

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
28 October 2021 (28.10.2021)



(10) International Publication Number
WO 2021/214468 A1

- (51) **International Patent Classification:**
G05B 23/02 (2006.01) *F04B 51/00* (2006.01)
- (21) **International Application Number:**
PCT/GB2021/050970
- (22) **International Filing Date:**
22 April 2021 (22.04.2021)
- (25) **Filing Language:** English
- (26) **Publication Language:** English
- (30) **Priority Data:**
2005930.9 23 April 2020 (23.04.2020) GB
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- (81) **Designated States** (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DJ, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN,

HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, IT, JO, JP, KE, KG, KH, KN, KP, KR, KW, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, WS, ZA, ZM, ZW.

- (84) **Designated States** (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report (Art. 21(3))

(54) **Title:** MONITORING AND CONTROLLING THE MONITORING OF VACUUM SYSTEMS

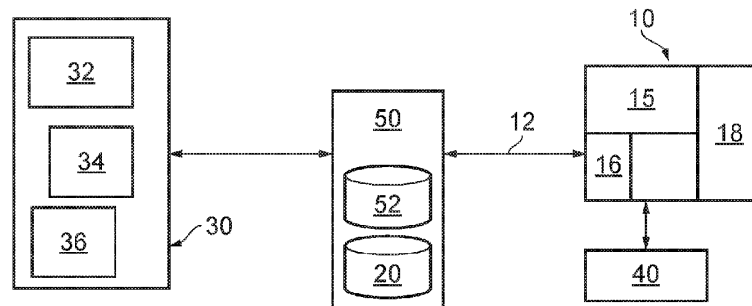


FIG. 4

(57) **Abstract:** A method of controlling monitoring of a vacuum system, the vacuum system, and the monitoring control system are disclosed. The method comprises: selecting at least one of a plurality of processes for monitoring the vacuum system from a data store storing the plurality of processes. Executing the at least one selected process wherein one of the at least one selected processes comprises a process for monitoring a parameter of the vacuum system and for responding to changes in the parameter to trigger at least one of: execution of a further one of the plurality of processes; output of an alarm or notification signal; and output of a control signal for controlling operation of at least one component of the vacuum system.

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