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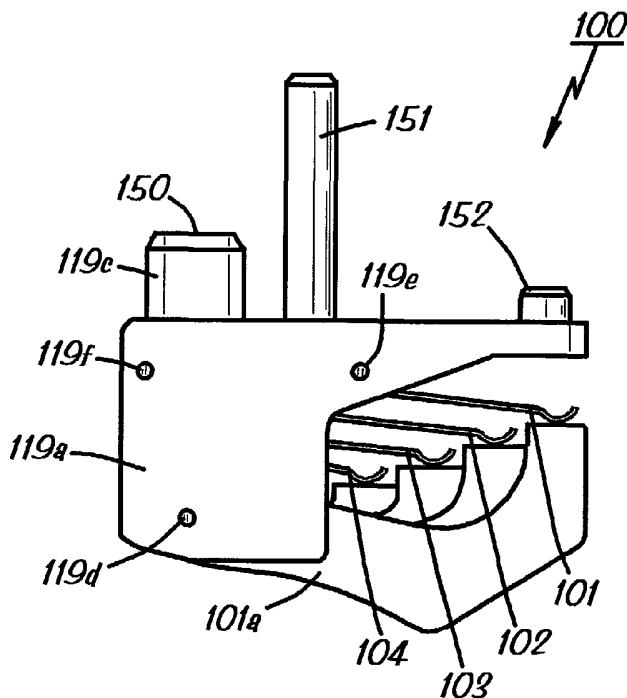
(43) International Publication Date
25 September 2003 (25.09.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2003/079383 A3

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G01R 31/02** (74) Agent: **HANSON, Loyal, M.**; Hanson Law Corporation, P.O. Box 430, Fallbrook, CA 92088-0430 (US).
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US2003/001848 (81) Designated States (national): CA, CN, CZ, HU, ID, IL, JP, KR, MX, SG.
- (22) International Filing Date: 22 January 2003 (22.01.2003) (84) Designated States (regional): European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SI, SK, TR).
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 10/097,464 14 March 2002 (14.03.2002) US
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- Declaration under Rule 4.17:**
— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designation US
- Published:**
— with international search report
— before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 8 April 2004
- 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.

(54) Title: CONTACTOR ASSEMBLY FOR TESTING CERAMIC SURFACE MOUNT DEVICES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS



(57) Abstract: A contactor assembly useable on a component testing system for electrically contacting a terminal on a device under test (DUT) for parametric testing and eventual sorting as part of component batch processing. At least three contacts are provided to help insure at least two of them contact the DUT terminal, each of the contacts having a forward edge for physically and electrically contacting the DUT terminal. A contact-holding structure mountable on the component testing system supports the contacts in side-by-side relationship for independent movement of the first, second, and third forward edges toward and away from the DUT terminal. A first spring bias the first and third forward edges toward the DUT terminal independently of the second forward edge while a second spring biases the second forward edge toward the DUT terminal independently of the first and third edges in order to thereby help insure that at least two forward edges of the contacts bear against the DUT terminal for decreased stray serial impedance (SSI). One four-spring, twelve-blade embodiment of a multi-contact, constant-force contact assembly constructed according to the invention includes blade-type contacts separated by insulators that enable holding at least one blade

at a guard potential. Roller contacts and pogo pin contacts fall within the scope of the invention.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/01848

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G01R 31/02

US CL : 324/754

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)

U.S. : 324/754

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 practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| Y | US 4,866,374 A (CEDRONE) 12 SEPTEMBER 1989 (12-09-1989) | 1, 3-13 |
| --- | (see entire document) | ----- |
| A | | 2 |
| Y | US 4,956,604 A (CEDRONE) 11 SEPTEMBER 1990 (11-09-1990) | 1, 3-13 |
| --- | (see entire document) | ----- |
| A | | 2 |

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

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| "P" | document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | | |

Date of the actual completion of the international search

16 December 2003 (16.12.2003)

Date of mailing of the international search report

20 FEB 2004

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