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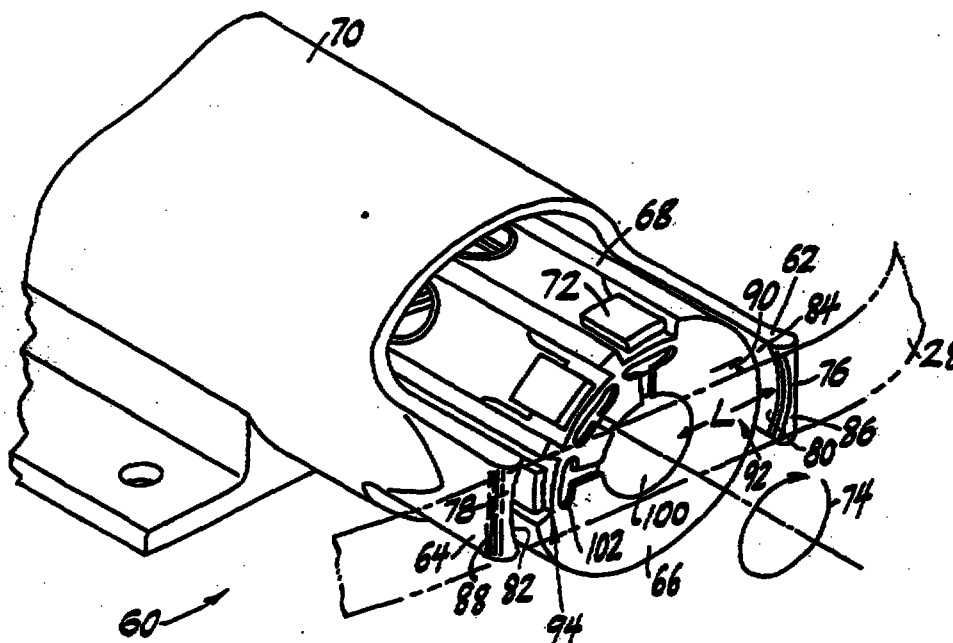
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(54) Title: TAPE SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR ARCUATE SCAN ROTATING HEAD



(57) Abstract

The present invention relates to a method and apparatus for engaging a magnetic tape with a transducer at a read/write zone for achieving consistent head-to-tape coupling throughout the intended recording location, especially at the edges of the tape. The transducer, located on the end face of the rotating transducer carrier, reads and writes arcuate information tracks generally laterally across the tape. The transducer traces a substantially circular transducing path through the read/write zone with the axis of rotation corresponding substantially to the center of the transducing path. A tape support system generally adjacent to the read/write zone positions the tape so that the transducer penetrates into a tape surface along a read/write location.