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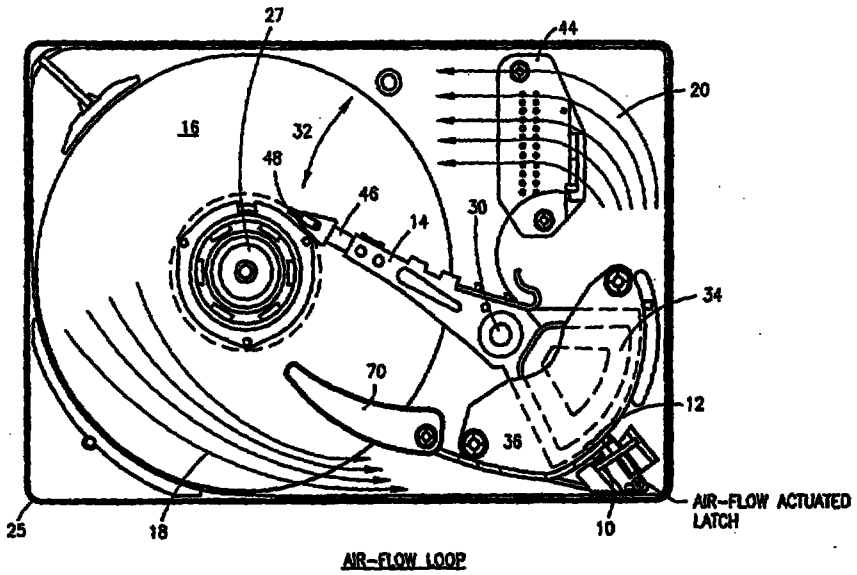
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(57) Abstract

An effective aerodynamic transducer latch is disclosed in which the latch mechanism is within the confines of a miniaturized disc drive structure, the latch being capable of reliably holding the actuator arm (14) from uncontrolled movement away from a landing zone position in response to significant linear shocks exceeding 300 Gs, rotational shocks exceeding 15,000 radians/s^2, and combines a low cost, low-mass non-electrically powered latch mechanism cooperating with a disc drive actuator arm (14) such that while the mass of the latch mechanism is significantly less than the mass of the actuator arm, the latch mechanism is capable of effectively restraining the arm against movement. The design of an aerodynamically effective latch mechanism is such that it fits very closely adjacent to the voice coil motor (34, 36, 38). The maximum restraining force can be applied to the actuator arm (14) and is incorporated within the confines of the predefined housing (25) without adaptation of the design of the housing to accommodate the latch (10).