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(54) Title: **APPARATUS FOR CHANGING THE STATUS OF MAGNETIC MARKERS IN AN ELECTRONIC ARTICLE SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM**

(57) Abstract

The present re/desensitizer is an apparatus for changing the status of a magnetic marker of an electronic article surveillance system. The markers are attached to or otherwise associated with an object to be protected, such as a book, CD, etc. The device can be set up as a resensitizer, a desensitizer, or with the inclusion of a mode switch, a combination re/desensitizer. The apparatus includes a magnetic field generator for generating a marker status changing magnetic field, detection means for detecting presence of an object, a control means for controlling the activation time of the magnetic field generator such that the marker status changing magnetic field is generated when an object is present. The magnetic field generator includes an offset core designed for continuous operation without excessive heat build up. The offset core is oriented such that the marker status changing magnetic field is substantially horizontal and adjacent to the mounting surface, thus reducing the complexity of movement of the hands and arms required when operating the device. The re/desensitizer also includes a control circuit which controls power to the magnetic field generator such that the marker status changing magnetic field is produced only when an object containing a marker is present. The control circuit also controls the duty cycle of the device by controlling the amount of time that the device is activated and by controlling the amount of time between successive activations.

