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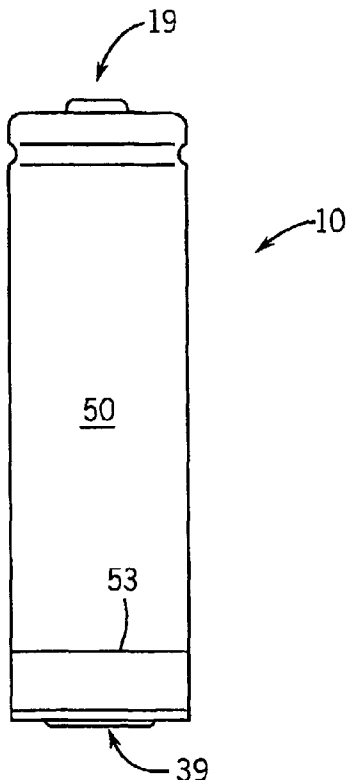
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETECTING THE PRESENCE OF RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES

(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus are disclosed for automatically detect-
ing the presence of a secondary cell and additionally differentiating between
various types of secondary cells within the charger. Certain secondary cells
include a band of ink that surrounds the cells and has a predetermined resis-
tance that is detectable via charger contacts to identify the charging capability.
The cell is detected using a pair of contacts that engage the outer surface of the
cell at a predetermined location. The charger applies a charge to the cell that
varies based on the sensed cell type.



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