Post Office Address 56830 Brightwood Boulevard, Elkhart, Indiana 46616

Residence Address 56830 Brightwood Boulevard, Elkhart, Indiana 46616

STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF Elkhart)

On this 2nd day of July, 2004, before me, a Notary Public in and for the County and State aforesaid, appeared Scott James Tuttle, to me personally known to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he executed said instrument as his free and voluntary act and for the uses and purposes therein expressed.

Elizabeth A. Smith
Notary Public

Elizabeth A. Smith
Printed Name

My Commission Expires: January 11, 2009

County of Residence: Elkhart

From: "Scott Tuttle" <scott@mail.heartlandrvs.com>
To: <gcooper@btlaw.com>
Date: 3/2/2005 11:16:03 AM
Subject: Re: Heartland Turning Radius Patent

Greg,

I was wondering if you could help me out with some of the questions my senior partner (Braidn Brady) has regarding our patent application.

The real part of this application that we are concerned about and feel we have a good shot at is the improved turning radius design where we cut back the frame and also remolded the cap design to take advantage of that void in the frame.

I have included Brian's response to me with some questions he has. One is, he is looking for some sort of assurance that is this concept is even defensible? And if we were to have to go to court over it, how much would we be looking at to defend it?

Call me when you can.
Thanks.

Scott Tuttle

----- Original Message -----

From: Bbireh74@aol.com
Date: Wed, 2 Mar 2005 09:35:45 EST

Scott:

The issue is whether or not the patent is defensible. We need some assurances from our attorney(s) that this will be the case. For example, does Cambridge infringe the patent as being applied for? Cost to defend patent?

Need more info.

BB

[This E-mail scanned for viruses by Data Constructs Company]

[This E-mail scanned for viruses by Data Constructs Company]

AN IMPROVED 5TH WHEEL TRAILER:

1. ASSEMBLY FOR INCREASING THE TURNING RADIUS OF A FIFTH WHEEL TRAILER ATTACHED TO A TRUCK.

THE PROBLEM:

In today's marketplace, short bed pick-up trucks with extended cab areas (also referred to as crew cabs) are becoming more and more popular. *(Note: The problem with the traditional long bed pick-ups is they have become so large, especially with extended cab areas, that they cannot fit into most residential garages, or even fit into most standard commercial size parking spaces. Because of this, 5th wheel owners would much rather own a tow vehicle that allows them to more easily navigate driving and parking when not attached to their unit. Thus, the growing popularity of the short bed pick-ups).* While the new short bed truck configurations with extended cabs offer increased seating capacity and comfort, they have become problematic when being used as tow vehicles for 5th wheel trailers. The shorter truck beds have resulted in a decreased distance between the cab of the truck and the front fiberglass cap of the 5th wheel they are towing. This has significantly diminished the turning radius of the truck when the 5th wheel is attached or being towed.

Because of this diminished turning radius, there have been a number of incidents where 5th wheel owners who tow with short bed pick-up trucks have turned or backed up too sharply, causing the cab of their truck to hit the corner of their 5th wheel in the fiberglass front cap area - resulting in extensive damage to both the fiberglass cap of the 5th wheel and the cab of the truck.

Warnings and informative articles regarding this situation are now commonplace in industry publications, including Rving magazines and manufacturer's vehicle support materials.

THE SOLUTION:

Heartland Recreational Vehicles, LLC has engineered a unique new 5th wheel concept that dramatically improves the turning radius of today's short bed pick-up trucks with extended cabs when attached to a 5th wheel trailer. This revolutionary concept involves both rethinking how the steel frame of the 5th wheel is designed, as well as the how the it's fiberglass front cap design flows in relationship to the frame.

The first step was cutting off the corners of the upper front section of the frame instead of extending them all of the way out at a 90° angle, as is the case in a traditional 5th wheel frame design. By angling the frame back at the corners, and incorporating a sweeping design in the fiberglass front cap that flows back and over that section of the frame where the void from cutting off the corner has been created, we have essentially "cut off" the lower corners of the front of the 5th wheel, resulting in a 30%+ increased turning radius when attached to a short bed pick-up truck with an extended cab.

(GREG Note: There is a Canadian RV manufacturer named Glendale who makes the Titanium 5th wheel. They have received a patent on their design of a coach that actually goes over the cab of a short bed truck. The crux of their patent - we have had this researched and examined by attorneys - is the fact that they go over the cab of the truck with their unit. While they are selling a lot of these units, no one here in the states has found a way around their patent. Why do I bring this up? They did this to improve the turning radius of a 5th wheel being towed by a short bed truck. It is a strange looking unit, but the fact that they received a patent specifically to help improve the turning radius of their units attached to short bed pick-up trucks should add to the legitimacy of our case for getting a patent on our design to accomplish the same thing. The problem is the same - but our approach to the solution and designs are very different.)

2. A MULTI-PURPOSE UTILITY STATION ENCOMPASSED WITHIN ONE SINGLE COMPARTMENT.

THE PROBLEM:

5th wheel trailers typically have up to a dozen separate utility or systems access points and compartments located on the off-door side of the unit. These compartments house everything from outside showers, electrical receptacles, water fills, dump valves, cable jacks, phone jacks, water manifold distribution panels, water tank flush kits and more. With today's 5th wheels featuring two to three slide-out rooms on the off-door side of the unit, these utility/systems doors and compartments are spread out even more - being placed at numerous, hard to reach locations across the off-door sidewall. Because the 5th wheel owner must access most, if not all, of these different compartments and doors to properly utilize their 5th wheel during their camping experience, their varying locations and locking mechanisms have become both problematic and inconvenient. In this particular aspect of 5th wheel living, today's 5th wheels are more inconvenient and user-unfriendly than ever.

THE SOLUTION:

Heartland Recreational Vehicles, LLC has engineered a unique new single door utility area that incorporates nearly all of the systems and access points needed to properly utilize a 5th wheel trailer during the camping experience, dramatically improving the convenience level for our owners. Systems and access points incorporated in the Heartland 5th wheel single door utility area include a hot and cold water manifold distribution center, 110V and 12V electrical power centers, cable TV hook-up, satellite hook-up, phone jack, CAT-5 jack, water fill, tank flush system, quick disconnect water sprayer, pull handles for all holding tanks, liquid soap dispenser, paper towel holder, disposable rubber glove dispenser, a 12V light and more - all in one, conveniently located and accessible compartment! No longer with 5th wheel owners have to get down on their hands and knees to access or operate their coach systems.

(GREG - Note: This concept has been accomplished in some higher end Class A motorhomes (motorized units), but never before in a fifth wheel or travel trailer (towable) unit.)