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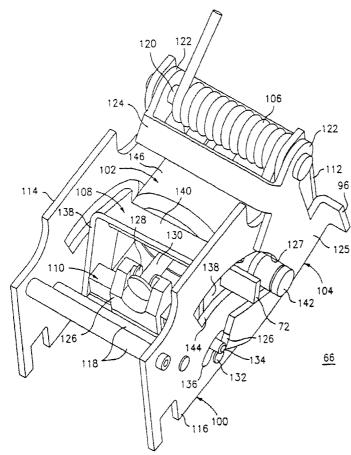
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(54) Title: FAST ACTING HIGH FORCE TRIP ACTUATOR



(57) Abstract: A trip actuator (66) includes a trip spring (106) to bias the trip arm (104) in a clockwise direction about trip arm pivot (120). In the latched and ready to operate state, the clockwise moment about the axis of the latch pivot (132) created by force "F" opposes the counterclockwise moment created about the axis of the latch pivot (132) created by the horizontal component "f<sub>x</sub>" of force "f", to hold the latch (110) in the upright position against the force of the trip arm (104). When a trip (triggering) signal is provided to the flux shifter (102), the flux shifter (102) releases the plunger (130). With the force "F" removed, the trip arm (104) will drive the latch pin (134), causing the latch (110) to rotate counterclockwise about the latch pivot (132). As the latch (110) and trip arm (104) rotate, the latch pin (134) slides off the latch surface (126), fully releasing the trip arm (104) and allowing the trip paddle (96) to move the secondary latch tab (50).

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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.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H01H71/32 H01H H01H71/50 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 H01H 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 C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ° Relevant to claim No. EP 0 620 580 A (MERLIN GERIN) χ 1,2,4,5, 19 October 1994 (1994-10-19) 11,12, 14.15 the whole document US 4 506 246 A (WONG TAK M) χ 1-5,19 March 1985 (1985-03-19) 8-15, 18 - 20column 22, line 32 -column 23, line 66 US 5 453 724 A (GUERRETTE MICHAEL C ET Α 10,20 AL) 26 September 1995 (1995-09-26) cited in the application abstract Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex ° Special categories of cited documents: \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date "I " document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "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 docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled "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 \*&\* document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 25 September 2001 02/10/2001 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Libberecht, L Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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