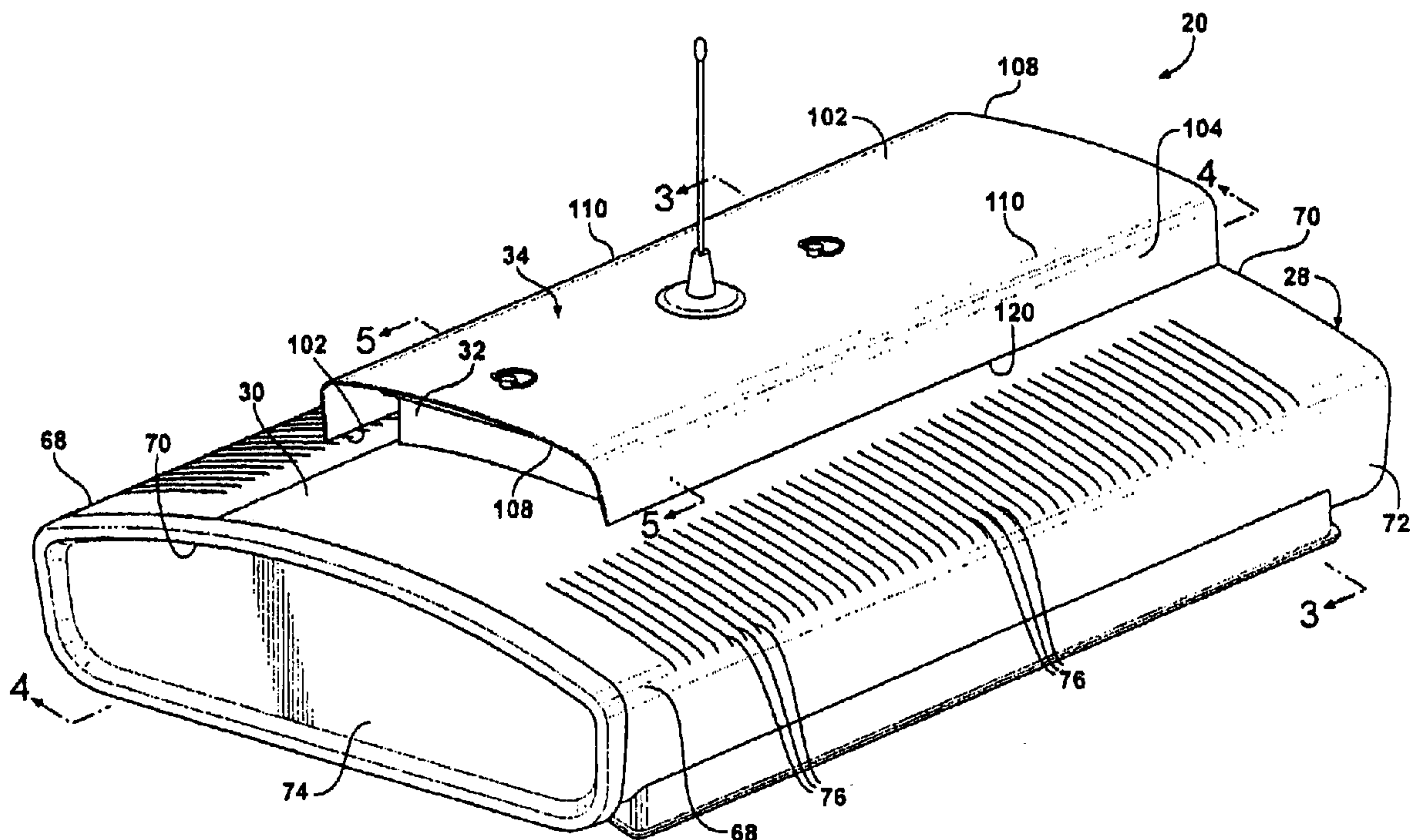




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(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

An L. E. D. light emitting assembly (20) includes an aluminum heat sink (22) presenting a mounting surface (24) with light emitting diodes (26) disposed thereon. A thermoplastic housing (28) is disposed over the heat sink (22) and presents a top surface (30) facing outwardly. An electronics enclosure (32) is disposed on the top surface (30). A solar shield (34) extends over and spaced from the electronics enclosure (32). The solar shield (34) includes a closed solar top wall (102) and solar side walls (104). The solar shield (34) defines an air inlet (114) adjacent a lower edge (112) of each of the solar side walls (104) and an air outlet (116) above the air inlet (114) at open solar ends (108) thereof for creating a chimney effect to move ambient air into the air inlet (114) and through an air flow space (111) to exit the air outlet (116).



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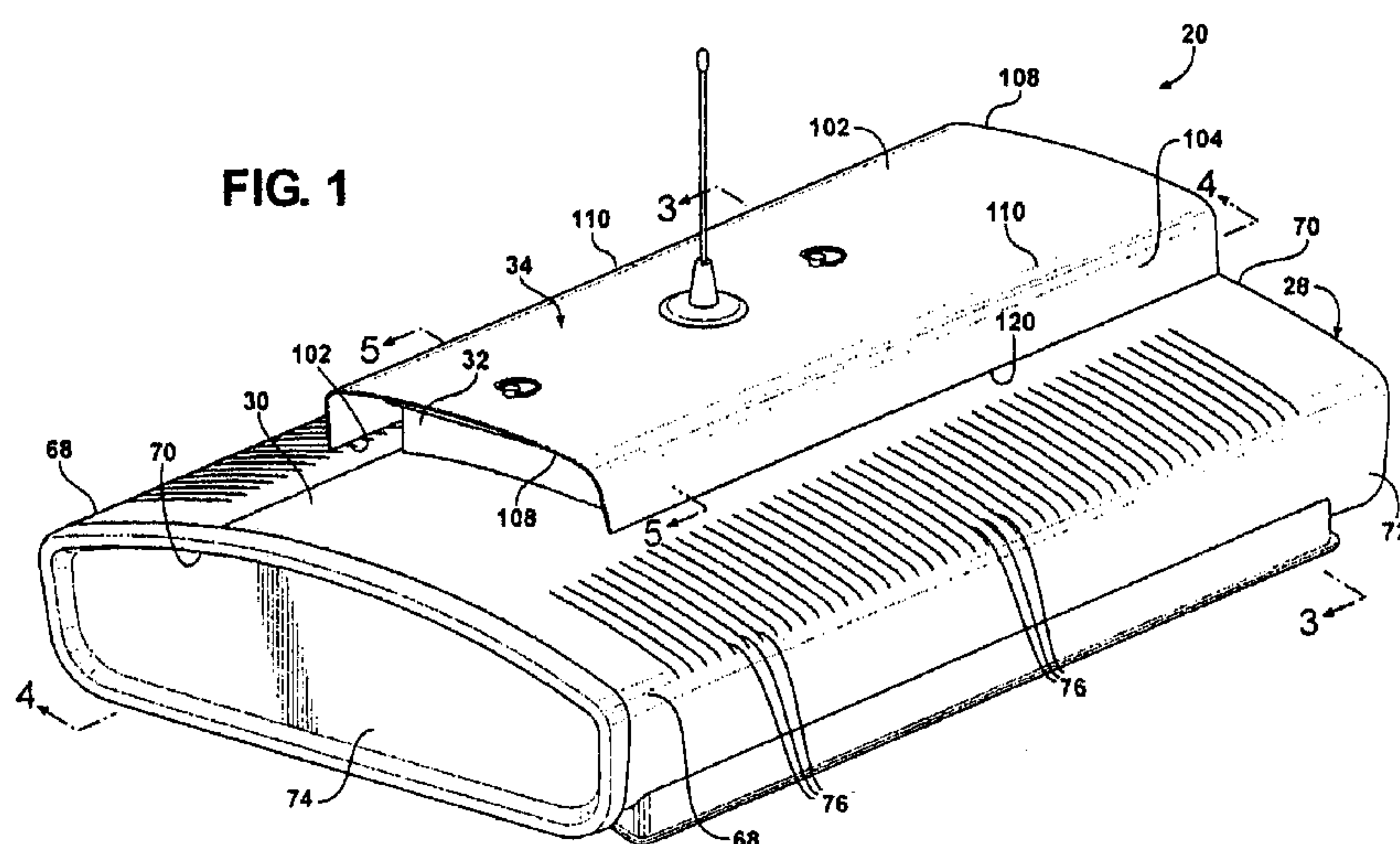
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(54) Title: SOLAR SHIELD FOR LED LIGHT EMITTING ASSEMBLY



(57) Abstract: An L. E. D. light emitting assembly (20) includes an aluminum heat sink (22) presenting a mounting surface (24) with light emitting diodes (26) disposed thereon. A thermoplastic housing (28) is disposed over the heat sink (22) and presents a top surface (30) facing outwardly. An electronics enclosure (32) is disposed on the top surface (30). A solar shield (34) extends over and spaced from the electronics enclosure (32). The solar shield (34) includes a closed solar top wall (102) and solar side walls (104). The solar shield (34) defines an air inlet (114) adjacent a lower edge (112) of each of the solar side walls (104) and an air outlet (116) above the air inlet (114) at open solar ends (108) thereof for creating a chimney effect to move ambient air into the air inlet (114) and through an air flow space (111) to exit the air outlet (116).

WO 2010/144154 A9

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SOLAR SHIELD FOR LED LIGHT EMITTING ASSEMBLY

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application claims the benefit of application serial number 61/186,101 filed June 11, 2009.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

[0002] The subject invention relates to a light emitting assembly of the type including light emitting diodes (L.E.D.s), and more particularly, reducing temperatures to prolong the service life of the L.E.D. light emitting assembly.

2. Description of the Prior Art

[0003] Light assemblies including L.E.D.s are often preferred over other light assemblies due to their high efficiency. At least a fifty percent (50%) energy savings is possible when light assemblies including most high intensity discharge (H.I.D.) lights are replaced with properly designed L.E.D. light assemblies. An example of such an L.E.D. light assembly is disclosed in P.C.T. Patent Application Serial No. PCT/US2008/65874 to the present inventor, Peter A. Hochstein, which is directed to effective thermal management of an L.E.D. light emitting assembly. The '874 application discloses a heat sink presenting a mounting surface and an oppositely facing heat transfer surface and a plurality of light emitting diodes disposed on the mounting surface. The '874 application also discloses a housing disposed over the heat sink and presenting a top surface facing outwardly. Such L.E.D. light assemblies typically have a service life of about 70,000 hours.

[0004] Like most electrical assemblies, L.E.D. light emitting assemblies typically include electronics enclosures for covering a power supply and other electrical components. The electronic enclosure may be disposed on the top surface of the housing. However, the electrical components of L.E.D. light emitting assemblies are particularly subject to thermal damage, and are rarely designed to exceed 85° C. For example, when the electronics enclosure of an L.E.D. light emitting assembly is exposed to sunlight with a nominal radiant flux of 1000 W/m² with an ambient air temperature of 20° C, the measured temperature inside the electronics enclosure typically exceeds 85° C, which causes the electrical components housed therein to fail before the light emitting

73695-48

diodes. Further, most geographical regions of the continental United States are subject to a solar flux of nominally $1,000 \text{ W/m}^2$, which causes an electronics enclosure of even modest dimensions to absorb over 200 W of heat under direct sunlight.

5 [0005] One approach used to reduce the temperature inside the electronics enclosure includes venting the electronics enclosure. However, this approach is not practical because the electronics enclosure should be sealed against moisture, dirt, insects, and corrosive elements, such as salt or vehicle emissions, to maintain reliable operation.

10 [0006] Another approach used to reduce the temperature inside an electronics enclosure includes extending a solar shield over the electronics enclosure. An example of such a solar shield is disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,986,618, in the name of Aakula et. al., and assigned to Lucent Technologies, Inc. The '618 patent discloses a solar shield having a continuous and closed solar top wall extending between solar ends and solar sides. The solar top wall of the '618 patent extends over and is spaced from the electronics enclosure to create a space therebetween. The solar shield of the '618 patent includes solar side walls depending
15 from each of the solar sides to lower edges. Although the solar shield disclosed in the '618 patent blocks solar light from the electronics enclosure, the measured temperature inside the electronics enclosure is high.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

20 [0007] The subject invention provides such an L.E.D. light emitting assembly including a solar shield defining an air inlet disposed adjacent a lower edge of each solar side wall of the solar shield and an air outlet disposed above the air inlet at at least one solar end thereof for creating a chimney effect to move ambient air into the air inlet and through a space between the electronics enclosure and solar shield to exit the air outlet.

25 [0007a] According to one aspect of the present invention, there is provided a light emitting assembly comprising: a heat sink presenting a mounting surface, a plurality of light emitting diodes disposed on said mounting surface, a housing disposed over said heat sink and presenting a top surface facing outwardly, an electronics enclosure disposed on said top

73695-48

surface of said housing, a solar shield having a solar top wall extending between solar ends and solar sides and over and spaced from said electronics enclosure to create an air flow space therebetween, said solar shield including a solar side wall depending from each of said solar sides to lower edges, and characterized by, said solar shield defining an air inlet disposed
 5 adjacent said lower edge of each of said solar side walls and an air outlet disposed above said air inlet at least one of said solar ends thereof for creating a chimney effect to move ambient air into said air inlet and through said air flow space to exit said air outlet.

[0007b] According to another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a light emitting assembly comprising: a heat sink of electrically insulating and thermally conductive
 10 aluminum material presenting said mounting surface, said heat sink including a plurality of elongated sections independent of one another, said plurality of elongated sections including pairs of said elongated sections being mirror images of one another in cross section and presenting fin walls spaced and parallel to one another to define a fin space therebetween with each fin wall having an upper side edge and a lower side edge, each of said elongated sections
 15 presenting an LED wall spaced from said fin wall and including a heat transfer web connecting said LED wall to said fin wall for transferring heat from said LED wall to said fin wall, each of said LED walls presenting a mounting surface facing outwardly and a heat transfer surface facing inwardly toward said fin wall, each of said elongated sections including an upper truss member connecting said fin wall below said upper side edge to said
 20 LED wall to space said upper side edge of said fin wall further from said LED wall than said lower side edge of said fin wall, each of said elongated sections including an attachment block extending along said upper truss member and defining an attachment slot extending into and continuously along said attachment block for mounting said heat sink, a plurality of fins disposed in spaced and parallel relationship to one another and extending in width across said
 25 fin space between said fin walls of each of said pairs of said elongated sections, each of said fins including a plurality of bends extending between said fin walls of said elongated section, a plurality of straps extending across said fin space between each pair of elongated sections to clamp said fins between said elongated sections, a plurality of light emitting diodes disposed on said mounting surface of each of said elongated sections, said light emitting diodes being
 30 spaced and parallel to one another, an elongated cover disposed on said mounting surface of

73695-48

each of said elongated sections and covering said light emitting diodes, a housing disposed over and coupled to said heat sink and presenting a top surface facing outwardly, said top surface of said housing presenting housing side edges extending between opposite housing end edges, said housing including housing side walls extending downwardly from said

5 housing side edges and housing end walls extending downwardly from said housing side edges frame said heat sink, said top surface of said housing defining a plurality of perforations for allowing ambient air to flow therethrough, a plurality of attachments disposed in said attachment slots of said heat sink and extending transversely from said heat sink into said top surface of said housing for coupling said heat sink and said housing, a plurality of electrical

10 components disposed on said top surface of said housing, said electrical components including a power supply for supplying power to said light emitting diodes, said electrical components including an electrical connection block electrically coupling said power supply and said light emitting diodes, said electrical components including a light control for controlling the power supplied to said light emitting diodes, said electrical components including a radio transceiver

15 for transmitting and receiving radio signals including data from a remote controller and sending the data to said light control, said electrical components including a radio antenna disposed atop said radio transceiver for transmitting and receiving radio signals to and from the remote controller, said radio antenna being electrically coupled to said radio transceiver for conveying the radio signals to said radio transceiver, an electronics enclosure disposed on

20 said top surface of said housing for covering said electrical components, said electronics enclosure including enclosure end walls extending upwardly from said top surface of said housing said electronics enclosure including enclosure side walls extending upwardly from said top surface between said enclosure end walls to frame said electrical components, said electronics enclosure including an enclosure top wall extending parallel to said top surface

25 and continuously between said enclosure side walls and said enclosure end walls and over said electrical components to define an enclosed space around said electrical components, said enclosure top wall defining an antenna opening for allowing said radio antenna to pass therethrough and upwardly from said enclosure top wall, said electronics enclosure being formed of a die cast aluminum material, a seal disposed between each of said enclosure walls

30 for sealing said electronics enclosure around said electrical components, a mounting arm

73695-48

coupled to said top surface of said housing and extending transversely away from said electronics enclosure, at least one mounting arm clamp coupling said mounting arm and said top surface, a solar shield having a continuous and closed solar top wall extending between solar ends and solar sides and over and spaced from said electronics enclosure to create an air

5 flow space therebetween, said solar shield defining an antenna opening for allowing said radio antenna to pass therethrough and upwardly from said solar top wall, said solar ends being generally parallel to said enclosure end walls, said solar sides being generally parallel to said enclosure side walls, said solar shield including a solar side wall depending from each of said solar sides to lower edges, said solar side walls being canted at an angle relative to said solar

10 top wall and away from said electronics enclosure, said solar shield defining an air inlet disposed adjacent said lower edge of each of said solar side walls and an air outlet disposed above said air inlet at least one of said solar ends thereof for creating a chimney effect to move ambient air into said air inlet and through said air flow space to exit said air outlet, said solar top wall terminating at one of said solar ends thereof to present one totally open air

15 outlet at said open solar end between said solar side walls of said solar shield, said solar side walls extending continuously and closed between said solar ends and from said solar sides of said solar top wall to said lower edges to prevent air flow through said solar side walls, said lower edges of said solar side walls being spaced from said electronics enclosure and said top surface of said housing to define said air inlets, said solar shield being formed of a light

20 reflective sheet metal material, a spacer extending downwardly from said solar shield for supporting said solar shield over said electronics enclosure and said top surface of said housing, said spacer extending continuously from said solar top wall to said top surface, and said spacer presenting a first opening allowing said mounting arm to extend therethrough.

ADVANTAGES OF THE INVENTION

25 [0008] The solar shield of the subject invention provides for convective cooling of the electronics enclosure by allowing cool ambient air to enter the solar shield through the air inlet, rise and travel through the space between the hot electronics enclosure and the solar side walls, and escape through the air outlet. The space between the solar shield and the electronics enclosure allows for free movement and circulation of

the convected air. This chimney effect may provide a temperature reduction inside the electronics enclosure of more than 33° C. As alluded to above, when an L.E.D. light assembly including the electronics enclosure with a top wall of 250 x 600 mm is subjected to 1000 W/m² (1 sun) and an ambient temperature of 20° C without the solar shield of the subject invention, temperatures inside the electronics enclosure exceed 87° C. However, when the solar shield of the subject invention, defining the air inlet and air outlet, extends over and is spaced from the enclosure cover, the temperature inside the electronics enclosure is reduced to about 54° C. Even when the surface temperature of the solar shield exceeds 100° C, the temperature inside the electronics enclosure remains close to 54° C. Accordingly, the subject invention provides a low cost approach to prolonging the service life of L.E.D. light emitting assemblies.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0009] Other advantages of the present invention will be readily appreciated, as the same becomes better understood by reference to the following detailed description when considered in connection with the accompanying drawings wherein:

[0010] Figure 1 is a perspective top view of a preferred embodiment of an L.E.D. light emitting assembly showing the solar shield;

[0011] Figure 2 is a perspective bottom view of the L.E.D. light emitting assembly showing the heat sink, light emitting diodes, and mounting arm;

[0012] Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view of the L.E.D. light emitting assembly of Figure 1 along line 3-3;

[0013] Figure 4 is a cross sectional view of the L.E.D. light emitting assembly of Figure 1 along line 4-4;

[0014] Figure 5 is a cross sectional view of the L.E.D. light emitting assembly of Figure 1 along line 5-5; and

[0015] Figure 6 is a cross sectional view of an alternate embodiment of the L.E.D. light emitting assembly showing the solar top wall disposed over the entire top surface of the housing and an alternate heat sink design.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0016] Referring to the Figures, an L.E.D. light emitting assembly **20** is generally shown. The light emitting assembly **20** includes a heat sink **22** presenting a mounting surface **24**. A plurality of light emitting diodes **26** are disposed on the mounting surface **24**. A housing **28** covers the heat sink **22** and presents a top surface **30** facing outwardly. An electronics enclosure **32** is disposed on the top surface **30** of the housing **28**. A solar shield **34** extends over and is spaced from the electronics enclosure **32**. The solar shield **34** defines air inlet **114** and an air outlet **116** for creating a chimney effect to move ambient air through the light emitting assembly **20**.

[0017] The light emitting assembly **20** includes the heat sink **22** of electrically insulating and thermally conductive aluminum material presenting the mounting surface **24**. The heat sink **22** includes a plurality of elongated sections **38** independent of one another, as shown in Figures 2, 3, and 6. In the embodiment shown in Figures 2 and 3, each light emitting assembly **20** typically includes two pairs of the elongated sections **38**. The elongated sections **38** are mirror images of one another in cross section. Each elongated section **38** presents a fin wall **40** spaced and parallel to one another to define a fin space **44** therebetween, and each fin wall **40** has an upper side edge **46** and a lower side edge **48**, as shown in Figure 3. An LED wall **50** is spaced from the fin wall **40** of each elongated section **38**. A heat transfer web **52** connects the LED wall **50** to the fin wall **40** for transferring heat from the LED wall **50** to the fin wall **40**. The LED wall **50** of each elongated section **38** presents the mounting surface **24** facing outwardly and a heat transfer surface **54** facing inwardly toward the fin wall **40**.

[0018] An upper truss member **56** connects the fin wall **40**, below the upper side edge **46**, to the LED wall **50** of each elongated section **38**. The upper truss member **56** spaces the upper side edge **46** of the fin wall **40** further from the LED wall **50** than the lower side edge **48** of the fin wall **40**, as shown in Figure 3. Each of the elongated sections **38** also includes an attachment block **58** extending along the upper truss member **56**. The attachment block **58** defines an attachment slot **60** extending into and continuously along the attachment block **58** for mounting the heat sink **22**. An upper strap slot is defined between the attachment block **58** and the fin wall **40**, as shown in Figures 2 and 3. A lower truss member **61** connects the fin wall **40** to the heat transfer surface **54** of the LED wall **50** above the lower side edge **48** to space the heat transfer

surface **54** from the fin wall **40**. The lower truss member **61** defines a lower strap slot, as shown in Figures 2 and 3.

[0019] The heat sink **22** also includes a plurality of fins **42** disposed in spaced and parallel relationship to one another and extending in width across the fin **42** space **44** between the fin walls **40** of each of the pairs of the elongated sections **38**, as shown in Figure 2. Each of the fins **42** include a plurality of bends **62** extending across the fin space.

[0020] The light emitting assembly also includes a plurality of straps **63** extending across the fin space **44** between the elongated sections **38** to clamp the fins **42** between the elongated sections **38**, as shown in Figures 2 and 3. The straps **63** are typically formed of a high strength metal, such as stainless steel, and include U-shaped catches at the ends thereof. The straps **82** extend across the fin space **44** between and over the lower side edges **48** of the spaced fin walls **40**, and the catches of the straps **63** are wedged into the lower strap slots to hold each of the elongated sections **38** together, as shown in Figures 2 and 3. The straps **63** also extend across the fin space **44** between and over the upper side edges **46** of the spaced fin walls **40** and the catches thereof are wedged into the upper strap slots. Alternatively, the heat sink **22** may include another configuration, such as a casting.

[0021] The plurality of light emitting diodes **26** are disposed on the mounting surface **24** of each elongated section **38**. The light emitting diodes **26** are disposed spaced and parallel to one another, and a row of the light emitting diodes **26** extends along the mounting surface **24** of each elongated section **38**. An independent elongated cover **66** is disposed on the mounting surface **24** of each elongated section **38** and covers one of the rows of light emitting diodes **26**.

[0022] As shown in Figure 3, the light emitting assembly **20** includes the housing **28** disposed over and coupled to the heat sink **22**. The housing **28** presents a top surface **30** facing outwardly and away from the heat sink **22**. The top surface **30** of the housing **28** presents housing side edges **68** extending between opposite housing end edges **70**. Housing side walls **72** extend downwardly from the housing side edges **68** and housing end walls **74** extend downwardly from the housing side edges **68** to frame the heat sink **22**. The housing **28** includes a plurality of perforations **76**, as shown in Figure 1, disposed adjacent the housing side edges **68** for allowing hot air shed from the heat sink **22** to escape therethrough.

[0023] The housing 28 is typically formed of a thermoplastic, vacuum formed, polyester [TPO] material, a molded polycarbonate, or a metal material such as stainless steel or powder coated aluminum, for corrosion protection. The housing 28 is designed to shield the heat sink 22 from precipitation, debris, and other harmful effects detrimental to the assembly's 20 operation. The housing 28 also shields the heat sink 22 from sunlight, which reduces the temperature of the heat sink 22 and light emitting diodes 26.

[0024] The housing 28 and heat sink 22 are coupled to one another by a plurality of attachments 78, as shown in Figure 3. The attachments 78 are disposed in the attachment slots 60 of the heat sink 22. The attachments 78 extend transversely from the heat sink 22 and into the top surface 30 of the housing 28. The attachments 78 may include bolts, clips, screws, or other another type of connector.

[0025] As shown in Figures 3-6, a plurality of electrical components 82, 84, 86, 88, 90 are disposed on the top surface 30 of the housing 28. The electrical components 82, 84, 86, 88, 90 include a power supply 82 for supplying power to the light emitting diodes 26; an electrical connection block 84 electrically coupling the power supply 82 and the light emitting diodes 26; a light control 86 for controlling the power supplied to the light emitting diodes 26; and a radio transceiver 88 for transmitting and receiving radio signals including data to control the power supplied to the light emitting diodes 26. The radio transceiver 88 transmits the data to the light control 86, and the light control 86 uses the data to supply a predetermined amount of power to the light emitting diodes 26. The radio transceiver 88 is also electrically coupled to a radio antenna 90. The radio antenna 90 is disposed atop the radio transceiver 88 for transmitting and receiving radio signals to and from the remote controller, and for conveying the radio signals to the radio transceiver 88.

[0026] The electronics enclosure 32 is also disposed on the top surface 30 for housing 28 the electrical components 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, as shown in Figures 1 and 3-6. The electronics enclosure 32 includes enclosure end walls 92 extending upwardly from the top surface 30 of the housing 28 and enclosure side walls 94 extending upwardly from the top surface 30 between the enclosure end walls 92 to frame the electrical components 82, 84, 86, 88, 90. The electronics enclosure 32 includes an enclosure top wall 96 extending parallel to the top surface 30 and continuously between the enclosure side walls 94 and the enclosure end walls 92 and over the electrical

components **82, 84, 86, 88, 90** to define an enclosed space **44** around the electrical components **82, 84, 86, 88, 90**. In one embodiment, the enclosure top wall **96** has an exposed area of 250 x 600 mm, but may have another dimension. The enclosure top wall **96** defines an antenna opening for allowing the radio antenna **90** to pass therethrough and upwardly from the enclosure. The enclosure top wall **96** is typically sealed along the antenna opening so that the enclosure top wall **96** remains continuous and closed. The electronics enclosure **32** is formed of die cast or stamped aluminum or a painted or plated sheet metal material. A seal **98**, such as a rubber gasket, is disposed between each of the enclosure walls **92, 94, 96** and along the antenna opening for sealing the electronics enclosure **32** around the electrical components **82, 84, 86, 88, 90**. The sealed electronics enclosure **32** protects the electrical components **82, 84, 86, 88, 90** from ambient air, precipitation, moisture, insects, debris, vehicle emissions, salt, and other harmful elements.

[0027] A mounting arm **106** extends transversely away from the electronics enclosure **32**, as shown in Figure 2. The mounting arm **106** is coupled to the top surface **30** of the housing **28** by a mounting arm clamp **64**, which engages both the top surface **30** and the mounting arm **106**, as shown in Figure 4. The light emitting assembly **20** may be mounted to a separate support structure, such as a street lamp post or a planar surface, in a variety of configurations. The mounting arm **106** may extend transversely from the support structure so that the light emitting assembly **20** is positioned to direct light in a predetermined direction toward the ground. The mounting arm **106** may also extend from the support structure at an angle relative to the ground, so that the light emitting assembly **20** is positioned to direct light in another predetermined direction.

[0028] The solar shield **34** extends over the electronics enclosure **32** to shield the electronics enclosure **32** and the electrical components **82, 84, 86, 88, 90** from solar light and heat. The solar shield **34** is formed of a light reflective sheet metal material, such as an aluminum alloy or steel. The solar shield **34** typically has a continuous and closed solar top wall **102** extending between solar ends **108** and solar sides **110** and over and spaced from the electronics enclosure **32** to create an air flow space **111** therebetween. In the embodiment wherein the enclosure top wall **96** has an exposed area of 250 x 600 mm, the solar shield **34** is spaced nominally 8 mm from the electronics enclosure **32**, but the solar shield **34** may be spaced another distance from the

electronics enclosure 32. The solar ends 108 are generally parallel to the enclosure end walls 92, and the solar sides 110 are generally parallel to the enclosure side walls 94. The solar top wall 102 defines an antenna opening for allowing the radio antenna 90 to pass therethrough and upwardly from the solar top wall 102. The solar top wall 102 is sealed along the antenna opening so that the solar top wall 102 may remain continuous and closed. The solar shield 34 includes a solar side wall 104 depending from each of the solar sides 110 to lower edges 112. The solar side walls 104 are canted at a slight angle relative to the solar top wall 102 and away from the electronics enclosure 32. The solar side walls 104 extend continuously and closed between the solar ends 108 and from the solar sides 110 of the solar top wall 102 to the lower edges 112 to prevent air flow through the solar side walls 104. The solar top wall 102 protects the enclosure top wall 96 and the solar side walls 104 protect the enclosure side walls 94 from solar light and heat. In one alternative embodiment, the solar top wall 102 has perforations 113 allowing air to flow therethrough, as shown in Figure 6.

[0029] The solar shield 34 defines the air inlet 114 disposed adjacent the lower edge 112 of each of the solar side walls 104, as shown in Figure 5. The lower edges 112 of the solar side walls 104 are spaced from the electronics enclosure 32 and from the top surface 30 to define the air inlets 114. The solar shield 34 also defines the air outlet 116 disposed above the air inlet 114 at at least one of the solar ends 108 thereof, as shown in Figure 4. The solar top wall 102 terminates at at least one of the solar ends 108 thereof to present one totally open air outlet 116 at the open solar end 108 between the solar side walls 104 of the solar shield 34. An end cap may be disposed over one of the ends of the solar shield 34. The solar top wall 102 typically terminates at both solar ends 108 thereof to present one totally open air outlet 116 at each open solar end 108 between the solar side walls 104. The air inlet 114 and air outlet 116 create a chimney effect to move ambient air into the air inlet 114 and through the air flow space 111 to exit the air outlet 116. Cool ambient air enters the solar shield 34 through the air inlet 114, rises, and travels through the air flow space 111 between the hot electronics enclosure 32 and the solar side walls 104, and escapes through the air outlet 116. The air flow space 111 between the solar shield 34 and the electronics enclosure 32 allows for free movement and circulation of the convected air.

[0030] In one embodiment, as shown in Figures 1-3 and 5, the solar side walls 104 may be disposed above the top surface 30 of the housing 28 so that the air inlet

114 is disposed between the lower edges 112 and the top surface 30. In another embodiment, as shown in Figure 6, the solar sides 110 extend past the housing side edges 68 and the solar ends 108 extend past the housing end edges 70 so that the solar top wall 102 fully covers the top surface 30 of the housing 28.

[0031] The light emitting assembly 20 includes a spacer 36 extending downwardly from the solar shield 34 for supporting the solar shield 34 over the electronics enclosure 32 and the top surface 30 of the housing 28. The spacer 36 extends continuously from the solar top wall 102 to the top surface 30 of the housing. The spacer 36 may include a plurality of posts, as shown in Figure 4. Alternatively, the spacer 36 may include a single planar surface, or another structure. The spacer 36 may be separate from or integral with the solar shield 34. The spacer 36 also presents an opening allowing the mounting arm 106 to extend therethrough.

[0032] Obviously, many modifications and variations of the present invention are possible in light of the above teachings and may be practiced otherwise than as specifically described while within the scope of the appended claims. That which is prior art in the claims precedes the novelty set forth in the "characterized by" clause. The novelty is meant to be particularly and distinctly recited in the "characterized by" clause whereas the antecedent recitations merely set forth the old and well-known combination in which the invention resides. These antecedent recitations should be interpreted to cover 66 any combination in which the inventive novelty exercises its utility. The use of the word "said" in the apparatus claims refers to an antecedent that is a positive recitation meant to be included in the coverage of the claims whereas the word "the" precedes a word not meant to be included in the coverage of the claims. In addition, the reference numerals in the claims are merely for convenience and are not to be read in any way as limiting.

73695-48

CLAIMS:

1. A light emitting assembly comprising:
 - a heat sink presenting a mounting surface,
 - a plurality of light emitting diodes disposed on said mounting surface,
 - 5 a housing disposed over said heat sink and presenting a top surface facing outwardly,
 - an electronics enclosure disposed on said top surface of said housing,
 - a solar shield having a solar top wall extending between solar ends and solar sides and over and spaced from said electronics enclosure to create an air flow space
 - 10 therebetween,
 - said solar shield including a solar side wall depending from each of said solar sides to lower edges, and
 - characterized by,
 - said solar shield defining an air inlet disposed adjacent said lower edge of each
 - 15 of said solar side walls and an air outlet disposed above said air inlet at least one of said solar ends thereof for creating a chimney effect to move ambient air into said air inlet and through said air flow space to exit said air outlet.
2. A light emitting assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said solar side walls extend continuously and closed between said solar ends and from said solar sides of said solar
 - 20 top wall to said lower edges to prevent air flow through said solar side walls, and
 - said lower edges of said solar side walls are spaced from said electronics enclosure and said top surface of said housing to define said air inlets.

73695-48

3. A light emitting assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said solar top wall terminates at said solar ends thereof to present one totally open air outlet at each open solar end between said solar side walls of said solar shield.

4. A light emitting assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said top surface of
5 said housing presents housing side edges extending between opposite housing end edges, and
said lower edges of said solar side walls are spaced over and above said top surface of said housing and inwardly of said housing side edges.

5. A light emitting assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said top surface of said housing presents housing side edges extending between opposite housing end edges, and
10 said lower edges of said solar side walls are spaced outwardly of said housing side edges.

6. A light emitting assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said top surface of said housing presents housing side edges extending between opposite housing end edges, and
said housing includes housing side walls extending downwardly from said
15 housing side edges and housing end walls extending downwardly from said housing side edges to frame said heat sink.

7. A light emitting assembly as set forth in claim 1 including at least one spacer extending downwardly from said solar shield for supporting said solar shield over and spaced from said electronics enclosure.

20 8. A light emitting assembly comprising:
a heat sink presenting a mounting surface,
a plurality of light emitting diodes disposed on said mounting surface,
a housing disposed over and coupled to said heat sink and presenting a top surface facing outwardly,

73695-48

an electronics enclosure disposed on said top surface of said housing,

a solar shield having a continuous and closed solar top wall extending between solar ends and solar sides and over and spaced from said electronics enclosure to create an air flow space therebetween,

5 said solar shield including a solar side wall depending from each of said solar sides to lower edges,

 said solar shield including a solar side wall depending from each of said solar sides to lower edges,

 said solar shield defining an air inlet disposed adjacent said lower edge of each
10 of said solar side walls and an air outlet disposed above said air inlet at least one of said solar ends thereof for creating a chimney effect to move ambient air into said air inlet and through said air flow space to exit said air outlet,

 said solar side walls extending continuously and closed between said solar ends and from said solar sides of said solar top wall to said lower edges to prevent air flow through
15 said solar side walls,

 said lower edges of said solar side walls being spaced from said electronics enclosure and said top surface of said housing to define said air inlets, and

 at least one spacer extending downwardly from said solar shield for supporting said solar shield over said electronics enclosure.

20 9. A light emitting assembly comprising:

 a heat sink of electrically insulating and thermally conductive aluminum material presenting said mounting surface,

 said heat sink including a plurality of elongated sections independent of one another,

73695-48

said plurality of elongated sections including pairs of said elongated sections being mirror images of one another in cross section and presenting fin walls spaced and parallel to one another to define a fin space therebetween with each fin wall having an upper side edge and a lower side edge,

5 each of said elongated sections presenting an LED wall spaced from said fin wall and including a heat transfer web connecting said LED wall to said fin wall for transferring heat from said LED wall to said fin wall,

each of said LED walls presenting a mounting surface facing outwardly and a heat transfer surface facing inwardly toward said fin wall,

10 each of said elongated sections including an upper truss member connecting said fin wall below said upper side edge to said LED wall to space said upper side edge of said fin wall further from said LED wall than said lower side edge of said fin wall,

each of said elongated sections including an attachment block extending along said upper truss member and defining an attachment slot extending into and continuously

15 along said attachment block for mounting said heat sink,

a plurality of fins disposed in spaced and parallel relationship to one another and extending in width across said fin space between said fin walls of each of said pairs of said elongated sections,

20 each of said fins including a plurality of bends extending between said fin walls of said elongated section,

a plurality of straps extending across said fin space between each pair of elongated sections to clamp said fins between said elongated sections,

a plurality of light emitting diodes disposed on said mounting surface of each of said elongated sections,

25 said light emitting diodes being spaced and parallel to one another,

73695-48

an elongated cover disposed on said mounting surface of each of said elongated sections and covering said light emitting diodes,

a housing disposed over and coupled to said heat sink and presenting a top surface facing outwardly,

5 said top surface of said housing presenting housing side edges extending between opposite housing end edges,

 said housing including housing side walls extending downwardly from said housing side edges and housing end walls extending downwardly from said housing side edges frame said heat sink,

10 said top surface of said housing defining a plurality of perforations for allowing ambient air to flow therethrough,

 a plurality of attachments disposed in said attachment slots of said heat sink and extending transversely from said heat sink into said top surface of said housing for coupling said heat sink and said housing,

15 a plurality of electrical components disposed on said top surface of said housing,

 said electrical components including a power supply for supplying power to said light emitting diodes,

 said electrical components including an electrical connection block electrically
20 coupling said power supply and said light emitting diodes,

 said electrical components including a light control for controlling the power supplied to said light emitting diodes,

73695-48

said electrical components including a radio transceiver for transmitting and receiving radio signals including data from a remote controller and sending the data to said light control,

5 said electrical components including a radio antenna disposed atop said radio transceiver for transmitting and receiving radio signals to and from the remote controller,

said radio antenna being electrically coupled to said radio transceiver for conveying the radio signals to said radio transceiver,

an electronics enclosure disposed on said top surface of said housing for covering said electrical components,

10 said electronics enclosure including enclosure end walls extending upwardly from said top surface of said housing

said electronics enclosure including enclosure side walls extending upwardly from said top surface between said enclosure end walls to frame said electrical components,

15 said electronics enclosure including an enclosure top wall extending parallel to said top surface and continuously between said enclosure side walls and said enclosure end walls and over said electrical components to define an enclosed space around said electrical components,

said enclosure top wall defining an antenna opening for allowing said radio antenna to pass therethrough and upwardly from said enclosure top wall,

20 said electronics enclosure being formed of a die cast aluminum material,

a seal disposed between each of said enclosure walls for sealing said electronics enclosure around said electrical components,

a mounting arm coupled to said top surface of said housing and extending transversely away from said electronics enclosure,

73695-48

at least one mounting arm clamp coupling said mounting arm and said top surface,

a solar shield having a continuous and closed solar top wall extending between solar ends and solar sides and over and spaced from said electronics enclosure to create an air
5 flow space therebetween,

said solar shield defining an antenna opening for allowing said radio antenna to pass therethrough and upwardly from said solar top wall,

said solar ends being generally parallel to said enclosure end walls,

said solar sides being generally parallel to said enclosure side walls,

10 said solar shield including a solar side wall depending from each of said solar sides to lower edges,

said solar side walls being canted at an angle relative to said solar top wall and away from said electronics enclosure,

said solar shield defining an air inlet disposed adjacent said lower edge of each
15 of said solar side walls and an air outlet disposed above said air inlet at least one of said solar ends thereof for creating a chimney effect to move ambient air into said air inlet and through said air flow space to exit said air outlet,

said solar top wall terminating at one of said solar ends thereof to present one totally open air outlet at said open solar end between said solar side walls of said solar shield,

20 said solar side walls extending continuously and closed between said solar ends and from said solar sides of said solar top wall to said lower edges to prevent air flow through said solar side walls,

said lower edges of said solar side walls being spaced from said electronics enclosure and said top surface of said housing to define said air inlets,

73695-48

said solar shield being formed of a light reflective sheet metal material,

a spacer extending downwardly from said solar shield for supporting said solar shield over said electronics enclosure and said top surface of said housing,

said spacer extending continuously from said solar top wall to said top surface,

5 and

said spacer presenting a first opening allowing said mounting arm to extend therethrough.

10. A light emitting assembly as set forth in claim 9 wherein said lower edges of said solar side walls are disposed above said top surface of said housing so that said air inlet is
10 disposed between said lower edges and said top surface of said housing.

11. A light emitting assembly as set forth in claim 9 wherein said solar sides extend past said housing side edges and said solar ends extend past said housing end edges so that said solar top wall fully covers said top surface of said housing.

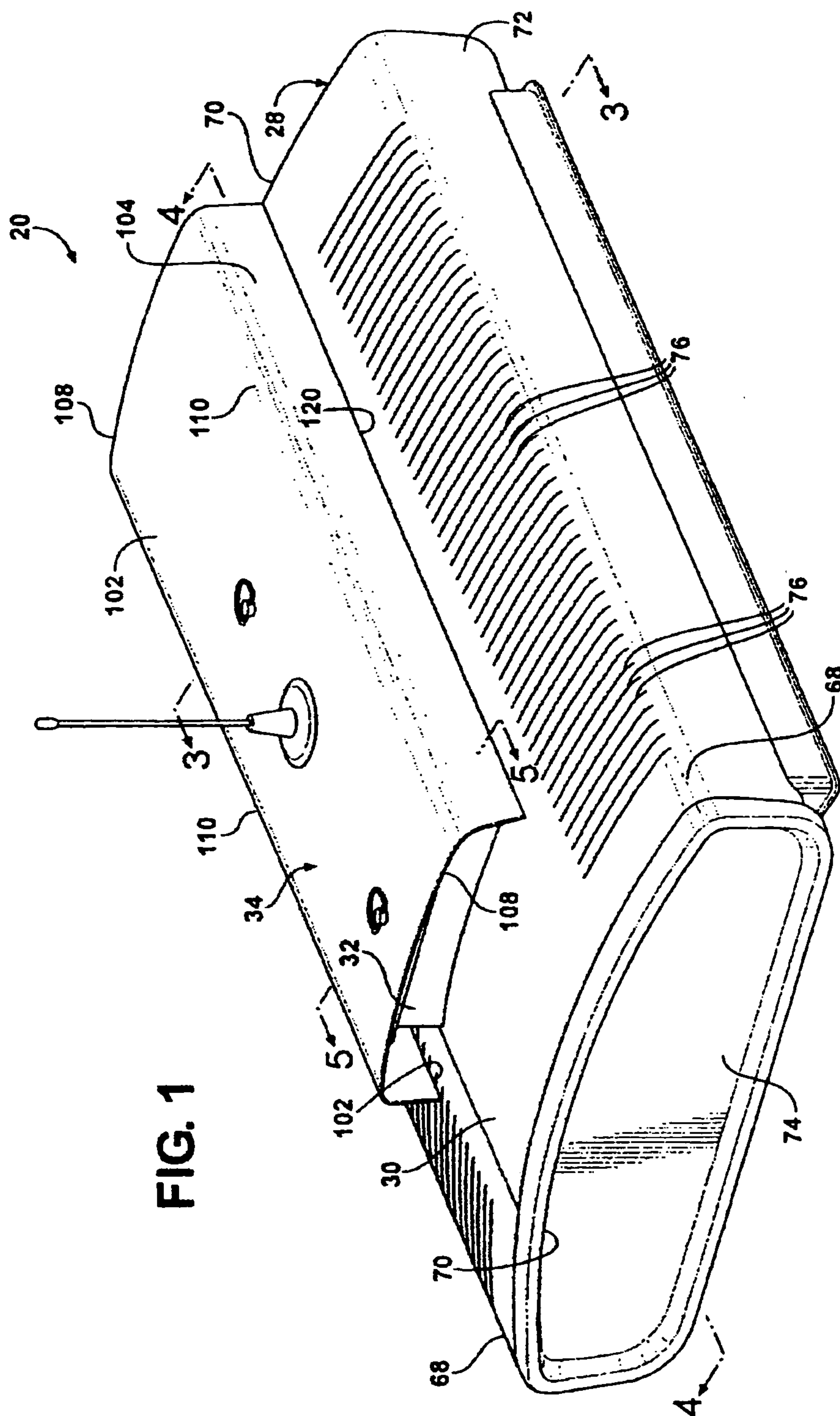


Fig. 1

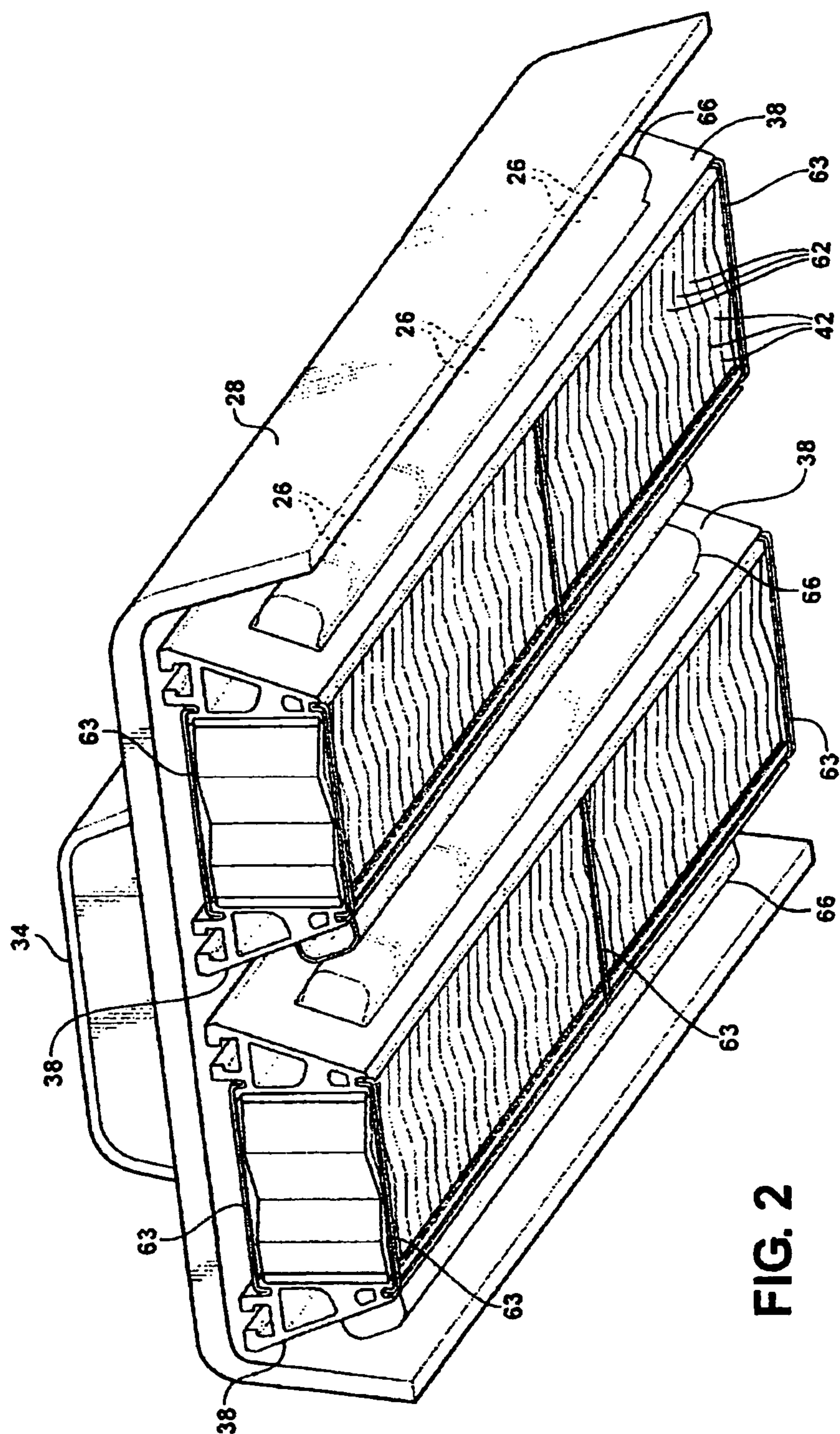


FIG. 2

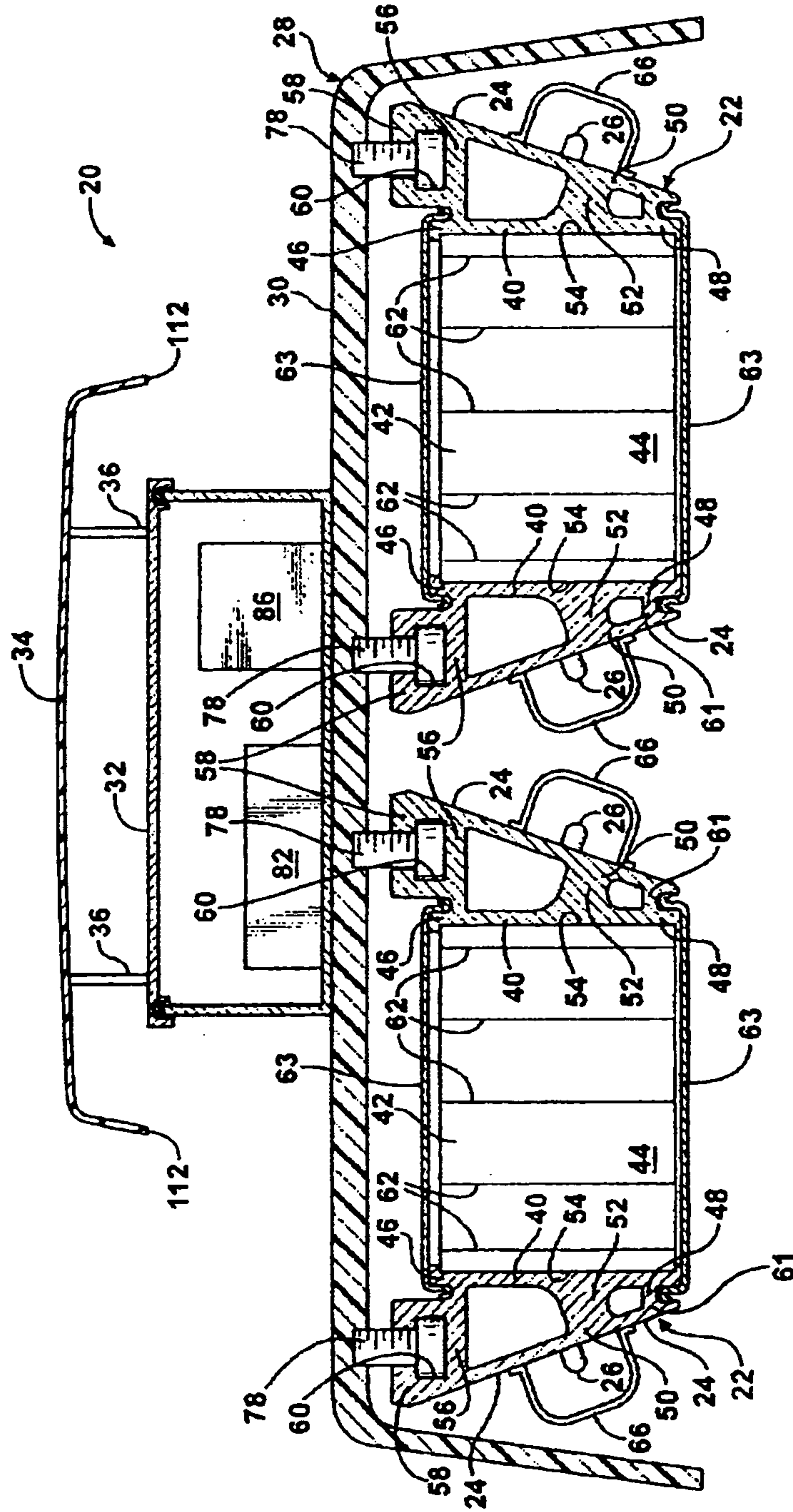
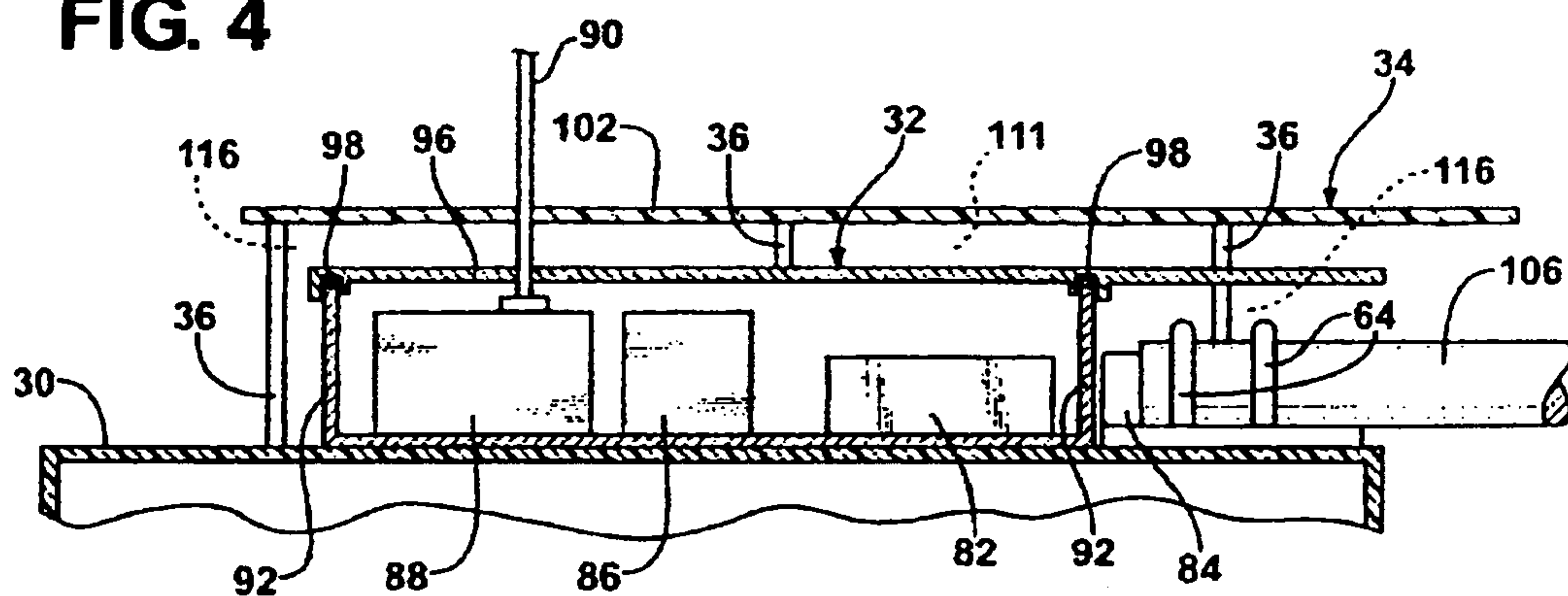
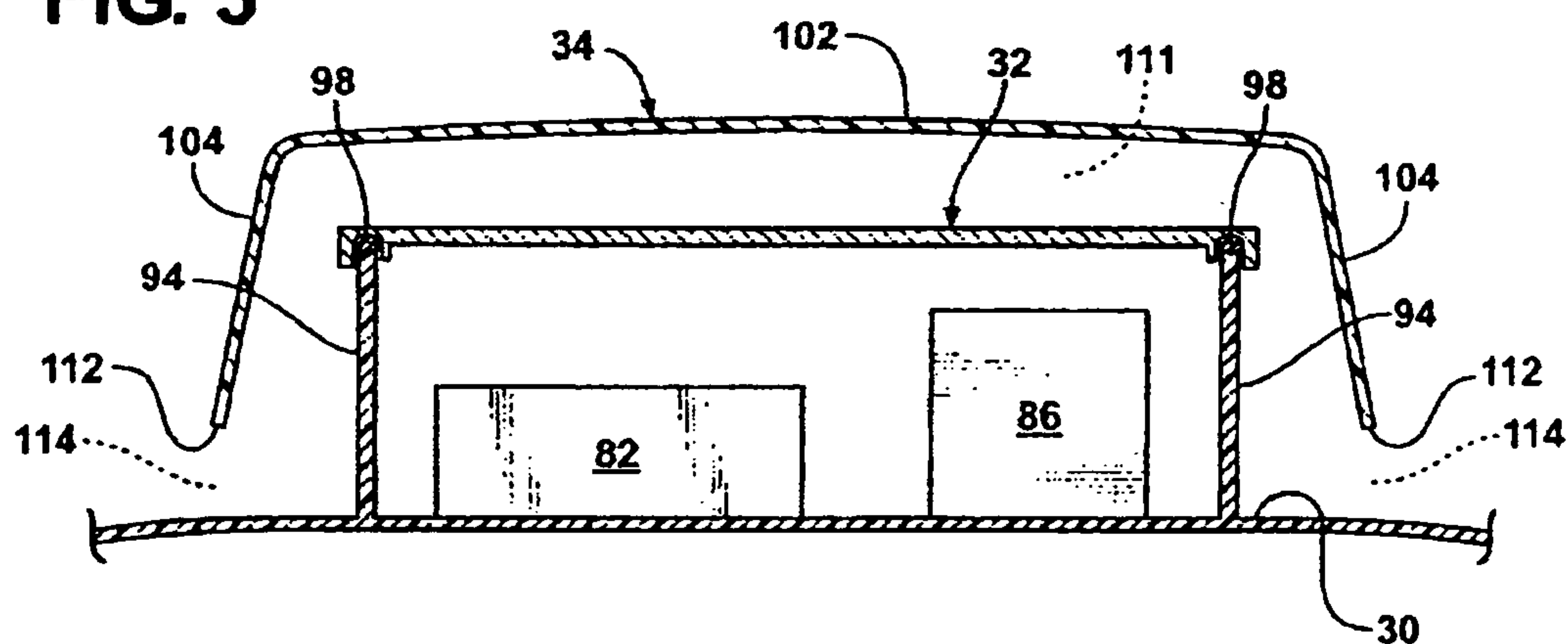


FIG. 3

FIG. 4**FIG. 5****FIG. 6**