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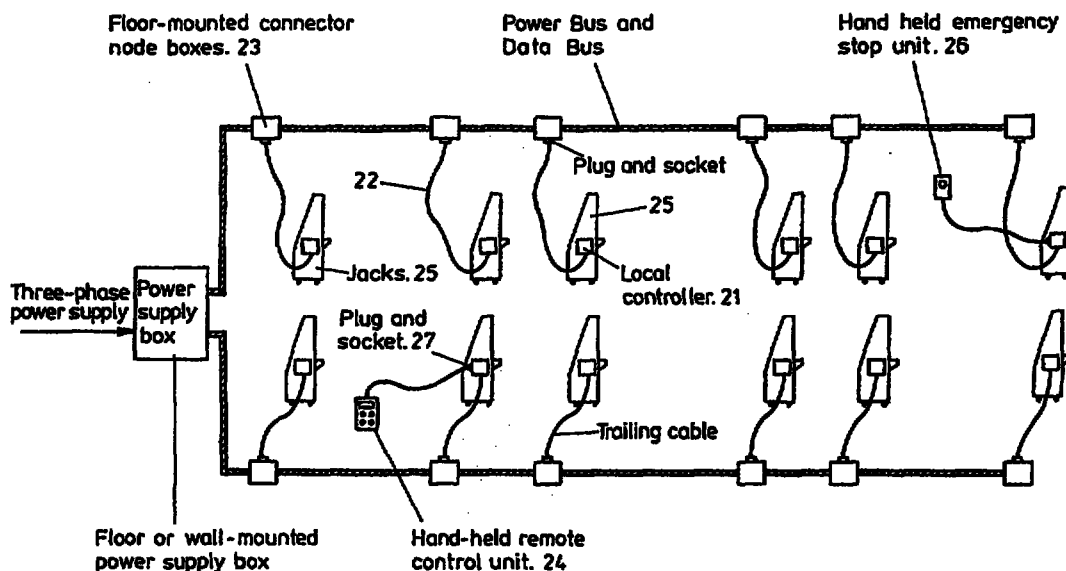
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(54) Title: MULTIPOINT CONTROL SYSTEM



(57) Abstract

The invention relates to a multipoint control system such as may be used for controlling lifting jacks for lifting whole railway cars at a time. Particular features of the present invention are that a remote controller (24) is provided in a hand-held remote control unit. Local controllers (21) are provided associated with jacks (25). Each local controller (21) is an intelligent controller and has a plug and socket arrangement to which the remote controller (24) may be attached. In such a way, the remote controller (24) may be plugged in at any part of the network to control and synchronise operations of all of the jacks (25). Local controllers are all interlinked by a serial data link network which cuts down dramatically on the wiring required. A further distinctive feature of the system is that it is fail safe so that if communication between any of the elements should break down or if any element malfunctions, the system will automatically bring itself to a halt.