

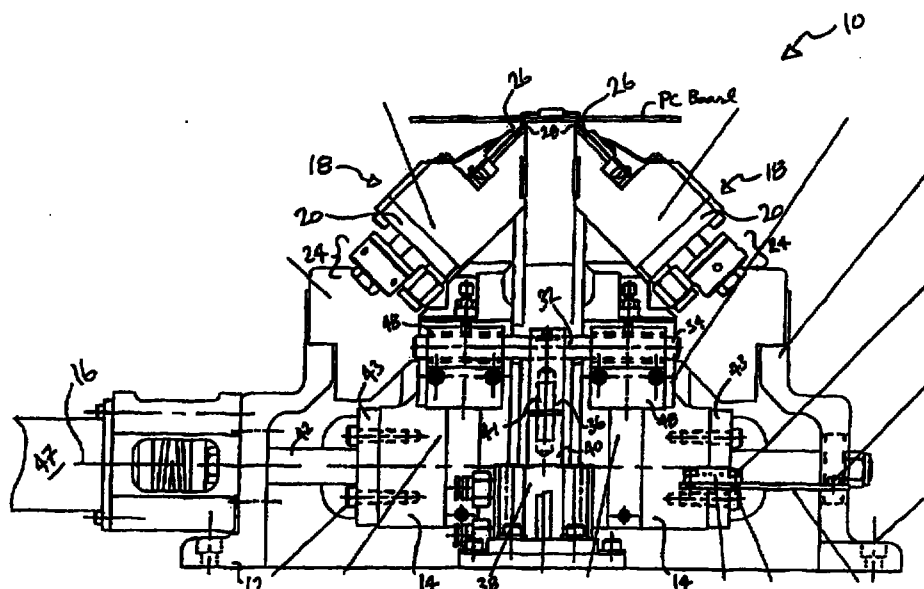


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(54) Title: **CLINCH ASSEMBLY LIFT MECHANISM**

(57) Abstract

A clinching assembly (10), for use with a component insertion machine, includes two clinch head assemblies (18) that are selectively movable along a U-axis (16) parallel to the circuit board. Each clinch head assembly (18) is further selectively movable along a Z-axis, perpendicular to the circuit board. A single pneumatic actuator (38) is used to raise and lower both head assemblies (18) simultaneously. Vertical movement of the actuator (38) is translated through the T-shaped linkage (32) to vertically displace both clinch heads and simultaneously, allow horizontal displacement of each clinch head independent of the vertical location of the T-shaped linkage (32).