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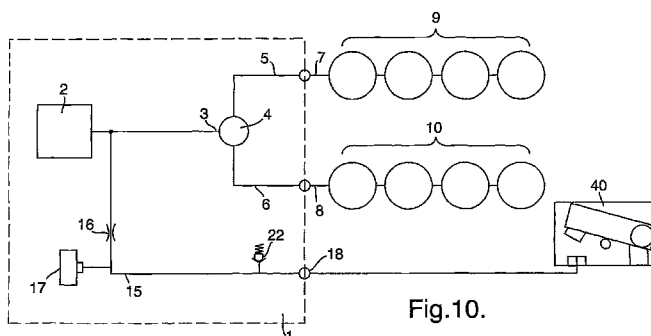


Fig.10.

(57) Abstract: An alternating pressure pad (1) comprises inflatable cells (9,10) supplied with air by supply lines (7, 8) from a compressor (2) via supply line (3). A pressure controller controls the output of the compressor. Also connected to supply line (3) is an angle detection valve (40) restricting flow of air to atmosphere with increase in its angular position and a pressure transducer (17). Any increase in pressure due to an increase in angle of the detection valve (19) results in back pressure in the detection line. The pressure controller (2) uses the pressure transducer (17) to detect this change in pressure and then acts to adjust compressor output to the cells (9, 10) accordingly. The angle detection valve (40) is positioned under the head section of the pad to move with the head rest section.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> INV. G05D7/01 ADD.		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b> Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) F16K A61G G05D		
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		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 564 520 A (FORSYTHE ALAN K [US]) 15 October 1996 (1996-10-15)	1-5
A	column 3, line 24 - column 5, line 63; figures 2,4	6
A	----- WO 01/70167 A2 (HILL ROM SERVICES INC [US]) 27 September 2001 (2001-09-27) page 27, lines 11-27; figures 1,2,6-8,10,30	7-9
A	----- WO 2006/023479 A2 (KRAMER KENNETH L [US]; DAHNEKE MARSHALL S [US]; BIONDO JOHN P [US]; WI) 2 March 2006 (2006-03-02) the whole document -----	7-9
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.</span>		
* Special categories of cited documents :		
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Information on patent family members

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