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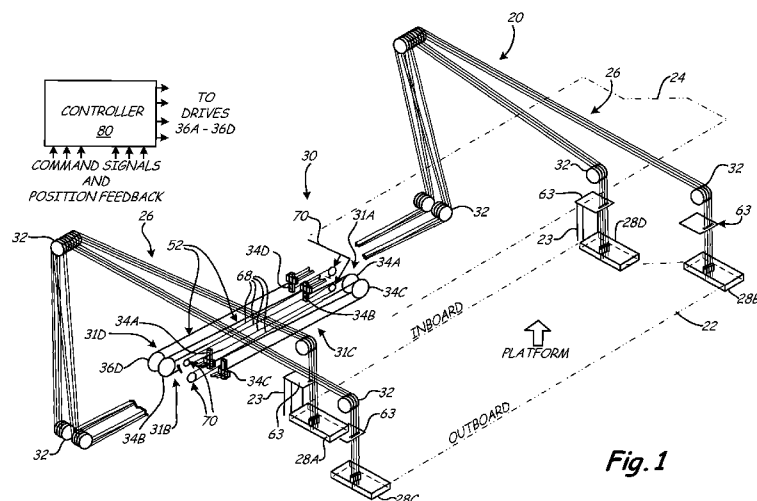


Fig. 1

(57) **Abstract:** A lift assembly (20) is provided for a platform (22) such as used on a ship. The platform (22) can have four spaced apart hitch points (28A, 28B, 28C and 28D). In one embodiment, the lift assembly (20) includes four trolley drive assemblies (34A, 34B, 34C and 34D), each trolley drive assembly (34A-34D) including a trolley guidable along a guide rail (53), and a drive (36A, 36B, 36C and 36D) configured to displace the trolley along the guide rail (53), each trolley being coupled to at least one hitch point (28A-28D). In a second embodiment, a tension leveling assembly (82) is provided in a trolley drive assembly (34A-34D) and is configured to couple each of the wire ropes to the trolley and maintain substantially the same amount of tension in each wire rope. In a third embodiment, the lift assembly (20) can be provided on a ship that also includes a vessel (91) for holding water. The lift assembly (20) includes an electric drive (36A-36D) that operates as generator and generates current during lowering of the platform (22). A resistive device (90) is disposed in the vessel (91) and connected to the drive (36A-36D) to receive current, the resistive device (90) being configured to dissipate heat into the vessel (91).