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(54) Title: DAMPENING THE ACTUATION SPEED OF A DOWNHOLE TOOL

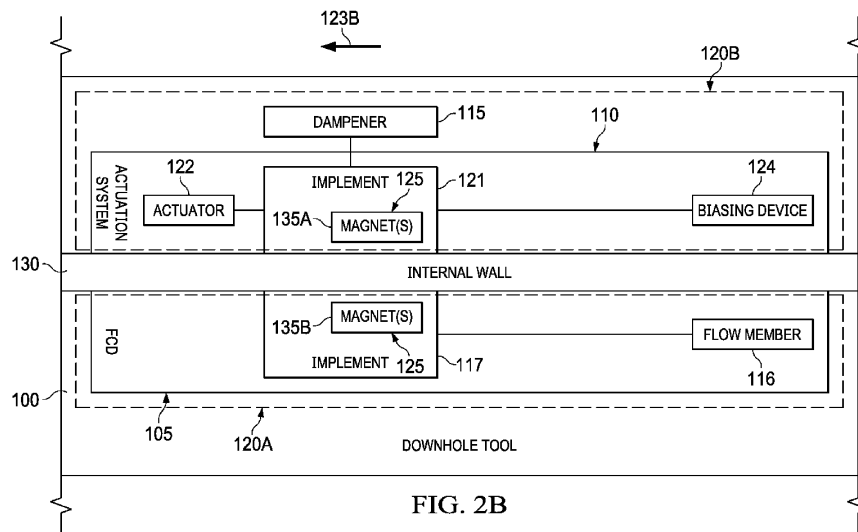


FIG. 2B

(57) Abstract: An actuator of a downhole tool used in oil and gas exploration and production operations is operable to actuate a first implement in a first direction. A biasing device of the downhole tool is operable to actuate the first implement in a second direction, opposite the first direction. A dampener of the downhole tool is operable to slow an actuation speed of the first implement in the first direction, the second direction, or both. Actuating the first implement in the first direction also actuates a second implement of a flow control device ("FCD") of the downhole tool, to which the first implement is connected, in the first direction, placing the FCD in a first (e.g., open) configuration. Actuating the first implement in the second direction also actuates the second implement of the FCD in the second direction, placing the FCD in a second (e.g., closed) configuration.

[Continued on next page]

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