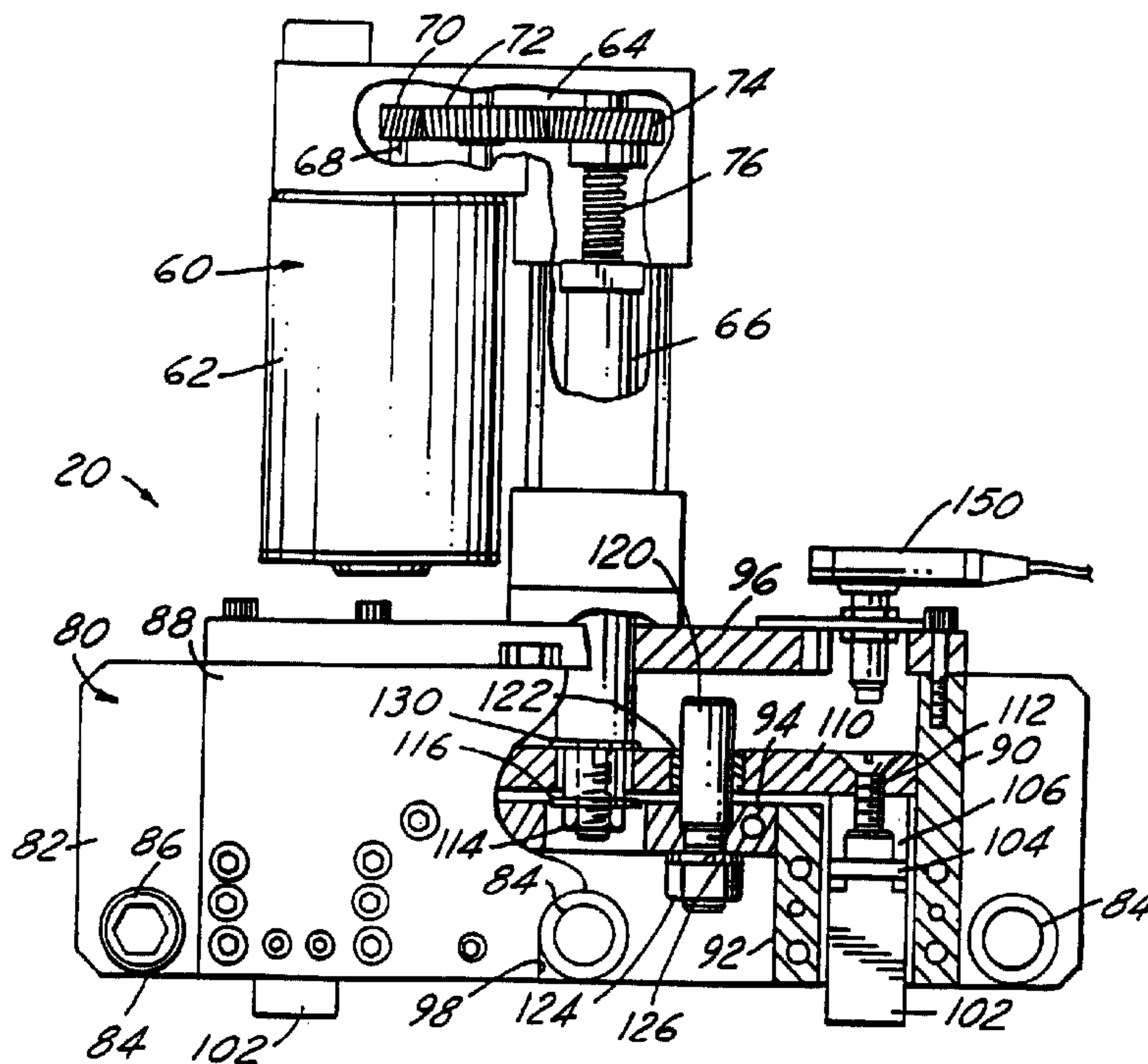




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 (71) Demandeur/Applicant:  
INCOE CORPORATION, US  
 (72) Inventeurs/Inventors:  
BOTT, JAMES A., US;  
TARR, JOHN W., US  
 (74) Agent: MACRAE & CO.

(54) Titre : MECANISME ELECTRONIQUE DE SERRAGE DU MOULE  
 (54) Title: ELECTRIC MOLD CLAMPING MECHANISM



(57) **Abrégé/Abstract:**

An electric mold clamping apparatus (20) and system are disclosed. A clamping mechanism (80) containing a pair of clamping members (40) is activated by an electric motor (62). The electric motor (62) operates a threaded piston (76) with acme threads which in turn operate a drive plate (110) to extend and retract the clamping members (40). The clamping members (40) are used to hold a mold plate in an injection molding machine (22). The clamping members (40) are pivotally attached to a drive plate mechanism and have a surface which mates with a wedge cam (140) to force the clamping member (40) against the mold plate. The stroke of the clamping mechanism (80) is regulated by an amperage draw on the electric motor (162). A limit switch (162) is used to terminate the end of the retracting stroke. An indicator light (194) is used to indicate the clamping position of the device (20).

**ABSTRACT**

An electric mold clamping apparatus (20) and system are disclosed. A clamping mechanism (80) containing a pair of clamping members (40) is activated by an electric motor (62). The electric motor (62) operates a threaded piston (76) with acme threads which in turn operate a drive plate (110) to extend and retract the clamping members (40). The clamping members (40) are used to hold a mold plate in an injection molding machine (22). The clamping members (40) are pivotally attached to a drive plate mechanism and have a surface which mates with a wedge cam (140) to force the clamping member (40) against the mold plate. The stroke of the clamping mechanism (80) is regulated by an amperage draw on the electric motor (162). A limit switch (162) is used to terminate the end of the retracting stroke. An indicator light (194) is used to indicate the clamping position of the device (20).

THE EMBODIMENT OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. An electric clamping apparatus for clamping a mold to a platen in an injection molding machine, the apparatus comprising:

5 a housing;

a pair of movable clamping members positioned in said housing; and

a drive mechanism in operable connection with said clamping members for moving said pair of clamping members from a first position within said housing to a second position wherein at least portions thereof extend outside said housing and are used to clamp

10 the mold to the platen, said drive mechanism comprising:

an electric motor in operative association with said housing;

an elongated threaded shaft member driven by said motor;

a drive plate member connected to said pair of clamping members; and

15 connection means connecting said shaft member to said drive plate member, said connection means including a flanged bushing, wherein canting of the drive plate relative to said housing and said clamping members is prevented during movement of said clamping members.

2. The electric clamping apparatus as defined in claim 1 further comprising a pair of guide rod members positioned between said drive plate member and said housing.

20 3. The electric clamping apparatus as defined in claim 2 wherein said guide rod members are mounted in bushings in said drive plate.

4. The electric clamping apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said elongated shaft member has acme threads thereon.

5. The electric clamping apparatus as defined in claim 1 further comprising electric circuit means in operative association with said motor for measuring the amperage drawn on said motor during movement of said clamping members.

5 6. The electric clamping apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said clamping members each have wedge surfaces thereon and said housing has mating cam means which operably cooperate with said wedge surfaces to help clamp said clamping members on the mold.

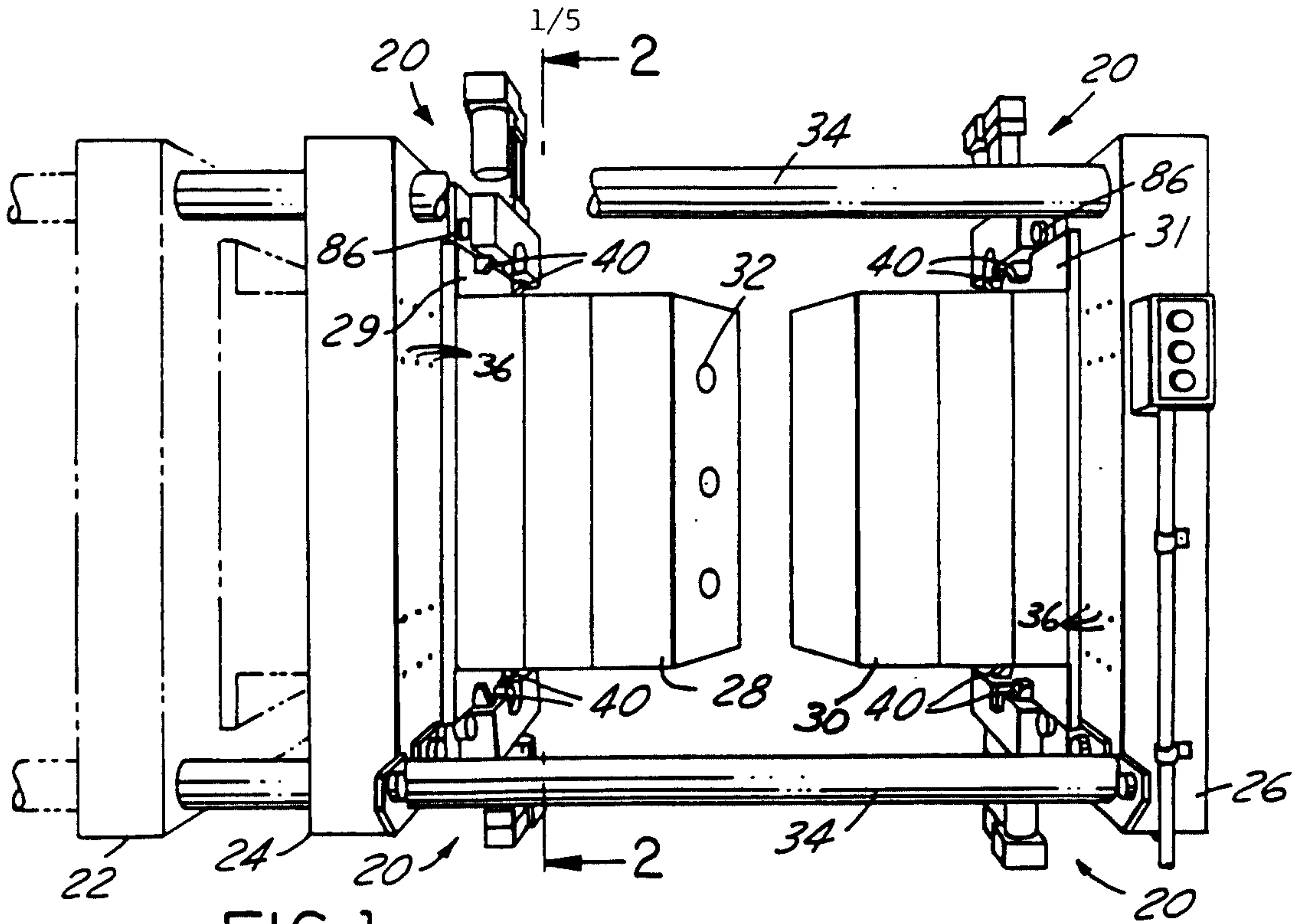


FIG. 1

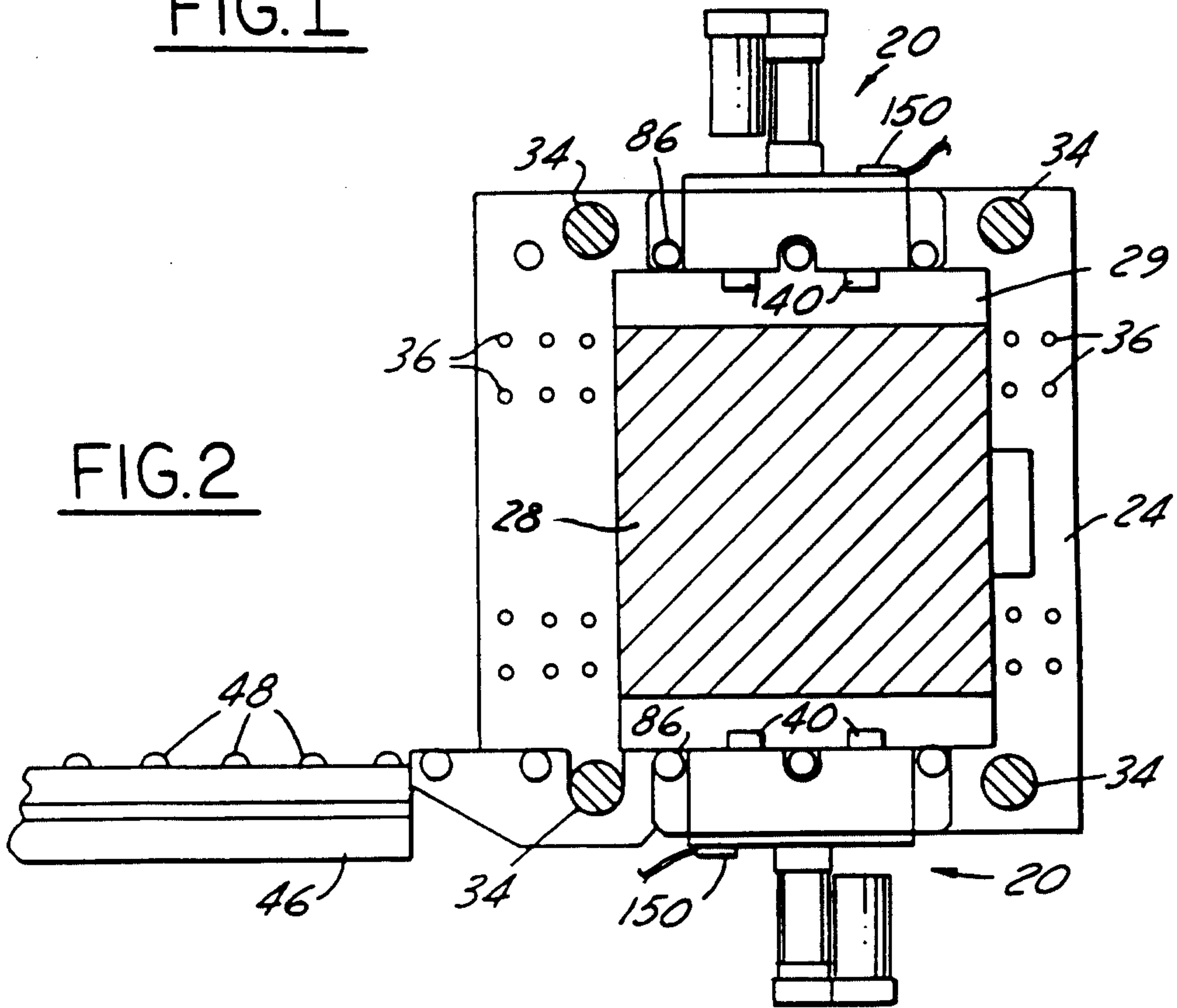
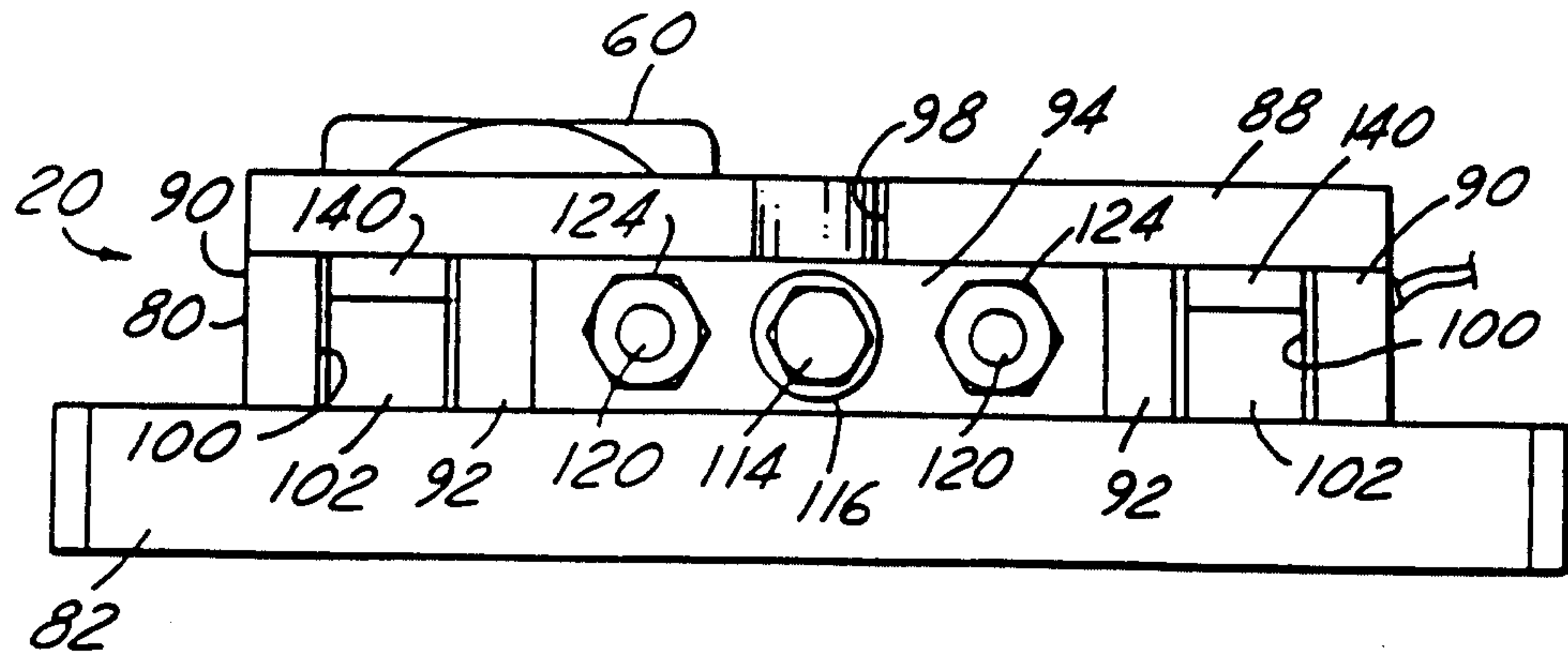
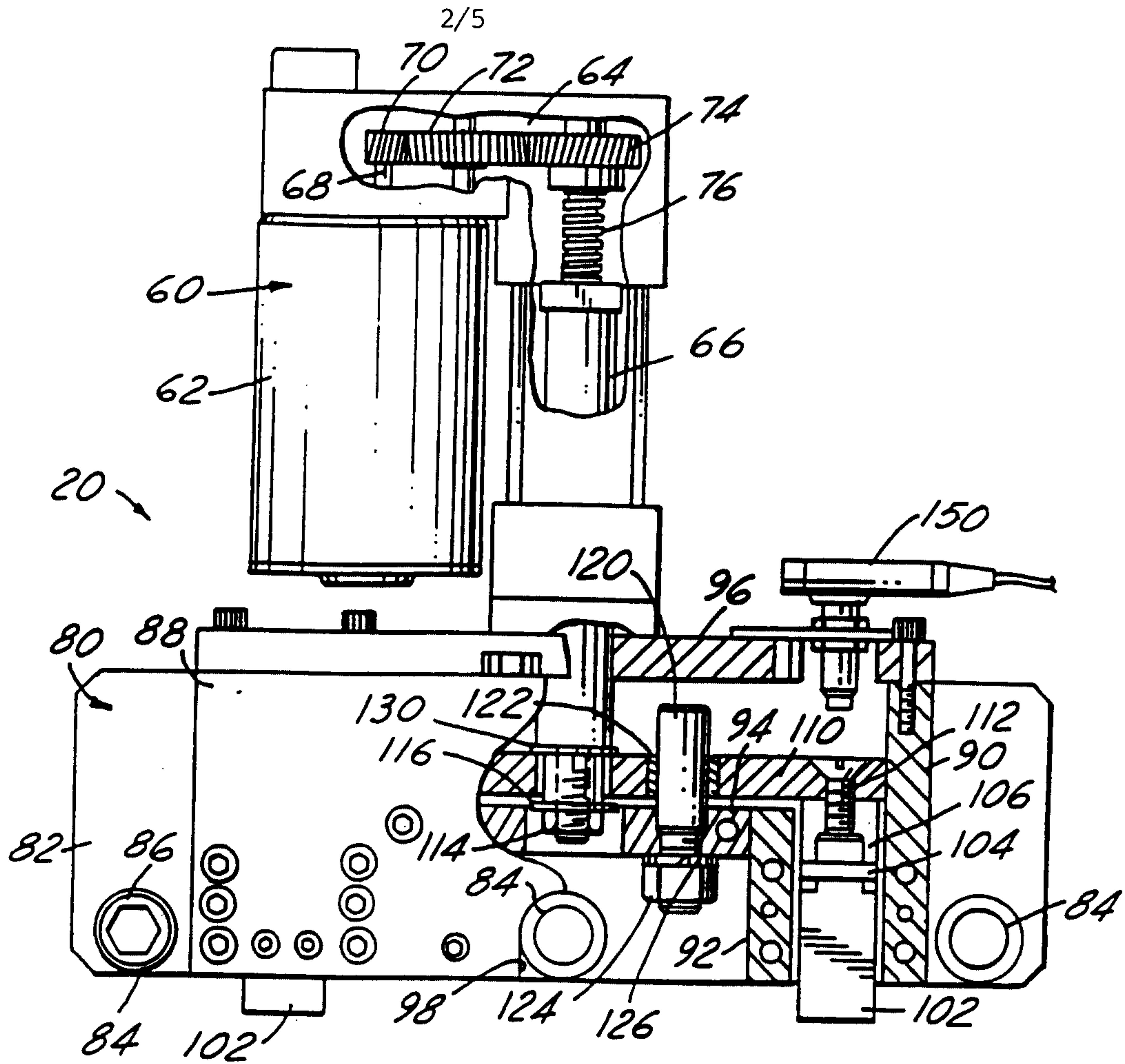


FIG. 2



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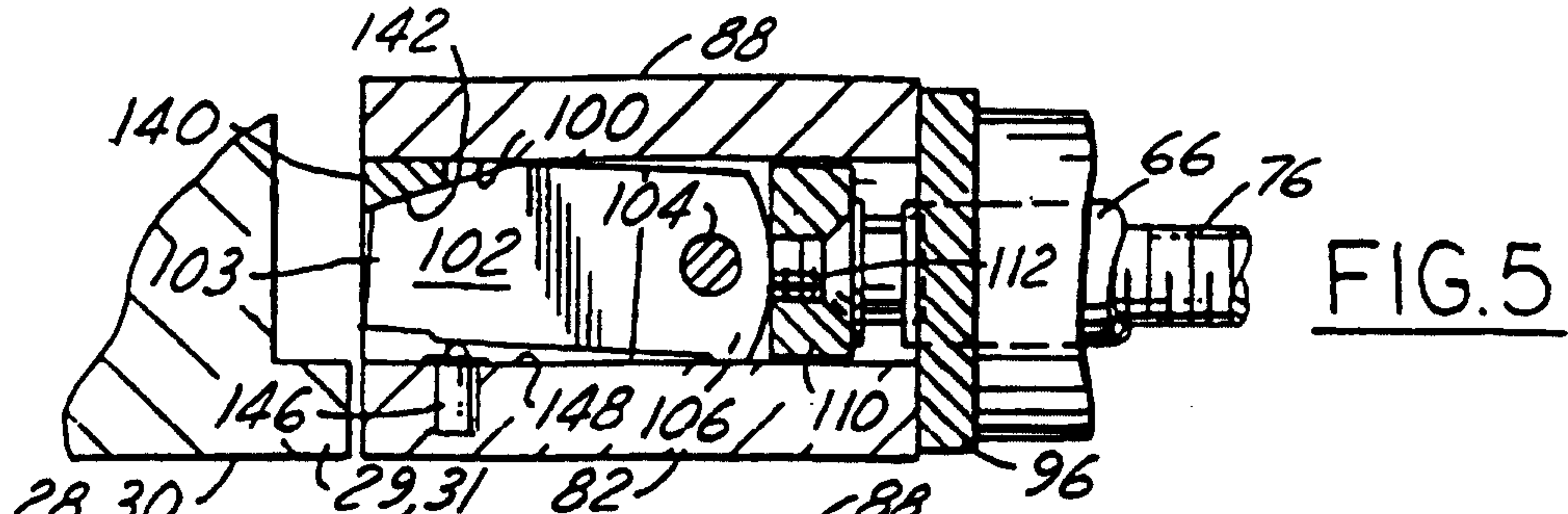


FIG. 5

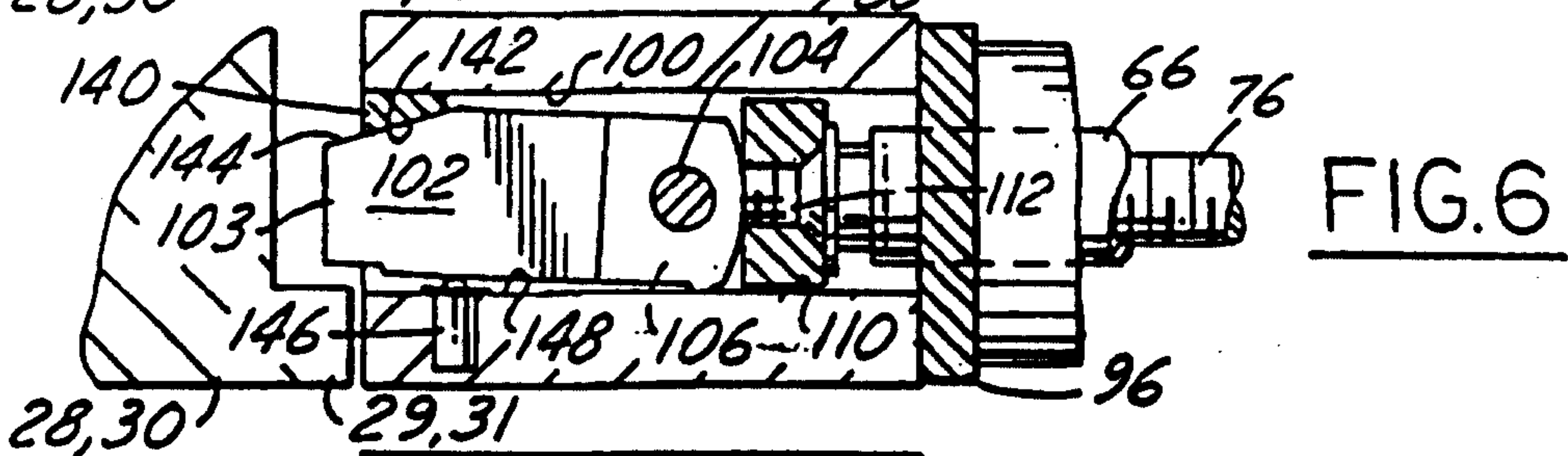


FIG. 6

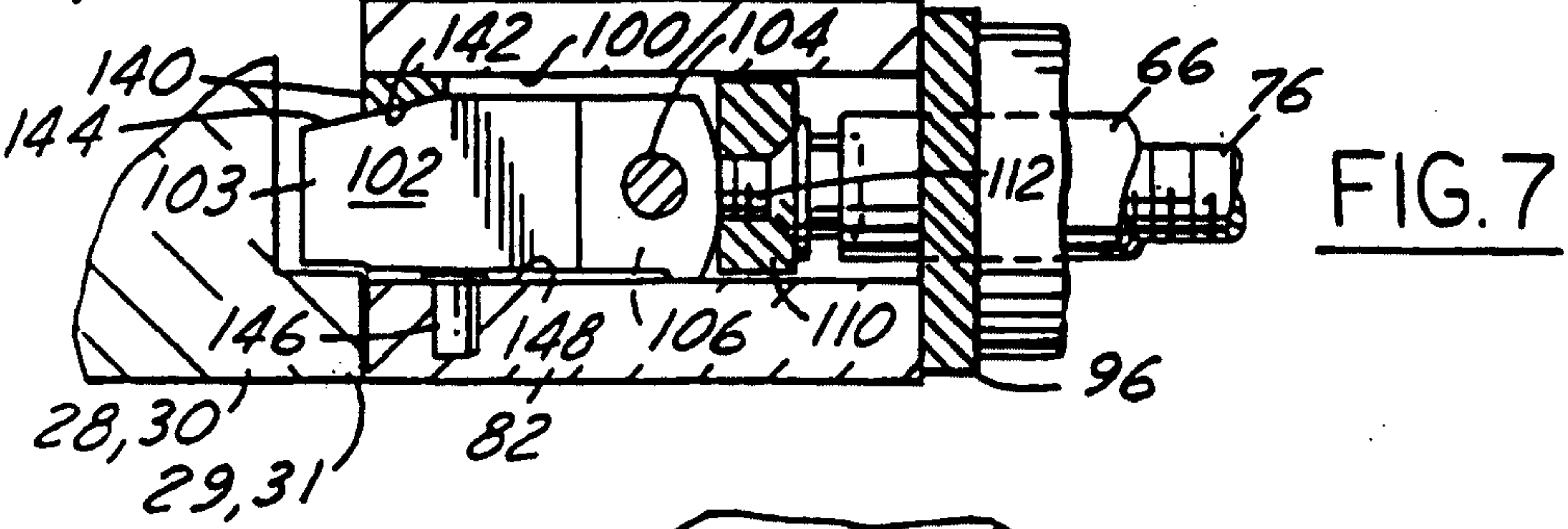


FIG. 7

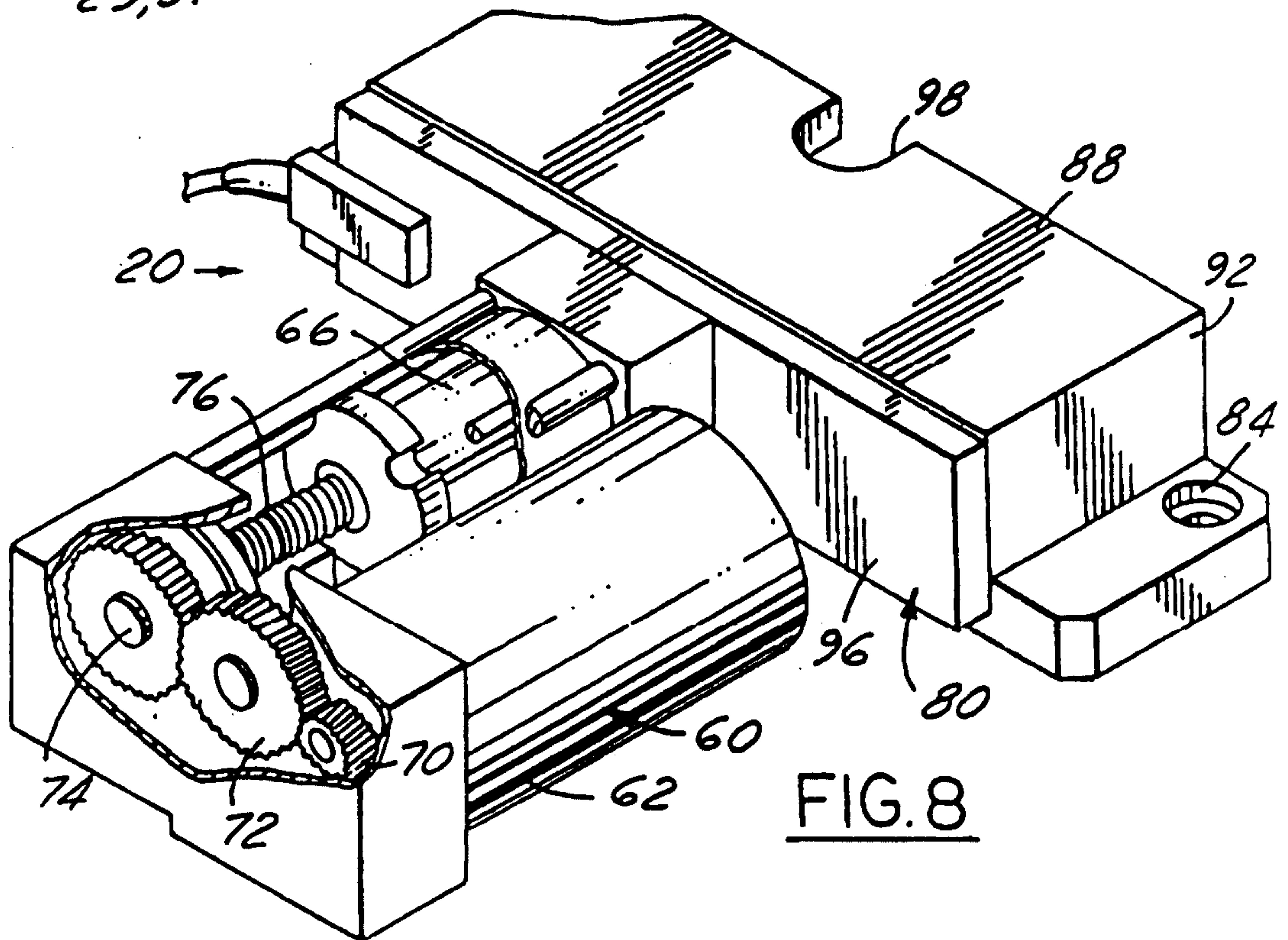


FIG. 8

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