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(54) **DYNAMIC MICROPHONE SUPPORT APPARATUS**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

An apparatus has a base that has a concave-shaped bottom portion that is positional on a surface. Further, the apparatus has a compartment in the base that stores an adhesive material. In addition, the apparatus has a base cover that is positioned over the base and covers the compartment such that weight of a user positioned on the base cover applied in a direction causes the base to tilt with respect to the surface in the direction. The apparatus has a rod member having a first end, a second end, and a middle portion. The first end is positioned through an opening in the base cover into the adhesive material in the compartment such that the rod member is immovable with respect to the base. The second end is configured to receive a microphone apparatus. The middle portion is configured to connect the first end and the second end.

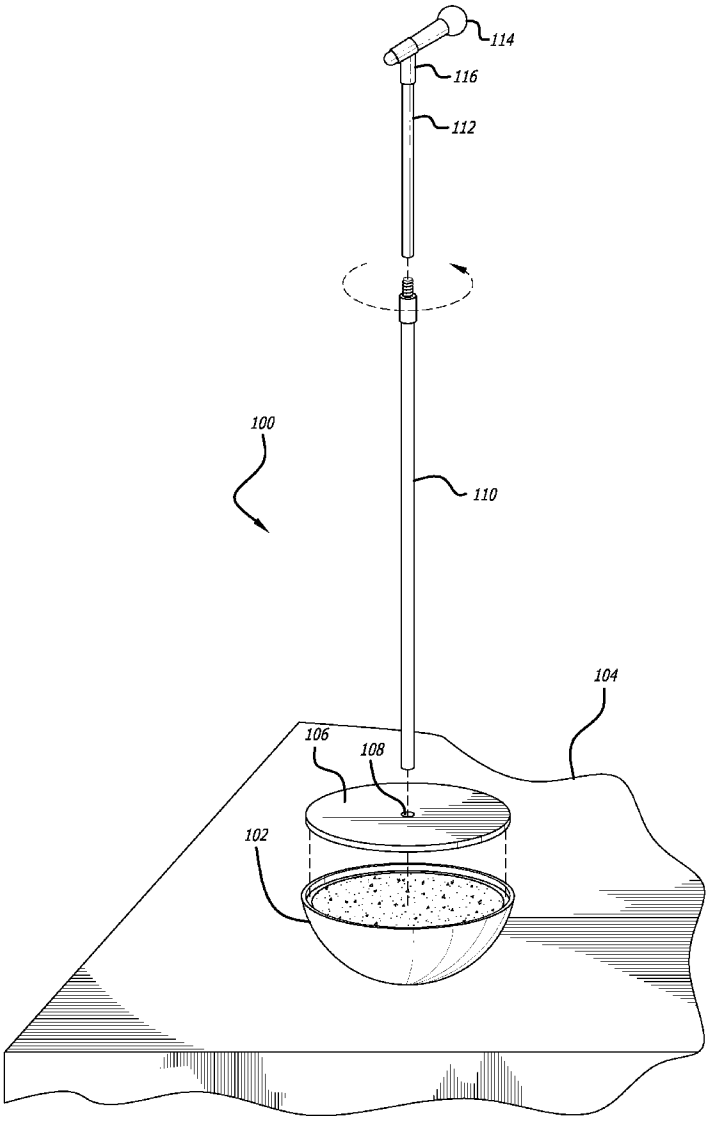


FIG. 1A

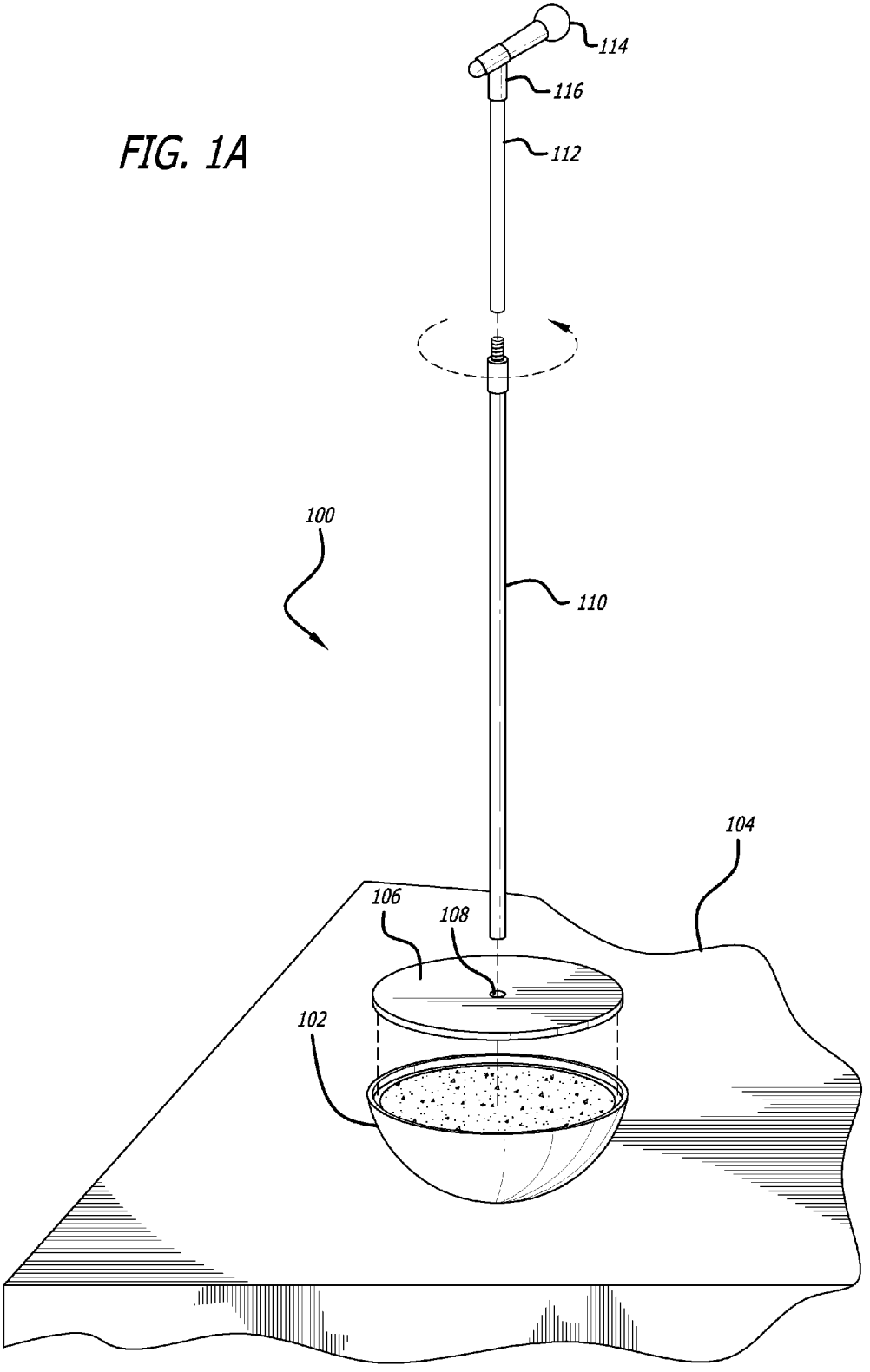


FIG. 1B

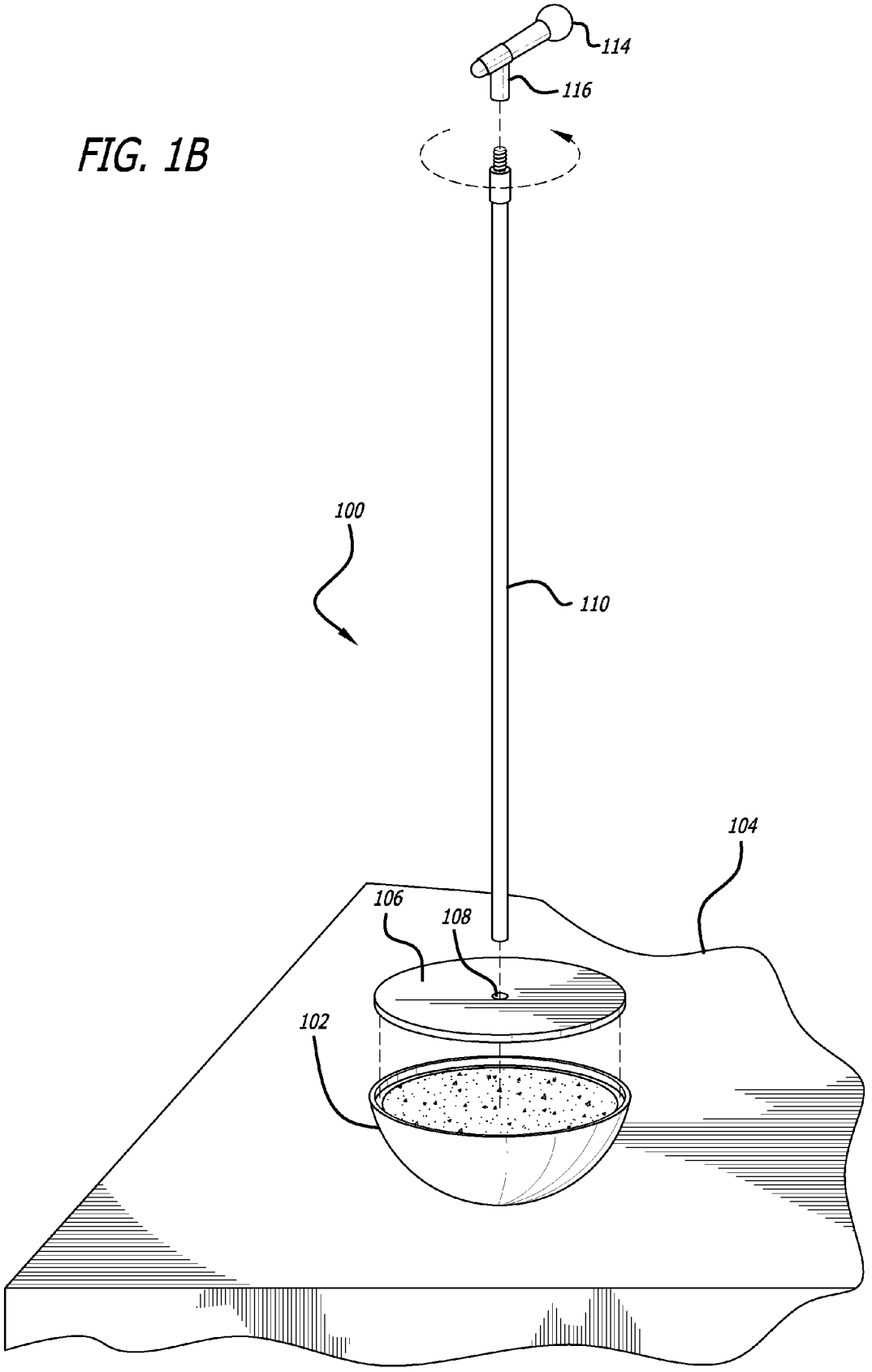


FIG. 2

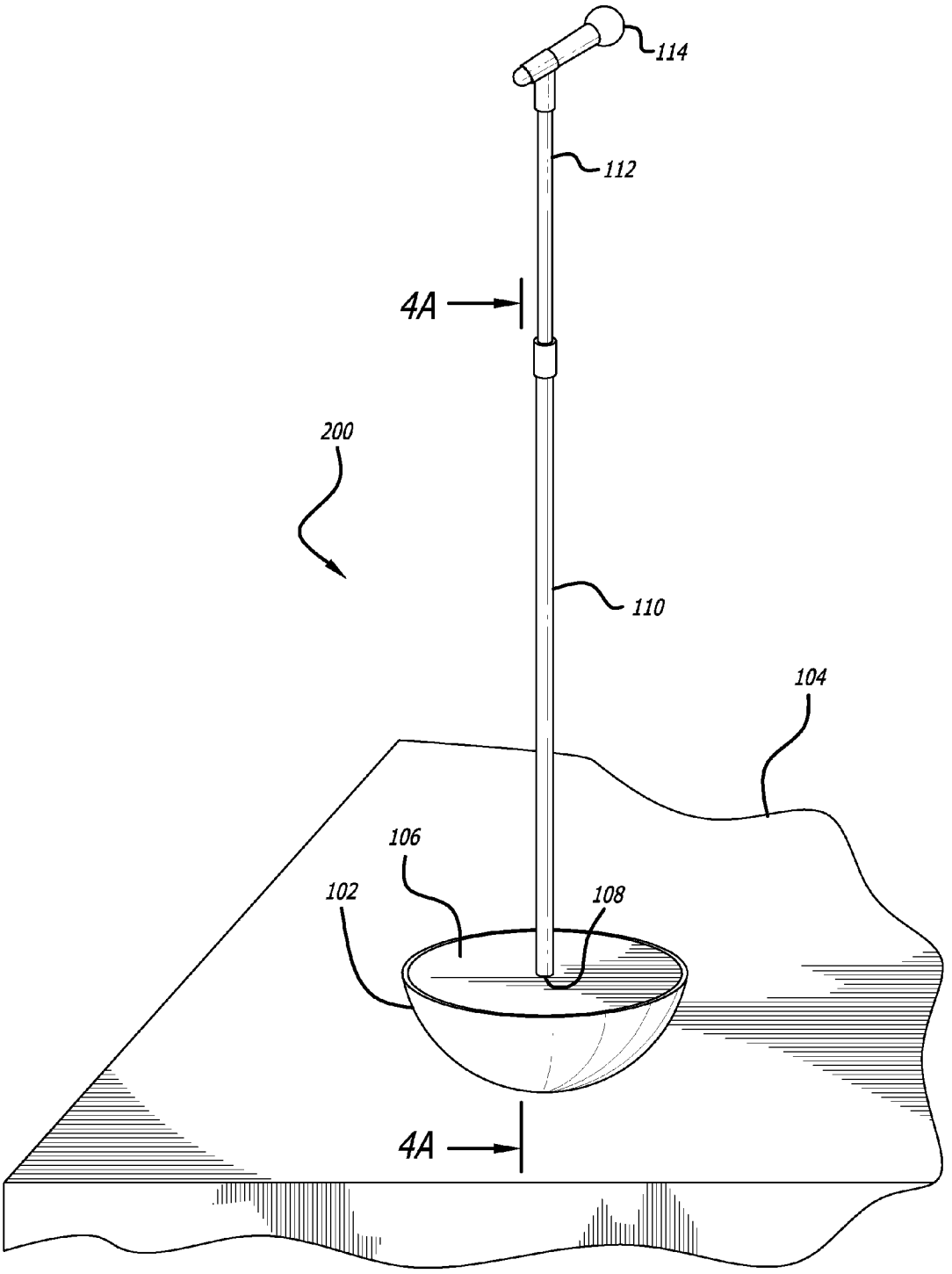


FIG. 3A

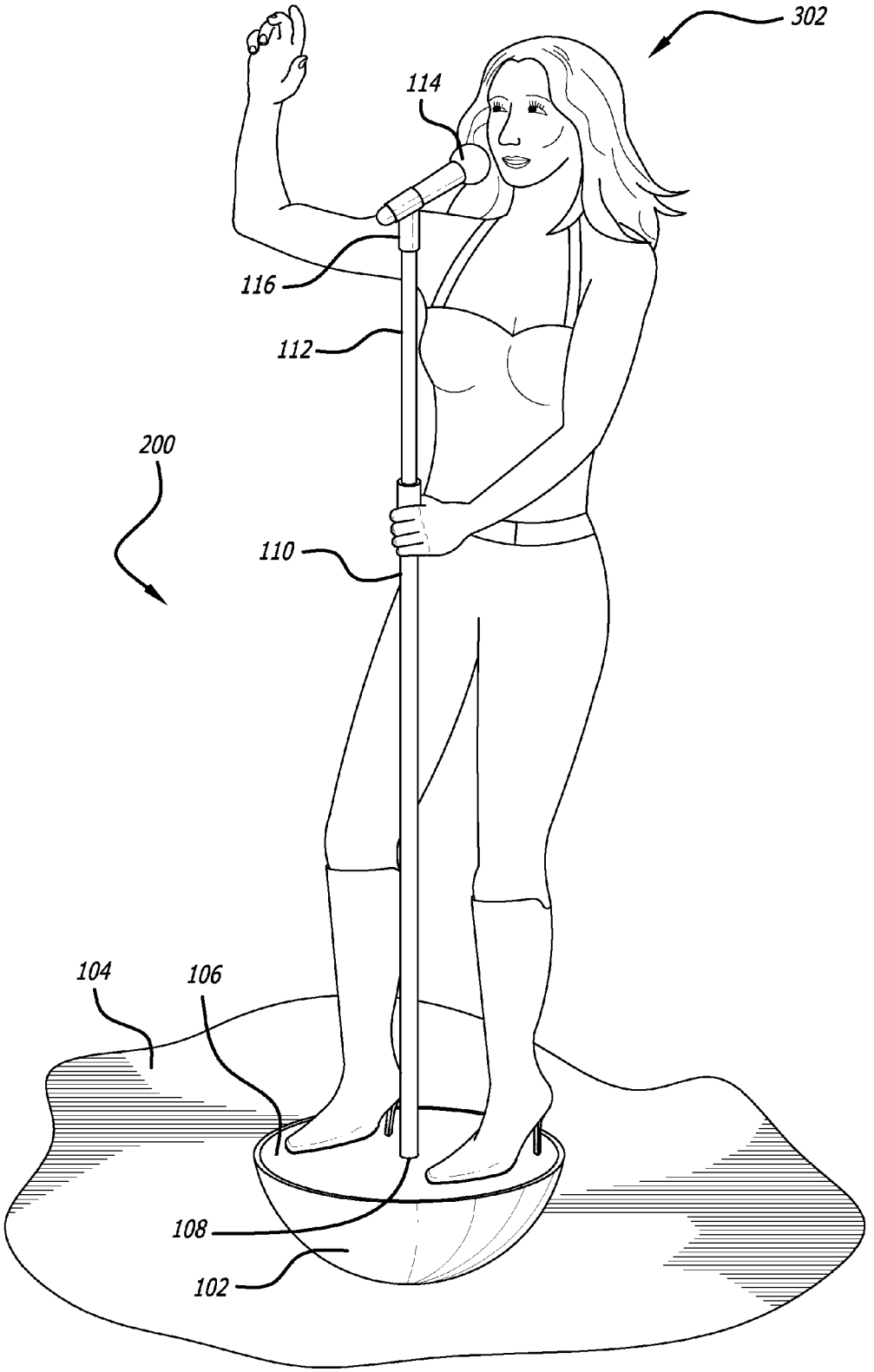


FIG. 3B

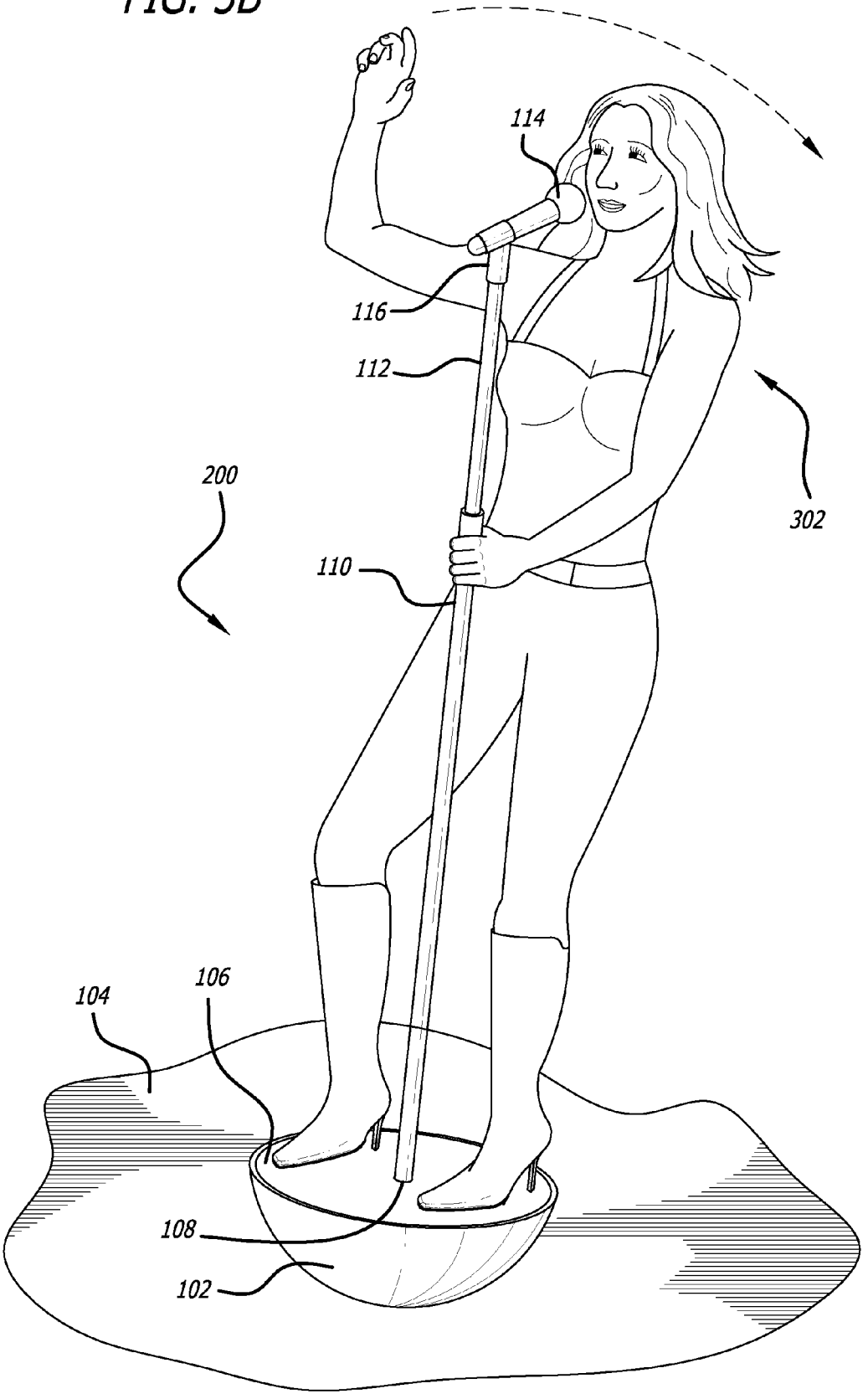


FIG. 3C

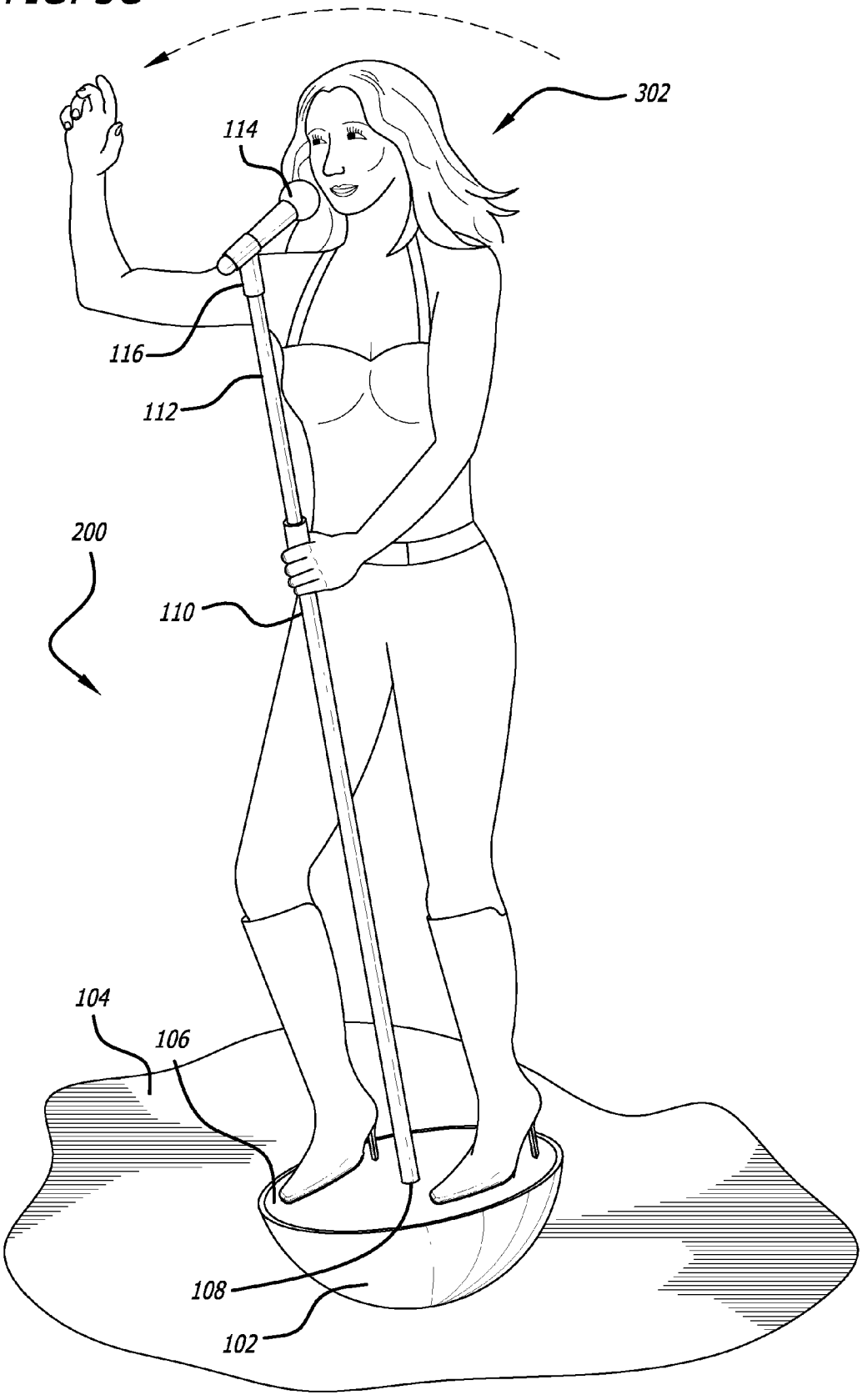


FIG. 4A

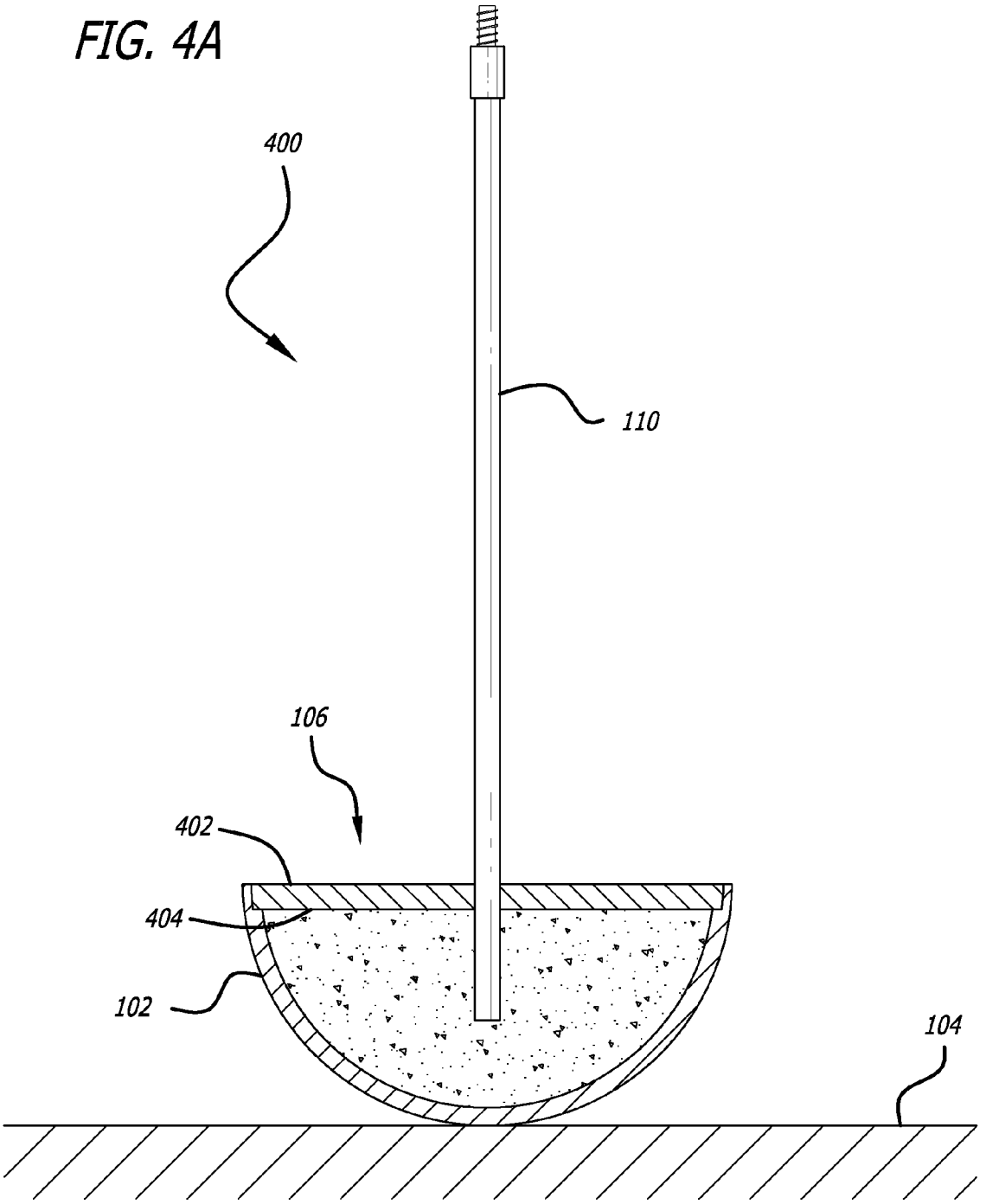


FIG. 4B

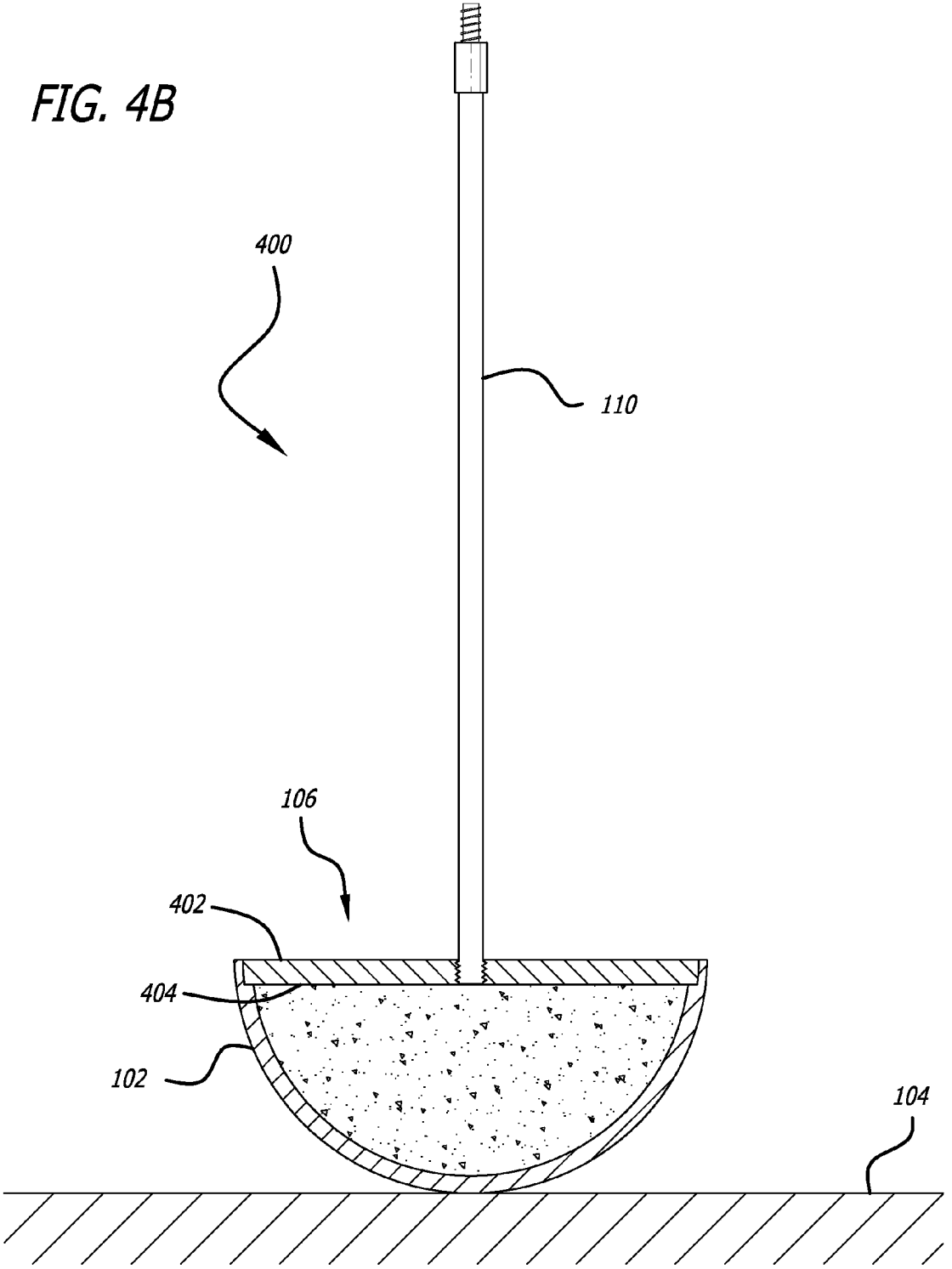


FIG. 4C

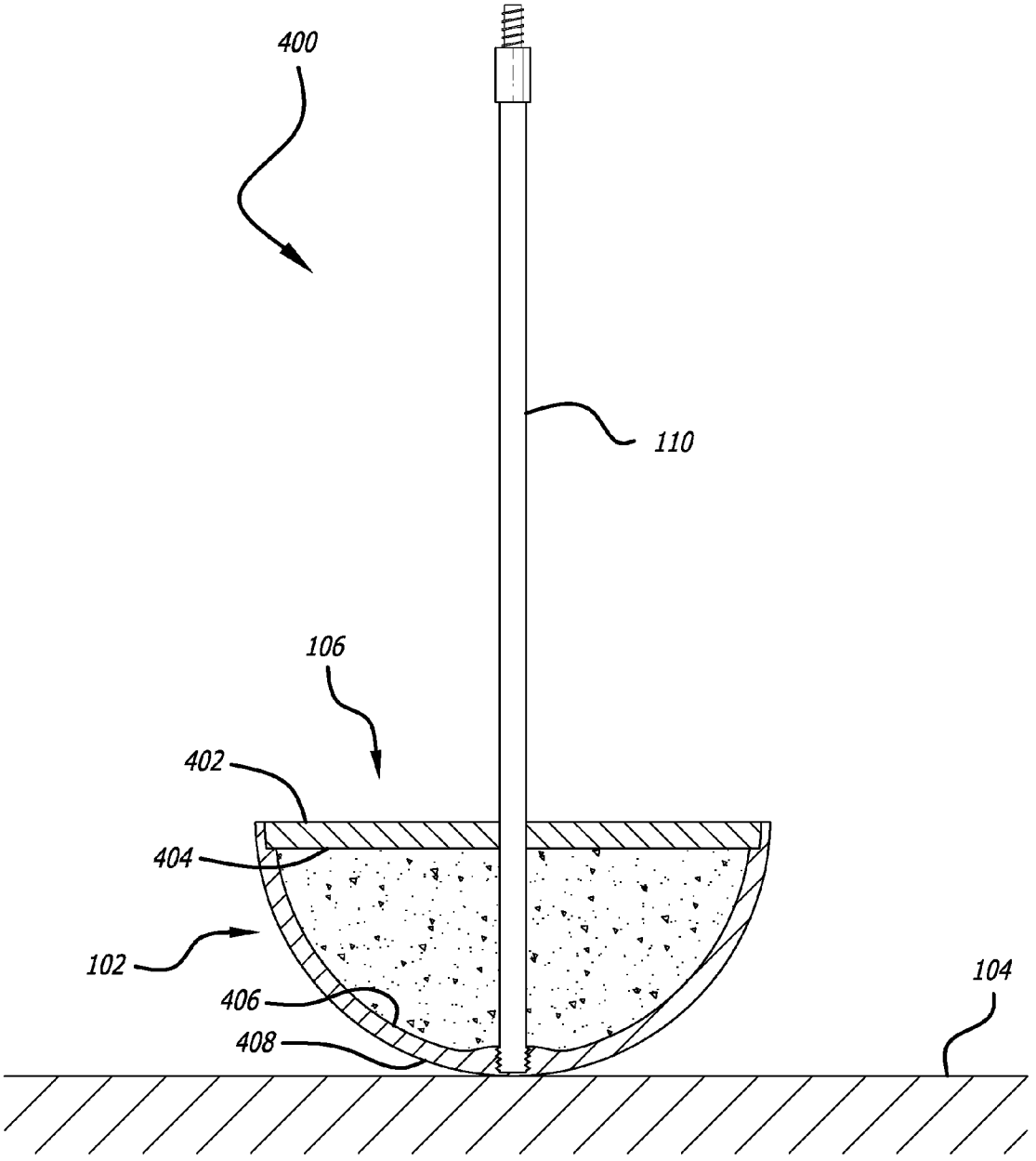


FIG. 4D

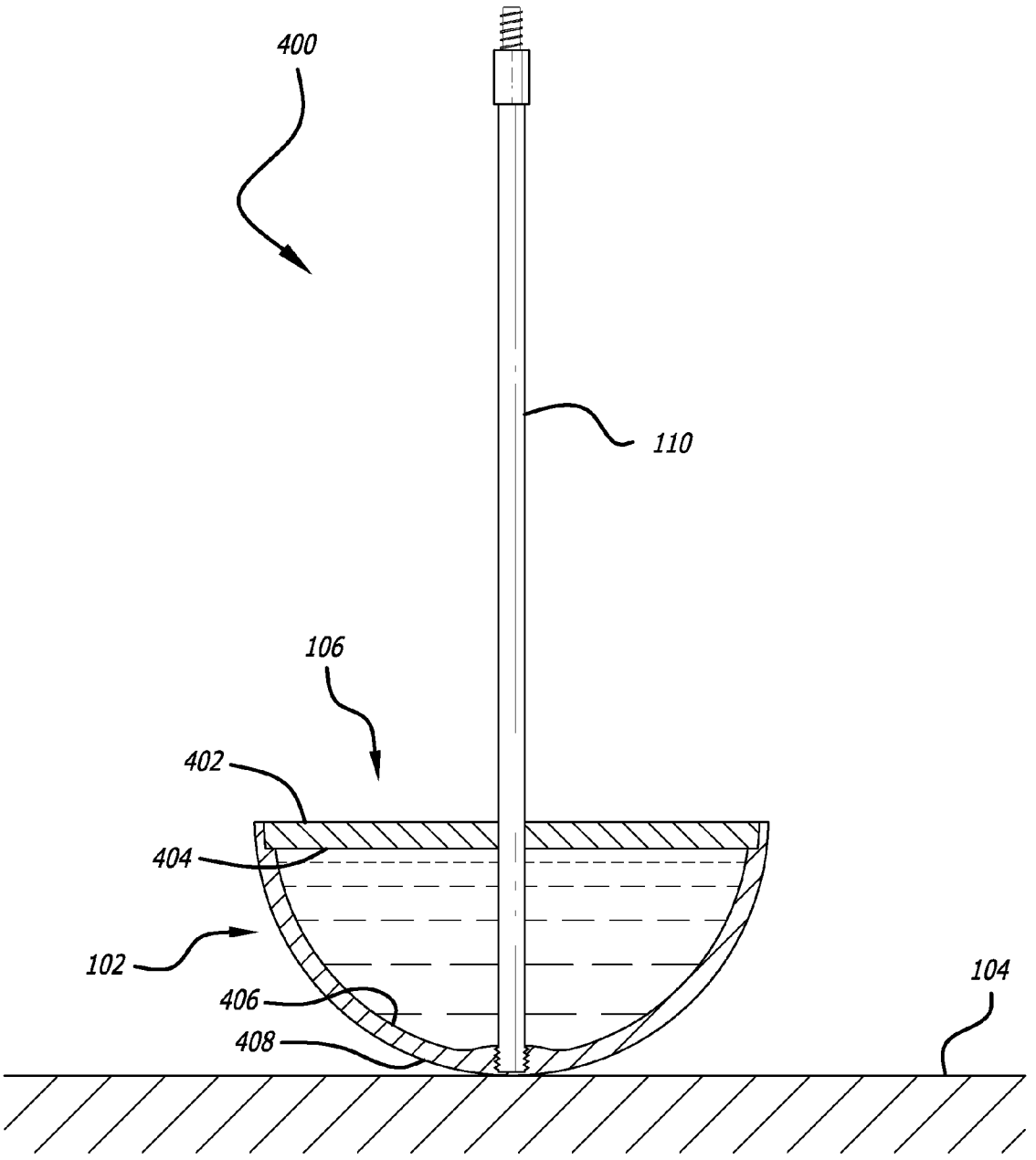


FIG. 5A

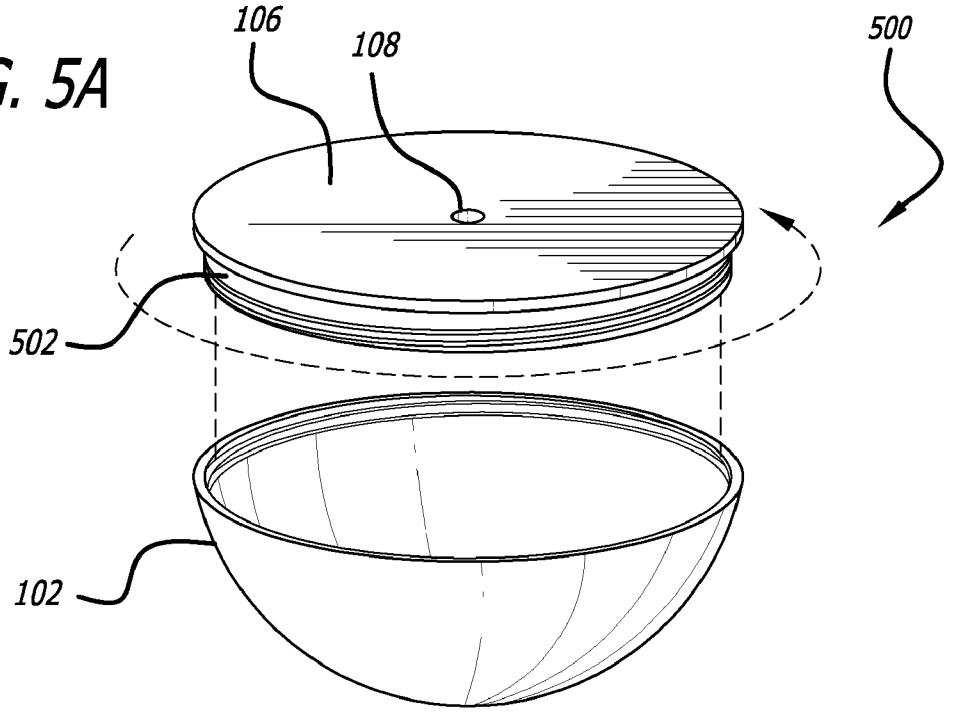


FIG. 5B

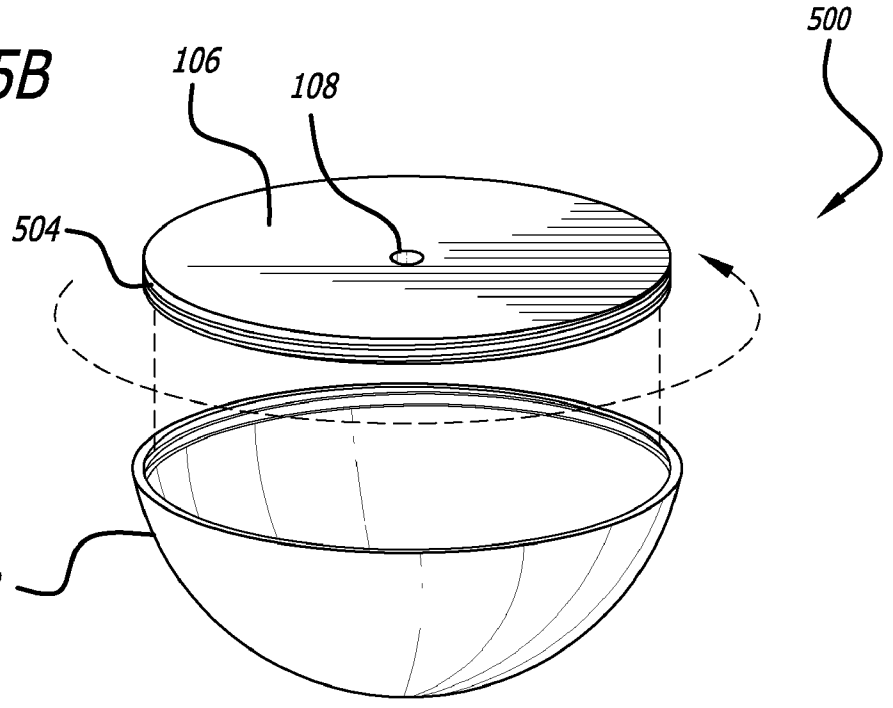


FIG. 5C

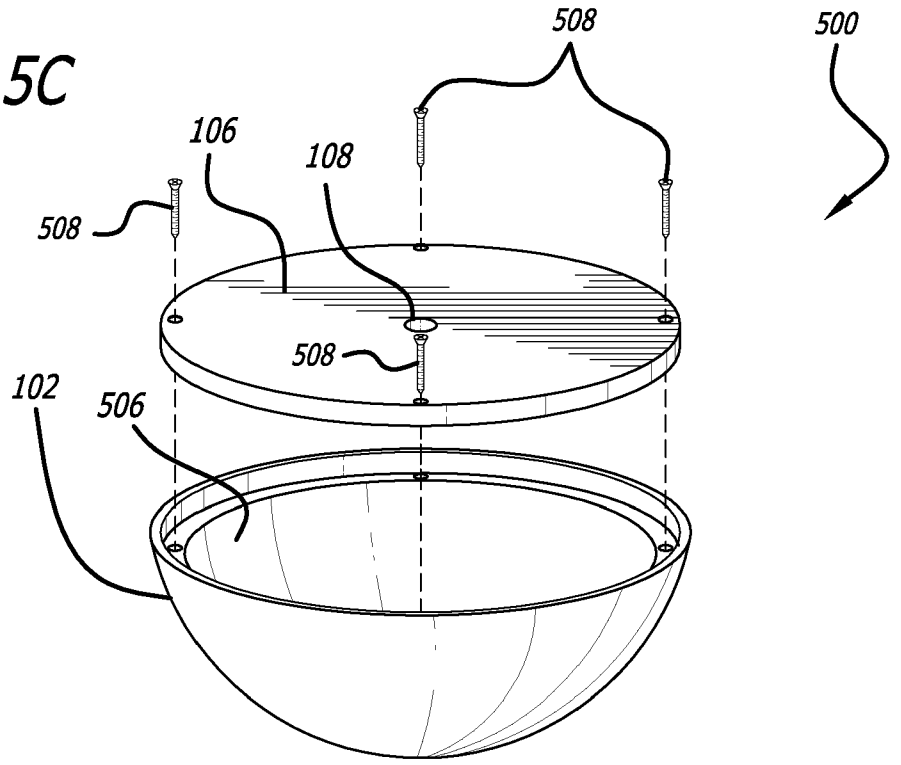
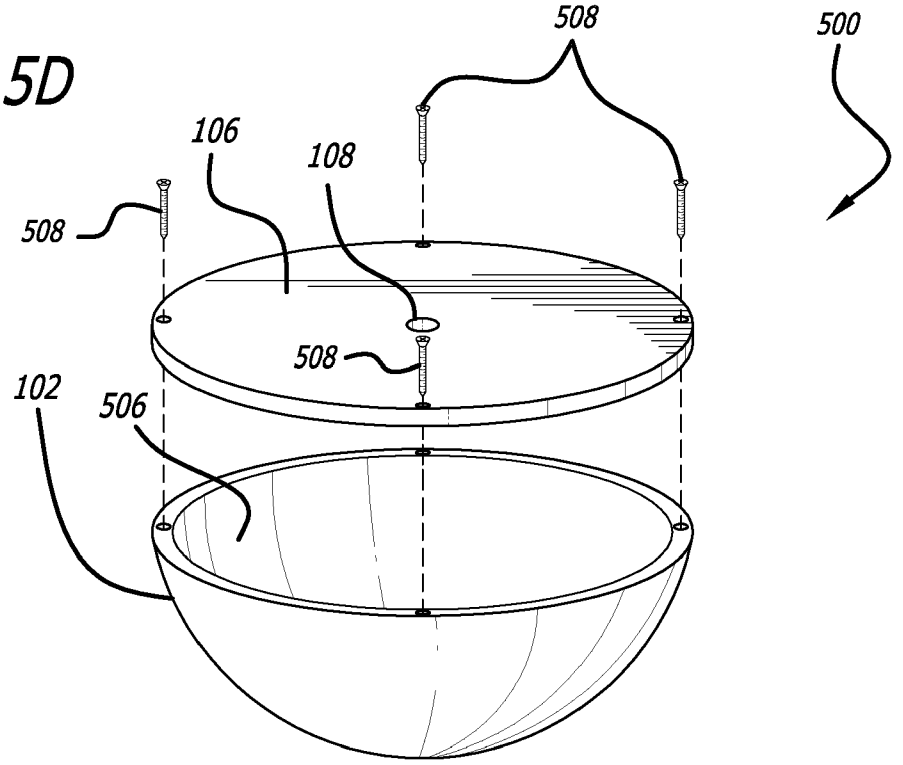


FIG. 5D



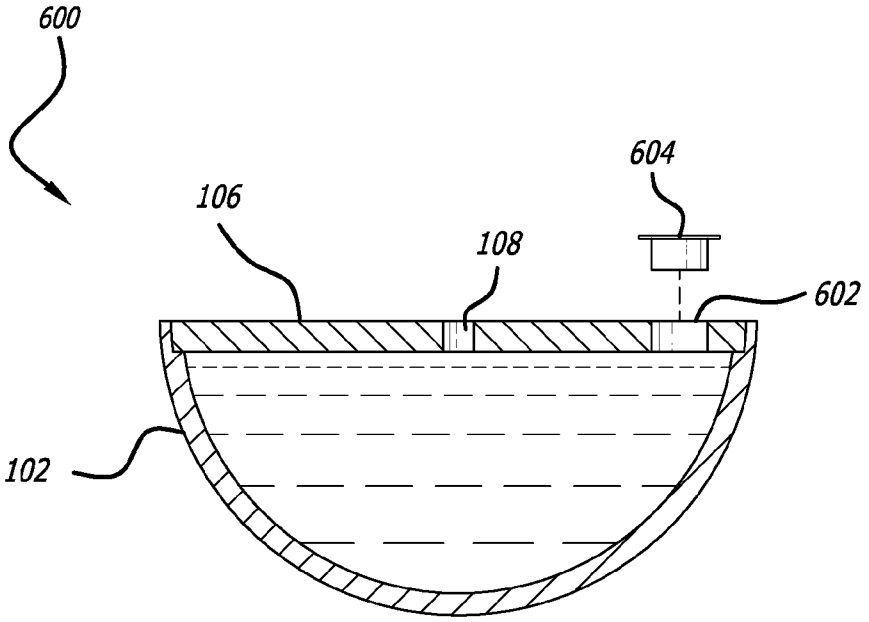


FIG. 6A

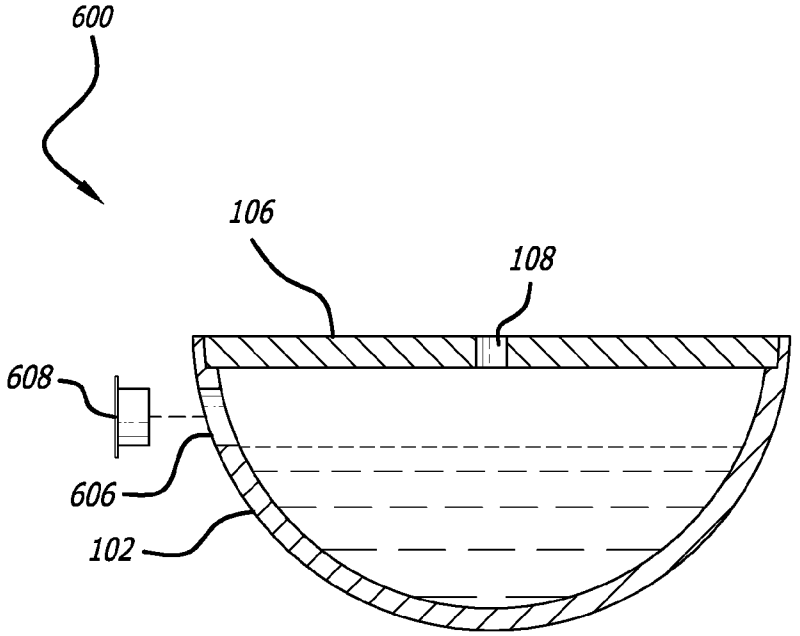


FIG. 6B

DYNAMIC MICROPHONE SUPPORT APPARATUS

BACKGROUND

[0001] 1. Field

[0002] This disclosure generally relates to the field of support structures. More particularly, the disclosure relates to an apparatus that supports a microphone.

[0003] 2. General Background

[0004] A microphone is typically supported by a static microphone support apparatus. In other words, a user of the microphone normally places the microphone on a stand that is statically positioned in a single location. When the user would like to talk or sing into the microphone, the user generally has to approach the microphone stand. The user can then talk or sing directly into the microphone, but with a limited amount of movement so that the user stays within close proximity to the microphone. The microphone is typically too heavy and cumbersome to be picked up and moved around with the microphone.

[0005] During a performance, the quality of the audio that is outputted form the microphone is normally affected by the performer moving with respect to the stationary microphone. Even when moving within close proximity to the microphone, the performer still has to move his or her head with respect to the microphone. Such movement may lead to inconsistent quality in the audio that is outputted from the microphone.

[0006] The only current alternative for a user that would like unrestricted movement is to remove the microphone from the stand and move about with the microphone. Such an alternative may present a number of safety hazards. For example, if the microphone is connected via cable, the user may trip over the cable while moving about with the microphone. A performer on stage at a concert may have a dance routine in addition to a singing routine, and the presence of the cable may lead to the performer being tangled by the cable and tripping during the performance.

[0007] Although some microphones are wireless, the stand by itself occupies a portion of the stage and can present an additional safety hazard while the performer is performing a dance routine. This problem becomes even more significant when there are multiple performers that each have stands which are left unattended.

SUMMARY

[0008] In one aspect of the disclosure, an apparatus is provided. The apparatus has a base that has a concave-shaped bottom portion that is positional on a surface. Further, the apparatus has a compartment in the base that stores an adhesive material. In addition, the apparatus has a base cover that is positioned over the base and covers the compartment such that weight of a user positioned on the base cover applied in a direction causes the base to tilt with respect to the surface in the direction. The apparatus also has a rod member having a first end, a second end, and a middle portion. The first end is positioned through an opening in the base cover into the adhesive material in the compartment such that the rod member is immovable with respect to the base. Further, the second end is configured to receive a microphone apparatus. In addition, the middle portion is configured to connect the first end and the second end.

[0009] In another aspect of the disclosure, an apparatus is provided. The apparatus has a base having a concave-shaped bottom portion that is positional on a surface. Further, the apparatus has a compartment in the base that stores an adhesive material. In addition, the apparatus has a base cover that is positioned over the base and covers the compartment such that weight of a user positioned on the base cover applied in a direction causes the base to tilt with respect to the surface in the direction. The apparatus also has a rod member that has a first end, a second end, and a middle portion. The first end is positioned through an opening in the base cover into the adhesive material in the compartment such that the rod member is immovable with respect to the base. Further, the second end is configured to receive a microphone apparatus. In addition, the middle portion is configured to connect the first end and the second end such that a force applied to the rod member in a direction by a user positioned on the base cover causes the base to tilt with respect to the surface in the direction.

[0010] In yet another aspect of the disclosure, an apparatus is provided. The apparatus has a base having a concave-shaped bottom portion that is positional on a surface. Further, the apparatus has a compartment in the base that stores a compound to stabilize the weight of a user. In addition, the apparatus has a base cover that is positioned over the base. The apparatus also has a rod member having a first end, a second end, and a middle portion. The first end is connected to the base cover such that the rod member is immovable with respect to the base. Further, the second end is configured to receive a microphone apparatus. In addition, the middle portion is configured to connect the first end and the second end such that a force applied to the rod member in a direction by the user positioned on the base cover causes the compound to shift in the direction, which causes the base to tilt with respect to the surface in the direction.

[0011] In another aspect of the disclosure, a kit is provided. The kit includes a microphone stand apparatus. The microphone stand apparatus has (i) a base having a concave-shaped bottom portion that is positional on a surface, (ii) a compartment in the base that stores a compound to stabilize the weight of a user, (iii) a base cover that is positioned over the base, and (iv) a rod member having a first end, a second end, and a middle portion, the first end being connected to the base cover such that the rod member is immovable with respect to the base, the second end is configured to receive a microphone apparatus, and the middle portion is configured to connect the first end and the second end such that a force applied to the rod member in a direction by the user positioned on the base cover causes the compound to shift in the direction, which causes the base to tilt with respect to the surface in the direction. The kit also includes a microphone that is operably connected to the second end.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0012] The above-mentioned features of the present disclosure will become more apparent with reference to the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings wherein like reference numerals denote like elements and in which:

[0013] FIGS. **1**A and **1**B illustrate implementations of a dynamic microphone support apparatus.

[0014] FIG. **1**A illustrates the dynamic microphone support apparatus that may be utilized in conjunction with a microphone, a microphone receptacle, and a microphone connector.

[0015] FIG. **1**B illustrates the dynamic microphone support apparatus that may be utilized in conjunction with a microphone and a microphone receptacle without the microphone connector shown in FIG. **1**A.

[0016] FIG. **2** illustrates an assembly of the support apparatus from FIG. **1**A connected to the microphone connector, the microphone receptacle, and the microphone.

[0017] FIGS. **3**A-**3**C illustrate the assembly shown in FIG. **2** as utilized by a performer **302**.

[0018] FIG. **3**A illustrates the performer standing on the base cover in a neutral balanced position.

[0019] FIG. **3**B illustrates a leftward tilt from the perspective of the performer.

[0020] FIG. **3**C illustrates a rightward tilt from the perspective of the performer.

[0021] FIGS. **4**A-**4**D illustrate various configurations for operably connecting the rod member to the base cover.

[0022] FIG. **4**A illustrates an internal view of the assembly shown in FIG. **2**.

[0023] FIG. **4**B illustrates an internal view of an alternative embodiment of the assembly shown in FIG. **2**.

[0024] FIG. **4**C illustrates an internal view of another alternative embodiment of the assembly shown in FIG. **2**.

[0025] FIG. **4**D illustrates an internal view of yet another alternative embodiment of the assembly shown in FIG. **4**C.

[0026] FIGS. **5**A-**5**D illustrate various configurations for operably connecting the base cover to the base.

[0027] In particular, FIG. **5**A illustrates the base cover having a downwardly extending recessed portion, which may be threaded.

[0028] FIG. **5**B illustrates the base cover having a downwardly extending portion, which may be threaded.

[0029] FIG. **5**C illustrates the base cover having a plurality of holes and the base having an inner wall portion with corresponding holes.

[0030] FIG. **5**D illustrates the base cover having a plurality of holes and the top of the base having corresponding holes.

[0031] FIGS. **6**A and **6**B illustrate alternative configurations for filling and removing the compound from the compartment in the base.

[0032] FIG. **6**A illustrates an opening in the base cover in which the compound may be placed within the compartment or removed from the compartment of the base.

[0033] FIG. **6**B illustrates an opening in the base in which the compound may be placed within the compartment or removed from the compartment of the base.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0034] A dynamic microphone support apparatus is provided. The dynamic microphone support apparatus allows a user to move a microphone support, e.g., a microphone stand, in conjunction with talking or singing into a microphone. Further, the microphone stand can be moved seamlessly in a fashion that is not difficult for a large number of users of varying ages and physical strengths. In addition, the dynamic microphone support apparatus eliminates the safety hazards that are seen with a static microphone support apparatus.

[0035] FIGS. **1**A and **1**B illustrate implementations of a dynamic microphone support apparatus **100**. In particular, FIG. **1**A illustrates the dynamic microphone support apparatus **100** that may be utilized in conjunction with a microphone **114**, a microphone receptacle **116**, and a microphone connector **112**. The dynamic microphone support apparatus **100** includes a base **102** that has a concave-shaped bottom portion. In one embodiment, the bottom portion is entirely concave. In another embodiment, the bottom portion may be partially concave such that another part of the bottom portion is flat. For example, the bottom portion may have a flat portion that then concaves upward so that there is extra stability.

[0036] Further, in one embodiment, the concave-shaped bottom portion curves upward to the top portion of the base so that the base **102** is entirely concave. In another embodiment, the concave-shaped bottom portion curves upward to a certain point where the base **102** then extends vertically upward. Accordingly, the base **102** having the concave-shaped bottom portion does not necessitate a concave shape for the entirety of the base **102**.

[0037] The concave-shaped bottom portion of the base **102** may be positioned on a surface **104**. For example, the concave-shaped bottom portion may be positioned on a stage where a performer intends to sing or speak with the microphone **114**.

[0038] The base **102** also has a compartment that stores a compound. An example of the compound is an adhesive material such as cement or glue. Various other compounds such as water, sand, etc., may be utilized.

[0039] A base cover **106** is operably connected to the base **102** to cover the compartment. The base cover **106** is made from a material and is of a thickness that make the base cover **106** durable enough to withstand a large downward force. For example, when the base cover **106** is operably connected to the base **102**, an adult is be able to stand on top of the cover **106** without the base cover **106** collapsing, bending, etc. The base cover **106** remains intact before, during, and after an adult stands on top of the cover **106**. Accordingly, the base cover **106** is intended to withstand a load exerted on it from a single individual that may be a child or adult of varying sizes and weights. In alternative embodiment, the circumference of the base **102** and the circumference base cover **106** is substantially increased from that illustrated in FIG. **1**A to withstand the load of multiple users at one time.

[0040] When a user stands in a balanced position on the assembled base **102** and base cover **106**, the assembled base **102** and base cover **106** remain stationary. In one embodiment, the angle of the curve towards the bottom of the concave-shaped bottom portion of the base **102** is sufficiently less than the angle of the curve towards the top of the base **102** to distribute the weight of the user effectively. As an example, the angle of the bottom of the concave-shaped bottom portion of the base **102** relative to the surface **104** may begin at an angle of zero degrees and slightly increase to an angle in the range of one degree to fifteen degrees along the bottom of the concave-shaped bottom portion of the base **102**. As the curve approaches the top portion of the base **102**, the angle may begin at an angle in the range of sixty degrees to eighty five degrees and then end at an angle of ninety degrees. These ranges are provided merely as examples. One of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that angles slightly outside of these ranges may also be sufficient for effective weight distribution.

[0041] If a user shifts his or her weight in a particular direction, the assembled base **102** and base cover **106** tilt in that direction. In one embodiment, the concave shape of the bottom portion of the base allows for the assembled base **102** and base cover **106** to tilt in the direction. For example, if a user places his or her feet on the base cover **106** and applies equal pressure with both feet, the assembled base **102** and base cover **106** remain stationary. However, if the user applies more pressure with his or her right foot than left foot, the

assembled base **102** and base cover **106** tilt towards the right. Conversely, if the user applies more pressure with his or her left foot than right foot, the assembled base **102** and base cover **106** tilt towards the left.

[0042] In one embodiment, the range of movement of the assembled base **102** and base cover **106** is restricted so that the angle of the tilt is not too large to allow the assembled base **102** and base cover **106** to topple over. The restricted range of movement is helpful in providing safety to a user of the dynamic microphone support apparatus **100**. In one embodiment, the angle of the curve towards the bottom of the concave-shaped bottom portion of the base **102** is sufficiently less than the angle of the curve towards the top of the base **102**. Similar ranges may be utilized as discussed with respect to providing effective weight distribution for the user. As a result, the angles of the curve in the concave shape are helpful in both effectively distributing the weight of the user and restricting the tilt of the assembled base **102** and base cover **106**.

[0043] In an alternative embodiment, the compartment may be narrowed so that the compartment does not occupy the periphery of the base **102**. For example, a space may exist between the compartment and the periphery of the inner layer of the base **102**. This space may be large enough to allow the weight of the compound in the compartment to be directed towards the portion in the center of the base **102**. As a result, the user standing in a neutral position on the base cover **106** may stay in that neutral position. If the user moves in a particular direction, the assembled base **102** and base cover **106** may tilt in that direction, but will have a restricted range of motion based on the weight of the compound being directed towards the center of the base **102**.

[0044] In yet another alternative embodiment, the compartment is not narrowed, but a variation in the amount of the compound is utilized for effective weight distribution and restriction of tilt movement. For example, a large amount of cement may be utilized towards the center of the base **102**, e.g., filling the base **102** to the top with cement in the center and the immediately surrounding area, and a small amount of cement may be utilized towards the periphery of the base **102**, e.g., filling the base **102** only halfway with cement in the area around the periphery of the base **102**. Alternatively, the compartment may be shaped so that it is large towards the center to store more of the compound and is smaller towards the periphery to store less of the compound.

[0045] In another alternative embodiment, a mixture of compounds with varying densities is utilized for effective weight distribution and restriction of tilt movement. In other words, a first compound may be utilized towards the center whereas a second compound with a lower density may be utilized towards the periphery of the base **102**.

[0046] While these approaches may be utilized independently to provide effective weight distribution and restriction of tilt movement, a combination of some or all of these approaches may also be utilized. For example, the angles may be configured in conjunction with a narrower compartment to sufficiently provide effective weight distribution and restriction of tilt movement. Such a combination may be utilized to reduce the emphasis on any one of these individual approaches. For example, the combination of angles and a narrower compartment may allow for larger angles and a less narrow compartment than if these approaches were independently utilized.

[0047] In one embodiment, once the tilt is restricted by an approach or combination of approaches discussed above, the user is in a stationary position at that tilt. For example, if the user applies more pressure with his or her right foot than left foot, the assembled base **102** and base cover **106** tilt towards the right and remain in that position until the user shifts direction again. The user may apply just enough pressure to the left to move back to the neutral balanced position or may apply more pressure to move all the way to the left. Alternatively, the user in the rightward tilted position may apply pressure to tilt forward so that the user is in a rightward forward tilted position or backward so that the user is in a rightward backward tilted position. The examples provided above are intended only for illustrative purposes as various positions may be reached as a result of the tilting motion. For example, the user may provide pressure along a forward diagonal rightward so that the assembled based **102** and base cover **106** are tilted forward and to the right on a diagonal.

[0048] In another embodiment, once the tilt is restricted by an approach or combination of approaches discussed above, the dynamic microphone support apparatus **100** automatically tilts back to the neutral balanced position. This may be accomplished with a relatively small angle along the concave-shaped bottom portion of the base **102** and/or the weight of the compound being sufficiently directed towards the center of the base **102**. For example, if the user applies more pressure with his or her right foot than left foot, the assembled base **102** and base cover **106** tilt towards the right up until the restricted range of motion, and then the assembled base **102** and base cover **106** automatically move back to and possibly through (depending on the amount of pressure) the neutral balanced position. The user can then move again in the same or a different direction, and the assembled base **102** and base cover **106** will once again automatically move back to or through the neutral balanced position.

[0049] The determination as to whether the dynamic microphone support apparatus **100** stays in a tilted position or automatically moves back to or through the neutral balanced position depends on factors such as the angle of the curve along the concave-shaped bottom portion of the base **102** and the weight of the compound directed towards the center of the base **102**. A larger angle and more evenly distributed weight of the compound throughout the base **102** helps the dynamic microphone support apparatus **100** stay in the tilted position whereas a smaller angle and distribution of the weight of the compound towards the center of the base **102** helps the dynamic microphone support apparatus **100** automatically tilt back to the neutral balanced position.

[0050] The base cover **106** also provides a buffer between the user and the compound stored in the compartment. For example, the user would likely feel more comfortable standing on a smooth durable surface rather than glue, cement, etc. The base cover **106** may be made from a metal, plastic, or any other material that provides sufficient durability to withstand the load from the weight of the user.

[0051] The dynamic microphone support apparatus **100** also has a rod member **110**, which is operably connected to the base cover **106**. The rod member **110** has a first end, a second end, and a middle portion. As illustrated in FIG. **1**A, the first end is positioned through an opening **108** in the base cover **106**. As an example, the compound in the compartment of the base **102** may be an adhesive material such as cement into which the first end of the rod member **110** is inserted prior to drying of the cement. After drying of the cement, the rod

member is now effectively connected to the base **102**. The rod member **110** is immovable with respect to the base such that a movement of the rod member **110** would also lead a movement of the base **102** such as a tilt. The rod member **110** is made from a material and is of a thickness such that a user's exertion of pressure on the rod member **110** does not normally cause the rod member **110** to break. Accordingly, the rod member **110** can be made from most metals, plastics, or other suitable materials. In one embodiment, the base **102** is filled with the cement, the base cover **106** is operably connected to the base **102**, and the first end of the rod member **110** is inserted into the cement through the opening **108**. In another embodiment, the base **102** is filled with the cement, the first end of the rod member **110** is inserted into the cement, and the opening **108** is large enough so that the based cover can be placed over the second end of the rod member and slid down the middle portion to then be operably connected to the base **102**.

[0052] As discussed above, the base **102** may tilt in response to an imbalanced use of pressure by the feet of the user. Similarly, the user may keep the pressure from his or her feet balanced, but may exert a force on the rod member **110** that causes the base **102** to tilt. For example, if the user exerts a sufficient rightward force with his or her hands on the rod member **110** to move the rod member **110** rightward, the base **102**, which is immovable with respect to the rod member **110**, has to tilt rightward. The approaches discussed above regarding the angles and weight distribution of the compound for allowing a tilted position to be stationary or an automatic move back from the tilted position are also applicable with respect the tilt being caused by a force exerted by the hands of the user on the rod member **110**.

[0053] Further, the tilt may be caused by a combination of forces exerted on the rod member **110** and the base cover **106**. For example, the user may be able to make a faster movement rightward if he or she exerts a force rightward on the rod member **110** in addition to, at the same time, providing more pressure with his or her right foot than left foot on the base cover **106**.

[0054] Further, the second end of the rod member **110** is configured to receive a microphone apparatus. The microphone apparatus may include a microphone **114**, a microphone receptacle **116** into which the microphone may be placed, and a microphone connector **112** that matingly engages with the second end of the rod member **110**. The term matingly engage is intended to include any effective fastening methodology. As illustrated in FIG. **1**A, the second end of the rod member **110** may have threads so that the microphone connector **112** may be screwed onto it. However, other fastening methodologies may be utilized.

[0055] Further, FIG. **1**B illustrates the dynamic microphone support apparatus **100** that may be utilized in conjunction with a microphone **114** and a microphone receptacle **116** without the microphone connector **112** shown in FIG. **1**A. Accordingly, in an alternative embodiment, the receptacle **116** is directly matingly engaged with the rod member **110**. The rod member **110** may be made longer for this particular embodiment to compensate for the lack of the microphone connector **112**. However, the rod member **110** in either embodiment may include multiple members connected to one another and slidable with respect to one another so that the rod member **110** is adjustable in height for users having different heights. Alternatively, the microphone connector **112** may include multiple members connected to one another and slidable with respect to one another to provide the user with the convenience of adjusting the microphone height at a higher level.

[0056] In yet another embodiment, the microphone **114** may be directly connected to the rod member **110**. As an example, the microphone **114** may have a threaded bottom to matingly engage with the rod member **110**. The microphone **114** may then be vertically positioned on the rod member **110**. The microphone **114** may also have a threaded portion in the middle of the microphone **114** to allow the microphone to be horizontally twisted onto the rod member **110**.

[0057] Although the threads in FIGS. **1**A and **1**B are illustrated as protruding from the rod member **110**, the threads may alternatively protrude from the microphone connector **112**, the microphone receptacle **116**, or the microphone **114** depending on which configuration is utilized. Accordingly, the rod member may have a receptacle with inner threads for receiving any of these components. These fastening methodologies are intended only as examples as a variety of fastening methodologies may be utilized.

[0058] FIG. **2** illustrates an assembly **200** of the dynamic microphone support apparatus **100** from FIG. **1**A connected to the microphone connector **112**, the microphone receptacle **116**, and the microphone **114**. The assembly **200** may be positioned on a surface **104** such as a stage for a performance. The assembly **200** may be utilized by users in homes or other areas to perform on their own, or even sing along with their favorite performers while watching performance on the television or listing to performances on the radio.

[0059] FIGS. **3**A-**3**C illustrate the assembly shown in FIG. **2** as utilized by a performer **302**. In particular, FIG. **3**A illustrates a performer **302** standing on the base cover **106** in a neutral balanced position. The performer **302** is applying equal pressure with both of her feet onto the base cover **106** and is not exerting any substantial force on the rod member **110**.

[0060] FIG. **3**B illustrates a leftward tilt from the perspective of the performer **302**. The leftward tilt is caused by the performer **302** exerting more pressure on her left foot than her right foot and/or the performer **302** exerting a leftward directed force on the rod member **110**. As a result, the base **102** and the base cover **106** tilt to the left, which causes the performer to also tilt to the left. The force may optionally be exerted on the microphone connector **112**, which is operably connected to the rod member **110**.

[0061] In addition, FIG. **3**C illustrates a rightward tilt from the perspective of the performer **302**. The rightward tilt is caused by the performer **302** exerting more pressure on her right foot than her left foot and/or the performer **302** exerting a rightward directed force on the rod member **110**. As a result, the base **102** and the base cover **106** tilt to the right, which causes the performer to also tilt to the right.

[0062] As can be seen from FIGS. **3**A-**3**C, the performer **302** may move during a performance and basically have the microphone follow her movements. As a result, her head does not move too much with respect to the microphone **114** and allows for consistency in the quality of the audio outputted from the microphone **114**. Further, the safety concerns of stationary microphone stands during a dance performance are alleviated as the dynamic microphone support apparatus **100** follows the performer **302**.

[0063] FIGS. **4**A-**4**D illustrate various configurations for operably connecting the rod member **110** to the base cover **106**. FIG. **4**A illustrates an internal view of the assembly **200**

shown in FIG. **2**. The opening **108** allows the rod member **110** to extend directly down into the compartment of the base **102**. As the compartment in this embodiment contains cement, the rod member only needs to be inserted a sufficient amount into the cement to solidify the connection rather than to the bottom of the base **102**. For example, the rod member **110** may be inserted halfway into the compartment of the base **102**. The rod member **110** may be inserted all the way to the bottom in this embodiment, but it is not necessary.

[0064] FIG. **4**B illustrates an internal view of an alternative embodiment of the assembly **200** shown in FIG. **2**. In this embodiment, the compound may be an adhesive or a non-adhesive material. For example, sand may be utilized. The rod member **110** extends through the opening **108** in an outer layer **402** of the base cover **106** and stops at an inner layer **404** of the base cover **106**. The hole created by the opening **108** may have threads to allow the rod member **110** to be matingly engaged to the base cover **106**. However, other fastening methodologies, e.g., utilizing glue, may operably connect the rod member **110** to the base cover **106**.

[0065] FIG. **4**C illustrates an internal view of an alternative embodiment of the assembly **200** shown in FIG. **2**. In this embodiment, the compound may be an adhesive or a non-adhesive material. For example, sand may be utilized. The rod member **110** extends through the opening **108** in the outer layer **402** of the base cover **106** through the inner layer **404** of the base cover **106** into the compartment. The rod member **110** then extends into the compartment down through an opening in an inner layer **406** of the concave-shaped bottom portion down to an outer layer **408** of the concave-shaped bottom portion. The hole created by the opening in the inner layer **406** of the concave-shaped bottom portion may have threads to allow the rod member **110** to be operably connected to the base cover **106** by being matingly engaged to the concave-shaped bottom portion. However, other fastening methodologies, e.g., utilizing glue, may operably connect the rod member **110** to the opening created by the inner layer **406** of the concave-shaped bottom portion.

[0066] FIG. **4**D illustrates an internal view of an alternative embodiment of the assembly **200** shown in FIG. **4**C. In this embodiment, the compound may be a fluid such as water.

[0067] FIGS. **5**A-**5**D illustrate various configurations for operably connecting the base cover **106** to the base **102**. In particular, FIG. **5**A illustrates the base cover **106** having a downwardly extending recessed portion **502**, which may be threaded. The threads may matingly engage with internal threads located within the upward periphery of the base **102**. In this configuration, a user can take hold of the outer portion of the base cover **106** to twist the base cover **106** on or off.

[0068] FIG. **5**B illustrates the base cover **106** having a downwardly extending portion **504**, which may be threaded. The threads may matingly engage with internal threads located within the upward periphery of the base **102**. In this configuration, a user can take hold of the opening of the base cover **106** with his or her thumb or fingers to twist the base cover **106** on or off.

[0069] FIG. **5**C illustrates the base cover **106** having a plurality of holes and the base **102** having an inner wall portion **506** with corresponding holes. A plurality of fasteners **508**, such as screws, may then be inserted through the holes in the base cover **106** and the holes in the inner wall portion **506** to operably connect the base cover **106** to the base **102**. The fasteners **508** are not limited to screws. For example, the fasteners **508** may also be bolts or the like.

[0070] FIG. **5**D illustrates the base cover **106** having a plurality of holes and the top of the base **102** having corresponding holes. A plurality of fasteners **508**, such as screws, may then be inserted through the holes in the based cover and the holes in the inner wall portion **506** to operably connect the base cover **106** to the base **102**.

[0071] In another alternative embodiment, the top portion of the base cover **106** may have a flap that extends over the base **102**. The flap may matingly engage the top portion of the base **102**. The user may then simply pull the base cover **106** off of the base **102** and put it right back on by pressing down on the base cover **106** with respect to the base **102**.

[0072] FIGS. **6**A and **6**B illustrate alternative configurations for filling and removing the compound from the compartment in the base **102**. In particular, FIG. **6**A illustrates an opening **602** in the base cover **106** in which the compound may be placed within the compartment or removed from the compartment of the base **102**. For example, a fluid such as water may be poured into the compartment through the opening **602** or removed from the compartment through the opening **602**. Further, a cap **604** may be utilized to cover the opening **602** to keep the fluid in the compartment of the base **102**. The opening **602** and cap **604** configuration is particularly helpful in that a user does not have to remove the base cover **106** from the base **102** to fill the base **102** with fluid. Further, in one embodiment the base cover **106** is integrally connected to the base **102** such that the base cover **106** and the base **102** are a single piece. In such a configuration, the base cover **106** cannot be removed from the base **102**, and the opening **602** and cap **604** configuration allows the user to fill, empty, and/or refill the base **102** with fluid or other compound such as sand.

[0073] The user's ability to empty the base **102** may be particularly useful for moving the dynamic microphone support apparatus **100**. For instance, the user may want to travel with the dynamic microphone support apparatus **100**. Accordingly, the user can empty compound, e.g., water, from the base **102** by removing the cap **604** and pouring the water out from the opening **602**. Upon arriving at the intended destination, the user can then remove the cap **604**, refill the base **102** with water, and place the cap **604** over the opening **602**. As a result, the user can travel much more conveniently with a lighter dynamic microphone support apparatus **100**.

[0074] FIG. **6**B illustrates an opening **606** in the base **102** in which the compound may be placed within the compartment or removed from the compartment of the base **102**. A cap **608** may be utilized to cover the opening **606**. This opening **606** and cap **608** configuration operates similarly to the opening **602** and cap **604** configuration of FIG. **6**A except that this particular configuration is along the side of the base **102**. In an alternative embodiment, the opening **606** and cap **608** configuration may be positioned on the bottom of the base **102** to conceal the cap **608** from view.

[0075] In an alternative embodiment, the principles discussed above may be utilized with a base cover **106** that extends substantially outside of the periphery of the base **102**. The base cover **106** may still be matingly engaged to the base **102** as discussed above, e.g., holes in the area of the base cover **106** directly above the holes in the base **102** so that screws may be inserted. The base cover **106** may extend sufficiently beyond the periphery of the base **102** to restrict the tilt of the base **102**. The longer the extension of the base cover **106**, the more restricted the tilt will be as the base cover **106** will contact the ground sooner and restrict movement. In

an embodiment that provides for automatic movement back from the tilted position, springs may be positioned on the bottom of the extending base cover **106** to automatically push the base cover **106**, and thereby the base **102** operably connected to the base cover **106**, back from the tilt. In this embodiment, less emphasis on factors such as the angles and/or weight distribution of the compound are necessary.

[0076] It is understood that apparatus described herein may also be applied in other types of contexts. In other words, the dynamic microphone support apparatus **100** is not intended to be limited to use with a microphone **114**. For example, the dynamic microphone support apparatus **100** may be utilized with an umbrella. A user may take the dynamic microphone support apparatus **100** to the beach and connect an umbrella to provide shade. Utilizing one of the configurations in FIGS. **6**A and **6**B, the user may even fill the dynamic microphone support apparatus **100** with water or sand once arriving at the beach so that carrying the dynamic microphone support apparatus **100** to the beach may be accomplished with relative ease. The dynamic microphone support apparatus **100** may provide the user with the ability to make small adjustments to the umbrella to provide shade for varying angles of sunlight. Various other components may also be connected to the dynamic microphone support apparatus **100**. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that the various adaptations and modifications of the embodiments of this apparatus may be configured without departing from the scope and spirit of the present apparatus. Therefore, it is to be understood that, within the scope of the appended claims, the present apparatus may be practiced other than as specifically described herein.

I claim:

1. An apparatus comprising:

a base having a concave-shaped bottom portion that is positional on a surface;

a compartment in the base that stores an adhesive material;

a base cover that is positioned over the base and covers the compartment such that weight of a user positioned on the base cover applied in a direction causes the base to tilt with respect to the surface in the direction; and

a rod member having a first end, a second end, and a middle portion, the first end being positioned through an opening in the base cover into the adhesive material in the compartment such that the rod member is immovable with respect to the base, the second end configured to receive a microphone apparatus, and the middle portion configured to connect the first end and the second end.

2. The apparatus of claim **1**, wherein the adhesive material is cement.

3. The apparatus of claim **1**, wherein the adhesive material is glue.

5. The apparatus of claim **1**, wherein the base cover is metal.

6. The apparatus of claim **1**, wherein the base cover is plastic.

7. The apparatus of claim **1**, wherein the microphone apparatus includes a microphone and a microphone connector, the microphone connector having a receptacle for the microphone and being configured to matingly engage with the second end.

8. The apparatus of claim **1**, wherein the microphone apparatus includes a microphone that matingly engages with the second end.

9. The apparatus of claim **1**, wherein the first end extends downward into the base and matingly engages an inner layer of the concave-shaped bottom portion.

10. The apparatus of claim **1**, wherein the base cover matingly engages the base such that the base cover is immovable with respect to the base.

11. The apparatus of claim **1**, wherein the base and the base cover are integrally formed from a same material.

12. The apparatus of claim **1**, wherein an angle of curvature of the concave-shaped bottom portion of the base restricts the tilting of the base.

13. The apparatus of claim **12**, wherein the angle of curvature of the concave-shaped bottom portion of the base causes the base to automatically move back to an original position of the base after the tilting of the base.

14. The apparatus of claim **1**, wherein a weight distribution of the adhesive material directed towards the center of the base restricts the tilting of the base.

15. The apparatus of claim **14**, wherein the weight distribution of the adhesive material directed towards the center of the base causes the base to automatically move back to an original position of the base after the tilting of the base.

16. An apparatus comprising:

a base having a concave-shaped bottom portion that is positional on a surface;

a compartment in the base that stores an adhesive material;

a base cover that is positioned over the base and covers the compartment such that weight of a user positioned on the base cover applied in a direction causes the base to tilt with respect to the surface in the direction; and

a rod member having a first end, a second end, and a middle portion, the first end being positioned through an opening in the base cover into the adhesive material in the compartment such that the rod member is immovable with respect to the base, the second end configured to receive a microphone apparatus, and the middle portion configured to connect the first end and the second end such that a force applied to the rod member in a direction by a user positioned on the base cover causes the base to tilt with respect to the surface in the direction.

17. The apparatus of claim **16**, wherein an angle of curvature of the concave-shaped bottom portion of the base restricts the tilting of the base.

18. The apparatus of claim **17**, wherein the angle of curvature of the concave-shaped bottom portion of the base causes the base to automatically move back to an original position of the base after the tilting of the base.

19. The apparatus of claim **16**, wherein a weight distribution of the adhesive material directed towards the center of the base restricts the tilting of the base.

20. The apparatus of claim **19**, wherein the weight distribution of the adhesive material directed towards the center of the base causes the base to automatically move back to an original position of the base after the tilting of the base.

21. An apparatus comprising:

a base having a concave-shaped bottom portion that is positional on a surface;

a compartment in the base that stores a compound to stabilize the weight of a user;

a base cover that is positioned over the base; and

a rod member having a first end, a second end, and a middle portion, the first end being connected to the base cover such that the rod member is immovable with respect to the base, the second end configured to receive a micro-

phone apparatus, and the middle portion configured to connect the first end and the second end such that a force applied to the rod member in a direction by the user positioned on the base cover causes the compound to shift in the direction, which causes the base to tilt with respect to the surface in the direction.

22. The apparatus of claim **21**, wherein the compound is water.

23. The apparatus of claim **21**, wherein the compound is sand.

24. The apparatus of claim **21**, wherein the compound is an adhesive material.

25. The apparatus of claim **21**, wherein the base cover is metal.

26. The apparatus of claim **21**, wherein the base cover is plastic.

27. The apparatus of claim **21**, wherein the base cover includes a cap covering an opening to the compartment to access the compound.

28. The apparatus of claim **21**, wherein the base includes a cap covering an opening to the compartment to access the compound.

29. The apparatus of claim **21**, wherein an angle of curvature of the concave-shaped bottom portion of the base restricts the tilting of the base.

30. The apparatus of claim **29**, wherein the angle of curvature of the concave-shaped bottom portion of the base causes the base to automatically move back to an original position of the base after the tilting of the base.

31. The apparatus of claim **21**, wherein a weight distribution of the compound directed towards the center of the base restricts the tilting of the base.

32. The apparatus of claim **31**, wherein the weight distribution of the compound directed towards the center of the base causes the base to automatically move back to an original position of the base after the tilting of the base.

33. A kit comprising:

a microphone stand apparatus that has (i) a base having a concave-shaped bottom portion that is positional on a surface, (ii) a compartment in the base that stores a compound to stabilize the weight of a user, (iii) a base cover that is positioned over the base, and (iv) a rod member having a first end, a second end, and a middle portion, the first end being connected to the base cover such that the rod member is immovable with respect to the base, the second end configured to receive a microphone apparatus, and the middle portion configured to connect the first end and the second end such that a force applied to the rod member in a direction by the user positioned on the base cover causes the compound to shift in the direction, which causes the base to tilt with respect to the surface in the direction; and

a microphone that is operably connected to the second end.

34. The kit of claim **33**, wherein the microphone is operably connected to the second end via a microphone connector that has a receptacle for the microphone and matingly engages the second end.

35. The kit of claim **33**, wherein the microphone is operably connected to the second end by being matingly engaged with the second end.

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