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(54) Title: COMPACT WELDING WIRE FEEDER

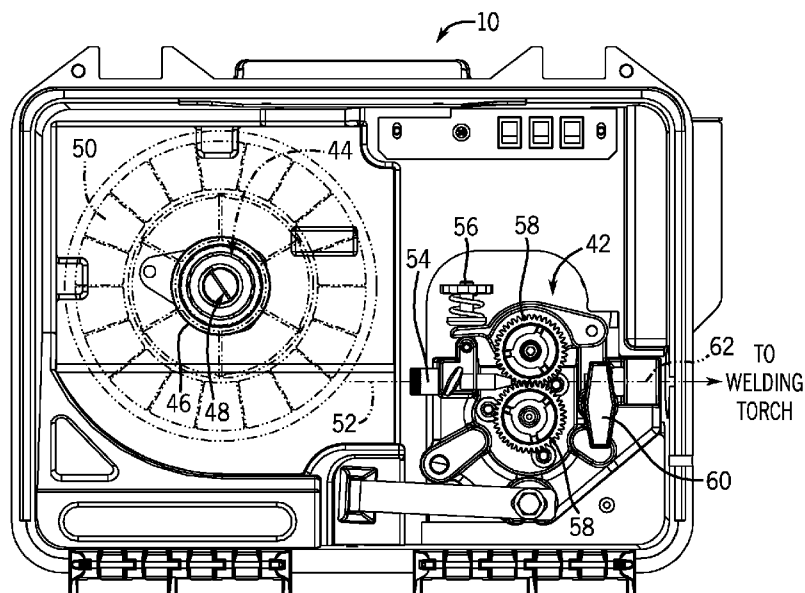


FIG. 2

(57) Abstract: Embodiments of a welding system include a compact wire feeder (10) adapted to feed welding wire having a diameter up to approximately 5/64 inches (2 mm) disposed on a wire spool (50) having an outer diameter of approximately 8 inches (20,3 cm). The compact wire feeder may include a housing (12), a spool mounting hub (44) disposed in the housing and adapted to receive the wire spool, and a wire drive (42) assembly having a motor (66) adapted to apply an output torque to a shaft (70) of a gearbox (68) to drive the welding wire from the welding spool to a welding torch.



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