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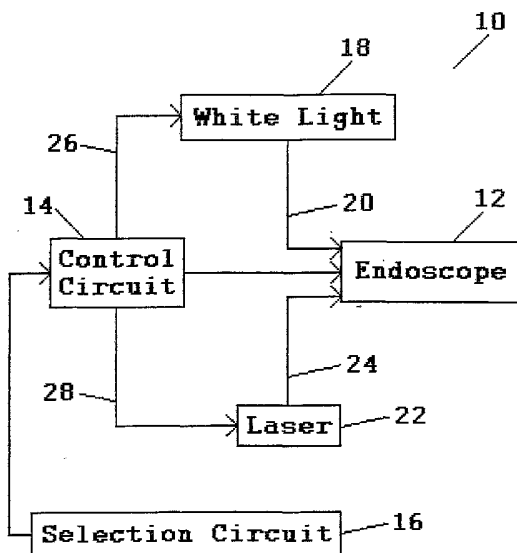
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ENDOSCOPE ILLUMINATION SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: An endoscope illumination system for use with an endoscope having both a microscopic mode and a macroscopic mode. The illumination system includes a source of broadband light and includes a source of laser illumination, which may be infrared illumination. A circuit determines the mode of operation of the endoscope. This circuit activates the source of broadband light and deactivates the source of laser illumination when the endoscope is in its macroscopic mode. Conversely, the circuit deactivates the source of broadband light and activates the source of laser illumination when the endoscope is in the microscopic mode.

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC(7) : A61B 1/06  
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**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**  
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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched  
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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
 EAST

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,530,882 B1 (FARKAS et al.) 11 March 2003 (11.03.2003), See the entire document.	1, 3 and 4
Y		2 and 5 -10
Y	US 2002/0147383 A1 (WEBER et al.) 10 October 2002 (10.10.2002), See the entire document.	2, 5 and 8-10
Y	US 6,331,156 B1 (HAEFELE et al.) 18 December 2002 (18.12.2001), See the entire document.	6-10
A, P	US 2004/0032751 A1 (SOLOVAY et al.) 19 February 2004 (19.02.2004)	1-10
A, P	US 2004/0052679 A1 (ROOT et al.) 18 March 2004 (18.03.2004), See entire document.	1-10

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.  See patent family annex.

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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
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