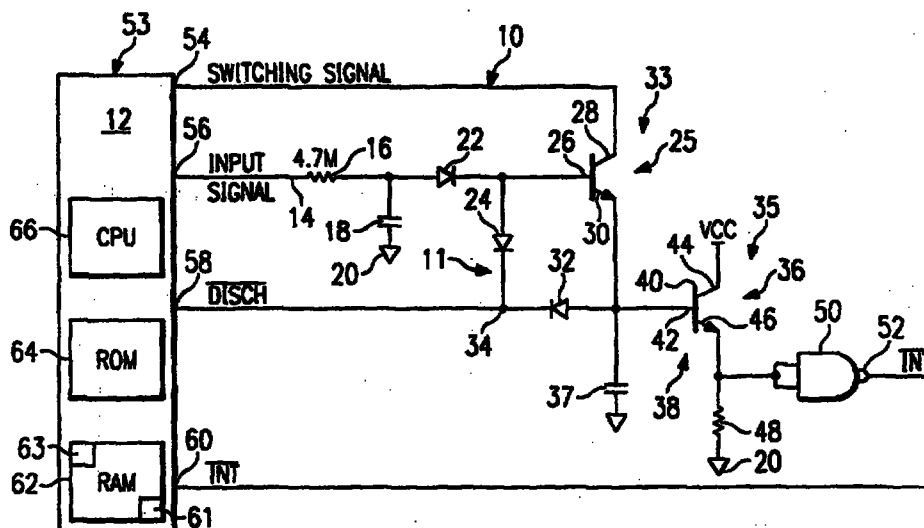


(54) Title: ~~CAPACITANCE-SENSITIVE SWITCH AND SWITCH ARRAY~~



A capacitance-sensitive switch unit (10) including a capacitive element (18) operable to produce an effective capacitance dependent upon the physical proximity of objects relative thereto, a first selector signal input (14) connected to the capacitive element (18) to enable a first input signal to charge the effective capacitance, a threshold signal producing circuit (35) connected to the capacitive element (18) for producing a threshold signal which is rendered active when the effective capacitance charges to a pre-defined potential, a switching circuit (33) for selectively connecting the capacitive element (18) to the threshold signal producing circuit (35) in response to a switching signal and a discharge control circuit (11) connected to the capacitive element (18), for selectively discharging the effective capacitance independently of the input signal, in response to a discharge signal. Also disclosed is a switch array (100) employing structure similar to the above.

FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AT	Austria	GB	United Kingdom	MR	Mauritania
AU	Australia	GE	Georgia	MW	Malawi
BB	Barbados	GN	Guinea	NE	Niger
BE	Belgium	GR	Greece	NL	Netherlands
BF	Burkina Faso	HU	Hungary	NO	Norway
BG	Bulgaria	IE	Ireland	NZ	New Zealand
BJ	Benin	IT	Italy	PL	Poland
BR	Brazil	JP	Japan	PT	Portugal
BY	Belarus	KE	Kenya	RO	Romania
CA	Canada	KG	Kyrgyzstan	RU	Russian Federation
CF	Central African Republic	KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	SD	Sudan
CG	Congo	KR	Republic of Korea	SE	Sweden
CH	Switzerland	KZ	Kazakhstan	SI	Slovenia
CI	Côte d'Ivoire	LI	Liechtenstein	SK	Slovakia
CM	Cameroon	LK	Sri Lanka	SN	Senegal
CN	China	LU	Luxembourg	TD	Chad
CS	Czechoslovakia	LV	Latvia	TG	Togo
CZ	Czech Republic	MC	Monaco	TJ	Tajikistan
DE	Germany	MD	Republic of Moldova	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
DK	Denmark	MG	Madagascar	UA	Ukraine
ES	Spain	ML	Mali	US	United States of America
FI	Finland	MN	Mongolia	UZ	Uzbekistan
FR	France			VN	Viet Nam
GA	Gabon				