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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/15866 (22) International Filing Date: 13 July 1999 (13.07.99) (30) Priority Data: 60/092,609 13 July 1998 (13.07.98) US (71) Applicant: SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY, INC. [US/US]; 920 Disc Drive, Scotts Valley, CA 95066 (US). (72) Inventors: ALLSUP, David, S.; 2708 S.W. 111th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73170 (US). ARAGON, Maureen, A.; 3701 Equestrian Court, Edmond, OK 73034 (US). COX, Alvin, E.; 1849 Ridgeway Drive, Yukon, OK 73099 (US). DUVALL, Matthew, G.; 2613 Drakestone Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73120 (US). McKIE, Carrie, R.; 6624 Green Meadow Lane, Oklahoma City, OK 73132 (US). GENHEIMER, Stephen, R.; 1000 E. Whispering Oaks Terrace, Mustang, OK 73064 (US). (74) Agents: MCCARTHY, Bill, D.; Crowe & Dunlevy, 1800 Mid-America Tower, 20 North Broadway, Oklahoma City, OK 73102-8273 (US) et al.		(81) Designated States: CN, DE, GB, JP, KR, SG. Published With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: FLEX SUPPORT SNUBBER

(57) Abstract

A disc drive (10) is provided with rotatable discs (18) and an actuator assembly (20) having heads (28) adjacent the discs (18). A flex circuit assembly (40) provides the requisite electrical connection between the heads (28) and the disc drive circuitry and comprises flex strips (142) routed on the actuator assembly (20) from the heads (28) and a flex (150) affixed on the actuator assembly (20). A flex support snubber (152) mounted on the side of the actuator assembly (20) has a body portion (154) with a plurality of arms (156) extending therefrom. Each pair of the arms (156) form a groove (158) so that the arms (156) are disposed above and below discs (18) while the discs (18) extend into the grooves (158). A plurality of slits (160) are interposed between the grooves (158) to support the flex strips (142) therein. An opposite end of the flex support snubber (152) curves to form a U-shaped snubber bend for turning and guiding a dynamic portion (163) of the flex (150).

