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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): RAYTHEON COMPANY [US/US]; 870 Winter Street, Waltham, MA 02451-1449 (US).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): PERKINSON, Joseph, C. [US/US]; 4 Sweet Meadow Drive, Nashua, New Hampshire 03063 (US).

(74) Agents: DURKEE, Paul, D. et al.; Daly, Crowley, Mofford & Durkee, LLP, Suite 301A, 354A Turnpike St., Canton, MA 02021 (US).

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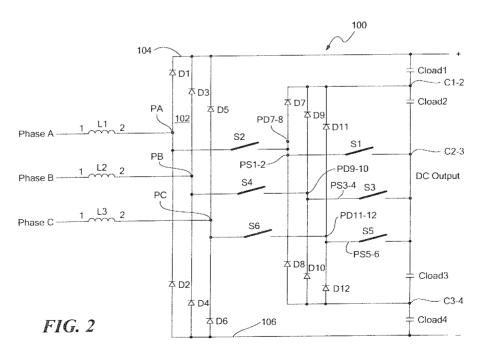
- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR THREE-PHASE RECTIFIER WITH LOWER VOLTAGE SWITCHES



(57) Abstract: Methods and apparatus to provide a rectifier having a high power factor not limited by voltage ratings of switching devices. Methods and apparatus can include pairs of series-coupled switches coupled to a respective phase signal to, along with respective diode pairs, apportion voltage over a series of load capacitors coupled across the rectifier DC output terminals.



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NV. H02M1/42 H02M7 A. CLA: H02M7/06 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) HO2M Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category* Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. EP 0 660 498 A (IXYS SEMICONDUCTOR GMBH X 1-14 [DE]) 28 June 1995 (1995-06-28) Α 15,16 figure 4 X Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex. Special categories of cited documents: *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention *E* earlier document but published on or after the international document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date. *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 14 October 2008 24/10/2008 Name and mailing address of the ISA/ **Authorized officer** European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Roider, Anton

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