

US Patent & Trademark Office

Patent Public Search | Text View

United States Patent	12386142
Kind Code	B2
Date of Patent	August 12, 2025
Inventor(s)	Hwang; Sun Min et al.

Camera module

Abstract

A camera module according to one aspect of the present invention comprises: a housing including a body unit and an accommodation unit; an outermost lens arranged on the upper part of the accommodation unit; a substrate coupled to the lower part of the housing; a connector coupled to the lower surface of the substrate; a heating member arranged on one side of the outermost lens; and a transmission member for connecting the heating member and the connector, wherein the substrate includes a first groove formed on the side surface thereof so as to be penetrated by the transmission member, and the housing includes a partition wall extending from the lower surface thereof so as to be coupled to the upper surface of the substrate.

Inventors:	Hwang; Sun Min (Seoul, KR), Lee; Min Woo (Seoul, KR)
Applicant:	LG INNOTEK CO., LTD. (Seoul, KR)
Family ID:	1000008750562
Assignee:	LG INNOTEK CO., LTD. (Seoul, KR)
Appl. No.:	17/615398
Filed (or PCT Filed):	May 26, 2020
PCT No.:	PCT/KR2020/006805
PCT Pub. No.:	WO2020/242178
PCT Pub. Date:	December 03, 2020

Prior Publication Data

Document Identifier	Publication Date
US 20220229263 A1	Jul. 21, 2022

Foreign Application Priority Data

KR	10-2019-0064456	May. 31, 2019
----	-----------------	---------------

Publication Classification

Int. Cl.: G02B7/02 (20210101)

U.S. Cl.:

CPC G02B7/028 (20130101); G02B7/021 (20130101);

Field of Classification Search

CPC: G02B (7/02); G02B (7/021); G02B (7/022); G02B (7/023); G02B (7/025); G02B (7/026); G02B (7/027); G02B (7/028); H04N (23/52)

References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Patent No.	Issued Date	Patentee Name	U.S. Cl.	CPC
2015/0205186	12/2014	Park et al.	N/A	N/A
2015/0217694	12/2014	Bingle et al.	N/A	N/A
2018/0084161	12/2017	Lee	N/A	G02B 7/028
2018/0239105	12/2017	Lee	N/A	H04N 23/55
2018/0255213	12/2017	Ahn et al.	N/A	N/A
2018/0343369	12/2017	Kim et al.	N/A	N/A
2018/0345911	12/2017	Zurowski	N/A	G03B 17/55
2018/0352120	12/2017	Zurowski et al.	N/A	N/A
2019/0137723	12/2018	Bernal et al.	N/A	N/A
2019/0137850	12/2018	Ha et al.	N/A	N/A
2019/0381939	12/2018	Rafalowski	N/A	G02B 27/0006
2021/0250472	12/2020	Liu	N/A	G03B 17/561
2021/0294066	12/2020	Hirata	N/A	H05B 1/0288

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Patent No.	Application Date	Country	CPC
108983533	12/2017	CN	N/A
109076150	12/2017	CN	N/A
3 951 494	12/2021	EP	N/A
2004-325603	12/2003	JP	N/A
10-2017-0021088	12/2016	KR	N/A
10-2017-0023664	12/2016	KR	N/A
10-2017-0032585	12/2016	KR	N/A
10-2018-0017590	12/2017	KR	N/A
10-1851146	12/2017	KR	N/A
10-2018-0093487	12/2017	KR	N/A

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

International Search Report dated Aug. 28, 2020 in International Application No. PCT/KR2020/006805. cited by applicant
Office Action dated Nov. 10, 2022 in Chinese Application No. 202080039964.0. cited by applicant
Supplementary European Search Report dated Jun. 5, 2023 in European Application No. 20814116.8. cited by applicant
Office Action dated Mar. 19, 2024 in Japanese Application No. 2021-570894. cited by applicant

Primary Examiner: Mebrahtu; Ephrem Z

Attorney, Agent or Firm: Saliwanchik, Lloyd & Eisenschenk

Background/Summary

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

(1) This application is the U.S. national stage application of International Patent Application No. PCT/KR2020/006805, filed May 26, 2020, which claims the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119 of Korean Application Nos. 10-2019-0064456, filed May 31, 2019; and 10-2019-0064457, filed May 31, 2019; the disclosures of each of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

TECHNICAL FIELD

(2) The present embodiment relates to a camera module.

BACKGROUND ART

(3) In recent years, micro-camera modules have been developed, and micro-camera modules are widely used in small electronic products such as smart phones, notebook computers, and game consoles.

(4) As automobiles become more popular among public, micro-cameras are widely used not only in small electronic products but also in vehicles. For example, a black box camera for the protection of a vehicle or objective data of a traffic accident, a rear surveillance camera that enables the driver to monitor the blind spot at the rear of the vehicle through the screen to ensure safety when the vehicle is reversing, a surrounding detection camera that can monitor the surroundings of the vehicle, and the like are provided.

(5) The camera may include a lens, a lens holder accommodating the lens, an image sensor for converting an image of a subject collected in the lens into an electrical signal, and a printed circuit board on which the image sensor is mounted. The housing constituting the outer shape of the camera has a structure in which the entire region is sealed in order to inhibit contamination of internal parts from foreign substances including moisture.

(6) Due to the characteristics of a vehicle that is disposed outdoors, the temperature inside and outside the vehicle forms a variety of distributions depending on the time. For example, in summer, the indoor temperature may be higher than the outdoor temperature, and in winter, the temperature may drop to below zero. Accordingly, condensation including frost may occur in the components including the lens and glass of the camera according to an abrupt temperature change. For this reason, satisfactory image recordings may not be obtained, or may cause a product failure.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Technical Subject

(7) An object to be solved by the present invention is to provide a camera module capable of inhibiting condensation including frost from occurring on a lens.

Technical Solution

(8) A camera module according to one aspect of the present invention comprises: a housing

including a body and an accommodation unit extending in an optical axis direction from a central region of the body; an outermost lens arranged on the upper part of the accommodation unit; a substrate coupled to the lower part of the housing; a connector coupled to a lower surface of the substrate; a heating member arranged on one side of the outermost lens; and a transmission member for connecting the heating member and the connector, wherein the substrate includes a first groove formed on the side surface thereof so as to be penetrated by the transmission member, and the housing includes a partition wall extending from the lower surface thereof so as to be coupled to the upper surface of the substrate.

(9) In addition, the partition wall may be overlapped with the edge region of an upper surface of the substrate in the optical axis direction.

(10) In addition, the edge region of the upper surface of the substrate may be in contact with a lower surface of the partition wall, and an upper surface of the substrate may be sealed from the outside by the partition wall.

(11) In addition, the accommodation unit may include a hole extending in an optical axis direction, and the transmission member may sequentially pass through the hole and the first groove to be connected to the connector.

(12) In addition, at least one lens arranged in the accommodation unit and arranged on one side of the outermost lens is included, the hole is spaced apart from the at least one lens in a direction perpendicular to the optical axis, and the at least one lens may be screw-coupled to the inner circumferential surface of the accommodation unit.

(13) In addition, the accommodation unit may include a second groove formed on a lower surface, and the second groove may be overlapped with the at least one lens in a direction perpendicular to the optical axis.

(14) In addition, the transmission member may include a first region connected to the heating member, a second region connected to the connector, and a third region connecting the first region and the second region.

(15) In addition, at least a portion of the third region of the transmission member may be bent.

(16) In addition, a retainer coupled to an upper portion of the accommodation unit to fix the outermost lens may be included.

(17) In addition, an O-ring arranged between the outermost lens and the retainer may be included.

(18) A camera module according to an aspect of the present invention for achieving the above object includes: a housing including a body and an accommodation unit extending in an optical axis direction from a central region of the body; an outermost lens arranged on an upper part of the accommodation unit; a substrate coupled to a lower part of the housing; a heating member arranged on one side of the outermost lens; and a transmission member connecting the heating member and the substrate, wherein the accommodation unit includes a hole extending in an optical axis direction, and the substrate includes a first groove formed concave inwardly from a side surface, and the transmission member passes through the hole and the first groove.

(19) In addition, the housing may include a partition wall extending downward from a lower surface and coupled to an upper surface of the substrate.

(20) In addition, the partition wall may be overlapped with the edge region of an upper surface of the substrate in the optical axis direction.

(21) In addition, the edge region of an upper surface of the substrate may be in contact with a lower surface of the partition wall, and an upper surface of the substrate may be sealed from the outside by the partition wall.

(22) In addition, at least one lens arranged on the accommodation unit and arranged on one side of the outermost lens is included, the hole is spaced apart in a direction perpendicular to the optical axis, and the at least one lens may be screw-coupled to the inner circumferential surface of the accommodation unit.

(23) In addition, the accommodation unit may include a second groove formed on a lower surface,

and the second groove may be overlapped with the at least one lens in a direction perpendicular to the optical axis.

(24) In addition, a connector arranged on a lower surface of the board is included, and one side of the transmission member may be connected to the connector.

(25) In addition, the transmission member may include a first region connected to the heating member, a second region connected to the connector, and a third region connecting the first region and the second region.

(26) In addition, at least a portion of the third region of the transmission member may be bent.

(27) A retainer coupled to an upper part of the accommodation unit to fix the outermost lens; and an O-ring arranged between the outermost lens and the retainer may be included.

(28) A camera module according to an aspect of the present invention for achieving the above object comprises: a housing including a body and an accommodation unit extending from a central region of the body in an optical axis direction; an outermost lens arranged on an upper part of the accommodation unit; a substrate coupled to a lower part of the housing; a connector coupled to a lower surface of the board; a heating member arranged on one side of the outermost lens; and a transmission member connecting the heating member and the connector, wherein the substrate includes a groove formed on a side surface and penetrated by the transmission member, and wherein the housing includes a partition wall extending from a lower surface and coupled to an upper surface of the substrate.

(29) In addition, the partition wall may overlap the edge region of an upper surface of the substrate in the optical axis direction.

(30) In addition, the edge region of an upper surface of the substrate may be in contact with a lower surface of the partition wall, and an upper surface of the substrate may be sealed from the outside by the partition wall.

(31) In addition, the partition wall may include a hole penetrated by the transmission member.

(32) In addition, the transmission member may include a first region connected to the heating member, a second region connected to the connector, and a third region connecting the first region and the second region and penetrating through the hole.

(33) In addition, at least a portion of the third region may be bent.

(34) In addition, the hole may be sealed by a sealing member after being penetrated by the transmission member.

(35) In addition, at least one lens arranged in the accommodation unit; and a spacer arranged between the inner side surface of the accommodation unit and the at least one lens.

(36) In addition, a fixing member arranged below the spacer and coupled to the inner side surface of the accommodation unit may be included.

(37) In addition, the outer side surface of the fixing member may be screw-coupled to the inner side surface of the accommodation unit.

(38) In addition, a separation space formed between the inner surface of the accommodation unit and the spacer is included, and the transmission member may penetrate the separation space.

(39) In addition, an O-ring arranged between the inner surface of the accommodation unit and the outermost lens may be included.

(40) A camera module according to an aspect of the present invention for achieving the above object comprises: a housing including a body and an accommodation unit extending from a central region of the body in an optical axis direction; an outermost lens arranged on an upper part of the accommodation unit; a substrate coupled to a lower part of the housing; a heating member arranged on one side of the outermost lens; a transmission member connecting the heating member and the substrate; at least one lens arranged in the accommodation unit; and a spacer arranged between the inner surface of the accommodation unit and the at least one lens, wherein the substrate includes a groove formed concave inwardly on a side surface, and wherein the transmission member passes through the groove and a separation space formed between the inner surface of the accommodation

unit and the spacer.

(41) In addition, the housing may include a partition wall extending from a lower surface and coupled to an upper surface of the substrate.

(42) In addition, the edge region of an upper surface of the substrate is in contact with a lower surface of the partition wall, and an upper surface of the substrate may be sealed from the outside by the partition wall.

(43) In addition, the partition wall may include a hole penetrated by the transmission member.

(44) In addition, the transmission member may include a first region connected to the heating member, a second region connected to the connector, and a third region connecting the first region and the second region and penetrating through the hole.

(45) In addition, at least a portion of the third region may be bent.

(46) In addition, the hole may be sealed by a sealing member after being penetrated by the transmission member.

(47) In addition, a fixing member arranged below the spacer and coupled to the inner side surface of the accommodation unit is included, and the outer side surface of the fixing member may be screw-coupled to the inner side surface of the accommodation unit.

(48) A camera module according to an aspect of the present invention for achieving the above object comprises: a housing including a body and an accommodation unit extending from a central region of the body in an optical axis direction; an outermost lens arranged on an upper part of the accommodation unit; a substrate coupled to a lower part of the housing; a heating member arranged on one side of the outermost lens; a transmission member connecting the heating member and the substrate; at least one lens arranged in the accommodation unit; and a spacer arranged between the inner surface of the accommodation unit and the at least one lens, wherein the housing includes a partition wall extending from a lower surface and coupled to an upper surface of the substrate, wherein the partition wall includes a hole, and wherein the transmission member passes through the hole and a separation space formed between the inner surface of the accommodation unit and the spacer.

Advantageous Effects

(49) Through the present embodiment, it is possible to provide a camera module capable of inhibiting condensation including frost from occurring on the lens.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

(1) FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a camera module according to a first embodiment of the present invention.

(2) FIG. 2 is an exploded perspective view of a camera module according to a first embodiment of the present invention.

(3) FIG. 3 is a cross-sectional view of a camera module according to a first embodiment of the present invention.

(4) FIGS. 4 to 6 are perspective views of a housing according to a first embodiment of the present invention.

(5) FIG. 7 is a bottom view of the housing according to a first embodiment of the present invention.

(6) FIG. 8 is a perspective view of a heating member and a transmission member according to a first embodiment of the present invention.

(7) FIG. 9 is a perspective view of a substrate and an image sensor according to a first embodiment of the present invention.

(8) FIG. 10 is a perspective view of a camera module according to a second embodiment of the present invention.

(9) FIG. 11 is an exploded perspective view of a camera module according to a second embodiment of the present invention.

(10) FIG. 12 is a cross-sectional view of a camera module according to a second embodiment of the present invention.

(11) FIG. 13 is an enlarged view of part A of FIG. 12.

(12) FIG. 14 is a bottom view of a housing according to a second embodiment of the present invention.

(13) FIG. 15 is a perspective view of a heating member and a transmission member according to a second embodiment of the present invention.

(14) FIG. 16 is a perspective view of a substrate and an image sensor according to a second embodiment of the present invention.

BEST MODE

(15) Hereinafter, preferred embodiments of the present invention will be described in detail with reference to the accompanying drawings.

(16) However, the technical idea of the present invention is not limited to some embodiments to be described, but may be implemented in various forms, and within the scope of the technical idea of the present invention, one or more of the constituent elements may be selectively combined or substituted between embodiments.

(17) In addition, the terms (including technical and scientific terms) used in the embodiments of the present invention, unless explicitly defined and described, can be interpreted as a meaning that can be generally understood by a person skilled in the art, and commonly used terms such as terms defined in the dictionary may be interpreted in consideration of the meaning of the context of the related technology.

(18) In addition, terms used in the present specification are for describing embodiments and are not intended to limit the present invention.

(19) In the present specification, the singular form may include the plural form unless specifically stated in the phrase, and when described as “at least one (or more than one) of A and B and C”, it may include one or more of all combinations that can be combined with A, B, and C.

(20) In addition, in describing the components of the embodiment of the present invention, terms such as first, second, A, B, (a), and (b) may be used. These terms are merely intended to distinguish the components from other components, and the terms do not limit the nature, order or sequence of the components.

(21) And, when a component is described as being ‘connected’, ‘coupled’ or ‘interconnected’ to another component, the component is not only directly connected, coupled or interconnected to the other component, but may also include cases of being ‘connected’, ‘coupled’, or ‘interconnected’ due that another component between that other components.

(22) In addition, when described as being formed or arranged in “on (above)” or “below (under)” of each component, “on (above)” or “below (under)” means that it includes not only the case where the two components are directly in contact with, but also the case where one or more other components are formed or arranged between the two components. In addition, when expressed as “on (above)” or “below (under)”, the meaning of not only an upward direction but also a downward direction based on one component may be included.

(23) An ‘optical axis direction’ used below is defined as an optical axis direction of a lens module. Meanwhile, the ‘optical axis direction’ may correspond to an ‘up-down direction’, a ‘z-axis direction’, and the like.

(24) Hereinafter, the present invention will be described in more detail with reference to the accompanying drawings.

(25) FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a camera module according to a first embodiment of the present invention. FIG. 2 is an exploded perspective view of a camera module according to a first embodiment of the present invention. FIG. 3 is a cross-sectional view of a camera module

according to a first embodiment of the present invention. FIGS. 4 to 6 are perspective views of a housing according to a first embodiment of the present invention. FIG. 7 is a bottom view of the housing according to a first embodiment of the present invention. FIG. 8 is a perspective view of a heating member and a transmission member according to a first embodiment of the present invention. FIG. 9 is a perspective view of a substrate and an image sensor according to a first embodiment of the present invention.

(26) Referring to FIGS. 1 to 9, the camera module **10** according to the first embodiment of the present invention may include a housing **100**, a lens module **200**, a retainer **300**, an O-ring **400**, a substrate **500**, an image sensor **600**, a heating member **700**, and a transmission member **800**, but may be implemented except for some of these configurations and does not exclude additional configurations other than that.

(27) The camera module **10** according to the first embodiment of the present invention may include a housing **100**. The housing **100** may form the outer appearance of the camera module **10**. In the housing **100**, a lens module **200**, a retainer **300**, an O-ring **400**, a substrate **500**, an image sensor **600**, a heating member **700**, and a transmission member **800** may be arranged. The housing **100** may be combined with an additional housing (not shown) arranged on a lower part. The housing **100** may be arranged below the retainer **300**. The housing **100** may include a body **102**, an accommodation unit **104**, and a partition wall **130**.

(28) The housing **100** may include a body **102**. The body **102** may form the outer appearance of the camera module **10**. The body **102** may be formed in a hexahedral shape with an open lower surface. An accommodation unit **104** may be formed in the body **102**. An accommodation unit **104** may be formed in the central region of the body **102**. The body **102** may be integrally formed with the accommodation unit **104**. The body **102** may be combined with an additional housing being arranged on a lower part. The body **102** may be formed with a first partition wall **132** on the lower part.

(29) The housing **100** may include an accommodation unit **104**. The accommodation unit **104** may be formed being extended from the body **102**. The accommodation unit **104** may be formed in the central region of the body **102**. The accommodation unit **104** may be extended in the optical axis direction. The accommodation unit **104** may be formed integrally with the body **102**.

(30) The accommodation unit **104** may be formed in a cylindrical shape. The accommodation unit **104** may include an opening, a hole **110**, and a second groove **120**. A second partition wall **134** may be formed in the lower part of the accommodation unit **104**.

(31) The accommodation unit **104** may include an opening. An opening being extended in the optical axis direction may be formed in the central region of the accommodation unit **104**. The lens module **200** may be arranged in the accommodation unit **104**. The lens module **200** may be arranged in the opening of the accommodation unit **104**. At least one lens **210** may be arranged in the opening of the accommodation unit **104**. The at least one lens **210** may be screw-coupled to the inner circumferential surface of the opening of the accommodation unit **104**. An outermost lens **220** may be arranged in the upper part region of the accommodation unit **104**. The upper part of the opening of the accommodation unit **104** may be sealed by the outermost lens **220**. The outermost lens **220** may be exposed to the upper part of the accommodation unit **104**.

(32) The accommodation unit **104** may include a hall **110**. The hole **110** may be extended in the optical axis direction. The hole **110** may be spaced apart from the opening of the accommodation unit **104** in a direction perpendicular to the optical axis. The hall **110** may be located in some region based on the cross-section of the accommodation unit **104**. The hole **110** may be penetrated by the transmission member **800**. The hole **110** may be overlapped with at least one lens **210** in a direction perpendicular to the optical axis. The hole **110** may not be overlapped with the image sensor **600** arranged on the upper surface of the substrate **500** in the optical axis direction.

(33) The accommodation unit **104** may include a second groove **120**. The second groove **120** may be formed on the lower surface of the accommodation unit **104**. The second groove **120** may be

concave upwards on the lower surface of the accommodation unit **104**. The second groove **120** may be extended in the optical axis direction. The second groove **120** may be overlapped with at least one lens **210** in a direction perpendicular to the optical axis. The second groove **120** may be spaced apart from the hole **110**. The second groove **120** may be overlapped with the hole **110** in a direction perpendicular to the optical axis. Through this, it is possible to reduce the cost by reducing raw materials of the camera module **10** and reducing the weight.

(34) The housing **100** may include a partition wall **130**. The partition wall **130** may be formed in the lower part of the housing **100**. The partition wall **130** may be protruded downward from the lower surface of the housing **100**. The partition wall **130** may be coupled to the upper surface of the substrate **500**. The lower surface of the partition wall **130** may be coupled to the upper surface of the substrate **500**. The partition wall **130** may be overlapped with the edge region of the substrate **500** in the optical axis direction. The lower surface of the partition wall **130** may be in contact with the edge region of the substrate **500**. The lower surface of the partition wall **130** may be formed in a shape corresponding to the edge region of the substrate **500**. The partition wall **130** may seal the upper surface of the substrate **500** from the outside. Through this, it is possible to inhibit foreign substances from penetrating into the image sensor **600** or other elements. The partition wall **130** may include a first partition wall **132**, a second partition wall **134**, a first coupling hole **136**, and a boss **138**.

(35) The partition wall **130** may include a first partition wall **132**. The first partition wall **132** may be formed in the lower part of the body **102**. The first partition wall **132** may be protruded downward from the lower surface of the body **102**. The first partition wall **132** may be coupled to the upper surface of the substrate **500**. The first partition wall **132** may be connected to the second partition wall **134**. The first partition wall **132** may be integrally formed with the second partition wall **134**. The first partition wall **132** may be in contact with the edge region of the upper surface of the substrate **500**.

(36) The partition wall **130** may include a second partition wall **134**. The second partition wall **134** may be formed in the lower part of the accommodation unit **104**. The second partition wall **134** may be protruded downward from the lower surface of the accommodation unit **104**. The second partition wall **134** may be coupled to the upper surface of the substrate **500**. The second partition wall **134** may be connected to the first partition wall **132**. The second partition wall **134** may be integrally formed with the first partition wall **132**. The second partition wall **134** may be in contact with a region adjacent to the first groove **510** among edge regions of the upper surface of the substrate **500**.

(37) The partition wall **130** may include a first coupling hole **136**. The first coupling hole **136** may be formed on the lower surface of the partition wall **130**. The first coupling hole **136** may be overlapped with the second coupling hole **536** formed in the substrate **500** in the optical axis direction. The first coupling hole **136** may be formed in a shape corresponding to the second coupling hole **536** formed in the substrate **500**. The first coupling hole **136** may be penetrated through by a coupling member, for example, a screw, together with the second coupling hole **536** formed in the substrate **500**. Through this, the lower surface of the partition wall **130** may be coupled to the upper surface of the substrate **500**. The first coupling hole **136** may include two first coupling holes **136**. The two first coupling holes **136** may be formed at positions symmetrical to each other with respect to the optical axis. Through this, coupling stability between the lower surface of the partition wall **130** and the upper surface of the substrate **500** may be enhanced.

(38) The partition wall **130** may include a boss **138**. The boss **138** may be formed on the lower surface of the partition wall **130**. The boss **138** may be overlapped with the through hole **538** formed in the substrate **500** in the optical axis direction. The boss **138** may be formed in a shape corresponding to the through hole **538** formed in the substrate **500**. The boss **138** may be inserted into the through hole **538** formed in the substrate **500**. Through this, it is possible to guide the positioning of the housing **100** and the substrate **500** with respect to each other. The boss **138** may

include two bosses **138**. The two bosses **138** may be formed at positions symmetrical to each other with respect to the optical axis. Through this, the positioning force of the housing **100** and the substrate **500** with respect to each other may be enhanced.

(39) The camera module **10** according to the first embodiment of the present invention may include a lens module **200**. The lens module **200** may be arranged in the housing **100**. The lens module **200** may be arranged in the accommodation unit **104** of the housing **100**. The lens module **200** may be arranged in an opening of the accommodation unit **104** of the housing **100**. The lens module **200** may include at least one lens **210** and an outermost lens **220**.

(40) The lens module **200** may include at least one lens **210**. The at least one lens **210** may be arranged in the accommodation unit **104**. The at least one lens **210** may be screw-coupled to the inner circumferential surface of the accommodation unit **104**. The at least one lens **210** may be arranged on one side or below the outermost lens **220**. The at least one lens **210** may be overlapped with the hole **110** of the accommodation unit **104** in a direction perpendicular to the optical axis. The at least one lens **210** may be overlapped with the second groove **120** of the accommodation unit **104** in a direction perpendicular to the optical axis. Each lens of the at least one lens **210** may be made of a synthetic resin material, a glass material, or a quartz material, but is not limited thereto and may be made of various materials.

(41) The lens module **200** may include an outermost lens **220**. The outermost lens **220** may be arranged on the upper part of the accommodation unit **104**. The outermost lens **220** may seal the opening of the accommodation unit **104**. The outermost lens **220** may be fixed to the accommodation unit **104** by the retainer **300**. The outermost lens **220** may be made of a synthetic resin material, a glass material, or a quartz material, but is not limited thereto and may be made of various materials.

(42) The camera module **10** according to the first embodiment of the present invention may include a retainer **300**. The retainer **300** may be coupled to the housing **100**. The retainer **300** may be coupled to the upper part of the accommodation unit **104** of the housing **100**. The retainer **300** may secure the outermost lens **220**. After the outermost lens **220** and the at least one lens **210** are inserted from the upper part of the accommodation unit **104** and assembled in the accommodation unit **104**, the retainer **300** is coupled to the upper part of the accommodation unit **104** to fix the outermost lens **220** to the accommodation unit **104**. At this time, one end of the retainer **300** is formed in a letter 'custom character' shape, so that the outermost lens **220** accommodated in the accommodation unit **104** can be fixed by pressing it downward. The other end of the retainer **300** may be snap-fit or screw-coupled to the outer circumferential surface of the accommodation unit **104**. The other end of the retainer **300** may be coupled to the accommodation unit **104** through an adhesive member such as epoxy.

(43) The camera module **10** according to the first embodiment of the present invention may include an O-ring **400**. The O-ring **400** may be arranged between the lens module **200** and the retainer **300**. The O-ring **400** may be arranged between the outermost lens **220** and the retainer **300**. The O-ring **400** may be formed of a material having elasticity. The O-ring **400** may be formed in a ring shape. Through this, it is possible to prevent damage to components that may occur when the retainer **300** presses the outermost lens **220** of the lens module **200** downward.

(44) The camera module **10** according to the first embodiment of the present invention may include a substrate **500**. The substrate **500** may be arranged in the housing **100**. The substrate **500** may be arranged on the lower part of the housing **100**. The substrate **500** may be coupled to the lower part of the housing **100**. The substrate **500** may be coupled to the lower surface of the partition wall **130** of the housing **100**. The edge region of the upper surface of the substrate **500** may be overlapped with the partition wall **130** in the optical axis direction. The edge region of the upper surface of the substrate **500** may be in contact with the lower surface of the partition wall **130**. The upper surface of the substrate **500** may be sealed from the outside by the partition wall **130**. Through this, it is possible to inhibit foreign substances from penetrating into the image sensor **600** or other elements

arranged on the upper surface of the substrate **500**.

(45) The substrate **500** may be electrically connected to an image sensor **600**. The image sensor **600** may be arranged on the substrate **500**. The image sensor **600** may be arranged on the upper surface of the substrate **500**. The image sensor **600** may be mounted on the upper surface of the substrate **500**. The substrate **500** may be electrically connected to the transmission member **800**. The substrate **500** may be electrically connected to a connector **520**. The connector **520** may be arranged on the lower surface of the substrate **500**. The connector **520** may be mounted on the lower surface of the substrate **500**. The substrate **500** may be electrically connected to the transmission member **800** through the connector **520**.

(46) The substrate **500** may include a printed circuit board (PCB). The substrate **500** may include a flexible printed circuit board (FPCB).

(47) The substrate **500** may include a first groove **510**. The first groove **510** may be formed on a side surface of the substrate **500**. The first groove **510** may be concavely formed on the side surface of the substrate **500**. The first groove **510** may be spaced apart from the image sensor **600**. The first groove **510** may be penetrated by the transmission member **800**. A cross-section of the first groove **510** may be formed in a rectangular shape. At least a portion of the first groove **510** may be overlapped with the hole **110** of the housing **100** in the optical axis direction. The first groove **510** may be located outside the partition wall **130**. Specifically, the first groove **510** may be located outside the second partition wall **134**.

(48) The substrate **500** may include a second coupling hole **536**. The second coupling hole **536** may be formed through the substrate **500**. The second coupling hole **536** may be overlapped with the first coupling hole **136** formed in the partition wall **130** in the optical axis direction. The second coupling hole **536** may be formed in a shape corresponding to the first coupling hole **136** formed in the partition wall **130**. The second coupling hole **536** may be penetrated through by a coupling member, for example, a screw, together with the first coupling hole **136** formed in the partition wall **130**. Through this, the upper surface of the substrate **500** may be coupled to the lower surface of the partition wall **130**. The second coupling hole **536** may include two second coupling holes **536**. The two second coupling holes **536** may be formed at positions symmetrical to each other with respect to the optical axis. Through this, bonding stability between the upper surface of the substrate **500** and the lower surface of the partition wall **130** may be enhanced.

(49) The substrate **500** may include a through hole **538**. The through hole **538** may be formed by penetrating through the substrate **500**. The through hole **538** may be overlapped with the boss **138** formed in the partition wall **130** in the optical axis direction. The through hole **538** may be formed in a shape corresponding to the boss **138** formed in the partition wall **130**. The through hole **538** may be penetrated by the boss **138** formed in the partition wall **130**. Through this, it is possible to guide the positioning of the housing **100** and the substrate **500** with respect to each other. The through hole **538** may include two through holes **538**. The two through-holes **538** may be formed at positions symmetrical to each other with respect to the optical axis. Through this, the positioning force of the housing **100** and the substrate **500** with respect to each other may be enhanced.

(50) A camera module **10** according to the first embodiment of the present invention may include an image sensor **600**. The image sensor **600** may be arranged on the upper surface of the substrate **500**. The image sensor **600** may be mounted in a central region of the upper surface of the substrate **500**. The image sensor **600** may be arranged below the lens module **200**. The image sensor **600** may be spaced apart from the first groove **510**. The image sensor **600** may be electrically connected to the substrate **500**. For example, the image sensor **600** may be coupled to the substrate **500** by a surface mounting technology (SMT). As another example, the image sensor **600** may be coupled to the substrate **500** by a flip chip technology.

(51) The camera module **10** according to the first embodiment of the present invention may include a heating member **700**. The heating member **700** may be arranged in the lens module **200**. The heating member **700** may be arranged on one side of the outermost lens **220**. The heating member

700 may be arranged on the lower surface of the outermost lens **220**. The heating member **700** may be formed of a transparent material. The heating member **700** may be formed in a shape that does not interfere with light passing through the lens module **200**. For example, the heating member **700** may be formed in a C-shape.

(52) The heating member **700** may be electrically connected to the transmission member **800**. The heating member **700** may receive power from the substrate **500** through the transmission member **700** to generate heat. The heating member **700** may be a transparent heating film coated with indium thin oxide (ITO) having conductivity capable of generating heat by a self-resistance component. The heating member **700** may be formed by, for example, a coating process or a deposition process of an indium tin oxide material. However, this is an example, and the material of the heating member **700** is not limited thereto, and may be variously changed as long as it is a material that can generate heat by supplying current.

(53) The camera module **10** according to the first embodiment of the present invention may include a transmission member **800**. The transmission member **800** may electrically connect the heating member **700** and the substrate **500**. The transmission member **800** may connect the heating member **700** and the connector **520**. The transmission member **800** may be electrically connected to the heating member **700**. The transmission member **800** may be electrically connected to the substrate **500** through a connector **520**. The transmission member **800** may supply current from the substrate **500** to the heating member **700**. At least a portion of the transmission member **800** may be bent. The transmission member **800** may sequentially pass through the hole **110** of the accommodation unit **104** and the first groove **510** of the substrate **500**. The transmission member **800** may be a flexible printed circuit board (FPCB).

(54) The transmission member **800** may include a first region **810** connected to the heating member **700**, a second region **820** connected to the connector **520**, and a third region **830** connecting the first region **810** to the second region **820**. At least a portion of the third region **830** may be bent. The third region **830** may sequentially pass through the hole **110** of the accommodation unit **104** and the first groove **510** of the substrate **500**. Through this, space efficiency can be enhanced.

(55) According to a camera module **10** according to the first embodiment of the present invention, it is possible to inhibit the occurrence of condensation including frost on the outermost lens **220** through the heating member **700**.

(56) In addition, according to a camera module **10** according to the first embodiment of the present invention, it is possible to inhibit a foreign material from penetrating into the image sensor **600** through the partition wall **130**, and the space efficiency can be enhanced.

(57) Hereinafter, a second embodiment of the present invention will be described in more detail with reference to the accompanying drawings.


(58) FIG. **10** is a perspective view of a camera module according to a second embodiment of the present invention. FIG. **11** is an exploded perspective view of a camera module according to a second embodiment of the present invention. FIG. **12** is a cross-sectional view of a camera module according to a second embodiment of the present invention. FIG. **13** is an enlarged view of part A of FIG. **12**. FIG. **14** is a bottom view of a housing according to a second embodiment of the present invention. FIG. **15** is a perspective view of a heating member and a transmission member according to a second embodiment of the present invention. FIG. **16** is a perspective view of a substrate and an image sensor according to a second embodiment of the present invention.

(59) Referring to FIGS. **10** to **16**, the camera module **1010** according to the second embodiment of the present invention may include a housing **1100**, a lens module **1200**, an O-ring **1300**, a spacer **1400**, fixing members **1500**, a substrate **1600**, an image sensor **1700**, a heating member **1800**, and a transmission member **1900**, but it may be implemented except for some of these configurations, and does not exclude additional configurations.

(60) The camera module **1010** according to the second embodiment of the present invention may include a housing **1100**. The housing **1100** may form the outer appearance of the camera module

1010. In the housing **1100**, a lens module **1200**, an O-ring **1300**, a spacer **1400**, fixing member **1500**, a substrate **1600**, an image sensor **1700**, a heating member **1800**, and a transmission member **1900** may be arranged. The housing **1100** may be coupled with an additional housing (not shown) arranged on the lower part. The housing **1100** may include a body **1102**, an accommodation unit **1104**, and a partition wall **1130**.

(61) The housing **1100** may include a body **1102**. The body **1102** may form the outer appearance of the camera module **1010**. The body **1102** may be formed in a hexahedral shape with an open lower surface. An accommodation unit **1104** may be formed in the body **1102**. The accommodation unit **1104** may be formed in the central region of the body **1102**. The body **1102** may be integrally formed with the accommodation unit **1104**. The body **1102** may be coupled with an additional housing that is arranged on the lower part. In the lower part of the body **1102**, a first partition wall **1132** and a second partition wall **1134** may be formed.

(62) The housing **1100** may include an accommodation unit **1104**. The accommodation unit **1104** may be formed by being extended from the body **1102**. The accommodation unit **1104** may be formed in the central region of the body **1102**. The accommodation unit **1104** may be extended in the optical axis direction. The accommodation unit **1104** may be formed integrally with the body **1102**. The accommodation unit **1104** may be formed in a cylindrical shape. The upper surface of the outermost lens **1220** may be arranged on the inner side surface of the accommodation unit **1104**. The upper end of the accommodation unit **1104** is formed in a letter  custom character shape to inhibit the outermost lens **1220** from being released to the outside. The spacer **1400** may be arranged between the accommodation unit **1104** and at least one lens **1210**. A separation space formed in a portion of the space between the accommodation unit **1104** and the spacer **1400** may be penetrated by the transmission member **1900**.

(63) A step portion may be formed on the inner side surface of the accommodation unit **1104**. The upper surface of the spacer **1400** may be seated on a step portion formed on the inner side surface of the accommodation unit **1104**. The edge region of the upper surface of the spacer **1400** may be seated on the step portion formed on the inner side surface of the accommodation unit **1104**. Through this, it is possible to secure a space in which the outermost lens **1220** is arranged.

(64) The accommodation unit **1104** may include an opening **1120**. The opening **1120** being extended in the optical axis direction may be formed in the central region of the accommodation unit **1104**. A lens module **1200** may be arranged in the accommodation unit **1104**. The lens module **1200** may be arranged in the opening **1120** of the accommodation unit **1104**. At least one lens **1210** may be arranged in the opening **1120** of the accommodation unit **1104**. An outermost lens **1220** may be arranged in the upper part region of the opening **1120** of the accommodation unit **1104**. The radius of the opening **1120** of the accommodation unit **1104** may be larger than the radius of the at least one lens **1210**. The spacer **1400** may be arranged in the opening **1120** of the accommodation unit **1104**. In some regions of the opening **1120** of the accommodation unit **1104**, some regions of the transmission member **1900** may be arranged.

(65) The housing **1100** may include a partition wall **1130**. The partition wall **1130** may be formed in the lower part of the housing **1100**. The partition wall **1130** may be protruded downward from the lower surface of the housing **1100**. The partition wall **1130** may be coupled to the upper surface of the substrate **1600**. The lower surface of the partition wall **1130** may be coupled to the upper surface of the substrate **1600**. The partition wall **1130** may be overlapped with the edge region of the substrate **1600** in the optical axis direction. The lower surface of the partition wall **1130** may be in contact with the edge region of the substrate **1600**. The lower surface of the partition wall **1130** may be formed in a shape corresponding to the edge region of the substrate **1600**. The partition wall **1130** may seal the upper surface of the substrate **1600** from the outside. Through this, it is possible to inhibit foreign substances from penetrating into the image sensor **1700** or other elements. The partition wall **1130** may include a first partition wall **1132**, a second partition wall **1134**, a first coupling hole **1136**, and a boss **1138**.

(66) The partition wall **1130** may include a first partition wall **1132**. The first partition wall **1132** may be formed in the lower part of the body **1102**. The first partition wall **1132** may be protruded downward from the lower surface of the body **1102**. The first partition wall **1132** may be coupled to the upper surface of the substrate **1600**. The first partition wall **1132** may be connected to the second partition wall **1134**. The first partition wall **1132** may be integrally formed with the second partition wall **1134**. The first partition wall **1132** may be in contact with the edge region of the upper surface of the substrate **1600**. The first partition wall **1132** may be further spaced apart from the optical axis than the second partition wall **1134**.

(67) The partition wall **1130** may include a second partition wall **1134**. The second partition wall **1134** may be formed in the lower part of the body **1102**. The second partition wall **1134** may be protruded downward from the lower surface of the body **1102**. The second partition wall **1134** may be coupled to the upper surface of the substrate **1600**. The second partition wall **1134** may be connected to the first partition wall **1132**. The second partition wall **1134** may be integrally formed with the first partition wall **1132**. The second partition wall **1134** may be in contact with a region adjacent to the first groove **1610** among the edge region of the upper surface of the substrate **1600**. The second partition wall **1134** may be arranged at a position closer to the optical axis than the first partition wall **1132**.

(68) The second partition wall **1134** may include a hole **1134a**. The hole **1134a** may be formed in the upper part region of the second partition wall **1134**. The hole **1134a** may be penetrated by the transmission member **1900**. After some regions of the transmission member **1900** are arranged, the hole **1134a** may be sealed by a sealing member (not shown). At this time, the sealing member may include a thermosetting resin such as epoxy. Through this, it is possible to inhibit foreign substances from being introduced into the image sensor **1700**.

(69) The partition wall **1130** may include a first coupling hole **1136**. The first coupling hole **1136** may be formed on the lower surface of the partition wall **1130**. The first coupling hole **1136** may be overlapped with the second coupling hole **1630** formed in the substrate **1600** in the optical axis direction. The first coupling hole **1136** may be formed in a shape corresponding to the second coupling hole **1630** formed in the substrate **1600**. The first coupling hole **1136** may be penetrated through by a coupling member, for example, a screw, together with the second coupling hole **1630** formed in the substrate **1600**. Through this, the lower surface of the partition wall **1130** may be coupled to the upper surface of the substrate **1600**. The first coupling hole **1136** may include two first coupling holes **1136**. The two first coupling holes **1136** may be formed at positions symmetrical to each other with respect to the optical axis. Through this, bonding stability between the lower surface of the partition wall **1130** and the upper surface of the substrate **1600** may be enhanced.

(70) The partition wall **1130** may include a boss **1138**. The boss **1138** may be formed on the lower surface of the partition wall **1130**. The boss **1138** may be overlapped with the through hole **1640** formed in the substrate **1600** in the optical axis direction. The boss **1138** may be formed in a shape corresponding to the through hole **1640** formed in the substrate **1600**. The boss **1138** may be inserted into the through hole **1640** formed in the substrate **1600**. Through this, it is possible to guide the positioning of the housing **1100** and the substrate **1600** with respect to each other. Boss **1138** may include two bosses **1138**. The two bosses **1138** may be formed at positions symmetrical to each other with respect to the optical axis. Through this, the positioning force of the housing **1100** and the substrate **1600** with respect to each other may be enhanced.

(71) The camera module **1010** according to the second embodiment of the present invention may include a lens module **1200**. The lens module **1200** may be arranged in the housing **1100**. The lens module **1200** may be arranged in the accommodation unit **1104** of the housing **1100**. The lens module **1200** may be arranged in the opening **1120** of the accommodation unit **1104** of the housing **1100**. The lens module **1200** may include at least one lens **1210** and an outermost lens **1220**.

(72) The lens module **1200** may include at least one lens **1210**. The at least one lens **1210** may be

arranged in the accommodation unit **1104**. The radius of the at least one lens **1210** may be smaller than the radius of the opening **1120** of the accommodation unit **1104**. The at least one lens **1210** may be arranged on one side or below the outermost lens **1220**. The at least one lens **1210** may be overlapped with the spacer **1400** in a direction perpendicular to the optical axis. The at least one lens **1210** may be supported by the spacer **1400**. The at least one lens **1210** may be fixed and supported by the fixing member **1500**. The at least one lens **1210** may include a plurality of lenses having a step difference from each other. A plurality of lenses having a step difference may be respectively supported by a plurality of spacers **1410** and **420**. Each lens of the at least one lens **1210** may be made of a synthetic resin material, a glass material, or a quartz material, but is not limited thereto and may be made of various materials.

(73) The lens module **1200** may include an outermost lens **1220**. The outermost lens **1220** may be arranged in the upper part of the accommodation unit **1104**. The outermost lens **1220** may seal the opening **1120** of the accommodation unit **1104**. At least a portion of the upper surface of the outermost lens **1220** may be in contact with the upper part region of the inner side surface of the accommodation unit **1104**. At least a portion of the lower surface of the outermost lens **1220** may be in contact with the upper surface of the at least one lens **1210**. A radius of the outermost lens **1220** may be larger than a radius of the at least one lens **1210**. The outermost lens **1220** may be fixed to the accommodation unit **1104** by an upper end of the accommodation unit **1104** and at least one lens **1102**. The outermost lens **1220** may be made of a synthetic resin material, a glass material, or a quartz material, but is not limited thereto and may be made of various materials.

(74) The camera module **1010** according to the second embodiment of the present invention may include an O-ring **1300**. The O-ring **1300** may be arranged between the housing **1100** and the lens module **1200**. The O-ring **1300** may be arranged between the outermost lens **1220** and the accommodation unit **1104** of the housing **1100**. The O-ring **1300** may be formed of a material having elasticity. The O-ring **1300** may be formed in a ring shape. Through this, it is possible to inhibit damage to components that may occur when an upper end of the accommodation unit **1104** of the housing **1100** presses the outermost lens **1220** of the lens module **1200** downward. In addition, the O-ring **1300** may have a waterproof function that inhibits moisture from entering the camera module **1010** through the accommodation unit **1104**.

(75) The camera module **1010** according to the second embodiment of the present invention may include a spacer **1400**. The spacer **1400** may be arranged in the housing **1100**. The spacer **1400** may be arranged in the accommodation unit **1104** of the housing **1100**. The spacer **1400** may be arranged in the opening **1120** of the accommodation unit **1104** of the housing **1100**. The spacer **1400** may be arranged between the inner surface of the accommodation unit **1104** of the housing **1100** and the at least one lens **1210** to support the at least one lens **1210**. The spacer **1400** may be arranged between the inner surface of the accommodation unit **1104** of the housing **1100** and the lens module **1200**.

(76) The spacer **1400** may be formed of an aluminum material. Through this, heat loss of the heating member **1800** may be reduced, and thus the amount of heat flowing into the outermost lens **1210** may be enhanced.

(77) A separation space **1110** may be formed on the inner surface of the spacer **1400** and the accommodation unit **1104** of the housing **1100**. The spacer **1400** and the separation space **1110** formed on the inner surface of the accommodation unit **1104** of the housing **1100** may be penetrated by the transmission member **1900**.

(78) The spacer **1400** may include a plurality of spacers **1410** and **420**. When the at least one lens **1210** includes a plurality of lenses having a step difference from each other, the plurality of lenses may be supported through a plurality of spacers **1410** and **420**, respectively.

(79) A camera module **1010** according to the second embodiment of the present invention may include a fixing member **1500**. The fixing member **1500** may be arranged in the housing **1100**. The fixing member **1500** may be arranged in the accommodation unit **1104** of the housing **1100**. The

fixing member **1500** may be arranged between the inner surface of the accommodation unit **1104** of the housing **1100** and the at least one lens **1210**. The fixing member **1500** may be arranged on one side or the lower part of the spacer **1400**. The upper surface of the fixing member **1500** may be in contact with the lower surface of the spacer **1400**. The outer side surface of the fixing member **1500** may be coupled to the inner side surface of the accommodation unit **1104** of the housing **1100**. The outer side surface of the fixing member **1500** may be screw-coupled or tap-coupled to the inner side surface of the accommodation unit **1104** of the housing **1100**. In this case, a screw thread corresponding to a screw thread formed on the inner side surface of the accommodation unit **1104** of the housing **1100** may be formed on the outer side surface of the fixing member **1500**.

Through this, the positions of the lens module **1200** and the spacer **1400** may be fixed.

(80) The radius of the fixing member **1500** may be larger than the radius of the spacer **1400**.

Through this, the spacer **1400** may be stably supported. The lower part region of the fixing member **1500** may support at least one lens **1210**. A lower end of the inner side surface of the fixing member **1500** may be formed in a letter 'C' shape to support a lower end of the at least one lens **1210**. Through this, the at least one lens **1210** may be stably supported.

(81) A separation space **1110** may be formed on the inner surface of the fixing member **1500** and the accommodation unit **1104** of the housing **1100**. The separation space **1110** formed on the inner surface of the fixing member **1500** and the accommodation unit **1104** of the housing **1100** may be penetrated by the transmission member **1900**.

(82) In the second embodiment of the present invention, the fixing member **1500** is arranged between at least one lens **1210** and the inner side surface of the accommodation unit **1104** as an example, but the fixing member **1500** may be arranged below the spacer **1400** and the at least one lens **1210**. In this case, the lower end of the spacer **1400** and the lower end of the at least one lens **1210** may be arranged on a same plane.

(83) The camera module **1010** according to the second embodiment of the present invention may include a substrate **1600**. The substrate **1600** may be arranged in the housing **1100**. The substrate **1600** may be arranged on the lower part of the housing **1100**. The substrate **1600** may be coupled to the lower part of the housing **1100**. The substrate **1600** may be coupled to the lower surface of the partition wall **1130** of the housing **1100**. The edge region of the upper surface of the substrate **1600** may be overlapped with the partition wall **1130** in the optical axis direction. The edge region of the upper surface of the substrate **1600** may be in contact with the lower surface of the partition wall **1130**. The upper surface of the substrate **1600** may be sealed from the outside by the partition wall **1130**. Through this, it is possible to inhibit foreign substances from penetrating into the image sensor **1700** or other elements arranged on the upper surface of the substrate **1600**.

(84) The substrate **1600** may be electrically connected to the image sensor **1700**. The image sensor **1700** may be arranged on the substrate **1600**. The image sensor **1700** may be arranged on the upper surface of the substrate **1600**. The image sensor **1700** may be mounted on the upper surface of the substrate **1600**. The substrate **1600** may be electrically connected to the transmission member **1900**. The substrate **1600** may be electrically connected to a connector **1620**. The connector **1620** may be arranged on the lower surface of the substrate **1600**. The connector **1620** may be mounted on the lower surface of the substrate **1600**. The substrate **1600** may be electrically connected to the transmission member **1900** through the connector **1620**.

(85) The substrate **1600** may include a printed circuit board (PCB). The substrate **1600** may include a flexible printed circuit board (FPCB).

(86) The substrate **1600** may include a groove **1610**. The groove **1610** may be formed on a side surface of the substrate **1600**. The groove **1610** may be concavely formed in the side surface of the substrate **1600**. The groove **1610** may be spaced apart from the image sensor **1700**. The groove **1610** may be penetrated by the transmission member **1900**. The cross-section of the groove **1610** may be formed in a rectangular shape. The groove **1610** may not be overlapped with the accommodation unit **1104** of the housing **1100** in the optical axis direction. The groove **1610** may

be located outside the partition wall **1130**. Specifically, the groove **1610** may be located outside the second partition wall **1134**.

(87) The substrate **1600** may include a second coupling hole **1630**. The second coupling hole **1630** may be formed through the substrate **1600**. The second coupling hole **1630** may be overlapped with the first coupling hole **1136** formed in the partition wall **1130** in the optical axis direction. The second coupling hole **1630** may be formed in a shape corresponding to the first coupling hole **1136** formed in the partition wall **1130**. The second coupling hole **1630** may be penetrated through by a coupling member, for example, a screw, together with the first coupling hole **1136** formed in the partition wall **1130**. Through this, the upper surface of the substrate **1600** may be coupled to the lower surface of the partition wall **1130**. The second coupling hole **1630** may include two second coupling holes **1630**. The two second coupling holes **1630** may be formed at positions symmetrical to each other with respect to the optical axis. Through this, bonding stability between the upper surface of the substrate **1600** and the lower surface of the partition wall **1130** may be enhanced.

(88) The substrate **1600** may include a through hole **1640**. The through hole **1640** may be formed through the substrate **1600**. The through hole **1640** may be overlapped with the boss **1138** formed in the partition wall **1130** in the optical axis direction. The through hole **1640** may be formed in a shape corresponding to the boss **1138** formed in the partition wall **1130**. The through hole **1640** may be penetrated by the boss **1138** formed in the partition wall **1130**. Through this, it is possible to guide the positioning of the housing **1100** and the substrate **1600** with respect to each other. The through hole **1640** may include two through holes **1640**. The two through holes **1640** may be formed at positions symmetrical to each other with respect to the optical axis. Through this, the positioning force of the housing **1100** and the substrate **1600** with respect to each other may be enhanced.

(89) The camera module **1010** according to the second embodiment of the present invention may include an image sensor **1700**. The image sensor **1700** may be arranged on the upper surface of the substrate **1600**. The image sensor **1700** may be mounted in a central region of the upper surface of the substrate **1600**. The image sensor **1700** may be arranged below the lens module **1200**. The image sensor **1700** may be spaced apart from the groove **1610**. The image sensor **1700** may be electrically connected to the substrate **1600**. For example, the image sensor **1700** may be coupled to the substrate **1600** by a surface mounting technology (SMT). As another example, the image sensor **1700** may be coupled to the substrate **1600** by a flip chip technology.

(90) The camera module **1010** according to the second embodiment of the present invention may include a heating member **1800**. The heating member **1800** may be arranged in the lens module **1200**. The heating member **1800** may be arranged on one side of the outermost lens **1220**. The heating member **1800** may be arranged on the lower surface of the outermost lens **1220**. The heating member **1800** may be formed of a transparent material. The heating member **1800** may be formed in a shape that does not interfere with light passing through the lens module **1200**. For example, the heating member **1800** may be formed in a C-shape.

(91) The heating member **1800** may be electrically connected to the transmission member **1900**. The heating member **1800** may receive power from the substrate **1600** through the transmission member **1900** to generate heat. The heating member **1800** may be a transparent heating film coated with indium thin oxide (ITO) having conductivity capable of generating heat by a self-resistance component. The heating member **1800** may be formed by, for example, a coating process or a deposition process of an indium tin oxide material. However, this is only an example, and the material of the heating member **1800** is not limited thereto and may be variously changed as long as it is a material that can generate heat by supplying current.

(92) The camera module **1010** according to the second embodiment of the present invention may include a transmission member **1900**. The transmission member **1900** may electrically connect the heating member **1800** and the substrate **1600**. The transmission member **1900** may connect the heating member **1800** and the connector **1620**. The transmission member **1900** may be electrically

connected to the heating member **1800**. The transmission member **1900** may be electrically connected to the substrate **1600** through the connector **1620**. The transmission member **1900** may supply current from the substrate **1600** to the heating member **1800**. The transmission member **1900** may be bent at least in part. The transmission member **1900** may sequentially pass through the separation space **1110**, the hole **1134a** of the partition wall **1130**, and the groove **1620** of the substrate **1600**. The transmission member **1900** may be a flexible printed circuit board (FPCB).

(93) The transmission member **1900** may include a first region **1910** connected to the heating member **1800**, a second region **1920** connected to the connector **1620**, and a third region **1930** connecting the first region **1910** and the second region **1920**. At least a part of the third region **1930** may be bent. The third region **1930** may sequentially pass through the separation space **1110**, the hole **1134a** of the partition wall **1130**, and the groove **1620** of the substrate **1600**. Through this, space efficiency can be enhanced.

(94) According to the camera module **1010** according to the second embodiment of the present invention, it is possible to inhibit the occurrence of condensation including frost on the outermost lens **1220** through the heating member **1800**.

(95) In addition, according to the camera module **1010** according to the second embodiment of the present invention, it is possible to inhibit foreign substances from penetrating into the image sensor **1700** through the partition wall **1130**, and it is possible to enhance space efficiency.

(96) In addition, according to the camera module **1010** according to the second embodiment of the present invention, it is possible to increase space efficiency and reduce heat loss through the spacer **1400**.

(97) It is arranged in a way that the outermost lens **1220** is fixed by the accommodation unit **1104** without using a separate case to assemble the camera module **1010**. Through this, the assembly process of the camera module **1010** may be reduced. In addition, the cross-sectional area of the camera module **1010** can be reduced, which is effective in reducing heat loss of the camera module **1010**.

(98) Modified embodiments according to the present embodiment may include some configurations of the first embodiment and some configurations of the second embodiment together. That is, the modified embodiments may include the first embodiment, but some configurations of the first embodiment may be omitted, and may include some configurations of the corresponding second embodiment. Alternatively, the modified embodiments may include the second embodiment, but some configurations of the second embodiment are omitted and include some configurations of the corresponding first embodiment.

(99) Although the embodiments of the present invention have been described above with reference to the accompanying drawings, those skilled in the art to which the present invention belongs will appreciate that the present invention can be implemented in other specific forms without changing the technical spirit or essential features. Therefore, it should be understood that the embodiments described above are illustrative in all respects and not restrictive.

Claims

1. A camera module comprising: a housing comprising a body and an accommodation unit extending in an optical axis direction from a central region of the body; an outermost lens disposed on an upper part of the accommodation unit; a substrate coupled to a lower part of the housing; a connector coupled to a lower surface of the substrate; a heating member disposed on one side of the outermost lens; and a transmission member connecting the heating member and the connector, wherein the substrate comprises a first groove formed on a side surface thereof and being penetrated by the transmission member, wherein the housing comprises a partition wall extending from a lower surface thereof and coupled to an upper surface of the substrate, and wherein the first groove is located outside the partition wall and the partition wall is in contact with a region

adjacent to the first groove among edge regions of the upper surface of the substrate.

2. The camera module according to claim 1, wherein the partition wall is overlapped with one of the edge regions of the upper surface of the substrate in the optical axis direction.

3. The camera module according to claim 2, wherein the one of the edge regions of the upper surface of the substrate is in contact with a lower surface of the partition wall, and wherein the upper surface of the substrate is sealed from the outside by the partition wall.

4. The camera module according to claim 1, wherein the partition wall comprises a hole being penetrated through by the transmission member.

5. The camera module according to claim 4, wherein the transmission member comprises a first region connected to the heating member, a second region connected to the connector, and a third region connecting the first region and the second region.

6. The camera module according to claim 5, wherein at least a portion of the third region is bent.

7. A camera module comprising: a housing comprising a body and an accommodation unit extending from a central region of the body in an optical axis direction; an outermost lens disposed on an upper part of the accommodation unit; a substrate coupled to a lower part of the housing; a heating member disposed on one side of the outermost lens; and a transmission member connecting the heating member and the substrate; wherein the accommodation unit comprises a hole extending in an optical axis direction, wherein the substrate comprises a first groove formed concave inwardly from a side surface, wherein the transmission member passes through the hole and the first groove, wherein the housing comprises a partition wall extending downward from a lower surface thereof and coupled to an upper surface of the substrate, and wherein the first groove is located outside the partition wall and the partition wall is in contact with a region adjacent to the first groove among edge regions of the upper surface of the substrate.

8. The camera module according to claim 4, comprising at least one lens disposed in the accommodation unit and disposed on one side of the outermost lens, wherein the hole is spaced apart from the at least one lens in a direction perpendicular to the optical axis, and wherein the at least one lens is screw-coupled to an inner circumferential surface of the accommodation unit.

9. The camera module according to claim 8, wherein the accommodation unit comprises a second groove formed on a lower surface, and wherein the second groove is overlapped with the at least one lens in a direction perpendicular to the optical axis.

10. The camera module according to claim 1, comprising a retainer coupled to an upper portion of the accommodation unit to fix the outermost lens.

11. The camera module according to claim 10, comprising an O-ring disposed between the outermost lens and the retainer.

12. The camera module according to claim 7, wherein the partition wall is overlapped with one of the edge regions of the upper surface of the substrate in the optical axis direction.

13. The camera module according to claim 12, wherein the one of the edge regions of the upper surface of the substrate is in contact with a lower surface of the partition wall, and wherein the upper surface of the substrate is sealed from the outside by the partition wall.

14. The camera module according to claim 7, comprising at least one lens disposed on the accommodation unit and disposed on one side of the outermost lens, wherein the hole is spaced apart in a direction perpendicular to the optical axis, and wherein the at least one lens is screw-coupled to an inner circumferential surface of the accommodation unit.

15. The camera module according to claim 14, wherein the accommodation unit comprises a second groove formed on a lower surface, and wherein the second groove is overlapped with the at least one lens in a direction perpendicular to the optical axis.

16. The camera module according to claim 7, comprising a connector disposed on a lower surface of the substrate.

17. The camera module according to claim 16, wherein the transmission member comprises a first region connected to the heating member, a second region connected to the connector, and a third

region connecting the first region and the second region.

18. The camera module according to claim 17, wherein at least a portion of the third region of the transmission member is bent.

19. The camera module according to claim 7, comprising: a retainer coupled to an upper part of the accommodation unit to fix the outermost lens; and an O-ring disposed between the outermost lens and the retainer.
