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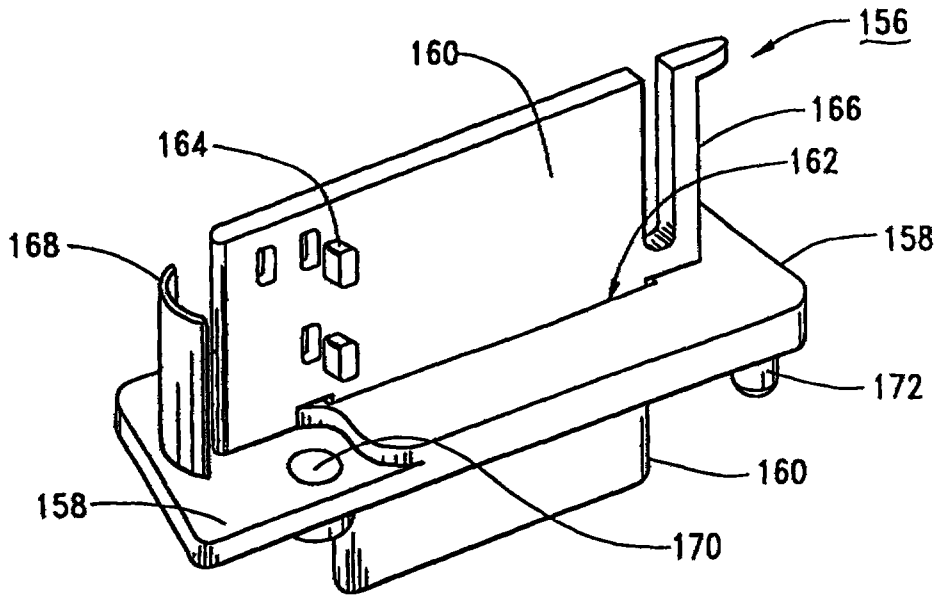
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(54) Title: FLEX SUPPORT AND SEAL APPARATUS FOR A DISC DRIVE



(57) Abstract

A flex circuit support and seal apparatus (148) which established a signal path between a read/write head (132) and read circuitry of a printed circuit board (240) of a disc drive (100), the signal path having substantially uniform capacitance and inductance over the entire length thereof. The flex circuit support and seal apparatus comprises a flex circuit (150) with a conductor portion (154), a rigid dielectric support bracket (156), and a compressible, dielectric gasket seal (174), and extends through a connector aperture (162) of a basedeck (104). The support bracket has a base portion (158) and a connector portion (160) vertically extending bi-directionally from the base portion. The gasket seal is secured between the basedeck and the support bracket. The connector portion supports the conductor portion of the flex circuit and extends through the connector aperture. The support bracket and the attached flex circuit is secured to the basedeck.