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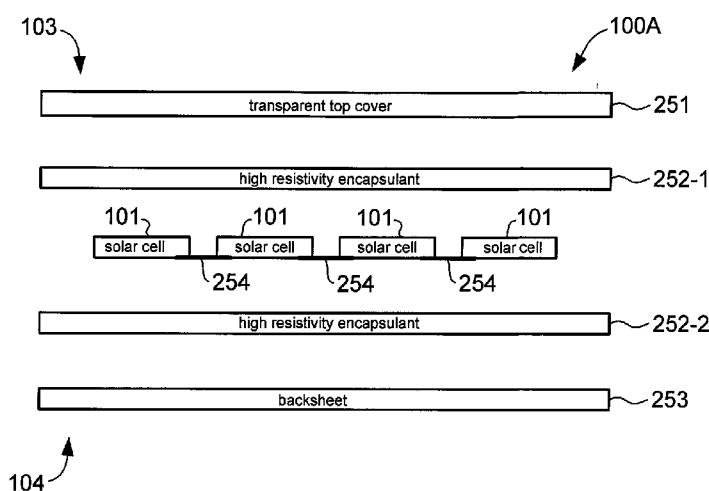


FIG. 2

(57) Abstract: A solar cell module (100A) includes solar cells (101) encapsulated in a high resistivity encapsulant (252-1, 252-2). A protective package is created by forming together the high resistivity encapsulant (252-1, 252-2), the solar cells (101), a transparent top cover (251) and a backsheet (253). The protective package is mounted on a frame that is electrically isolated from the solar cells. The protective package may be created by lamination. The transparent top cover (251) may comprise glass or a high resistivity material.

