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(54) Title: OPERATOR ALERTING SYSTEM USING A VEHICLE FAULT CONDITION PRIORITIZATION METHOD

Fault Condition	Priority Level	Operator Actions
"A"	1	STOP, PARK, SHUTDOWN, ACTION A
"B"	2	STOP, PARK, SHUTDOWN, ACTION B
"C"	3	STOP, PARK, SHUTDOWN
"D"	4	STOP, PARK, ACTION C
"E"	5	STOP, PARK, ACTION D
"F"	6	STOP, PARK
"G"	7	STOP, ACTION E
"H"	8	STOP, ACTION F
"I"	9	ACTION G
"J"	10	ACTION H

(57) Abstract: In a system for alerting an operator of a vehicle to a highest priority fault condition, the operating conditions of the vehicle are obtained and compared to predetermined values in order to identify the fault conditions of the vehicle. Each of the fault conditions of the vehicle has a corresponding operator action associated therewith which identifies the actions that must be performed by the operator in order to manage the fault condition. By prioritizing the fault conditions on the basis of the operator actions that are necessary to manage the faults, the system is able to output to the operator only the operator action associated with the highest priority fault condition, without any compromise in safety or additional risk of damage to the vehicle, while providing the ability for the operator of the vehicle to manage all of the active fault conditions by performing only the operator action associated with the highest priority fault condition.

WO 2008/036327 A3

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: B60Q 1/00( 2006 01)

USPC: 340/438,425.5,426. 1,428,506,426. 13,426. 15,426. 18,69 1.3

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. : 340/438,425.5,426.1,428,506,426.13,426 15,426 18,691.3

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 <sup>a</sup>	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6,397,133 B1 (VAN DER POL et al) 28 May 2002, all	1-17
A	US 4,280,457 A (BLOXHAM) 28 July 1981 (28.07.1981), all	1-17
A	US 5,941,918 A (BLOSSER) 24 August 1999 (24.08.1999), all	1-17

**D** Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family 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 cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance, the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"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 documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"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	

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