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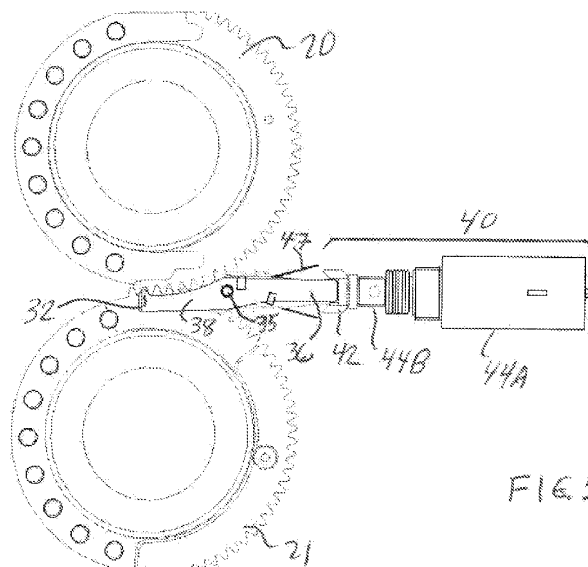
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(54) Title: GEAR LOCKING MECHANISM

Locked:



(57) Abstract: A gear locking mechanism includes a gear (or a sprocket wheel) having a series of substantially identical teeth and a locking tongue having a tooth (or teeth) configured in a locked position to engage the gear or sprocket wheel between any two of the series of substantially identical teeth of the gear or sprocket wheel. An anchoring structure restricts a degree of rotation of at least a portion of the locking tongue in the locked position. In the unlocked position, the restriction on the freedom of rotation is released. The locking tongue divided by a fixed pivot includes a movable distal portion of a see-saw having the tooth with the anchoring structure exerting a force against the proximal portion. Alternatively, the locking tongue rotates on a pin on a distal end and the anchoring structure urges a proximal portion toward the gear to lock.

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WO 2021/165741 A1

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