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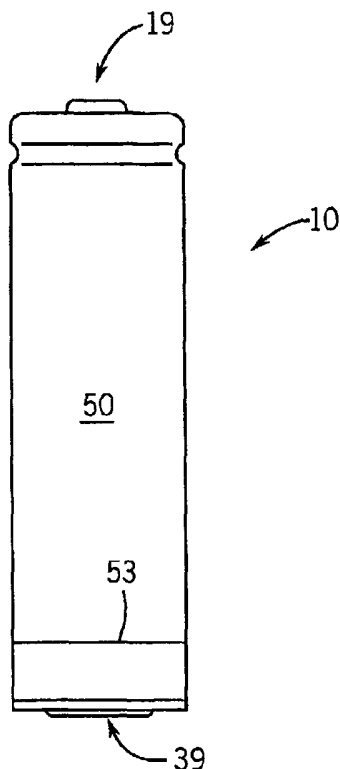
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETECTING THE PRESENCE OF RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus are disclosed for automatically detecting the presence of a secondary cell and additionally differentiating between various types of secondary cells within the charger. Certain secondary cells include a band of ink that surrounds the cells and has a predetermined resistance that is detectable via charger contacts to identify the charging capability. The cell is detected using a pair of contacts that engage the outer surface of the cell at a predetermined location. The charger applies a charge to the cell that varies based on the sensed cell type.

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SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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A	EP 0 766 363 A (MOTOROLA INC) 2 April 1997 (1997-04-02) page 2, line 34 - line 50	1-77

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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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