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1,570,980

K. WIEGAND
ILLUMINATED SIGN
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Fig. 2

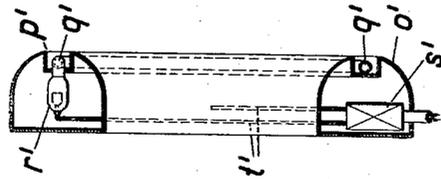
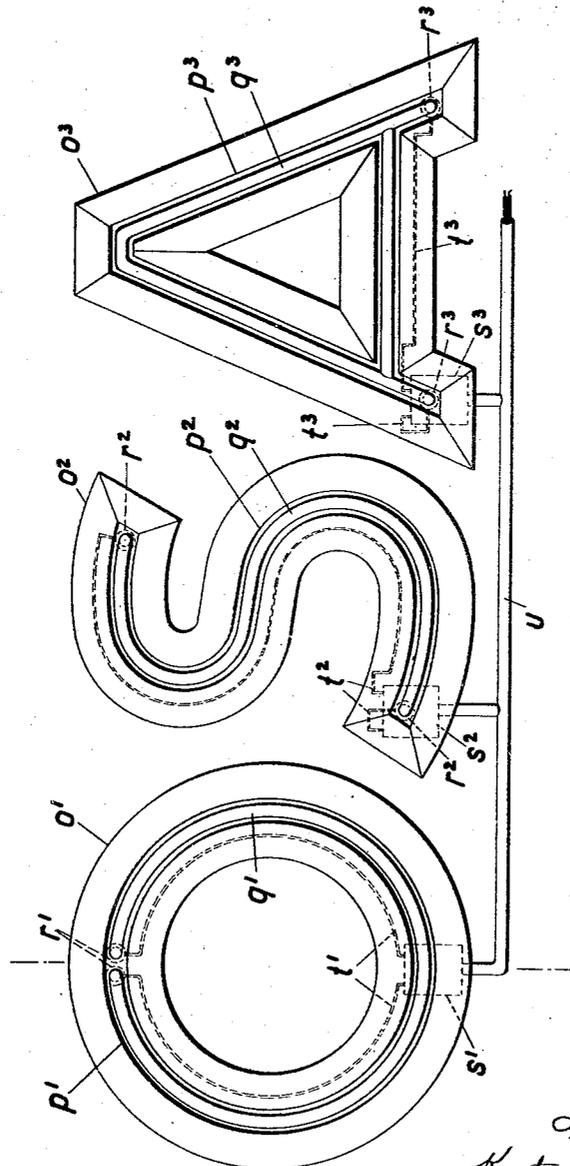


Fig. 1



Inventor,
Kurt Wiegand,
By *[Signature]* atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

KURT WIEGAND, OF BERLIN, GERMANY.

ILLUMINATED SIGN.

Application filed June 2, 1925. Serial No. 34,354.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, KURT WIEGAND, a citizen of Germany, residing at Berlin, Germany, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Illuminated Signs; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to illuminated signs and more particularly to illuminated signs formed by a plurality of gas discharge tubes for high tension current.

In accordance with the invention, in the improved sign the different discharge tubes employed, shaped to the form of the characters or signs, are separately arranged on the front side of boxes shaped like the characters or signs, (each separate box being fitted with the necessary transformation devices and electrodes of the separate tubes) and not, as is usual in such signs, all on the front of a flat advertising plate or a single box-like plate.

By such formation of the illuminated sign from separate boxes with characters or signs adapted to be juxtaposed there is obtained in addition to convenience in transport and ease in erection or fitting up the sign, the advantage that the sign is easily seen even in the day time, due to the drastic effect of the separate securing boxes. The new form of illuminated sign offers, moreover, the advantage of erection without danger, as all the current conducting parts of the tubes and their current transformation devices are enclosed within the separate signlike boxes.

One embodiment of an illuminated sign in accordance with the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in Fig. 1 in elevation and in Fig. 2 in vertical section.

The sign illustrated consists of three closed boxes o^1, o^2, o^3 , in the shape of characters, on the front side of which discharge tubes q^1, q^2, q^3 , each bent in the form of the character in question, are embedded in re-

cesses or grooves p^1, p^2, p^3 , in such manner that the electrodes r^1, r^2, r^3 , thereof extend into the inside of the box. Within the boxes o^1, o^2, o^3 , are fitted small stray field transformers s^1, s^2, s^3 , which are connected by conductors t^1, t^2, t^3 , with the electrodes and bring the current led from a common conductor u to the high voltage necessary for operation of each tube. If, instead of stray field transformers, there are used the ordinary transformers, with primary and secondary coils disposed one around the other, there must be interposed in the usual manner in front of each primary coil a choking coil or an ohmic resistance or a condenser which must then be mounted within the boxes o^1, o^2, o^3 .

As will be clear, in the new sign all the parts and conductors carrying high tension current are mounted within the different sign-like boxes. According to the purpose for which they are intended the latter may be of different shape and relative arrangement. The current lead u connected to the supply circuit can in a suitable manner be disposed inconspicuously on the mounting place of the sign.

I claim—

1. An illuminated sign element, comprising a box-like member having the shape of a sign character, a gas discharge tube conforming to said shape and disposed on the front of said member, said discharge tube having portions containing electrodes, said portions passing through the member into the interior thereof and a transformer contained within the member.

2. An illuminated sign element comprising a closed, hollow box-like member having the shape of a sign character, and having a groove on its face corresponding to the outline of the character, a gas discharge tube in said groove exhibiting the outline of the character and having end portions containing the electrodes for said tube, said end portions passing through the box-like member into the interior thereof, and a transformer also contained within the member.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention, I have signed my name.

KURT WIEGAND.