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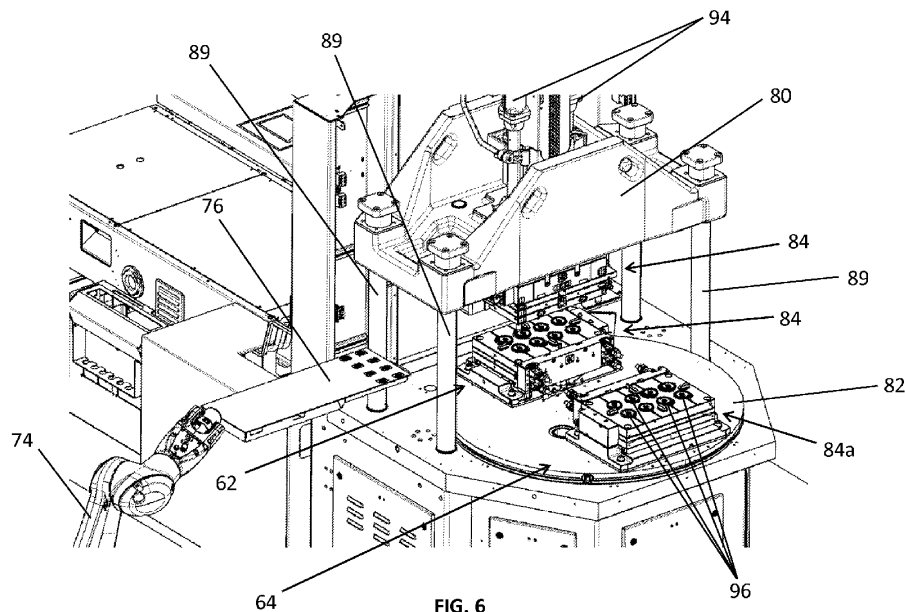


FIG. 6

(57) Abstract: An apparatus (60) for injection molding of mold halves (2, 4) for use in the manufacture of contact lenses comprises one or more first tool halves (22) mounted on a first support (80), and one or more second tool halves (24) releasably mounted on a second support (82). With the second support (82) in an operative orientation, the first and second supports (80, 82) are movable between a closed position in which the first and second tool halves (22, 24) engage one another to provide corresponding mold cavities (54) therebetween, and an open position in which the first and second tool halves (22, 24) are aligned with one another across a part removal gap (86). The second support (82) is movable between the operative orientation, and a reloading orientation in which the second tool halves (24) are located in a tool change area (64) that is out of alignment with the first tool halves (22).

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