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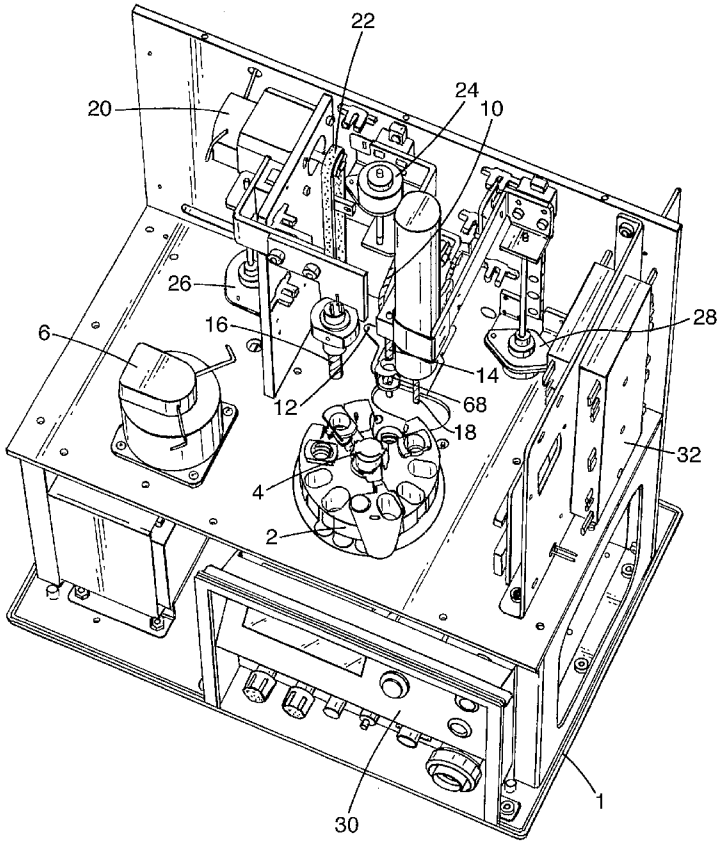
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(54) Title: APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING A FLUID SAMPLE



(57) Abstract: This invention relates to an apparatus for processing a fluid sample comprising: (i) a platform comprising: (a) a chamber suitable for receiving a sample; and (b) a functional component; (ii) an arm capable of being raised and lowered and including a means for removeably attaching to the functional component such that said component may be raised and lowered with the arm; and (iii) a means for moving the platform such that any chamber or functional component may be aligned with respect to the arm. This invention also relates to a method of processing a fluid sample and use of said apparatus and said method for processing a sample prior to a nucleic acid amplification reaction.

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