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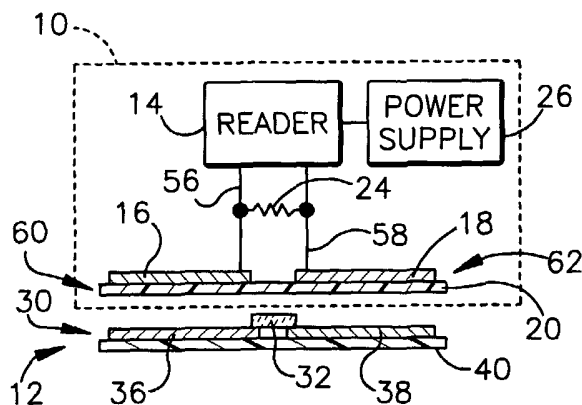
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(54) Title: RFID DEVICE TESTER AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: An RFID device tester (10) includes coupling elements for capacitively coupling a reader (14) to an RFID device (12) to be tested. The reader (14) may power the RFID device by sending an outgoing signal, such as an outgoing AC power signal, which may be rectified and/or reflected by the RFID device, if the RFID device is operating properly. The outgoing signal may have a frequency that is different from the resonant frequency of an antenna of the RFID device. A reader in the RFID device tester detects the reflected and/or transmitted signal to confirm proper operation of the RFID device (14). The RFID device tester (10) may be used as part of a roll-to-roll process (80), to individually test RFID devices on a roll of material (70). By utilizing short-range capacitive coupling, difficulties caused by simultaneous activation of multiple RFID devices may be reduced or

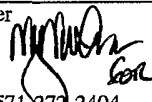
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/04227

<p>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(7) : G08B 21/00, 13/14; G06K 7/10 US CL : 235/492, 487; 340/572.01 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC</p>																						
<p>B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S. : 235/492, 487; 340/572.01</p>																						
<p>Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched</p>																						
<p>Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)</p>																						
<p>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category *</th> <th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th> <th>Relevant to claim No.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>US 6,104,291 A (BEAUVILLIER et al.) 15 August 2000 (15.08.2000), Abstract, Figs. 2 and 3, col. 1, line 54 - col. 8, line 60</td> <td>1-4, 9, 12-14, 16-24, 26, 41, 50, 51, 63-66, 68-72, and 75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>US 5,880,695 A (BROWN et al.) 9 March 1999 (09.03.1999), col. 3, line 57 - col. 4, line 26)</td> <td>5-7, 52-55, 61, 62, 67, 73, and 74</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>US 6,415,978 B1 (MCALLISTER) 9 July 2002 (09.07.2002) Abstract, see entire document</td> <td>1-75</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	X	US 6,104,291 A (BEAUVILLIER et al.) 15 August 2000 (15.08.2000), Abstract, Figs. 2 and 3, col. 1, line 54 - col. 8, line 60	1-4, 9, 12-14, 16-24, 26, 41, 50, 51, 63-66, 68-72, and 75	Y	US 5,880,695 A (BROWN et al.) 9 March 1999 (09.03.1999), col. 3, line 57 - col. 4, line 26)	5-7, 52-55, 61, 62, 67, 73, and 74	A	US 6,415,978 B1 (MCALLISTER) 9 July 2002 (09.07.2002) Abstract, see entire document	1-75								
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<p>Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230</p>		<p>Authorized officer Steven S. Paik  Telephone No. 571-272-2404</p>																				