

RE: [Fwd: Confidential Request]

Subject: RE: [Fwd: Confidential Request]

Date: Wed, 13 Mar 2002 11:59:19 -0700

From: Joel Berger <JBerger@kenwoodusa.com>

To: "M. Flom Associates, Inc." <general@mflom.com>

Please forward this reply to the examiner.

Kenwood Engineering Department reasons to request photo confidentiality:
Photos reveal construction techniques, which are considered proprietary and confidential.

It is a companies "know how" developed over many years of theoretical study, error correction & learning.

Board layout, specific component locations, component part numbers, chassis construction techniques, shielding compartments and locations, heat sinking techniques and similar are all expensive, hard- won knowledge.

Kenwood would like to preserve this knowledge as much as is possible, by restricting free public inspection available via a U.S. Governmental agency website.

If a competing company wants to inspect a Kenwood digital product to glean knowledge of digital designs, construction and manufacturing techniques, they can at least purchase the device in question, and not enjoy the unfair advantage of free information, researched off of a U.S. Government, publicly accessible website.

Thank You
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