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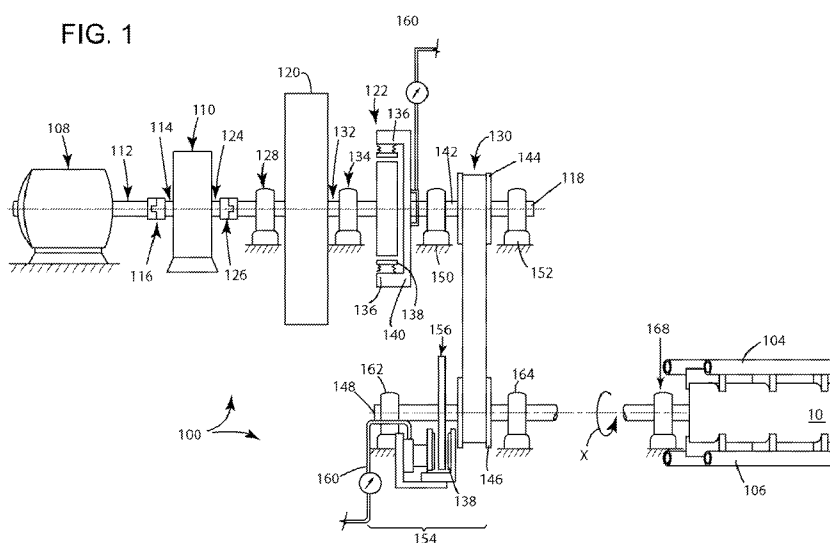
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(54) Title: A TRACK-SWITCHING DEVICE AND METHOD

FIG. 1



(57) Abstract: An apparatus and a method for switching a vehicle (306) from a first track to a second track. The track-switching device may be rotated by a motor (108), and may have a drive axle (148) and a primary axle (118). The drive axle (148) may have a barrel (102) located at one end of the drive axle (148), the barrel having a plurality of switch tracks (104,106) located thereon and a braking assembly (154) connected to the drive axle (148) and spaced from the barrel (102). The primary axle (118) may have a flywheel (120) and a clutch assembly (122). The drive axle (148) may then be driven by the primary axle (118) upon engagement of the clutch assembly (122) via the motor (108) and the flywheel (120).