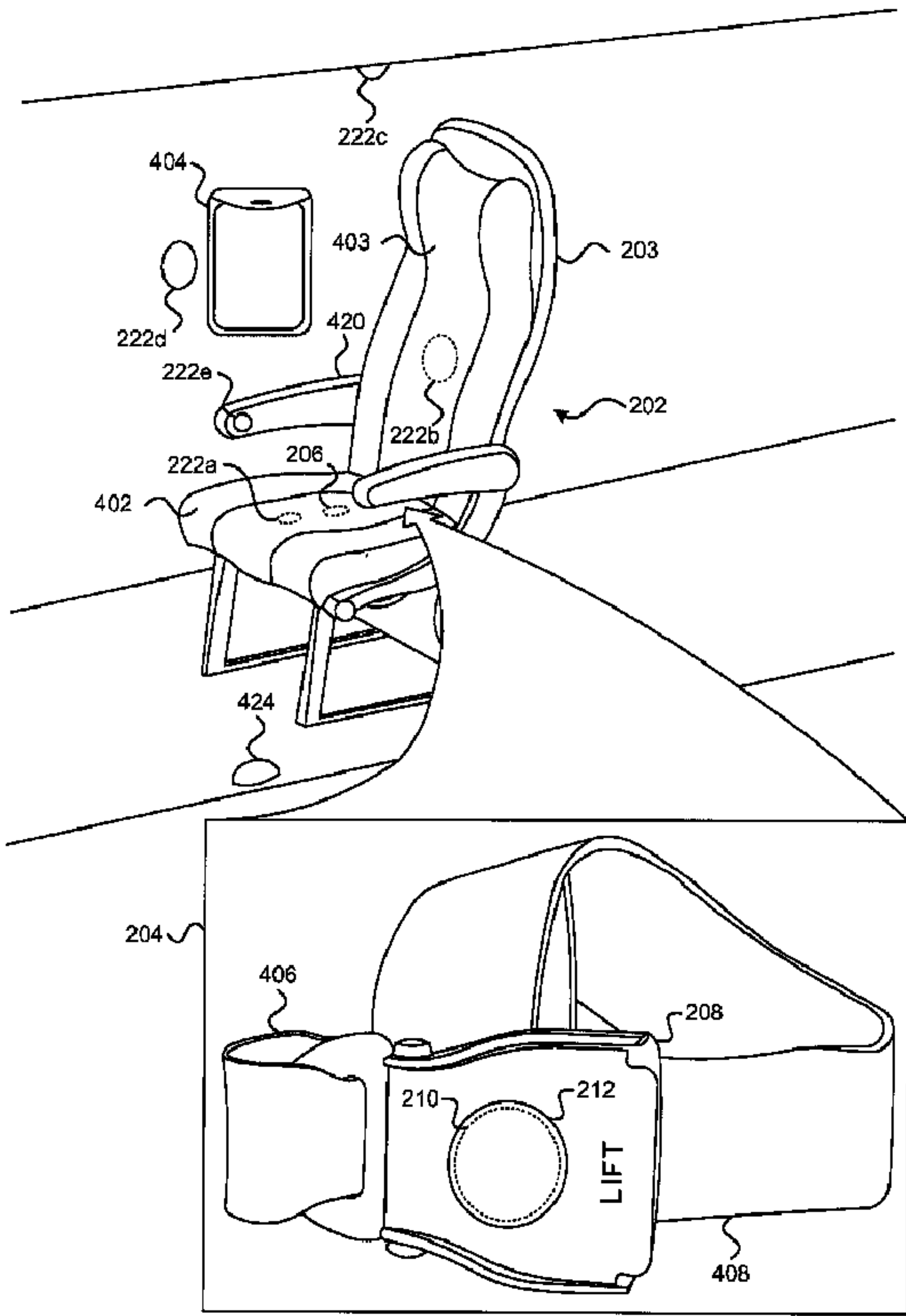




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(54) **Titre : ASSEMBLAGE DE SIEGE, SYSTEME DE SECURITE DE COURROIE DE SIEGE ET METHODE**
(54) **Title: SEAT ASSEMBLY, SEATBELT SECURITY SYSTEM, AND METHOD**



(57) **Abrégé/Abstract:**
A seat assembly comprises a seat. The seatbelt securing system further comprises a seatbelt coupled to the seat. The seatbelt comprises a first strap and a second strap. The seatbelt further comprises a latch configured to selectively secure the first strap

(57) Abrégé(suite)/Abstract(continued):

relative to the second strap. The latch further comprises a latch sensor configured to provide a secured indication in response to detection that the latch properly secures the first strap of the seatbelt to the second strap of the seatbelt and provide an unsecured indication in response to detection that the latch does not properly secure the first strap of the seatbelt to the second strap of the seatbelt. The latch further comprises a latch indicator to provide a warning in response to the unsecured indication.

SEAT ASSEMBLY, SEATBELT SECURITY SYSTEM, AND METHOD

ABSTRACT

A seat assembly comprises a seat. The seatbelt securing system further
5 comprises a seatbelt coupled to the seat. The seatbelt comprises a first strap and a
second strap. The seatbelt further comprises a latch configured to selectively secure
the first strap relative to the second strap. The latch further comprises a latch sensor
configured to provide a secured indication in response to detection that the latch
properly secures the first strap of the seatbelt to the second strap of the seatbelt and
10 provide an unsecured indication in response to detection that the latch does not
properly secure the first strap of the seatbelt to the second strap of the seatbelt. The
latch further comprises a latch indicator to provide a warning in response to the
unsecured indication.

SEAT ASSEMBLY, SEATBELT SECURITY SYSTEM, AND METHOD

FIELD

5 **[0001]** This disclosure relates generally to vehicles, and more particularly to seatbelt systems for securing passengers to a seat.

BACKGROUND

10 **[0002]** Seatbelts promote the safety of passengers while traveling in a vehicle. Seatbelts apply a restraining force to counteract an ejecting force which would otherwise unsettle the occupant of the seat. The restraining force maintains the occupant in position on the seat to reduce the chance of injury in the presence of an ejecting force. Generally, seatbelts are releasably secured by a latch. For the seatbelt to function in the intended manner, the latch must be properly secured at the time an ejecting force is applied to the occupant. Assuring the latch of a seatbelt
15 is properly secured, particularly in the case of a mass transportation vehicle, may be difficult, labor intensive, and time consuming.

SUMMARY

20 **[0003]** The subject matter of the present application has been developed in response to the present state of the art, and, in response to the problems and disadvantages associated with conventional methods for determining whether a seatbelt latch is properly secured. Accordingly, the subject matter of the present application has been developed to improve seatbelt security that overcomes at least some of the above-discussed shortcomings of prior art techniques.

25 **[0004]** Described herein is a seat assembly comprising a seat. The seatbelt security system further comprises a seatbelt coupled to the seat. The seatbelt comprises a first strap and a second strap. The seatbelt further comprises a latch to

selectively secure the first strap relative to the second strap. The latch further comprises a latch sensor configured to provide a secured indication in response to detection that the latch properly secures the first strap of the seatbelt to the second strap of the seatbelt and provide an unsecured indication in response to detection
5 that the latch does not properly secure the first strap of the seatbelt to the second strap of the seatbelt. The latch further comprises a latch indicator to provide a warning in response to the unsecured indication.

[0005] The seat assembly may further comprise an occupancy sensor configured to provide an occupied indication in response to the seat being occupied
10 and to provide an unoccupied indication in response to the seat being unoccupied. The indicator on the latch may be configured to prevent a warning in response to the unsecured indication when the occupancy sensor provides the unoccupied indication.

[0006] The seat assembly may further comprise a proximal indicator
15 positioned to spatially correspond with the seatbelt, the proximal indicator configured to produce at least one of a light, a sound, or a vibration in response to the unsecured indication.

[0007] The proximal indicator may comprise a display screen configured to provide a visual warning in response to receiving the unsecured indication.

[0008] The visual warning may comprise an indication of a status of the
20 seatbelt.

[0009] The visual warning may comprise instructions describing how to properly secure the seatbelt.

[0010] The display screen may be configured to interrupt a current display
25 object to communicate warning to the user of the seatbelt.

[0011] The indicator on the latch may comprise at least one of a light source capable of illumination in response to the unsecured indication, a vibration device capable of producing vibrational feedback in response to the unsecured indication,

and a speaker capable of producing audio stimulus in response to the unsecured indication.

[0012] The latch sensor may communicate with a computing device to generate at least one of the secured indication and the unsecured indication.

5 **[0013]** The latch indicator may be in communication with the computing device to provide the warning in response to the unsecured indication.

10 **[0014]** Further described herein is a seatbelt security system that comprises a seat assembly. The seat assembly comprises a seat. The seat assembly further comprises a seatbelt coupled to the seat. The seatbelt comprises a first strap and a second strap. The seatbelt further comprises a latch to selectively secure the first strap relative to the second strap. The latch comprises a latch sensor configured to detect that the first strap is properly secured to the second strap via the latch and detect that the first strap is not properly secured to the second strap via the latch. The seat assembly further comprises a proximal indicator spatially proximate the seat. The proximal indicator is configured to provide a proximal warning. The seatbelt security system further includes a computing device configured to provide an unsecured indication in response to detection by the latch sensor that the first strap of the seatbelt is not properly secured to the second strap of the seatbelt via the latch. The seatbelt security system further includes a remote indicator positioned to provide a remote warning at a location separate from the seat assembly in response to the unsecured indication.

25 **[0015]** The seat assembly may further comprise an occupancy sensor configured to provide an occupied indication in response to the seat assembly being occupied and to provide an unoccupied indication in response to the seat assembly being unoccupied. The proximal indicator is configured to prevent a warning in response to the unsecured indication when the occupancy sensor provides the unoccupied indication.

[0016] The computing device may be further in communication with the remote indicator. The computing device may be configured to activate and

deactivate at least one of the latch sensor **210**, the proximal indicator **222**, and the remote indicator in response to at least one of a manual input from a crew member, a turbulence status, a cruise status, and a travel transition indication.

[0017] The latch may further comprise a latch indicator coupled to the latch.

5 The computing device may activate the latch indicator to provide a warning at the latch in response to the unsecured indication.

[0018] The remote indicator may comprise at least one of a central display and a mobile device. The computing device may activate the at least one of the central display and a mobile device to provide the remote warning in response to the
10 unsecured indication.

[0019] Further described herein is a method for seatbelt security comprising determining an occupancy of a seat based on a signal from an occupancy sensor. The method comprises requesting a status of a seatbelt latch in response to a determination that the seat is occupied. The method further comprises receiving a
15 latch signal from a latch sensor in response to the request. The method further comprising, in response to the latch signal indicating that the seatbelt latch is unsecured, providing at least one of a proximal warning spatially proximate the seat and a remote warning spatially remote from the seat.

[0020] At least one of the proximal warning and the remote warning may be
20 provided further in response to at least one of receiving a manual input to activate a secure seatbelt mode and receiving a detection of at least one travel transition.

[0021] Providing the proximal warning may comprise generating the proximal warning at at least one of a latch indicator and a proximal indicator.

[0022] Providing the remote warning may comprise activating a central
25 display spatially remote from the seat to display the remote warning.

[0023] Providing the at least one of the proximal warning and the remote warning may comprise activating a mobile device to display a warning.

[0024] The described features, structures, advantages, and/or characteristics of the subject matter of the present disclosure may be combined in any suitable manner in one or more examples and/or implementations. In the following description, numerous specific details are provided to impart a thorough
5 understanding of examples of the subject matter of the present disclosure. One skilled in the relevant art will recognize that the subject matter of the present disclosure may be practiced without one or more of the specific features, details, components, materials, and/or methods of a particular example or implementation. In other instances, additional features and advantages may be recognized in certain
10 examples and/or implementations that may not be present in all examples or implementations. Further, in some instances, well-known structures, materials, or operations are not shown or described in detail to avoid obscuring aspects of the subject matter of the present disclosure. The features and advantages of the subject matter of the present disclosure will become more fully apparent from the following
15 description and appended claims or may be learned by the practice of the subject matter as set forth hereinafter.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0025] In order that the advantages of the subject matter may be more readily understood, a more particular description of the subject matter briefly described above will be rendered by reference to specific examples that are illustrated in the appended drawings. Understanding that these drawings depict only typical examples
5 of the subject matter and are not therefore to be considered to be limiting of its scope, the subject matter will be described and explained with additional specificity and detail through the use of the drawings, in which:

[0026] Figure 1 is a schematic block diagram of a vehicle, according to one or
10 more examples of the present disclosure;

[0027] Figure 2A is a schematic block diagram of a seatbelt security system that can be used with the vehicle of Figure 1;

[0028] Figure 2B is a schematic block diagram of the latch of Figure 2A;

[0029] Figure 3 is a perspective view of a seatback display that can be used
15 with the seatbelt security system of Figure 2A;

[0030] Figure 4 is a perspective view of a seat assembly that can be used with the seatbelt security system of Figure 2A; and

[0031] Figure 5 is a perspective view of a seatbelt that can be used with the seat assembly of Figure 4;

20 [0032] Figure 6 is a schematic flow diagram of a method for dynamically providing seatbelt security using the systems and assemblies shown in Figures 1-5.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0033] Described below are examples that relate to a seatbelt security system. The seatbelt security system can provide an efficient, passenger-centric, way to improve the effectiveness and security of a seatbelt on a vehicle. The seatbelt security system described herein monitors a status of a seatbelt based on manual or automatic parameters. For example, the system may be turned on or off by an operator, crew, driver, passenger, and pilot. The system may also be turned on or off by a computing device operated by a set of automatic parameters such as a scheduled or routine event, dynamic detection of a travel transition, such as take-off, landing, parking, acceleration, and braking, and/or detection of a travel condition such as turbulence, wet or snowy roadways, an accident, and the like.

[0034] Examples of the seatbelt security system detect such conditions as may affect a person on a vehicle in a way that might be mitigated or aided by proper use of a seatbelt. The system can determine if the person is occupying their seat and if the seatbelt for that seat is properly engaged. A seatbelt is properly engaged if the latch of the seatbelt couples two strap portions of the seatbelt together in a manner which allows the seatbelt to restrain the occupant as intended during an event. Conversely, a seatbelt is not properly engaged if the latch of the seatbelt is uncoupled or is coupled in a manner which will not allow the seatbelt to restrain the occupant as intended during an event. It may be difficult for an occupant or staff to determine if the seatbelt is properly engaged. In part, examples described herein simplify, streamline, and make more accurate the process of checking seatbelts for proper engagement.

[0035] If the seatbelt is not properly engaged, a warning may be sent to the person to indicate that the seatbelt may not be properly engaged. In some situations, the person to whom the warning is communicated may be asleep, distracted, under stress, or otherwise prevented from receiving the warning. In some examples described below, the seatbelt security system provides the warning in one of more of several different types. For example, the warning may be communicated with a

flashed light on the latch of the seatbelt. Additionally or alternatively, the warning may be communicated with a vibration of the latch of the seatbelt or other haptic measures. The warning may be communicated through a display positioned near the person such as an entertainment or information display, an overhead panel, a floorboard, a seatback in front of the person, or the like.

[0036] In some examples, a warning is also or alternatively communicated to staff such as an operator, crew, driver, pilot, etc. regarding the state of the person's seatbelt. With that warning, the staff can then act to remedy the situation to improve the safety of the person. For example, the staff may approach the person to calm the person or point out that the seatbelt is not secure or assist the person in securing the seatbelt. The warning may be communicated to the staff via central display, a mobile device carried by the staff, or an indicator in proximate the person. The warning may identify a seat location of the person for more rapid response in lieu of checking the seatbelt of every person on a vehicle. Given the relatively short window for a given situation in which the staff may be able to respond, examples described below can improve the safety of people on the vehicle and can improve the ability of the staff to quickly identify and address situations with seatbelts that may be dangerous if left unresolved. Further detail is described below with reference to the various figures.

[0037] Figure 1 is a schematic block diagram of a vehicle 110 that includes a latch sensor 210, an occupancy sensor 206, a computing device 214, and an indicator 102, according to one or more examples of the present disclosure. In the example of Figure 1, the latch sensor 210 is a sensor configured to detect a status of a seatbelt latch and communicate a latch signal to the computing device 214. The occupancy sensor 206 provides an occupied signal to the computing device in response to detection that a seat is occupied and provides an unoccupied signal to the computing device in response to detection that the seat is unoccupied. Based on the signals received from the latch sensor 210 and the occupancy sensor 206, the computing device 214 communicates information to an indicator 102 to cause the indicator 102 to indicate a warning. The indicator 102 may be a latch indicator, a proximal indicator, and/or a remote indicator as herein described.

[0038] Even though one latch sensor **210**, one occupancy sensor **206**, one computing device **214**, and one indicator **102** are depicted in Figure **1**, one of skill in the art will recognize, in light of this disclosure, that any number of each component may be included in the vehicle **110**.

5 **[0039]** In the illustrated example of Figure **1**, the latch sensor **210**, the occupancy sensor **206**, the computing device **214**, and the indicator **102** are incorporated into a vehicle **110**. However, in other examples, some or all of the occupancy sensor **206**, the computing device **214**, and the indicator **102** may be separate from the vehicle **110**. For example, the computing device **214** may be
10 separate from the vehicle **110** as described further below.

[0040] In certain examples, the vehicle **110** includes a plurality of computing devices **214** each communicatively coupled to one or more other computing devices **214**. According to certain examples, the computing devices **214** of multiple vehicles **110** may be communicatively coupled together. The computing device **214** can
15 include one or more processors and memory that cooperatively perform the corresponding functions described herein.

[0041] The vehicle **110** may be an aircraft. The aircraft may be any of various airplanes, such as commercial airplanes, private airplanes, fighter jets, propeller airplanes, and/or the like. The vehicle **110** may alternatively be a ship, a bus, a train,
20 an automobile, a shuttle, a rollercoaster car or other amusement-style ride, or the like.

[0042] In some examples, the vehicle **110** includes multiple sensors for detecting and sampling data regarding operation of the vehicle **110**, data about the vehicle's external environment, and/or the like. The vehicle **110** may also include
25 multiple sensors for detecting and sampling data about the vehicle's interior environment, such as occupants, occupied seats, latch states, and the like. In certain examples, the vehicle's sensors include sensors for detecting an amount of pressure or force that is applied to the vehicle's brakes; sensors for detecting the vehicle's acceleration and/or deceleration; sensors for detecting an amount of thrust applied

and/or output by the vehicle's engines or drive system, sensors for detecting approaching turbulence or travel conditions, an approaching destination, and/or the like.

5 **[0043]** In certain examples, the computing device **214** may be communicatively coupled to the sensors of the vehicle **110**, to a central computing system of the vehicle **110**, and/or to the sensors or central computing systems of other vehicles. In this manner, sensor data, for instance, may be transmitted from the vehicle **110** to a central computing system of the vehicle **110** and/or to one or more other vehicles over a data network such as a secure wireless communication
10 network.

[0044] Figure **2A** is a schematic block diagram of a seatbelt security system **104** that can be used with a vehicle, such as the vehicle **110** of Figure **1**. In the illustrated example, the seatbelt security system **104** includes a seat assembly **202**. The seat assembly **202** includes a seat **203**, a seatbelt **204**, an occupancy sensor
15 **206**, and a proximal indicator **222**. The seat **203** may be a passenger seat, a driver seat, a cargo lockdown platform, or other securing devices on a vehicle. The seatbelt **204** may include a first strap **406**, a second strap **408** (see, e.g., Figure **5**), and a latch **208**. The first strap **406** and the second strap **406** can be coupled together via the latch **208**. One of the first strap **406** and the second strap **408** may be longer or
20 shorter than the other. Alternatively, the first strap **406** and the second strap **408** may be approximately the same length. In some examples, the entirety of the latch **208** is coupled to just one of the first strap **406** or the second strap **408**. However, in other examples, separable portions of the latch **208** may be coupled to corresponding ones of the first strap **406** and the second strap **408** to couple the two
25 straps together. The latch **208** may be a lever latch, a button latch, a slide latch, a harness, restraint bar, a cuff, a shackle, or the like.

[0045] In the illustrated example, the latch **208** includes a latch sensor **210**. The latch sensor **210** monitors the state of the latch **208**. The latch sensor **210** may be an electrical sensor, an optical sensor, a mechanical sensor, a magnetic sensor,

or the like. In some examples, the latch sensor **210** detects a coupling of the first strap **406** and the second strap **408** of the seatbelt **204** via the latch **208**. The latch sensor **210** may be capable of distinguishing between a secure coupling and an unsecure coupling. The latch sensor **210** may also provide an indication of the state of the latch **208** in the form of a signal or other communication.

[0046] In some examples, the latch **208** further includes a latch indicator **212**. The latch indicator **212** provides a warning, notification, or indication of the state of the latch **208**. In some examples, the warning, notification, or indication is at least one of a visual, audio, or tactile stimulus. For example, the latch indicator **212** may provide a light, a sound, and/or a movement, such as a vibration. The latch indicator **212** may provide the indication in response to a detection, by the latch sensor **210**, that the latch **208** is not coupled or is not securely coupled.

[0047] The occupancy sensor **206** of the seat assembly **202** detects the presence of a person or occupant on the seat **203**. The occupancy sensor **206** may be disposed in the seat **203** or positioned near the seat **203** to detect the presence of an occupant on the seat **203**. For example, the occupancy sensor **206** may be disposed on or in a surface the seat **203**, in an overhead panel, on a seatback of a seat positioned in front of the seat **203**, a wall or floor near the seat **203**, or the like.

[0048] The occupancy sensor **206** provides an occupied indication in response to the seat **203** being occupied. The occupied indication may be a signal sent to or through one or more components of the seatbelt security system **104**, such as the computing device **214**, the latch sensor **210**, and/or the latch indicator **212**. For example, the occupied indication from the occupancy sensor **206** may be sent directly to the latch sensor **210** or the latch indicator **212** of the latch **208**. The latch sensor **210** or the latch indicator **212** may produce the indication of the status of the latch **208** in response to a determination that the seat assembly **202** is occupied based on the indication from the occupancy sensor **206**.

[0049] The indication from the occupancy sensor **206** may default to an occupied or unoccupied state. For example, from a safety perspective, the

occupancy sensor **206** may default to generate an occupied indication unless it is actively determined or confirmed that no occupant is in the seat **203**. Additionally, the latch sensor **210**, the latch indicator **212**, or the computing device **214** may default to an occupied status for the seat **203**. In this manner, if the occupancy
5 sensor **206** malfunctions or otherwise fails to provide an indication as to the occupancy of the seat assembly **202**, the occupant and/or staff will be notified if the latch **208** is unsecured.

[0050] The In some examples, the computing device **214** is located on a vehicle (for example, the vehicle **110** of Figure 1) corresponding to the seat
10 assembly **202**. The computing device **214** may also be located at a central control location, such as an airport, bus station, sea port, transit center, or the like. While the computing device **214** is shown and described as containing multiple localized components, in other examples, one or more of the components of the computing device **214** may be remote from each other. In other words, the computing device
15 **214** may be embodied as a single device or embodied as a collection of devices at one or more locations connected over a communication network.

[0051] In the illustrated example, the computing device **214** includes a data module **216**, a parameter module **218**, and a transmission module **220**. The data module **216**, in one example, is configured to receive data from the latch sensor **210**
20 and the occupancy sensor **206**. In certain examples, data from the latch sensor **210** and the occupancy sensor **206** are sampled based on manual input from a staff member or external system, a schedule or other internal input or parameter stored in the parameter module **218**, or other triggers or inputs.

[0052] The data module **216** may also be connected to other sensors of a
25 vehicle or sensors remote to the vehicle, in addition to the latch sensor **210** and the occupancy sensor **206**. For example, the data module **216** may request and/or receive data from sensors for measuring or detecting an amount of force or pressure applied to brakes of a vehicle, such as while the vehicle **110** is slowing. In some examples, the sensors include sensors for detecting the acceleration, deceleration,

speed, velocity, roughness, turbulence, and/or the like of a vehicle during some travel transition. In further examples, the sensors include sensors for determining or detecting an amount of thrust, for example, forward, reverse, or turning force, applied to the vehicle's engines or turning systems. Said sensors may provide a travel transition indication which indicates these or other transitions or changes during travel. This may include currently detected parameters and predicted or expected parameters.

[0053] The data module **216** may receive data from other systems of a vehicle, from a central transit hub, from other vehicles, or the like. The data received by the data module **216** may be data corresponding to a schedule, a proximity or time to a location or transition in travel. For example, the data module **216** may receive a prediction of a travel condition such as turbulence, cruise status, traffic jam, rough water, winds, slippery roads, or the like. The data module **216** may provide indications based on the data received at the data module **216** from these sensors, predictive systems, or other sources. In some examples, the data module **216** receives data corresponding to a turbulence status. A turbulence status may include an automated prediction of turbulence, an automated detection of current turbulence, a manual input indicating future turbulence, and a manual input indicating current turbulence.

[0054] In some examples, the data module **216** performs an operation on the data received at the data module **216**. For example, the data module **216** may receive data in a first format and may convert the data to a second format. The operation may include a process which receives the data and normalizes, formats, organizes, or otherwise converts the data to a useable format. For instance, the sampled data may be aggregated, categorized by data source/sensor, structured using a structured language (e.g., XML), and/or the like prior to the data being sent to the airport computing system. The data module **216** may operate one or more lookup tables, access one or more databases, correlate the data to specific objects based on a programmed logic, instructions, or the like.

[0055] The parameter module **218** of the computing device **214** is configured to determine one or more parameters that describe a condition for the latch **208** based on the received data. As used herein, a sensor input or other data received by the parameter module **218** may be a variable, factor, coefficient, and/or the like that describes a state of the latch **208** or travel condition of a vehicle. In such an example, the parameter module **218** may be located on the vehicle or remote relative to the vehicle and may calculate, determine, evaluate, correlate, etc., received data in response to the data module **216** receiving the data.

[0056] In one example, the one or more parameters that the parameter module **218** determines, using the data received by the data module **216**, include parameters relating to when and if an unsecured indication should be provided. For example, the parameter module **218** may determine a timeframe for impact of a weather condition on the vehicle and generate a parameter based on this timeframe. In another example, the parameter module **218** may determine a time to arrival at a location and determine a parameter based on this timing. In an additional example, the parameter module **218** may determine how a condition will affect the vehicle and establish a threshold for generating a warning to an occupant of the seat **203**, or staff corresponding to the vehicle, based on the impact to the occupant or the vehicle. In some examples, the parameter generated by the parameter module **218** is based on one or more characteristics of the vehicle. In other examples, the parameter is generated based on dynamic or changing variable. The parameters may be saved to the computing device **214**, shared across a network to other vehicles or systems, or dynamically adjusted based on other criteria.

[0057] The transmission module **220** transmits the indicator, the one or more determined parameters, and/or other data to the latch indicator **212**, a proximal indicator **222**, a remote indicator **224**, another vehicle, a central transit control or storage location, or other recipient. In certain examples, the transmission module **220** transmits the determined parameters over a data network. In further examples, the data module **216** may be located on a vehicle that detects data via sensors or other instruments and may receive data from the various sensors. Additionally, or

alternatively, the parameter module **220** may determine the one or more parameters, and may share the determined parameters directly with other recipients over, for example, a peer-to-peer network, a mesh network, an ad-hoc network, and/or other wireless network.

5 **[0058]** In certain examples, the transmission module **220** and/or the parameter module **218** store the one or more determined parameters in a remote location, a cloud location, at a central transit control, and/or the like. In one example, the transmission module **220** accesses the one or more determined parameters from the storage location and sends, transmits, shares, and/or the like the one or more
10 determined parameters. In certain examples, other vehicles may have direct access to the storage locations for the parameter data and may access the parameter data from the storage location at, for example, a cloud or other remote location.

[0059] In some examples, the data module **216** also receives manual input from staff corresponding with the vehicle **110**. The manual input may include a
15 command to initiate the latch indicator **212**. The manual input may also include one or more variables, which the parameter module **218** may incorporate into the calculation of the one or more parameters and/or otherwise enhance with the one or more parameters. For example, the pilot of an aircraft may input a detected turbulence event, or a driver may input a road condition. The transmission module
20 **220** may also transmit the subjective data from staff to other staff within a range of influence of the event, in addition to the calculated parameters.

[0060] The computing device **214** may receive an update of new data. The update may include data for the data module **216**, the parameter module **218**, and/or the transmission module **220**. For example, the update of new data may include
25 improved notice times for sending a warning corresponding to a detected event. In another example, the computing device **214** may be updated with new safety protocols or requirements. It is recognized that while some examples of the seatbelt security system **104** described herein include the computing device **214**, other

examples the seatbelt security system **104** may operate without a computing device or other computer processing components.

[0061] The proximal indicator **222** of the seat assembly **202** is similar to the latch indicator **212**. The proximal indicator **222** may be in lieu of or in conjunction
5 with the latch indicator **212**. For example, the proximal indicator **222** may be activated simultaneously with the latch indicator **212**. The proximal indicator **222** may also be activated after a time delay following activation of the latch indicator **212**. In this manner, in one example, the occupant of the seat **203** is notified via the latch indicator **212** and, if the latch **208** is not coupled within a certain time, the proximal
10 indicator **222** may be activated as an additional warning to the occupant. Alternatively, the proximal indicator **222** may be initially activated with the latch indicator **212** being activated later in an analogous manner.

[0062] As presented above, with reference to the latch indicator **212**, the proximal indicator **222** may produce a visual, audio, or tactile warning of the status of
15 the latch **208**. The proximal indicator **222** is an indicator that is positioned near the seat **203**, so as to be identified as corresponding to the seat **203**, or positioned in a general vicinity of the seat **203**. For example, in an aircraft, the proximal indicator **222** may be located on an overhead panel directly above the seat **203**. In this manner, the proximal indicator **222** may alert the occupant of the seat **203** as well as
20 staff, such as flight crew, that the latch **208** of the corresponding seat assembly **202** is not secured. In some examples, the proximal indicator **222** is positioned to be perceived by the staff and is less visible or readily perceived by the occupant of the seat assembly **202**.

[0063] The proximal indicator **222** may identify the corresponding seat **203** by
25 the position of the proximal indicator **222** relative to the seat **203**. In some examples, the proximal indicator **222** includes other identifying features to identify the seat **203** to which the proximal indicator **222** corresponds. For example, the proximal indicator **222** may have a seat number or position visual or audio cue identifying the seat **203**. In some examples, the proximal indicator **222** corresponds to a general region or

area of a vehicle which corresponds to the seat **203**. For example, the proximal indicator **222** may identify a row or other group of seats **203** in which a latch **208** is unsecured. This may allow a staff or group of occupants to be notified of an unsecured latch **208** in a particular area without the need for individual latch indicators **212** corresponding to individual seats **203**.

[0064] The remote indicator **224** of the seatbelt security system **104** includes a central display **226** and/or a mobile device **228**. The remote indicator **224** is an indicator that is remote relative to the seat assembly **202**. The remote indicator **224** may include an indicator in a staff area such as a cockpit, a driver display, staff quarters or staging area, a central transit location such as an airport, bus stop, port, or the like. For example, on an aircraft, the central display **226** may include a central panel on which the flight crew can view the status of the seatbelt **204** for each seat **203** or a corresponding portion of the aircraft. The central display **226** may be a display capable of showing a state of the seatbelt **204**. The central display **226** may identify a specific seat **203**.

[0065] The central display **226** may be reactive to crew input to execute a corresponding action. For example, the central display **226** may display an alert or indication of an unsecure seatbelt **204** and allow the flight crew to tap, click, scroll, or otherwise supply an input to filter down to an area of the aircraft or the specific seat **203**. The central display **226** may also facilitate other actions. For example, the central display **226** may allow the flight crew to initiate a warning at the seat assembly **202**, such as a warning to the latch indicator **212** to alert the occupant of the seat assembly **202**. In another example, the central display **226** allows the flight crew to communicate with the seat occupant through voice communication or other stimulus. The communication may be automated, such as a pre-recorded message or displaying a prepared message on an entertainment or other display screen. The communication may also be a direct line of communication with the flight crew to speak with the seat occupant. In some examples, the central display **226** may be linked with other regions or displays of the vehicle.

[0066] The mobile device **228** of the remote indicator **224** may provide the above-described functionality of the central display **226**. In some examples, the mobile device **228** includes a smart phone, a tablet computer, a wearable device, or the like. The mobile device **228** may provide information to the staff regarding a state
5 of the latch **208**. The mobile device **228** may facilitate input from the staff to execute an operation in response to the input. In some examples, the mobile device **228** may correspond to a member of the staff. In another example, the mobile device **228** may correspond to the vehicle or a portion of the vehicle. The mobile device **228** may receive data from the transmission module **220** or another source.

10 [0067] In some examples, the seatbelt security system **104** facilitates the communication of various signals and warnings to and from the various components of the seatbelt security system **104**. For example, a passenger list and seating assignment information may be sent from a central server to a vehicle (e.g., the computing device **214** on the vehicle). In turn, the information may be relayed to one
15 or more mobile devices such as a smart watch, phone, tablet, or other mobile device. The computing devices **214** may include corresponding display devices capable of displaying indications, warnings, and the like.

[0068] Figure **2B** is a schematic block diagram of the latch **208** of Figure **2A**. In the illustrated example, the latch indicator **212** of the latch **208** includes at least
20 one of a light source **213**, a vibration device **215**, and a speaker **217**. The light source **213** may be positioned on the latch **208** to emit light from a surface, or multiple surfaces, of the latch **208**. The light source **213** may have one or more characteristics including light patterns, intensities, colors, and the like. For example, the light source **213** may provide a flashing pattern, a dimming and brightening
25 intensity, and one or more distinct colors. In some examples, the one or more characteristics of the light corresponds to a status of the latch **208**, occupancy of the seat **203**, a state of a vehicle, or other considerations. For example, a color of the light produced by the light source **213** may indicate an urgency to time until an expected travel transition or event such as a descent, landing, docking, up-anchor,
30 parking, etc.

[0069] Similar to the light source **213**, the vibration device **215** may provide a stimulus to the occupant of the seat **203** to prompt the occupant to properly secure the latch **208**. The vibration device **215** may provide vibrations in various patterns and intensities to communicate at least one of a specific condition, timing, and urgency to an occupant of the seat **203**.

[0070] Like the light source **213** and the vibration device **215**, the speaker **217** may be incorporated into the latch **208** to provide an auditory feedback to the occupant of the seat **203**. The auditory feedback may include a beeping, a constant or variable tone, a spoken message, or other signals with various patterns, intensities, messages, tones, and the like.

[0071] In some examples, one or more of the light source **213**, the vibration device **215**, and the speaker **217** may be incorporated together to be activated simultaneously, in stages, or in response to specific occupant needs, specific travel transitions or events, or other conditions.

[0072] Figure **3** is a perspective view of a seatback display **300** that incorporate one or more of the features of the seatbelt security system **104** of Figure **2A**. For example, in one example, the seatback display **300** is one example of the proximal indicator **222** of the seatbelt security system **104**. In the illustrated example, the seatback display **300** is integrated into a seatback **306** of a seat **308**. The seatback **306** is disposed on a rear portion of the seat **308** and faces a seat rearwardly adjacent the seat **308**. The seatback display **300** includes display screen **302** that is positioned for viewing by a user occupying the seat rearwardly adjacent the seat **308**.

[0073] The display screen **302** may receive an indication from at least one component (e.g., the computing device **214**) of the seatbelt security system **104** that the seatbelt **204**, of the user positioned to view the display screen **302**, is not secured. The display screen **302** may pause a current display object to communicate a warning to the user. The current display object may be an advertisement, a map, a screen saver, an entertainment or information program, or other visual media. In

some examples, the display screen **302** may be activated from a deactivated state in response to receipt of the indication that the corresponding seatbelt is unsecured. In some examples, the display screen **302** may adjust a brightness, flash the display, or otherwise attract the attention of the user.

5 **[0074]** In response to the indication that the seatbelt of the user is not secure, the display screen **302** may present a warning which communicates, to the user, that the seatbelt is not properly secured. The warning may include instructions describing how to properly secure the seatbelt. The warning may include instructions describing how to request help securing the seatbelt. For example, the warning may instruct a
10 user to operate a staff call feature.

[0075] In the illustrated example, the seatback display **300** may also include a seatback indicator **304** disposed in the seatback **306** of the seat **308**. The seatback indicator **304** is one example of a proximal indicator **222** described above and illustrated in Figure 2A. The seatback indicator **304** may be a visual or audio
15 indicator, such as a light or speaker, to attract the attention of the user and/or the staff. In some examples, the seatback indicator **304** is activated in response to a determination that the corresponding seatbelt is not properly secured. The seatback indicator **304** may be activated in response to a detection that the corresponding seat is occupied, and the corresponding seatbelt is not secured. The seatback
20 indicator **304** may be activated in conjunction with the display screen **302** and/or other indicators. In some examples, the seatback indicator **304** and the display screen **302** communicate other alerts such as the need to secure a tray, position a seatback in an upright position, deactivate an electronic device, or the like.

[0076] Figure 4 is a perspective view of a seat assembly **202** of a seatbelt
25 security system **104**, according to one or more examples of the present disclosure. In the illustrated example, the seat assembly **202** includes an occupancy sensor **206** disposed in a sit pad **402** of the seat assembly **202**. The sit pad **402** also includes a sit pad proximal indicator **222a**. The sit pad proximal indicator **222a** is positioned in the sit pad **402** of the seat assembly **202** to communicate, to the occupant of the

seat **203**, a warning that the seatbelt **204** is not properly secured. As described herein, the sit pad proximal indicator **222a** may produce a visual, audio, or tactile warning to the occupant. While the sit pad proximal indicator **222a** is shown at a specific location in the sit pad **402** of the seat assembly **202**, one or more sit pad proximal indicators **222a** may be positioned at any location on or within the sit pad **402**. While a single sit pad proximal indicator **222a** is shown, multiple sit pad proximal indicators **222a** may also be incorporated into the sit pad **402** of the seat assembly **202**.

[0077] The seat assembly **202** may include a back pad proximal indicator **222b** disposed in the seat assembly **202** on or in a back pad **403** of the seat assembly **202**. In other words, the back pad proximal indicator **222b** may be disposed on a surface of the back pad **403** of the seat assembly **202** or beneath the surface of the back pad **403** of the seat assembly **202**. The back pad proximal indicator **222b** may be positioned along a height of the seat assembly **202** to contact an average occupant at a location on the occupant that is likely to draw the attention of the occupant. While a single back pad proximal indicator **222b** is shown, multiple back pad proximal indicators **222b** may also be incorporated into the back pad **403** of the seat assembly **202**.

[0078] The seat assembly **202** can also include an overhead proximal indicator **222c**. The illustrated example of the overhead proximal indicator **222c** is one example of the proximal indicator **222** of Figure 2A. The overhead proximal indicator **222c** may be disposed on an overhead portion of a vehicle such as an overhead panel, console, ceiling, headliner, or the like. The overhead proximal indicator **222c** may be positioned directly over or to spatially correspond to the seat assembly **202**. The overhead proximal indicator **222c** may be positioned to be visible to one or both of the occupant of the seat **203** or the staff.

[0079] The seat assembly **202** may also include a wall proximal indicator **222d**. The wall proximal indicator **222d** is another example of the proximal indicator **222** of Figure 2A. The wall proximal indicator **222d** may be disposed to spatially

correspond with the seat **203**. The wall proximal indicator **222d** may correspond to the seat **203** or a group of seats. The wall proximal indicator **222d** may be located near a window **404** or other structure. In some examples, one or more of the various proximal indicators of the seat assembly may interface with other systems or structures. For example, the wall proximal indicator **222d** may generate a visual stimulus by opening the window **404**. In another example, the wall proximal indicator **222d** or other proximal indicator **222** may turn on a reading light, sound an individual seatbelt chime, vibrate the seat **203**, or the like.

[0080] In the illustrated example, the seat assembly **202** may additionally include an armrest proximal indicator **222e** disposed in or on an armrest **420** of the seat assembly **202**. The seat assembly **202** may further includes a floor proximal indicator **222f** disposed on the floor in a proximity of the seat **203**. The armrest proximal indicator **222e** and the floor proximal indicator **222f** illustrate other examples of the proximal indicator **222**. While various examples of proximal indicators **222a-f** are described herein, other proximal indicators **222** may be located or arranged to provide a stimulus to an occupant of the seat **203** to communicate a warning that the seatbelt **204** is not properly secured.

[0081] Figure 5 is a perspective view of a seatbelt **204** of the seat assembly **104** of Figure 4. The seatbelt **204** corresponding with the seat **203** of the seat assembly **202** to help secure an occupant of the seat **203**. The seatbelt **204** includes a latch **208** with a latch sensor **210** and a latch indicator **212**. In the illustrated example, the latch sensor **210** is disposed in the latch **208** and aligned with the latch indicator **212**. The latch sensor **210** may be integrated with the latch indicator **212**. The latch sensor **210** may also be separate from the latch indicator **212**. The latch indicator **212** may be coupled to the latch **208** to communicate a vibration to the latch **208** in response to a determination that the latch **208** of the seatbelt **204** is not properly secured. The latch indicator **212** may include a visual component disposed at a first side of the latch **208** to be visible when positioned on the user or setting on the seat. The latch indicator **212** may also include a second visual component disposed on a second side of the latch **208** to be visible when the latch **208** is upside

down on the seat assembly **202** or user. In some examples, the latch indicator **212** is a tactile component to provide a vibration, thump, or other tactile stimulus to a user. The tactile component of the latch indicator **212** may be positioned external or internal to the latch **208**. The latch indicator **212** may also include an audio indicator to provide a sound in response to a determination that the latch **208** is not properly secured. Any one or a combination of the visual, audio, and tactile components may be included in the latch indicator **212**.

[0082] In the illustrated example, the latch **208** couples a first strap **406** of the seatbelt **204** to a second strap **408** of the seatbelt **204**. The latch **208** may include a receiver portion coupled to one of the first strap **406** and the second strap **408** and an insert coupled to the other of the first strap **406** and the second strap **408**. In some examples, the latch sensor **210** is disposed in the receiver, in the insert, or in both the receiver and the insert of the latch **208**. Similarly, the latch indicator **212** may be disposed in the receiver, in the insert, or in both the receiver and the insert of the latch **208**.

[0083] Figure **6** is a schematic flow diagram of one example of a method **500** for dynamically providing seatbelt security using the systems and assemblies shown in Figures **1-5**. The method **500** begins and determines **502**, by a computing device **214**, an occupancy of a seat assembly **202** based on a signal from an occupancy sensor **206**. In some examples, the determination of occupancy is made at the occupancy sensor **206**. Alternatively, the signal from the occupancy sensor **206** is provided to a computing device **214**. The computing device **214** may intake the signal from the occupancy sensor **206** and interpret the signal to determine the occupancy of the seat **203**. The signal may be a binary occupied/unoccupied signal, or the signal may describe a pressure metric or pattern to distinguish between an occupant and an inanimate object, for example, a pillow or luggage. The computing device **214** may correlate a time component to the signal from the occupancy sensor **206**. For example, the computing device **214** may determine that the seat **203** is occupied only after a period of time had elapsed without a detectable vacancy in the seat **203**.

[0084] The method 500, in certain examples, requests 504, by the computing device 214, a status of a seatbelt latch 208 in response to a determination that the seat assembly 202 is occupied based on the signal from the occupancy sensor 206. In some examples, the computing device 214 determines that the seat 203 is occupied in response to the signal from the occupancy sensor 206 being within an expected range based on average loads or metrics specific to the occupant of the seat 203. In response to the computing device 214 determining that the seat 203 is occupied, the computing device 214 may ping or otherwise prompt a response from a latch sensor 210. In some examples, the status of the seatbelt latch 208 is stored in a database on, or in communication with, the computing device 214. The computing device 214 may query the latch sensor 210 or other device or component to prompt the status of the seatbelt latch 208 be provided, or made accessible, to the computing device 214.

[0085] As described above, the request may be prompted by an input from the occupancy sensor 206 and may also include inputs from an automated or manual system detecting a travel transition. For example, the travel transition may include a take-off, landing, turbulence, rough water, crossing, turning, stop, braking, acceleration, or similar detected, planned, anticipated, or manually indicated event.

[0086] The method 500, in one example, receives 506 a latch signal in response to the request. As mentioned above, the latch signal may be provided directly from the latch sensor 210 or from another component or system in communication with the latch sensor 210. The latch signal may be provided over an, at least partially, wired or wireless connection. In some examples, the latch signal may be provided continuously to the computing device 214 or another component. Alternatively, the latch signal may be provided in response to the request from the computing device 214.

[0087] The method 500, in one example, in response the latch signal indicating the seatbelt latch 208 is unsecured, providing 508 at least one of a proximal warning spatially proximate the seat 203 and a remote warning spatially

remote from the seat **203**. In some examples, the remote warning indicates a status of the seatbelt latch **208** and identifies the seat **203** from a plurality of seats. The computing device **214** may determine a type of warning to provide based on any one or more of a plurality of variables. For example, the computing device **214** may
5 determine that a timeframe is relatively short in which to respond and secure the seatbelt **204** and thus activate both the proximal warning and the remote warning. The computing device **214** may select the warning based on a look-up table, logic parameters, or the like. The selection of the warnings may be based on an identified need or ability of an occupant of the seat **203** or may be based on a selection made
10 by a pilot, driver, staff, safety specialist, controller, or other staff or by the occupant itself.

[0088] For example, the seat **203** may be a seat on an aircraft, train, ship, bus, or other common carrier. The driver or staff may receive a warning which indicates which seat to check. This may drastically reduce the time needed to
15 identify and remedy an unsecured seatbelt **204**. The shortened time may allow the staff to return to a safe position and/or decrease the chance of injury or stress to both staff and occupant.

[0089] Reference throughout this specification to “one example,” “an example,” or similar language means that a particular feature, structure, or
20 characteristic described in connection with the example is included in at least one example of the present disclosure. Appearances of the phrases “in one example,” “in an example,” and similar language throughout this specification may, but do not necessarily, all refer to the same example. Similarly, the use of the term “implementation” means an implementation having a particular feature, structure, or
25 characteristic described in connection with one or more examples of the present disclosure, however, absent an express correlation to indicate otherwise, an implementation may be associated with one or more examples.

[0090] In the above description, certain terms may be used such as “up”, “down”, “upper”, “lower”, “horizontal”, “vertical”, “left”, “right”, “over”, “under” and the

like. These terms are used, where applicable, to provide some clarity of description when dealing with relative relationships. But, these terms are not intended to imply absolute relationships, positions, and/or orientations. For example, with respect to an object, an “upper” surface can become a “lower” surface simply by turning the object over. Nevertheless, it is still the same object. Further, the terms “including”, “comprising”, “having”, and variations thereof mean “including but not limited to” unless expressly specified otherwise. An enumerated listing of items does not imply that any or all the items are mutually exclusive and/or mutually inclusive, unless expressly specified otherwise. The terms “a”, “an”, and “the” also refer to “one or more” unless expressly specified otherwise. Further, the term “plurality” can be defined as “at least two”.

[0091] Additionally, instances in this specification where one element is “coupled” to another element can include direct and indirect coupling. Direct coupling can be defined as one element coupled to and in some contact with another element. Indirect coupling can be defined as coupling between two elements not in direct contact with each other but having one or more additional elements between the coupled elements. Further, as used herein, securing one element to another element can include direct securing and indirect securing. Additionally, as used herein, “adjacent” does not necessarily denote contact. For example, one element can be adjacent another element without being in contact with that element.

[0092] As used herein, the phrase “at least one of”, when used with a list of items, means different combinations of one or more of the listed items may be used and only one of the items in the list may be needed. The item may be a particular object, thing, or category. In other words, “at least one of” means any combination of items or number of items may be used from the list, but not all the items in the list may be required. For example, “at least one of item A, item B, and item C” may mean item A; item A and item B; item B; item A, item B, and item C; or item B and item C. In some cases, “at least one of item A, item B, and item C” may mean, for example, without limitation, two of item A, one of item B, and ten of item C; four of item B and seven of item C; or some other suitable combination.

[0093] Unless otherwise indicated, the terms “first”, “second”, etc. are used herein merely as labels, and are not intended to impose ordinal, positional, or hierarchical requirements on the items to which these terms refer. Moreover, reference to, e.g., a “second” item does not require or preclude the existence of, e.g., a “first” or lower-numbered item, and/or, e.g., a “third” or higher-numbered item.

[0094] As used herein, a system, apparatus, structure, article, element, component, or hardware “configured to” perform a specified function is indeed capable of performing the specified function without any alteration, rather than merely having potential to perform the specified function after further modification. In other words, the system, apparatus, structure, article, element, component, or hardware “configured to” perform a specified function is specifically selected, created, implemented, utilized, programmed, and/or designed for the purpose of performing the specified function. As used herein, “configured to” denotes existing characteristics of a system, apparatus, structure, article, element, component, or hardware which enable the system, apparatus, structure, article, element, component, or hardware to perform the specified function without further modification. For purposes of this disclosure, a system, apparatus, structure, article, element, component, or hardware described as being “configured to” perform a particular function may additionally or alternatively be described as being “adapted to” and/or as being “operative to” perform that function.

[0095] The schematic flow chart diagrams included herein are generally set forth as logical flow chart diagrams. As such, the depicted order and labeled steps are indicative of one example of the presented method. Other steps and methods may be conceived that are equivalent in function, logic, or effect to one or more steps, or portions thereof, of the illustrated method. Additionally, the format and symbols employed are provided to explain the logical steps of the method and are understood not to limit the scope of the method. Although various arrow types and line types may be employed in the flow chart diagrams, they are understood not to limit the scope of the corresponding method. Indeed, some arrows or other connectors may be used to indicate only the logical flow of the method. For instance,

an arrow may indicate a waiting or monitoring period of unspecified duration between enumerated steps of the depicted method. Additionally, the order in which a particular method occurs may or may not strictly adhere to the order of the corresponding steps shown.

5 **[0096]** Examples of the various modules may take the form of an entirely hardware example, an entirely software example (including firmware, resident software, micro-code, etc.) or an example combining software and hardware aspects that may all generally be referred to herein as a “circuit”, “module”, or “system.” Furthermore, examples may take the form of a program product embodied in one or
10 more computer readable storage devices storing machine readable code, computer readable code, and/or program code, referred hereafter as code. The storage devices may be tangible, non-transitory, and/or non-transmission. The storage devices may not embody signals. In a certain example, the storage devices only employ signals for accessing code.

15 **[0097]** The present subject matter may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from its spirit or essential characteristics. The described examples are to be considered in all respects only as illustrative and not restrictive. All changes which come within the meaning and range of equivalency of the claims are to be embraced within their scope.

20

EMBODIMENTS IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. A seat assembly comprising:

a seat; and

5 a seatbelt coupled to the seat, wherein the seatbelt comprises:

a first strap;

a second strap; and

a latch configured to selectively secure the first strap relative to the second strap, the latch comprising:

10 a latch sensor configured to provide a secured indication in response to detection that the latch properly secures the first strap of the seatbelt to the second strap of the seatbelt and provide an unsecured indication in response to detection that the latch does not properly secure the
15 first strap of the seatbelt to the second strap of the seatbelt; and

a latch indicator configured to provide a warning in response to the unsecured indication.

2. The seat assembly of claim 1, further comprising an occupancy sensor
20 configured to provide an occupied indication in response to the seat being occupied and to provide an unoccupied indication in response to the seat being unoccupied, wherein the latch indicator on the latch is configured to prevent a warning in response to the unsecured indication when the occupancy sensor provides the unoccupied indication.

25 **3.** The seat assembly of claim 1 or 2, further comprising a proximal indicator positioned to spatially correspond with the seatbelt, the proximal indicator

configured to produce at least one of a light, a sound, or a vibration in response to the unsecured indication.

4. The seat assembly of claim 3, wherein the proximal indicator comprises a display screen configured to provide a visual warning in response to receiving the unsecured indication.

5. The seat assembly of claim 4, wherein the visual warning comprises an indication of a status of the seatbelt.

6. The seat assembly of claim 4, wherein the visual warning comprises instructions describing how to properly secure the seatbelt.

7. The seat assembly of any one of claims 4-6, wherein the display screen is configured to interrupt a current display object to communicate the warning to the user of the seatbelt.

8. The seat assembly of any one of claims 1-7, wherein the latch indicator on the latch comprises at least one of a light source capable of producing illumination in response to the unsecured indication, a vibration device capable of producing vibrational stimulus in response to the unsecured indication, and a speaker capable of producing audio stimulus in response to the unsecured indication.

9. The seat assembly of any one of claims 1-8, wherein the latch sensor communicates with a computing device to generate at least one of the secured indication and the unsecured indication.

10. The seat assembly of claim 9, wherein the latch indicator is in communication with the computing device to provide the warning in response to the unsecured indication.

11. A seatbelt security system comprising:

a seat assembly comprising:

a seat;

a seatbelt coupled to the seat, wherein the seatbelt comprises;

a first strap;

a second strap; and

a latch configured to selectively secure the first strap relative to the second strap, the latch comprising a latch sensor configured to detect that the first strap is properly secured to the second strap via the latch and to detect that the first strap is not properly secured to the second strap via the latch; and

a proximal indicator spatially proximate the seat, wherein the proximal indicator is configured to provide a proximal warning;

a computing device configured to provide an unsecured indication in response to detection by the latch sensor that the first strap of the seatbelt is not properly secured to the second strap of the seatbelt via the latch; and

a remote indicator positioned to provide a remote warning at a location separate from the seat assembly in response to the unsecured indication.

12. The seatbelt security system of claim **11**, wherein the seat assembly further comprises an occupancy sensor configured to provide an occupied indication in response to the seat assembly being occupied and to provide an unoccupied indication in response to the seat assembly being unoccupied, wherein the proximal indicator is configured to prevent a warning in response to the unsecured indication when the occupancy sensor provides the unoccupied indication.

13. The seatbelt security system of claim **11** or **12**, wherein the computing device is further in communication with the remote indicator, the computing device being configured to activate and deactivate at least one of the latch sensor,

the proximal indicator, and the remote indicator in response to at least one of a manual input from a crew member, a turbulence status, a cruise status, and a travel transition indication.

5 **14.** The seatbelt security system of any one of claims **11-13**, wherein the latch further comprises a latch indicator coupled to the latch, wherein the computing device activates the latch indicator to provide a warning at the latch in response to the unsecured indication.

10 **15.** The seatbelt security system of any one of claims **11-14**, wherein the remote indicator comprises at least one of a central display and a mobile device, wherein the computing device activates the at least one of the central display and a mobile device to provide the remote warning in response to the unsecured indication.

16. A method for seatbelt security, the method comprising:

15 determining an occupancy of a seat based on a signal from an occupancy sensor;

 requesting a status of a seatbelt latch in response to a determination that the seat is occupied;

 receiving a latch signal from a latch sensor in response to the request; and

20 in response to at least the latch signal indicating that the seatbelt latch is unsecured, providing at least one of a proximal warning spatially proximate the seat and a remote warning spatially remote from the seat.

25 **17.** The method of claim **16**, wherein the at least one of the proximal warning and the remote warning is provided further in response to at least one of:

 receiving a manual input to activate a secure seatbelt mode for the seat; and

receiving a detection of at least one travel transition.

18. The method of claim **16** or **17**, wherein providing the proximal warning comprises generating the proximal warning at at least one of a latch indicator and a proximal indicator.

5 **19.** The method of any one of claims **16-18**, wherein providing the remote warning comprises activating a central display spatially remote from the seat to display the remote warning.

20. The method of any one of claims **16-19**, wherein providing the at least one of the proximal warning and the remote warning comprises activating a mobile
10 device to display a warning.

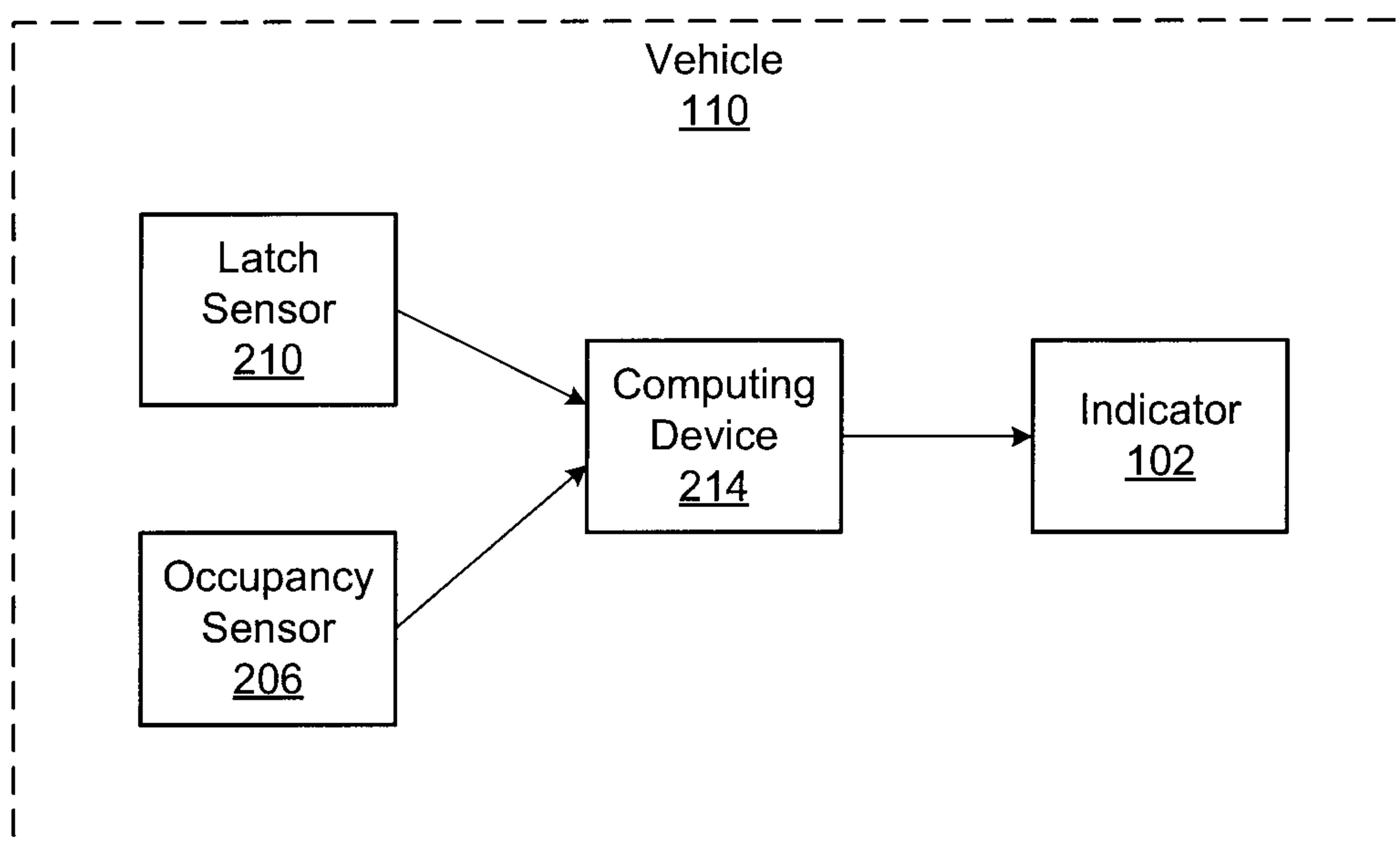


FIG. 1

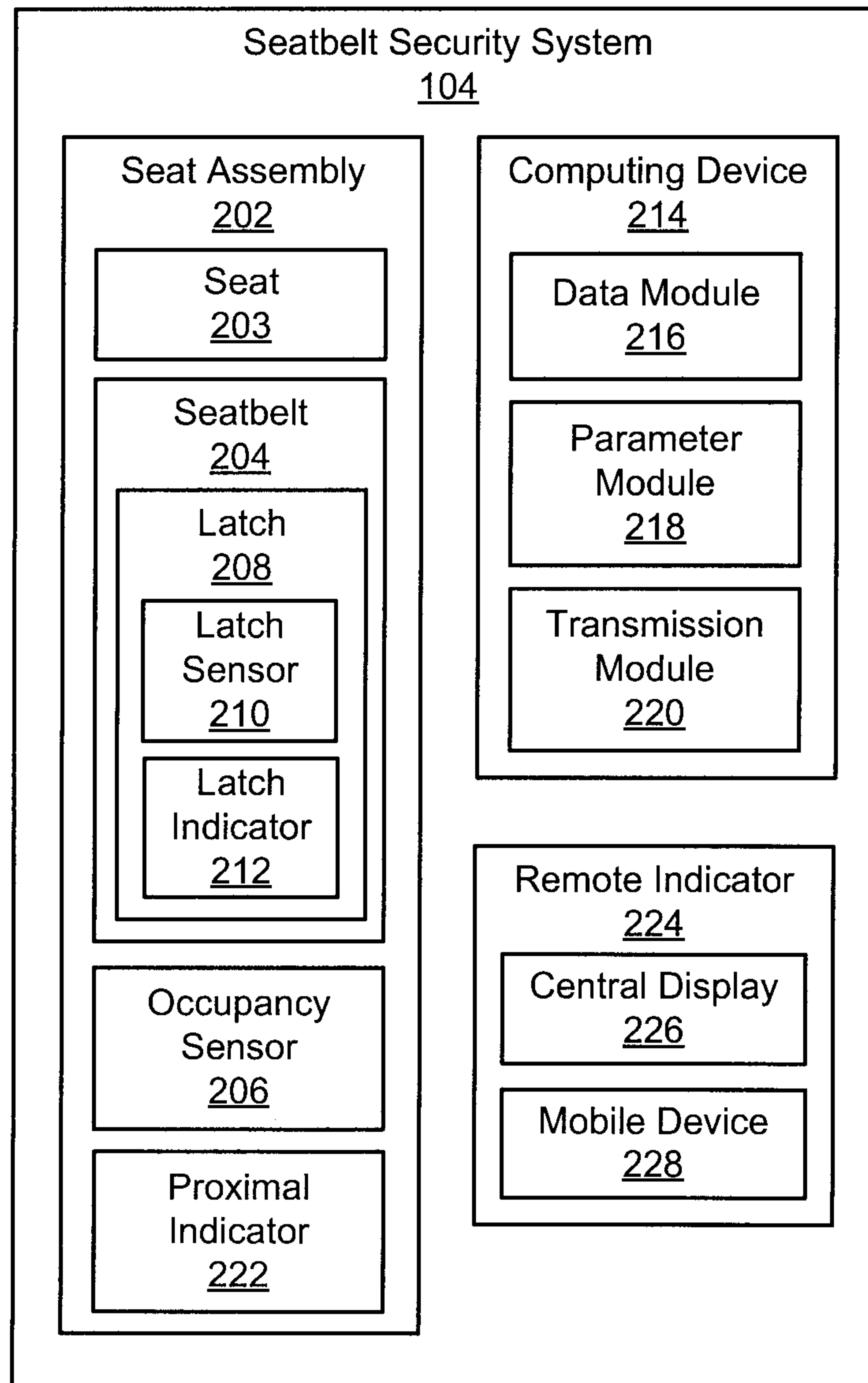


FIG. 2A

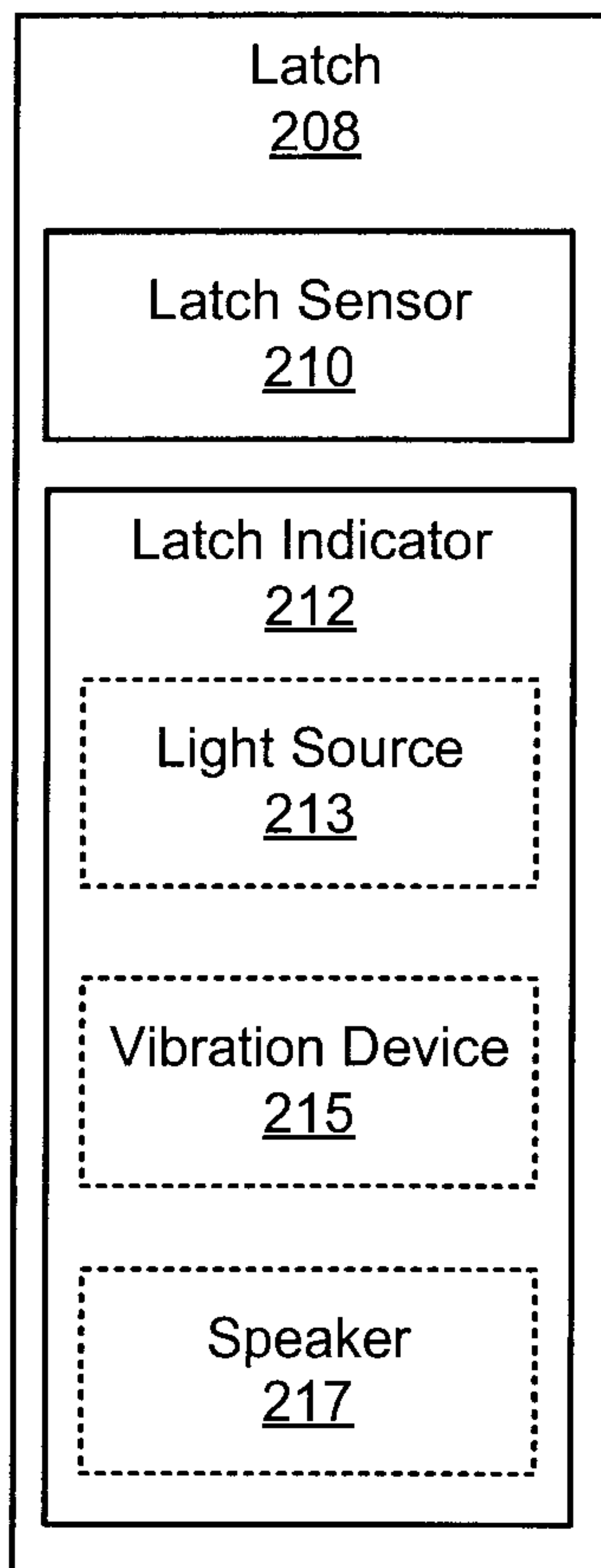


FIG. 2B

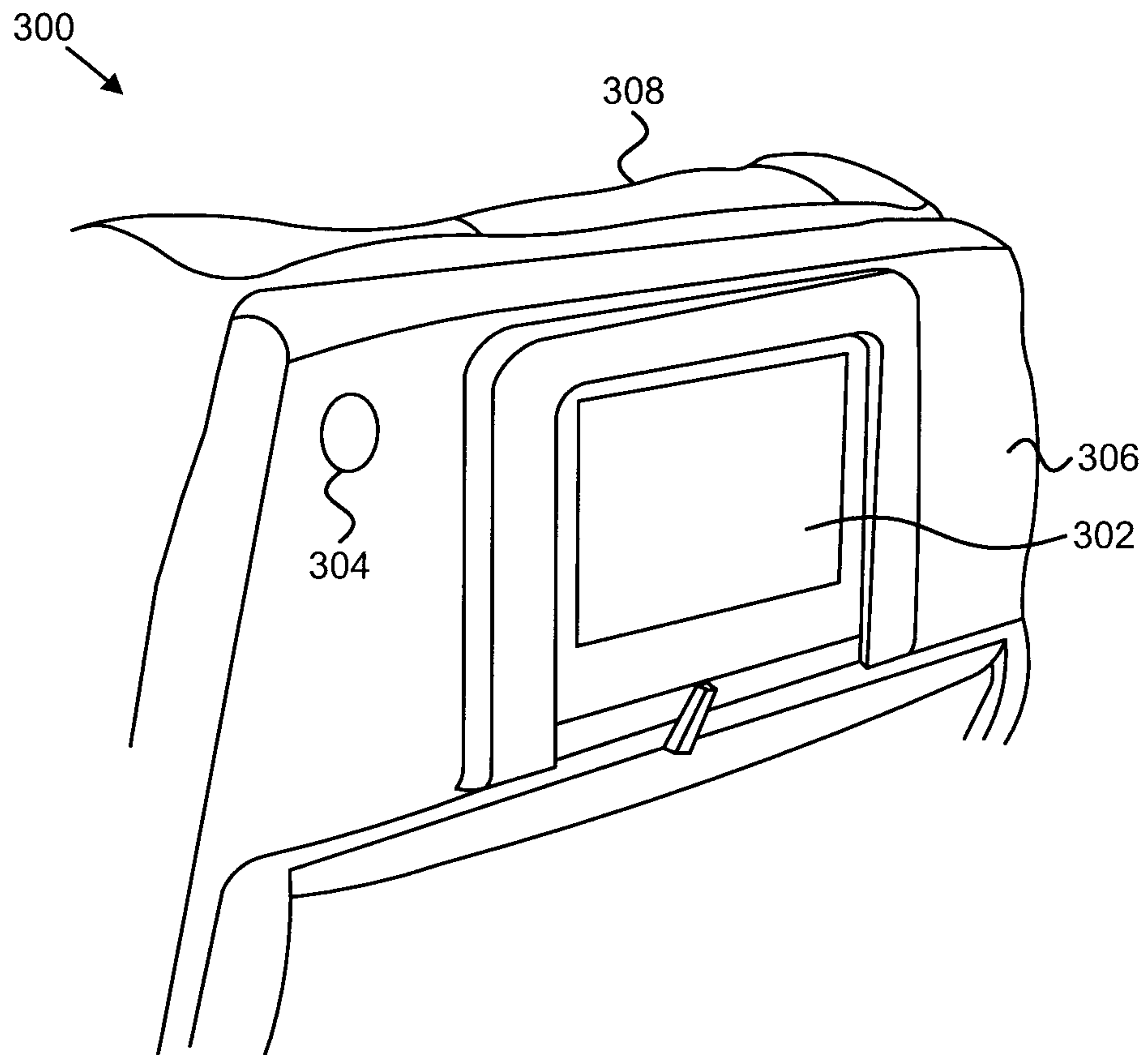
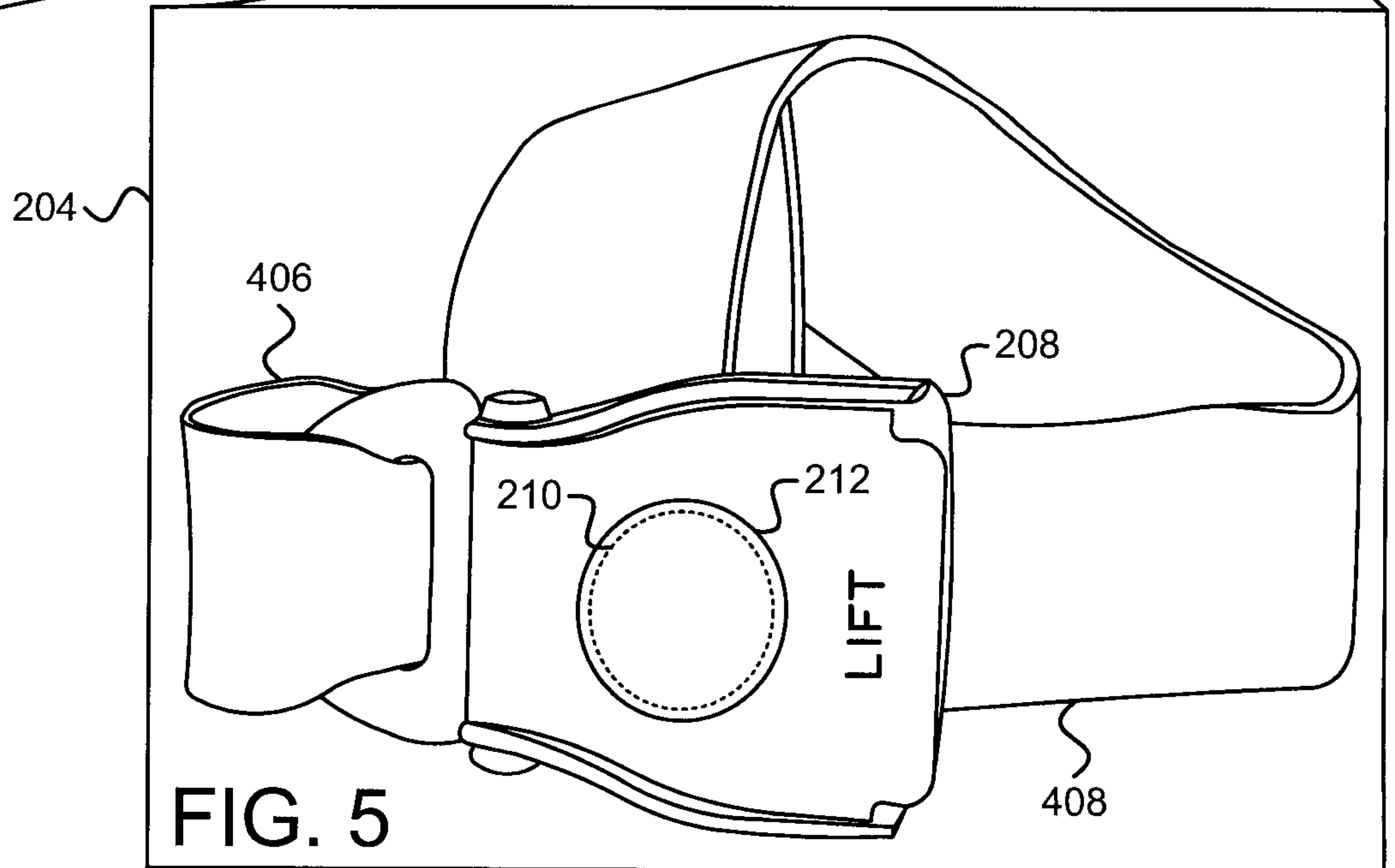
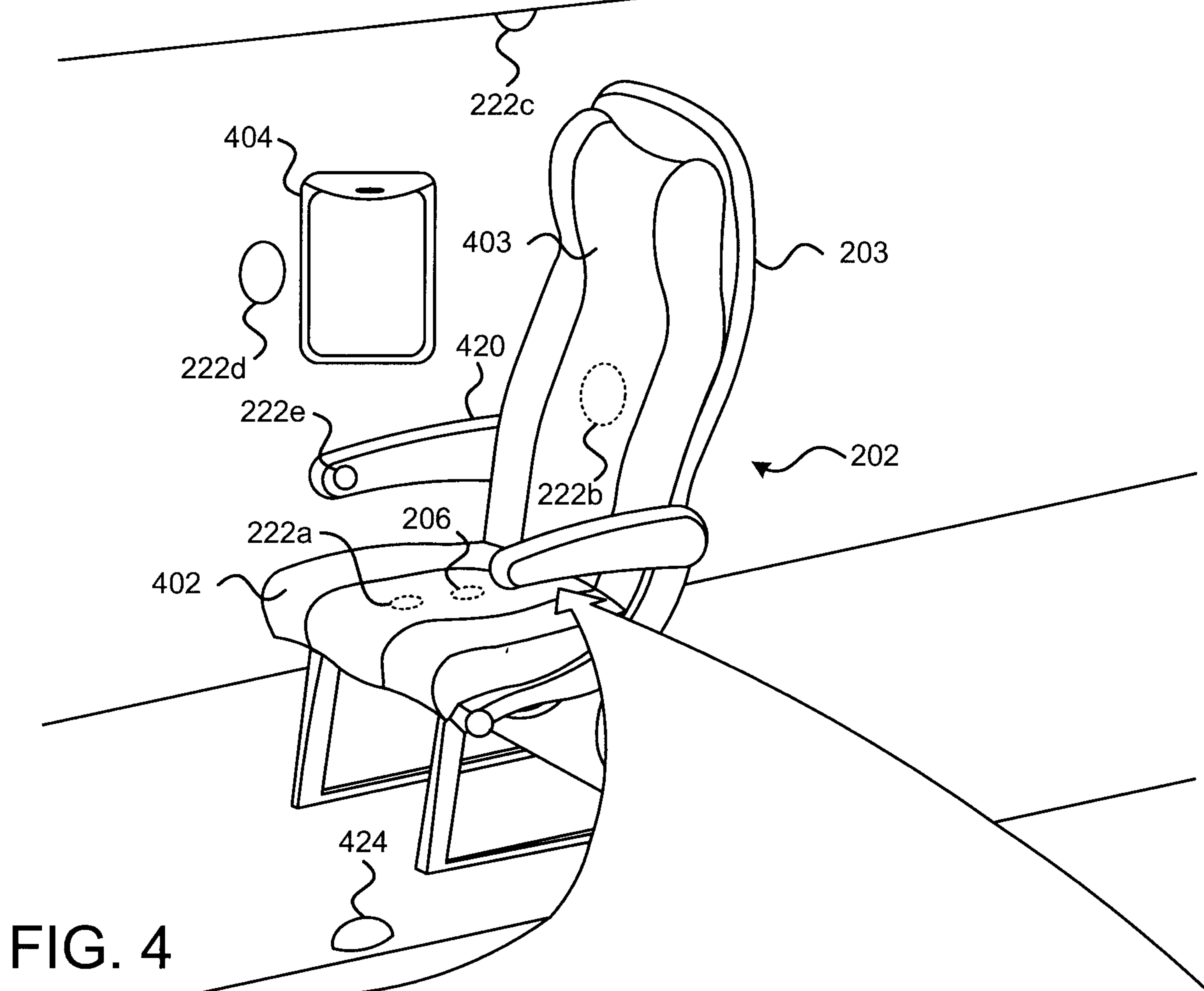


FIG. 3



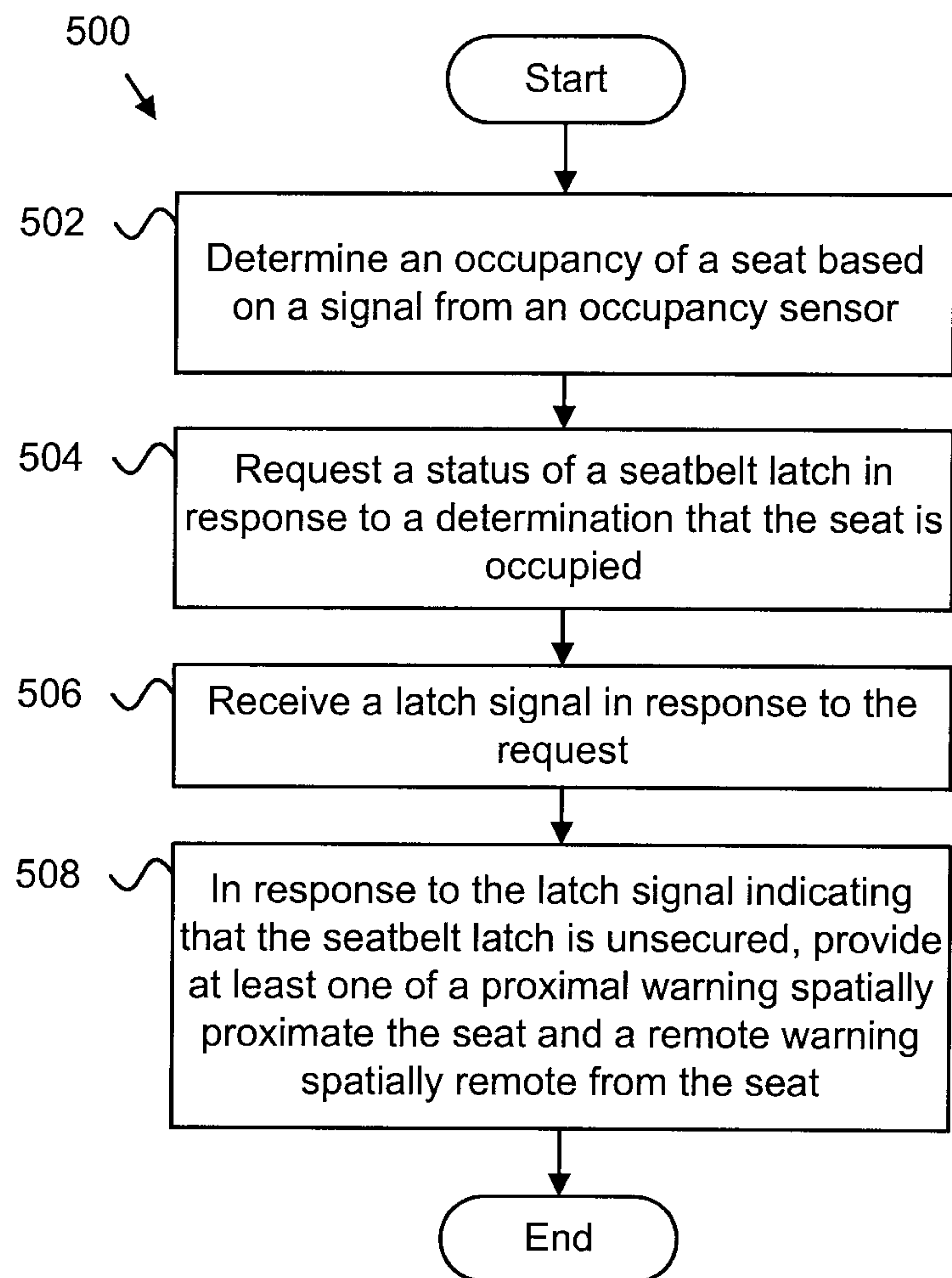


FIG. 6

