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(54) Abstract Title Obstruction sensing system

(57) An obstruction sensing system is provided for a lift vehicle (10) with a lift platform (20). The system includes a plurality of sensors (32) mounted to the lift platform (20) and a control system (18) coupled with a drive system of the lift vehicle. The sensors collectively detect a profile of an area on a sensor side of the platform, and the control system generates a signal according to the profile detected by the plurality of sensors. The profile detected by the sensors may be compared with a stored plurality of area profiles by the control system based on a position of the lift platform or profiles of substantially symmetrical areas may be compared. If an obstruction is sensed during platform descent, further descent is halted and an alarm is sounded. The system also includes structure for overriding the disabling function.

