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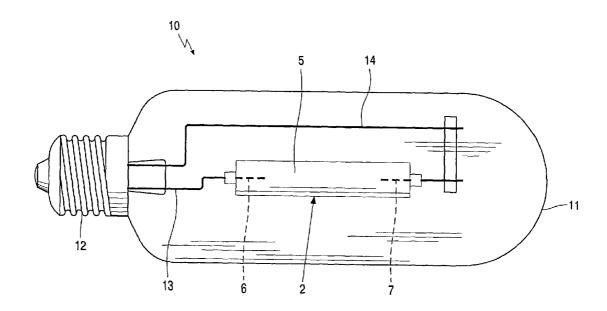
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR DRIVING A METAL HALIDE LAMP



(57) Abstract: A method for driving a metal halide lamp (1) is described, the method comprising the step of generating a light controlling DC electric field E with a desired direction and a desired strength inside the lamp such as to obtain a desirable ion distribution inside the lamp. The lamp is supplied with a commutating current with a DC component, preferably having a constant current intensity and a duty cycle differing from 50%. By setting the duty cycle, it is possible to set a certain average value of the lamp current, allowing the efficacy and/or color temperature of the lamp to be influenced.

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 before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H01J61/82 H05B41/392 H05B41/292

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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, PAJ

u.	DOCUMEN	15 CO	NSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Х	US 6 369 518 B1 (ZHU HUILING ET AL) 9 April 2002 (2002-04-09)	1-4, 6-13, 15-18,33
A	column 4, line 51 – column 6, line 43; figures 2,3,4a-4d,5a,5b ————	5,14, 19-28
Х	EP 1 089 601 A (OSRAM SYLVANIA INC) 4 April 2001 (2001-04-04) paragraphs '0005!, '0010!, '0014!, '0020!, '0025! - '0027! figures 8-10	1-4, 15-17
A	US 4 128 789 A (OWEN DANIEL V) 5 December 1978 (1978-12-05) abstract/	1-23

Y Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Patent family members are listed in annex.
 Special categories of cited documents: "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 later than the priority date claimed 	 "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 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 1 March 2004	Date of mailing of the international search report 08/03/2004
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, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Zuccatti, S

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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C.(Continu	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
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Х	US 5 907 196 A (IZAWA MAKOTO ET AL) 25 May 1999 (1999-05-25)	29,31
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Υ	column 2, line 27 - line 38 column 7, line 39 - line 45 figures 2-5,9B	31
Α		30,32
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Box I Observations where	certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)
This International Search Report h	as not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
Claims Nos.: because they relate to su	bject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Claims Nos.: because they relate to pa an extent that no meaning	rts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such gful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.: because they are depend	lent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box II Observations where	unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This International Searching Author	rity found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
see additional	sheet
As all required additional searchable claims.	search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all
2. X As all searchable claims of any additional fee.	could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment
3. As only some of the required covers only those claims	ired additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional se restricted to the invention	arch fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
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: 1-28,33

Discharge lamp with lamp driving apparatus for controlling the particle distribution during operation

2. claims: 29-32

Position detector and discharge lamp with lamp orientation detector

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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