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(54) Title: A PORTABLE APPARATUS THAT DELIVERS POWER AND INFORMATION TO IMPLANTABLE DEVICES

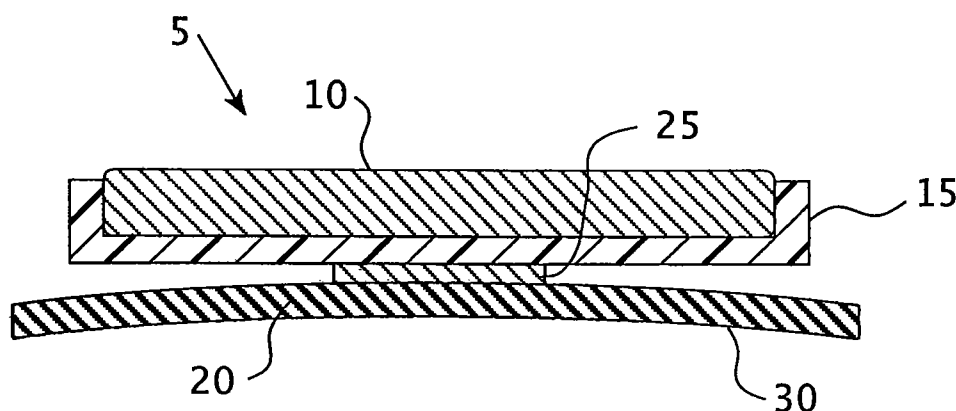


FIG. 1A

(57) Abstract: An apparatus for powering an implant includes first energy interface elements, a removeably attachable holding device and a first energy source, such as a battery. An energy conversion circuit converts first energy into second energy which is transmitted within the body of the patient to the implant. Also, an apparatus for providing information to an implant that includes first energy interface elements and a housing that includes a processor operatively coupled to the first energy interface elements and an energy source operatively coupled to the processor. The processor is structured to generate an information signal and cause the signal to be transmitted within the body of the patient for delivery to the implant. Associated methods are also provided.

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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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)

MicroPatent, IP.com, DialogPro

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,553,263 B1 (MEADOWS et al) 22 April 2003 (22.04.2003) entire document	1-20, 22, 25-28, 41-64, 66, 69-70, 83-92, 94, 96-106, 108, and 110-111

Y		21, 23-24, 29-40, 65, 67-68, 71-82, 93, 95, 107, and 109
Y	US 6,955,172 B2 (NELSON et al) 18 October 2005 (18.10.2005) entire document	21, 23-24, 65, 67-68, 93, 95, 107, and 109
Y	US 6,846,588 B2 (SARKAR) 25 January 2005 (25.01.2005) entire document	29-40 and 71-82

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