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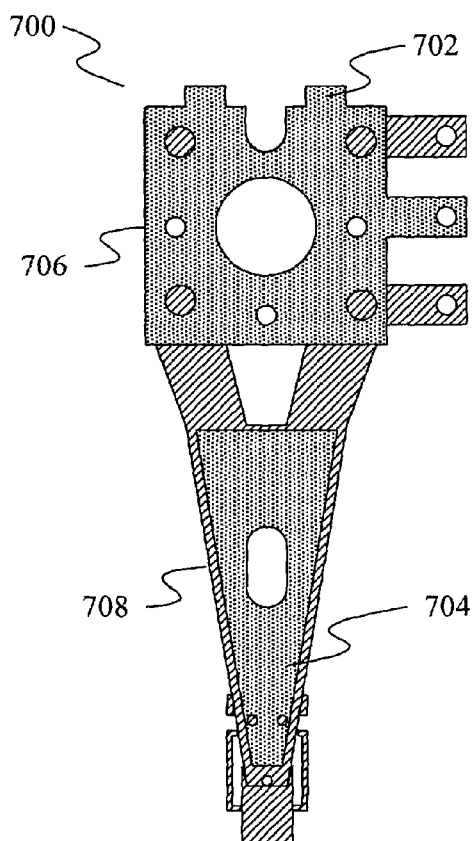
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(54) Title: STIFFENED SUSPENSION FOR A STORAGE DEVICE HAVING A LAYER OF COMPOSITE MATERIAL



(57) Abstract: A suspension (500, 600, 700, 800) for a storage device (100) includes a metal layer (402, 806) and one or more composite stiffeners (406, 802, 804) bonded to the metal layer to stiffen part but not all of the suspension. The composite stiffeners are made of a composite material and are bonded to the metal layer by an adhesive (404). Under most embodiments, the composite material has a higher stiffness to weight ratio than a metal.

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- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for all designations*
- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations*

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