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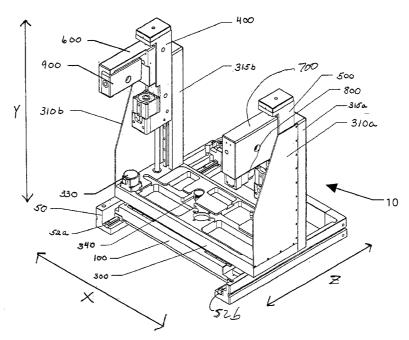
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: TEST HEAD POSITIONING SYSTEM AND METHOD



(57) **Abstract:** An apparatus for supporting a load includes pneumatic units and couplers coupled to opposite sides of the load. The couplers move the load parallel to a first axis responsive to actuation of the pneumatic units. At least one of the couplers rotate the load about a second axis orthogonal to the first axis. The load is compliant along the first axis and about the second axis. At least one of the pneumatic units provides compliance along the first axis and about the second axis.





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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSII IPC 7	FICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER G01R1/073							
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC								
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Minimum do IPC 7	cumentation searched (classification system followed by classificatio $G01R$	n symuus <i>j</i>						
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched								
Electronic da	ata base consulted during the international search (name of data bas	e and, where practical, search terms used)						
EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ								
C. DOCUM	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT							
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the rele	evant passages	Relevant to claim No.					
X	WO 03/005045 A (HEIGL HELMUTH ; H CORNELIA (DE); HEIGL HUBERTUS (DE 16 January 2003 (2003-01-16) page 7, line 19 - page 11, line 7 1-4	))	1-42					
Y	US 5 931 048 A (KIANI SEPEHR ET 3 August 1999 (1999-08-03) column 7, line 55 - column 10, li figures 2,6		1-16, 25-42					
Υ	WO 02/25292 A (HOLT ALYN R; AKOUM (US); INTEST IP CORP (US); NY N (US)) 28 March 2002 (2002-03-28) page 17, line 20 - page 19, line figures 1,4 page 41, line 21 - page 42, line figures 9a,11 page 59, line 32 - page 61, line	IL 0 2; 8;	1-16, 25-42					
Furt	Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.  Patent family members are listed in annex.							
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance  "E" earlier document but published on or after the international 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)  "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means  "P" document published prior to the international filing date but		"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 invention  "X" 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  "Y" 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 combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.  "&" document member of the same patent family						
Date of the	actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international sea	rch report					
1	5 September 2004	End with _ Cide Consider						
Name and	mailing address of the ISA  European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk  Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  Fav. (431–70) 340–3016	Authorized officer Hijazi, A						

### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

ernational application No. PCT/US2004/009774

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)						
This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:						
Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:						
Claims Nos.:     because they-relate to parts of the International-Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:						
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).						
Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)						
This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:						
see additional sheet						
As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.						
As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.						
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:						
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:  See annex						
Remark on Protest  The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.  No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.						

## FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-42

Apparatus and method for supporting a load in a compliant manner

2. claims: 43-49,71-84

Method of docking a test head to a peripheral by using docking members comprising a cam follower in combination with a pin receptacle comprising a groove

3. claims: 50-70

Docking mechanism comprising a detector for indicating when a test head is in a ready to actuate position of docking

4. claims: 77-84

Method of optimizing the docking of a test head to a peripheral  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) +\left($ 

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT Information on patent family members

Interional Application No PCT/US2004/009774

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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