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(74) Agents: **LOVEJOY, Brett, A.** et al.; Jones Day, 222 East 41st Street, New York, NY 10017-6702 (US).

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(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): **SOLYN-DRA, INC.** [US/US]; 3260 Scott Boulevard, Santa Clara, CA 95054 (US).

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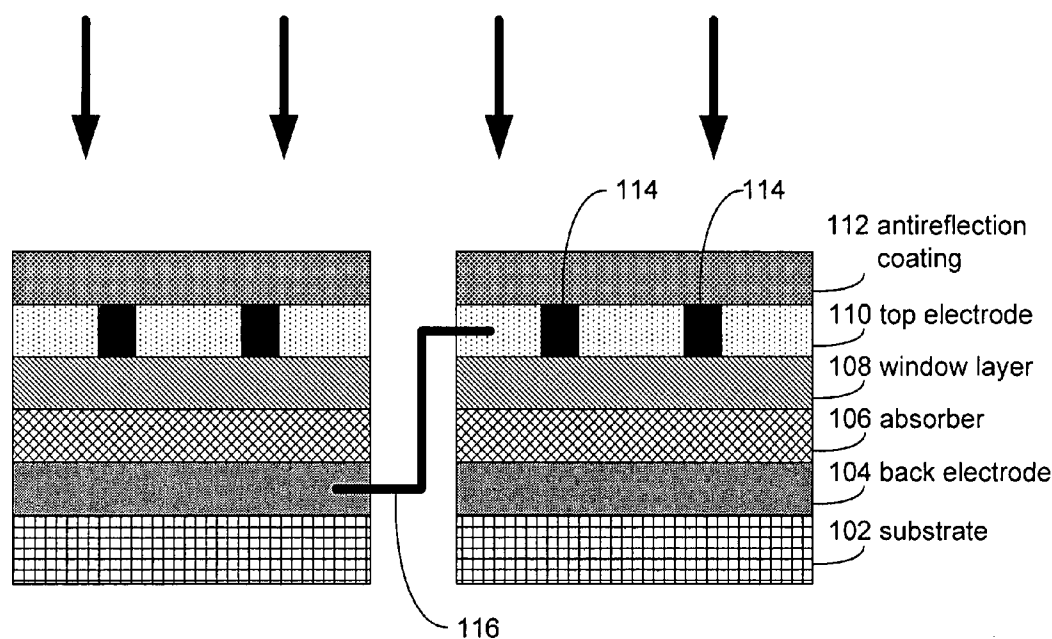
(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): **BULLER, Benjamin** [IL/US]; 10379 Lansdale Avenue, Cupertino, CA 95014 (US). **GRONET, Christian, M.** [US/US]; 1 Portola Green Circle, Portola Valley, CA 94028 (US). **MORAD, Ratson** [US/US]; 4157 Solana Drive, Palo Alto, CA 94306 (US). **BECK, Markus, E.** [DE/US]; 535 S. Market St. Apt. 306, San Jose, CA 95113 (US).

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(54) Title: ELONGATED PHOTOVOLTAIC CELLS IN CASINGS



(57) Abstract: A solar cell unit comprising a solar cell and a transparent casing circumferentially disposed onto the cylindrical shaped solar cell is provided. The solar cell comprises a substrate, where at least a portion of the substrate is rigid and nonplanar. A back-electrode is circumferentially disposed on the substrate. A semiconductor junction layer is circumferentially disposed on the back-electrode. A transparent conductive layer is circumferentially disposed on the semiconductor junction.

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