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61/639,373 27 April 2012 (27.04.2012) US(71) Applicant: **ALSENTIS, LLC** [US/US]; 1261 S Waverly Road, Holland, Michigan 49423 (US).(72) Inventors: **CALDWELL, David W.**; 16253 Ransom Street, Holland, Michigan 49423 (US). **SCHAEFER, William D.**; 184 Rosebud Lane, SW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49534 (US). **BOS, Robert G.**; 15261 Groesbeck Street, Grand Haven, Michigan 49417 (US). **KUREK, Stefan G.**; 659 Innes Street, NE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503 (US).(74) Agents: **CIARAVINO, Vito A.** et al.; Warner Norcross & Judd LLP, 900 Fifth Third Center, 111 Lyon Street, NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503-2487 (US).

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(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DETERMINING A STIMULUS, INCLUDING A TOUCH INPUT AND A STYLUS INPUT

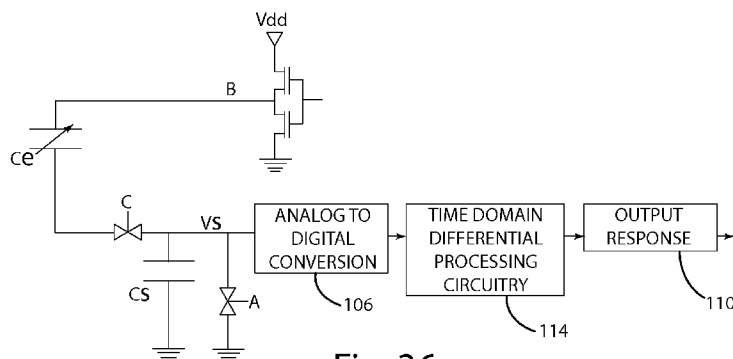


Fig. 36

(57) Abstract: A capacitive sensor for detecting a stimulus. The capacitive sensor includes first and second electrodes defining a capacitive coupling, and a processing unit electrically coupled to the first and second electrodes to determine the presence of a stimulus based on the rate of change of the capacitive coupling. A substrate is positioned adjacent the first and second electrodes, wherein the stimulus corresponds to the placement of an object against the substrate. The processing unit is operative to determine a time rate of change based on successive measurements of the capacitive coupling and in response to the capacitive coupling being greater than a predetermined reference value.

