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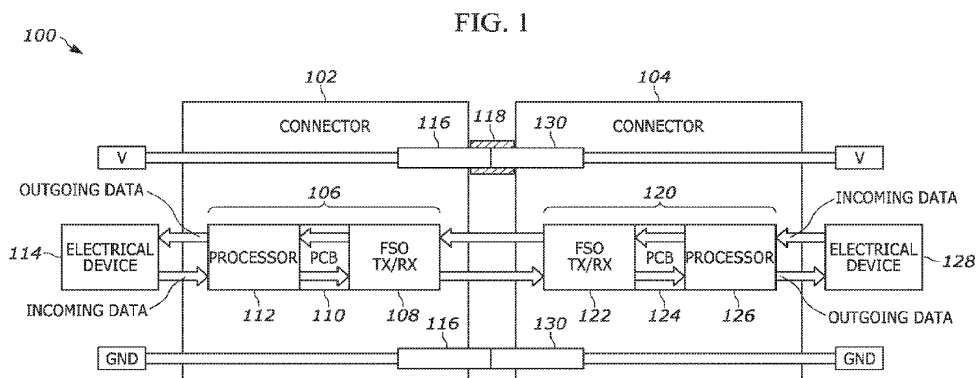
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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- as to the identity of the inventor (Rule 4.17(i))
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

(54) Title: SELF-INSULATING HIGH BANDWIDTH CONNECTOR



(57) Abstract: A high-bandwidth underwater electrical connector is provided that includes first and second connectors each having free space optical transceivers. The electrical connector further includes self-passivating transition metal contacts that form a non-conductive outer layer when immersed in a fluid. The first and second free space optical transceivers transmit and receive data at high data speeds.

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