compartment **18** empty, removable cover **40**, a mirror support arm articulating about housing **20**, a mirror housing or case supported on said support arm, a reflector element in said mirror housing (preferably an electrochromic mirror element which includes an information display such as of compass direction and/or temperature displaying through said mirror element as is known in the mirror arts). A rain sensor module can be made by a separate manufacturer. The rain sensor module and the interior mirror assembly can be shipped to a vehicle assembly plant (or local to it). Then, when a particular vehicle requires a rains sensor module, the vehicle manufacturer can place the rain sensor module into compartment **18**, connect the rain sensor module to the wire harness provided to mirror assembly (preferably, the rain sensor module docks into compartment **18** in a manner that connects it electrically to the vehicle or alternatively, the rain sensor module includes a plug or socket that connects to a corresponding socket or plug already provided in housing **10** (or elsewhere on the interior mirror assembly). This allows "plug & play " accommodation of multiple accessories into the interior rearview mirror assembly. Also, the interior rearview mirror assembly may be shipped to the assembly plant with both compartments **18** and **20** empty, thus allowing, for example, the automaker to solely place a rain sensor module into compartment **18** but add no further accessory into compartment **20**.

The invention is not limited to the embodiments described herein which may be modified or varied without departing from the scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A vehicle interior rearview mirror assembly comprising a housing having a front end for releasable attachment to the interior surface of the vehicle windshield, a rear end having a connection which adjustably mounts a rearview mirror unit to the housing, the housing adapted to contain a rain sensor and a biasing member which engages and biases the rain sensor into contact with the interior surface of the windshield, the housing containing at least one further electrical component.

2. A vehicle interior rearview mirror assembly comprising a housing having a front end for releasable attachment to the interior surface of the vehicle windshield, a rear end having a connection which adjustably mounts a rearview mirror unit to the housing, the interior of the housing comprising at least one compartment, the compartment having an opening at the front end of the housing for facing in use towards the windshield and, the compartment adapted to contain a rain sensor and to bias the rain sensor forwardly through the first opening into contact with the interior surface of the windshield, and the housing also containing at least one further electrical component.

3. A vehicle interior rearview mirror assembly comprising a housing having a front end for releasable attachment to the interior surface of the vehicle windshield, a rear end having a connection which adjustably mounts a rearview mirror unit to the housing, the interior of the housing comprising a compartment, the compartment having a first opening at the front end of the housing for facing in use towards the windshield and a second opening on at least one side of the housing, the compartment containing a rain sensor and a biasing member which biases the rain sensor forwardly through said first opening into contact with the interior surface of the windshield, and the compartment containing at least one further electrical component accessible through said second opening.

4. A vehicle interior rearview mirror assembly comprising a housing having a front end for releasable attachment to the interior surface of the vehicle windshield, a rear end having a connection which adjustably mounts a rearview mirror unit to the housing, and an internal wall subdividing the interior of the housing into first and second compartments, said first compartment having a first opening at said front end of said housing for facing in use towards the windshield and said second compartment having a second opening on at least one side of said housing, said first compartment containing a rain sensor, and said second compartment containing at least one further electrical component accessible through said second opening.

5. An assembly as claimed in claim **4**, further including a removable cover which mates with said housing around said second opening and in use extends along the windshield towards the vehicle header, and electrical leads for said rain sensor and said further electrical component which in use are routed under the cover to the header.

6. An assembly as claimed in claim **5**, wherein said cover is made of a polymeric material which snap-engages said housing around said second opening.

7. An assembly as claimed in claim **5**, wherein said cover includes an antenna.

8. An assembly as claimed in claim **5**, further including a rearview mirror unit which includes an electrically operated rearview mirror and electrical leads for said mirror, said leads when in use being routed under said cover to the vehicle header.

9. An assembly as claimed in claim **4**, wherein said further electrical component comprises a printed circuit board bearing a compass sensor.

10. An assembly as claimed in claim **4** further including a biasing member which biases said rain sensor forwardly through said first opening into contact with the interior surface of the windshield.

11. A vehicle interior rearview mirror assembly comprising a housing having a front end for releasable attachment to the interior surface of the vehicle windshield, a rear end having a connection which adjustably mounts a rearview mirror unit to the housing, a first opening at said front end of said housing for facing in use towards the windshield, and a second opening on at least one side of said housing for facing in use towards the top edge of the windshield, said housing containing a rain sensor, and at least one further electrical component accessible through said second opening, said assembly further including a removable cover which mates with said housing around said second opening and in use extends along the windshield towards the vehicle header, and electrical leads for said rain sensor and said further electrical component which in use are routed under said cover to the vehicle header.

12. An assembly as claimed in claim **11** further including a biasing member which biases said rain sensor forwardly through said first opening into contact with the interior surface of the windshield.

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