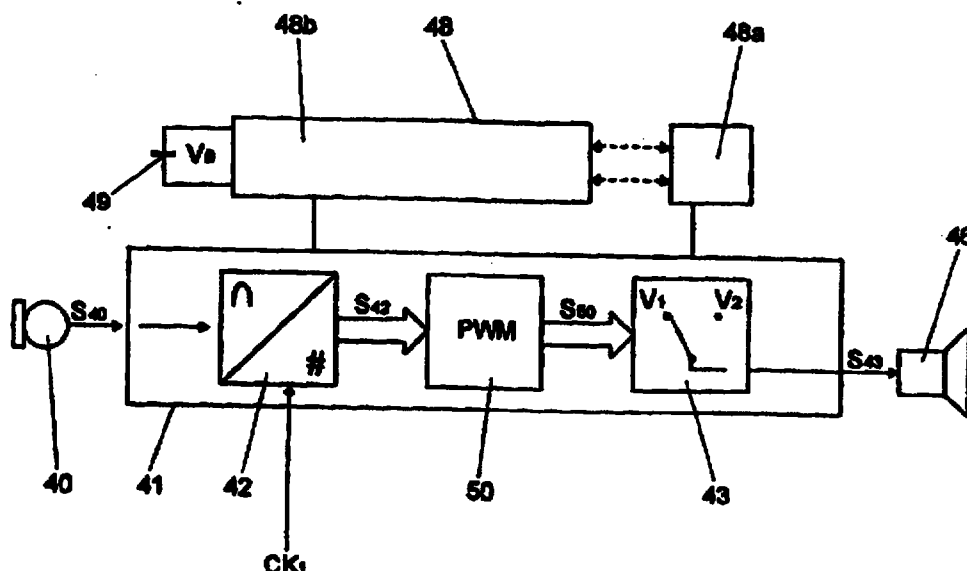


PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶: H04R 25/00, H02M 3/156	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 97/40644 (43) International Publication Date: 30 October 1997 (30.10.97)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/IB97/00401 (22) International Filing Date: 14 April 1997 (14.04.97) (30) Priority Data: 08/635,153 23 April 1996 (23.04.96) US (71) Applicant: PHONAK AG [CH/CH]; Laubisrütistrasse 28, CH-8712 Stäfa (CH). (72) Inventors: RASMUSSEN, Erik, Witthoefft; Dorfstrasse 140, CH-8706 Meilen (CH). BLUMENKRANTZ, Enrique, Malvar; Rue de Parc 73, CH-2000 Neuchâtel (CH). (74) Agent: TROESCH SCHEIDEGGER WERNER AG; Siewerdtstrasse 95, CH-8050 Zürich (CH).	(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>	

(54) Title: HEARING AID DEVICE**(57) Abstract**

There is provided a hearing aid with a mechanical/electrical input converter and an electromechanical output transducer; a signal processing unit with an input operationally connected to the output of the input converter, wherein the signal processing unit comprises a switched output unit with a switch-over control input and operationally connected to the input of the output transducer and generating a switched, at least two-state output signal, and further comprising a pulse width modulator unit generating a pulse width modulated output signal, the output of the pulse width modulator unit being operationally connected to the switch-over control input of the switched output unit, the pulse width modulator unit comprising a digital control input for controlling pulse width modulation.