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Patent Search

Invention Title	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR OBSTACLE DETECTION
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Abstract:

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR OBSTACLE DETECTION ABSTRACT An obstacle detection system (100), comprising: a belt (102) to be worn by a user, the belt (102) comprising sensors (104a-104n) positioned around the belt (102), to sense a distance between obstacles and the user; and a control unit (112) communicatively connected to the sensors (104a-104n), wherein the control unit (112) is configured to: receive the sensed distance from the distance sensors (104a-104n); compare the received distance with a pre-defined distance stored in a memory; and enable a sound unit (106) and light units (110a-110d) associated with the corresponding distance sensors (104a-104n) to generate an audio alert and a visual alert respectively, when the distance sensed by the distance sensors (104a-104n) is less than or equal to the pre-defined distance. Claims: 10, Figure 1 is selected.

Complete Specification

Description:BACKGROUND

Field of Invention

[001] Embodiments of the present invention generally relate to a user-guiding system and particularly to an obstacle detection system and method for guiding visually impaired users.

Description of Related Art

[002] Visually impaired users are often placed in special needs bracket where a road safety is concerned. The visually impaired users need a person or a helping guide directions. Traditionally, a white cane is used as the helping aid by the visually impaired users. In a familiar travelling area, the white cane mostly solves a problem of a mobility of the visually impaired users. However, in an unfamiliar environment, the visually impaired users can get confused and needs the better helping aid for guidance. Moreover, careless traffics, animals, and so forth can pose as a threat, resulting in an injury and/or a death of the visually impaired users by use of the white cane. Technology has made several advancements in domains which are beneficial in the mobility of the visually impaired users.

[003] Conventionally, the visually impaired users were trained by an expert to walk independently. However, a training involves a higher cost which is not affordable for every visually impaired user. In another conventional approach, dogs were trained to help the visually impaired users to show a path. However, training of the dogs is a costly affair. Moreover, an extra burden of taking care of the dogs is a challenging task. In yet another conventional approach, an application has been developed for the visually impaired users, where the application sends a notification to random volunteers to assist the visually impaired users. However, such application requires a constant internet connection to operate the application. Moreover, the application is to be used by the visually impaired users at their own risk as the visually impaired users are not aware of the location of the volunteers.

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