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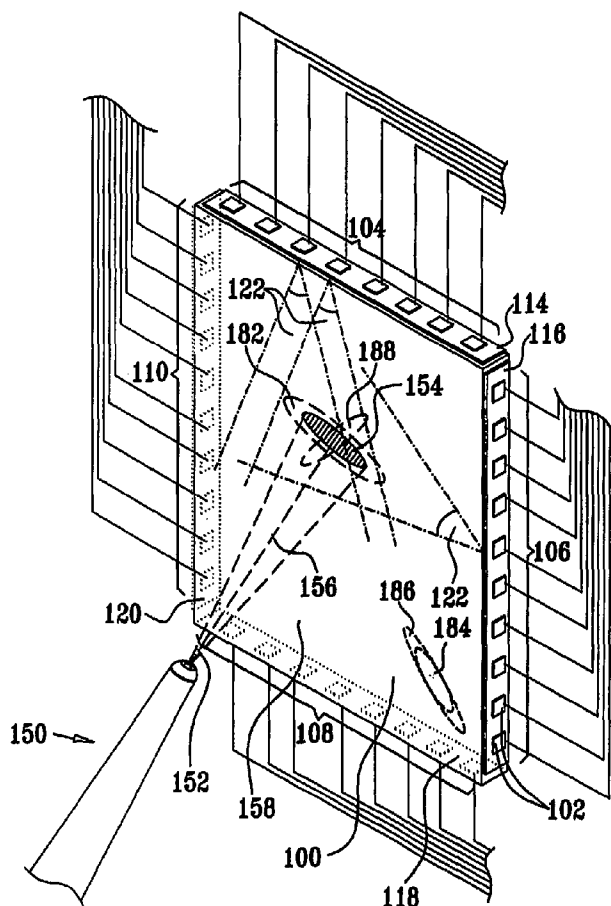
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(54) Title: CONTROL APPARATUS



(57) Abstract: An interface including a panel (100) defin-
ing at least one edge (114, 116, 118, 120) at least one de-
tector (102) arranged along the at least one edge (114) of
the panel, an electromagnetic radiation beam emitter (152)
operative to direct at least one beam of electromagnetic ra-
diation onto the panel (100) from a variable distance and
at a variable angle (158), the panel being operative to trans-
mit electromagnetic radiation from the at least one beam im-
pinging thereon to the at least one edge (114) thereof, for de-
tection by the at least one detector, the panel being operative
to generally attenuate the electromagnetic radiation passing
therethrough to the at least one edge as a function of the dis-
tance traveled by the electromagnetic radiation through the
panel (100), whereby the at least one detector (102) is op-
erative to provide at least one output which can be used to
determine the variable distance and the variable angle.



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