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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V. [NL/NL];  
Groenewoudseweg 1, NL-5621 BA Eindhoven (NL).

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**Declaration under Rule 4.17:**

— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): WAUMANS, Lars, R., C. [NL/NL]; c/o Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).
- (74) Agents: ROLFES, Johannes, G., A. et al.; Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).

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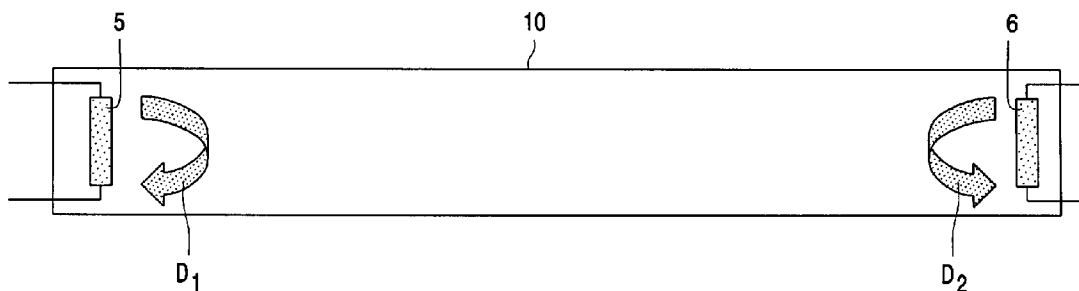
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: LOW-PRESSURE MERCURY VAPOR DISCHARGE LAMP



(57) Abstract: A low-pressure mercury vapor discharge lamp is operable in a first mode of operation ("normal mode") and a second mode of operation ("emergency operation"). The discharge lamp comprises a discharge vessel (10) enclosing a discharge space (13) provided with a filling of mercury and an inert gas. The discharge vessel comprises electrodes (5;6) for maintaining a discharge in the discharge space while the discharge lamp operates in the first mode of operation. According to the invention, at least one of the electrodes is operated on a DC or AC power supply for drawing a discharge current (D<sub>1</sub>;D<sub>2</sub>) over the electrode while the discharge lamp operates in the second mode of operation. Preferably, both electrodes operate on a DC or AC power supply, preferably a battery, while the discharge lamp operates in the second mode of operation. The low-pressure mercury vapor discharge lamps operated according to the invention have a relatively long life.

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<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> INV. H01J61/72 H01J61/92		
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) H01J		
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, WPI Data, PAJ		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4 751 398 A (ERTZ III ALEXANDER L [US]) 14 June 1988 (1988-06-14) column 1 - column 4 column 12, line 26 - line 44 -----	1-8
A	US 5 914 560 A (WINSOR MARK D [US]) 22 June 1999 (1999-06-22) column 1 - column 2 -----	1-8
A	US 5 955 843 A (NUCKOLLS JOSEPH A [US] ET AL) 21 September 1999 (1999-09-21) column 1 column 3, line 47 - column 4, line 58 -----	1-8
A	US 2002/047627 A1 (PICKERING CHARLES L [US]) 25 April 2002 (2002-04-25) paragraph [0003] paragraph [0008] -----	1,6,8
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.		
° Special categories of cited documents :		
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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		
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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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US 5914560	A	22-06-1999	NONE
US 5955843	A	21-09-1999	NONE
US 2002047627	A1	25-04-2002	NONE