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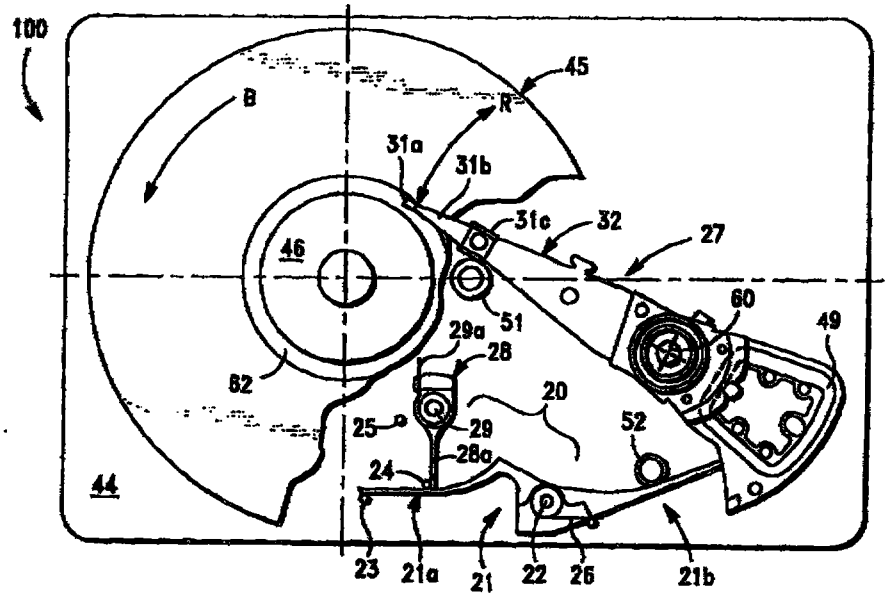
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(54) Title: AIR ACTUATED LATCHING MECHANISM ROTATIONALLY RESISTANT TO ROTATIONAL SHOCK FORCE



(57) Abstract

An airlock latch assembly (20) for restraining a disk drive actuator when the disk drive is subjected to rotary shock forces has a first member (21) and a second member (28) rotatably mounted to the disk drive base (44). The second member (28) engages the first member (21), preventing the first member (21) from disengaging with the actuator assembly (27) while the disk is not spinning. The first member (21) and the second member (28) are mechanically related such that one member can rotate in one direction only when the other member rotates in the opposite direction. The latch assembly (20) also restrains the actuator assembly (27) in its proper position when the disk drive is subjected to linear shock forces.