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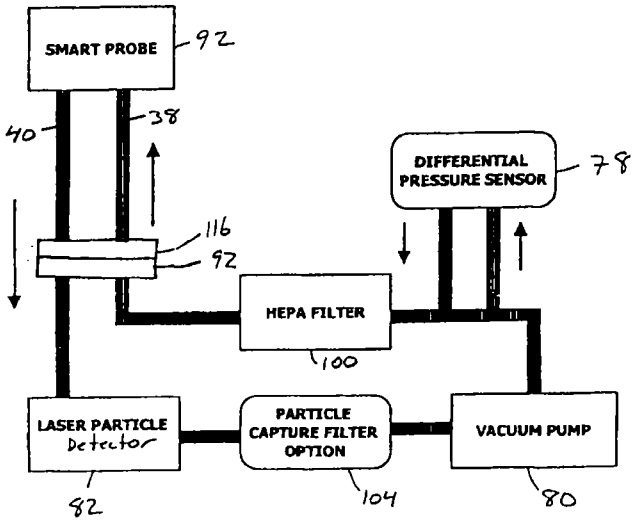
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(54) Title: SURFACE PARTICLE DETECTOR



(57) Abstract: A surface particle detector that includes a scanner probe (92) slidable over a surface, a particle counter (82) for counting particles passed therethrough, and a conduit including a pair of tubes (38,40) connected between the scanner probe and the particle counter. The particle counter includes a pump (80) for creating an airstream for drawing particles from the surface, through the scanner and conduit, to the particle counter, and back to the scanner. A sensor (78) measures the airstream flow rate, and a controller controls the pump speed based upon the sensed airstream flow rate. The conduit attaches to the particle counter via a first connector, which contains electronic indicia identifying the type of scanner attached to the other end of the conduit. The controller controls the particle counter in response to the detected electronic indicia. The particle counter also includes a removable filter cartridge with a filter element that captures the counted particles for laboratory analysis.

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ACTION

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