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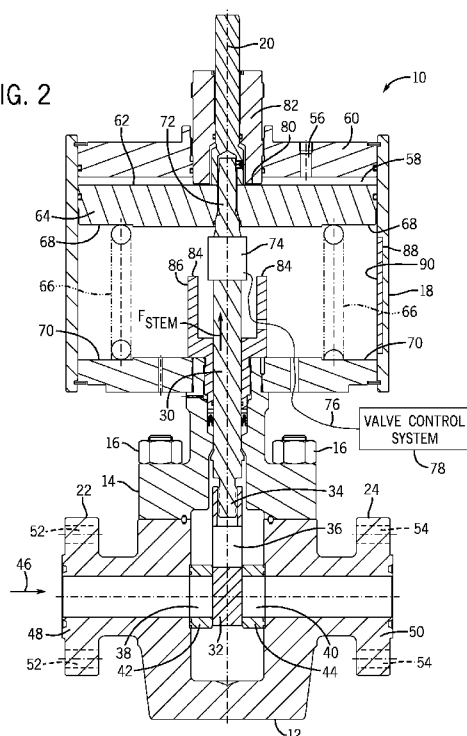
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(54) Title: SMART VALVE UTILIZING A FORCE SENSOR

FIG. 2



(57) Abstract: A valve (10), in certain embodiments, includes a body (12) having a flow path (46), a stem (30), a flow element (32) coupled to the stem, wherein the flow element interfaces with the flow path to regulate flow of a fluid through the flow path, and a force sensor (34) coupled to the stem and configured to indicate an amount of force exerted on the stem.

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- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

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