



Europäisches Patentamt  
European Patent Office  
Office européen des brevets



(11) **EP 0 733 577 B1**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION**

(45) Date of publication and mention  
of the grant of the patent:  
**24.09.2003 Bulletin 2003/39**

(51) Int Cl.7: **B66B 5/02**

(21) Application number: **96104740.4**

(22) Date of filing: **25.03.1996**

(54) **Emergency drive unit for an elevator machinery**

Notantriebseinheit für eine Aufzugsmaschine

Unité d'entraînement de secours pour un moteur d'ascenseur

(84) Designated Contracting States:  
**DE ES FR GB IT**

(30) Priority: **24.03.1995 FI 951430**

(43) Date of publication of application:  
**25.09.1996 Bulletin 1996/39**

(73) Proprietor: **Kone Corporation**  
**00330 Helsinki (FI)**

(72) Inventors:  
• **Hakala, Harri**  
**05830 Hyvinkää (FI)**

• **Mustalahti, Jorma**  
**05620 Hyvinkää (FI)**  
• **Aulanko, Esko**  
**04230 Kerava (FI)**

(74) Representative: **Zipse + Habersack**  
**Wotanstrasse 64**  
**80639 München (DE)**

(56) References cited:  
**EP-A- 0 631 970** **FR-A- 2 583 029**

**EP 0 733 577 B1**

Note: Within nine months from the publication of the mention of the grant of the European patent, any person may give notice to the European Patent Office of opposition to the European patent granted. Notice of opposition shall be filed in a written reasoned statement. It shall not be deemed to have been filed until the opposition fee has been paid. (Art. 99(1) European Patent Convention).

## Description

**[0001]** The present invention relates to a device for driving an elevator machinery in an emergency, such as a power failure.

**[0002]** According to elevator regulations, when an elevator stops between floors, there must be a possibility to move the elevator car to a suitable floor. To achieve this, several methods are used, such as releasing the brake manually by means of a suitable tool. If the position and load of the elevator are such that the elevator will start moving, then releasing the brake is an applicable method. If the elevator and its counterweight are in equilibrium, it is necessary to rotate the elevator motor by means of a suitable device.

**[0003]** For this purpose, battery operated inverters can be used. However, they are expensive and more susceptible to failure than simpler electric drives and manual methods. Specification US 4,376,471 presents a solution based on the use of an inverter in an emergency. The inverter is used to drive the elevatormotor, so it does not provide a solution to an interruption of operation caused by the motor.

**[0004]** Patent specification FR-A-2 583 029 discloses an emergency drive for an elevator arrangement comprising a battery powered emergency drive unit which is acting on a gear wheel, which gear wheel is attached to the elevator motor via the motor shaft. In case of an emergency the battery powered drive unit acts via a drive wheel on the gear wheel thus rotating the motor shaft.

**[0005]** The object of the present invention is to produce a simple and low-cost solution for driving an elevator motor provided with a discoidal rotor in an emergency, e.g. in a situation where the elevator car has stopped between floors.

**[0006]** To achieve the above objects, the device of the invention is characterized by what is said in claim 1. Other embodiments of the invention are characterized by the features presented in the other claims.

**[0007]** In the emergency drive unit of the invention, the rotor disc is provided with a gear rim which is driven by means of power transmission device, which in one of the embodiments of the invention consists of a manual drive latch. In another embodiment, the gear rim is engaged by a gear wheel driven by a motor, said gear wheel being driven by an application of a device used for the starting of combustion engines, known in itself. The emergency drive unit is very advantageous in respect of price and it is independent of the equipment controlling the elevator during normal operation.

**[0008]** In the following, the invention is described by the aid of two embodiments, in which

Fig. 1 presents an elevator motor with an emergency drive unit as provided by the invention, applied to a discoidal motor,

Fig. 2 presents a manual emergency drive unit as

provided by the invention,

Fig. 3 presents a circuit diagram for the electric emergency drive unit, and

Fig. 4 presents the manual emergency drive unit in side view.

5

10

15

20

25

30

35

40

45

50

55

**[0009]** Fig. 1 presents an elevator machinery 1 comprising an elevator motor 2 shown in a partly sectioned form, a brake 3, a traction sheave 4 and an emergency drive unit 16 as provided by the invention. The elevator motor 2 comprises a stator 5 and a rotor 6. The stator is a trough-shaped body of revolution with one side open, with a stator core packet 7 attached to it by means of fixing elements 8. Between the outer circles of the stator and rotor there is either a sliding seal or a labyrinth seal. The motor is fixed in place by the stator by means of fixing bolts 10. Bearings 12 are provided between the stator shaft 11 and the rotor 6. The rotor 6 is of a discoidal construction and its magnetization is implemented using e.g. permanent magnets 14 mounted in a circle on the rotor surface. Between the permanent magnets 14 and the stator core packet 7 is a planar air gap 15, the plane of which is perpendicular to the stator shaft 11. The traction sheave 4 is attached to the rotor 6.

**[0010]** The emergency drive unit 16 comprises a drive motor 17, a solenoid 21, and a power output of the motor, a gear wheel 18 and, attached to the rotor 6, a gear rim 19 by means of which the emergency drive unit 16 rotates the rotor 6. The gear rim 19 is placed on the inside of the brake rim 20. The drive motor 17 of the emergency drive unit 16 together with its auxiliary equipment is fixed to a flange 24 in the stator structure 5 by means of screws 23. The drive motor 17 with its auxiliary equipment is a starter motor, known in itself, as used for the starting of combustion engines, such as car engines, comprising the-required motor, solenoid, switch and Bendix gear. The starter motors used in cars are generally direct-current series motors and are normally driven in one direction only. Fig. 3 shows a diagram of a reversing circuit designed for use in an elevator drive.

**[0011]** The operation of the elevator motor with emergency drive unit is as follows: Electric power is supplied to the drive motor 17 and solenoid 21, causing the gear wheel 18 to move onto the gear rim 19. At the same time, the brake 3 is released, with the result that the drive motor 17 begins to rotate the rotor and the elevator starts moving in a direction determined by the direction of rotation of the drive motor.

**[0012]** Fig. 2 presents an alternative placement of the gear rim together with a manual drive latch. The gear rim 19a is now placed beside the brake rim 20. The traction sheave 4, brake rim 20 and gear rim 19a are preferably manufactured as an integrated structure with the rotor 6. It is naturally possible in the case of both Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 to manufacture the gear rim as a separate part which is then attached to the rotor. In this embodiment, the gear rim is provided with wedge-shaped teeth (Fig. 4). In this case, the gear rim 19a is driven by a

manual emergency drive unit 16a, which comprises a wedge-shaped latch 39 (Fig. 4), which is moved backwards and forwards by means of a manual lever 47. The power from the lever to the latch is transmitted by means of a flexible wire or wire cable 45 placed in a flexible tube 44. The emergency drive unit 16a is fixed to a flange 24 in the stator structure 5 by means of fixing elements 42, preferably screws.

[0013] Fig. 3 presents the circuit diagram of an electric emergency drive unit 16 designed for bidirectional operation. The operating voltage DC+ and DC- for the emergency drive unit is obtained from a d.c. source 26, e.g. a 12 V battery, via a main switch 27. The negative terminal DC- is not connected to earth because the change of running direction of the drive motor is effected by changing the polarity by means of two contactors 31 and 32. Connected in series with the coils of the contactors is a contactor 28 for locking the elevator drive 25. By pressing button 29, the elevator is driven upwards via contactor 31, and by pressing button 20, it is driven downwards via contactor 32. In each of these contactors, one contact 33 and 34 passes a current to the solenoid 21, which moves the gear wheel 18 into mesh with the gear rim 19 (Fig. 1-2). Starter motors usually have their own contact, which is not used in this circuit. The brake 3 is connected in parallel with the solenoid 21. In normal elevator operation, the brake receives its operating voltage through the elevator drive 25. In each contactor 31 and 32, the other two contacts, 35-36 and 37-38, form part of the reversing circuit, i.e. they change the polarity of the voltage supplied to the motor 17.

[0014] Fig. 4 presents a manual emergency drive unit 16a as seen from direction A shown in Fig. 2. Beside the brake rim 20 on the circumference of the rotor 6 is a gear rim 19a provided with wedge-shaped teeth. The gear rim is driven by a manual emergency drive unit 16a. The emergency drive unit comprises a wedge-shaped latch 39, which is moved back and forth by means of a manual lever 47. The power from the lever to the latch is transmitted by means of a flexible wire or wire cable 45 placed in a flexible tube 44, one end of the wire or cable being attached to the lever and the other to the latch 39. The emergency drive unit 16a is fixed to a flange 24 in the stator structure 5 by means of fixing elements 42. The lever 47 is pivoted on a base 46. The lever is turned back and forth in directions L and R, causing the wire 45 in the flexible tube 44 to move back and forth as well and therefore the latch to move with it. The latch is supported by a sleeve bearing 40 laid in the direction of the movement. The sleeve bearing 40 is pivoted on the frame 43 and provided with a spring 41. When the lever is pulled in direction R, the wire 45 draws the latch 39 and the tooth engaged by it, causing the rotor to turn through a corresponding distance and thus moving the elevator. When the lever is pushed in direction L, the latch rises over the wedge-shaped tooth of the gear rim and then slips down again, engaging the next tooth. The brake 3 of the elevator is released when

the lever is pulled in direction R, and when the lever is pushed in direction L, the brake is closed by means of a separate device, e.g. a separate wire/tube arrangement or a separate electric control signal to the brake to release it. The elevator is driven in this manner until it has reached the desired landing. The manual emergency drive unit 16a is provided with a shifter enabling the whole emergency drive unit to be shifted up so that the wedge-shaped latch 39 is completely out of contact with the gear rim 19a. However, this shifter is not shown in the figures. The manual emergency drive unit 16a can additionally be provided with an arrester 48 to prevent the rotor 6 from turning backwards while the lever is being pushed in direction L. The arrester 48 is mounted with a joint 49 on the stator 5. A spring 50 is mounted between the arrester 48 and the stator 5 to press the arrester against the gear rim 19a. Using an arrester provides the advantage that the brake 3 need not be closed to prevent reverse rotation, but the brake can remain released all the time when the manual emergency drive unit is being operated.

[0015] It is obvious to a person skilled in the art that the embodiments of the invention are not restricted to the examples described above, but that they may instead be varied in the scope of the following claims.

#### Claims

1. Elevator motor with an emergency drive unit to move an elevator, said elevator motor comprising a stator (5) and a discoidal rotor (6) with a planar air gap (15) between them, the plane of which air gap is substantially perpendicular to the shaft (11) of the elevator motor (2), the emergency drive unit (16) consisting of a gear rim (19) disposed in such a manner as to cooperate the periphery of the rotor (6) and a drive unit used to rotate the rotor (6) by means of the gear rim (19).
2. Elevator motor with an emergency drive unit (16) as defined in claim 1, **characterized in that** the gear rim (19) is on the underside of a brake rim (20) placed in conjunction with the periphery of the rotor disc.
3. Elevator motor with an emergency drive unit (16) as defined in claim 1, **characterized in that** the gear rim (19) is on the top side beside a brake rim (20) placed in conjunction with the periphery of the rotor disc.
4. Elevator motor with an emergency drive unit (16) as defined in any one of claims 1 - 3, **characterized in that** the drive of the emergency drive unit (16) consists of a drive motor (17) provided with a direct current source (26), a solenoid (21) and a gear wheel (18), which gear wheel is moved in an emergency

situation into mesh with the gear rim (19) by means of the solenoid and which drive motor (17) is supplied with direct current from the direct current source (26).

5. Elevator motor with an emergency drive unit (16) as defined in any one of claims 4, **characterized in that** the emergency drive unit (16) is formed from a starter motor as used with combustion engines, known in itself.
6. Elevator motor with an emergency drive unit (16) as defined in claim 4, **characterized in that** the direct voltage (DC+, DC-) of the d.c. source (26) is supplied to the drive motor (17) via a reversing circuit.
7. Elevator motor with an emergency drive unit (16) as defined in any one of claims 1-3, **characterized in that** the gear rim (19a) is provided with wedge-shaped teeth and the emergency drive unit (16a) is of a manually operated type, having a wedge-shaped latch (39) engaging a wedge-shaped tooth, and that, to rotate the rotor (6), said latch is pushed and pulled by means of a wire (45) placed in a flexible tube (45) and a pivoted lever (47) connected to the wire.
8. Elevator motor with an emergency drive unit (16a) as defined in claim 7, **characterized in that** the emergency drive unit (16a) is provided with an arrester (48) designed to stop the rotor (6) from turning in the other direction.

#### Patentansprüche

1. Aufzugsmotor mit einer Notfall-Antriebseinheit zum Bewegen eines Aufzugs, wobei der Aufzugsmotor einen Stator (5) und einen scheibenförmigen Rotor (6) mit einem dazwischen liegenden planaren Luftspalt (15) aufweist, wobei die Ebene des Luftspalts im Wesentlichen senkrecht zur Welle (11) des Aufzugsmotors (2) ist, wobei ferner die Notfall-Antriebseinheit (16) einen Zahnkranz (19) hat, der angeordnet ist, dass er mit dem Außenumfang des Rotors (6) zusammenarbeitet, und eine Antriebseinheit umfasst, die zum Rotieren des Rotors (6) mit Hilfe des Zahnkranzes (19) verwendet wird.
2. Aufzugsmotor mit einer Notfall-Antriebseinheit (16) nach Anspruch 1, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** der Zahnkranz (19) an der Unterseite eines Bremsrandes (20) ist, der in Verbindung mit dem Außenumfang der Rotorscheibe angeordnet ist.
3. Aufzugsmotor mit einer Notfall-Antriebseinheit (16) nach Anspruch 1,

**dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** der Zahnkranz (19) auf der oberen Seite neben einem Bremsrand (20) ist, der in Verbindung mit dem Außenumfang der Rotorscheibe angeordnet ist.

4. Aufzugsmotor mit einer Notfall-Antriebseinheit (16) nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 3, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** der Antrieb der Notfall-Antriebseinheit (16) sich aus einem mit einer Gleichstromquelle (26), einem Magnetventil (21) und einem Getrieberad (18) versehenen Antriebsmotor (17) zusammensetzt, welches Getrieberad in einer Notfallsituation mit dem Zahnkranz (19) mittels des Magnetventils in Eingriff bewegt wird und welcher Antriebsmotor (17) mit Gleichstrom aus der Gleichstromquelle (26) versorgt wird.
5. Aufzugsmotor mit einer Notfall-Antriebseinheit (16) nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 4, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Notfall-Antriebseinheit (16) durch einen Anlassermotor gebildet ist, wie er für Verbrennungsmotoren verwendet wird, die an sich bekannt sind.
6. Aufzugsmotor mit einer Notfall-Antriebseinheit (16) nach Anspruch 4, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Gleichspannung (DC+, DC-) der Gleichstromquelle (26) dem Antriebsmotor über einen Umschalt-Schaltkreis zugeführt wird.
7. Aufzugsmotor mit einer Notfall-Antriebseinheit (16) nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 3, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** der Zahnkranz (19a) mit keilförmigen Zähnen versehen ist und die Notfall-Antriebseinheit (16a) einem manuell betätigten Typ entspricht, die eine an einem keilförmigen Zahn angreifende keilförmige Klinke (39) hat, und dass die Klinke mittels eines in einem flexiblen Rohr (44) angeordneten Drahtes (45) und einem auslenkbaren, mit dem Draht verbundenen Hebel (47) geschoben und gezogen wird, um den Rotor (6) zu drehen.
8. Aufzugsmotor mit einer Notfall-Antriebseinheit (16a) nach Anspruch 7, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Notfall-Antriebseinheit (16a) mit einer Fangvorrichtung (48) versehen ist, die zum Anhalten des Rotors (6) bezüglich einer Drehung in der anderen Richtung bestimmt ist.

#### Revendications

1. Moteur d'ascenseur avec une unité d'entraînement de secours destinée à bouger un ascenseur, ledit moteur d'ascenseur comprenant un stator (5) et un

- rotor (6) discoïdal avec un entrefer (15) plan entre eux ; le plan de chaque entrefer étant essentiellement perpendiculaire à la cage (11) du moteur (2) d'ascenseur ; l'unité d'entraînement de secours (16) consistant en un périphérie d'engrenage (19) disposée de façon à coopérer avec la périphérie du rotor (6) et une unité d'entraînement utilisée pour tourner le rotor (6) au moyen de la périphérie d'engrenage (19).
2. Moteur d'ascenseur avec une unité d'entraînement de secours (16) comme défini dans la revendication 1, **caractérisé en ce que** la périphérie d'engrenage (19) est située sur le côté inférieur d'une périphérie de frein (20) situé sur la périphérie du disque rotor. 15
3. Moteur d'ascenseur avec une unité d'entraînement de secours (16) comme défini dans la revendication 1, **caractérisé en ce que** la périphérie d'engrenage (19) est située sur le côté supérieur, près d'une périphérie de frein (20) située sur la périphérie du disque rotor. 20
4. Moteur d'ascenseur avec une unité d'entraînement de secours (16) comme défini dans n'importe laquelle des revendications 1-3, **caractérisé en ce que** l'entraînement de l'unité d'entraînement de secours (16) consiste en un moteur d'entraînement (17) pourvu d'une source de courant continu (26), d'un solénoïde (21) et d'une roue d'engrenage (18), laquelle roue d'engrenage est engrenée dans une situation de secours avec la périphérie d'engrenage (19) au moyen du solénoïde et lequel moteur d'entraînement (17) est alimenté avec un courant continu à partir de la source de courant continu (26). 25 30 35
5. Moteur d'ascenseur avec une unité d'entraînement de secours (16) comme défini dans n'importe laquelle des revendications 1-4, **caractérisé en ce que** l'unité d'entraînement de secours (16) est formée à partir d'un moteur à démarreur comme utilisé avec des moteurs à combustion connus. 40
6. Moteur d'ascenseur avec une unité d'entraînement de secours (16) comme défini dans la revendication 4, **caractérisé en ce que** le voltage (DC+, DC-) de la source (26) est fournie au moteur d'entraînement via un circuit d'inversion. 45
7. Moteur d'ascenseur avec une unité d'entraînement de secours (16) comme défini dans n'importe laquelle des revendications 1-3, **caractérisé en ce que** la périphérie d'engrenage (19a) est pourvu de dents en forme de coin et que l'unité d'entraînement de secours (16a) est d'un type à fonctionnement manuel ayant un verrouillage en forme de coin (39) s'engageant dans une dent en forme de coin et **en ce que** pour tourner le moteur (6), ledit verrouillage 50 55
- est poussé et tiré au moyen d'un fil (45) placé dans un tube flexible (45) et un levier pivotant (47) relié au câble.
8. Moteur d'ascenseur avec une unité d'entraînement de secours (16) comme défini dans la revendication 7, **caractérisé en ce que** l'unité d'entraînement de secours (16a) est pourvue d'un dispositif d'arrêt (48) destiné à arrêter le rotor (6) de tourner dans l'autre direction. 10

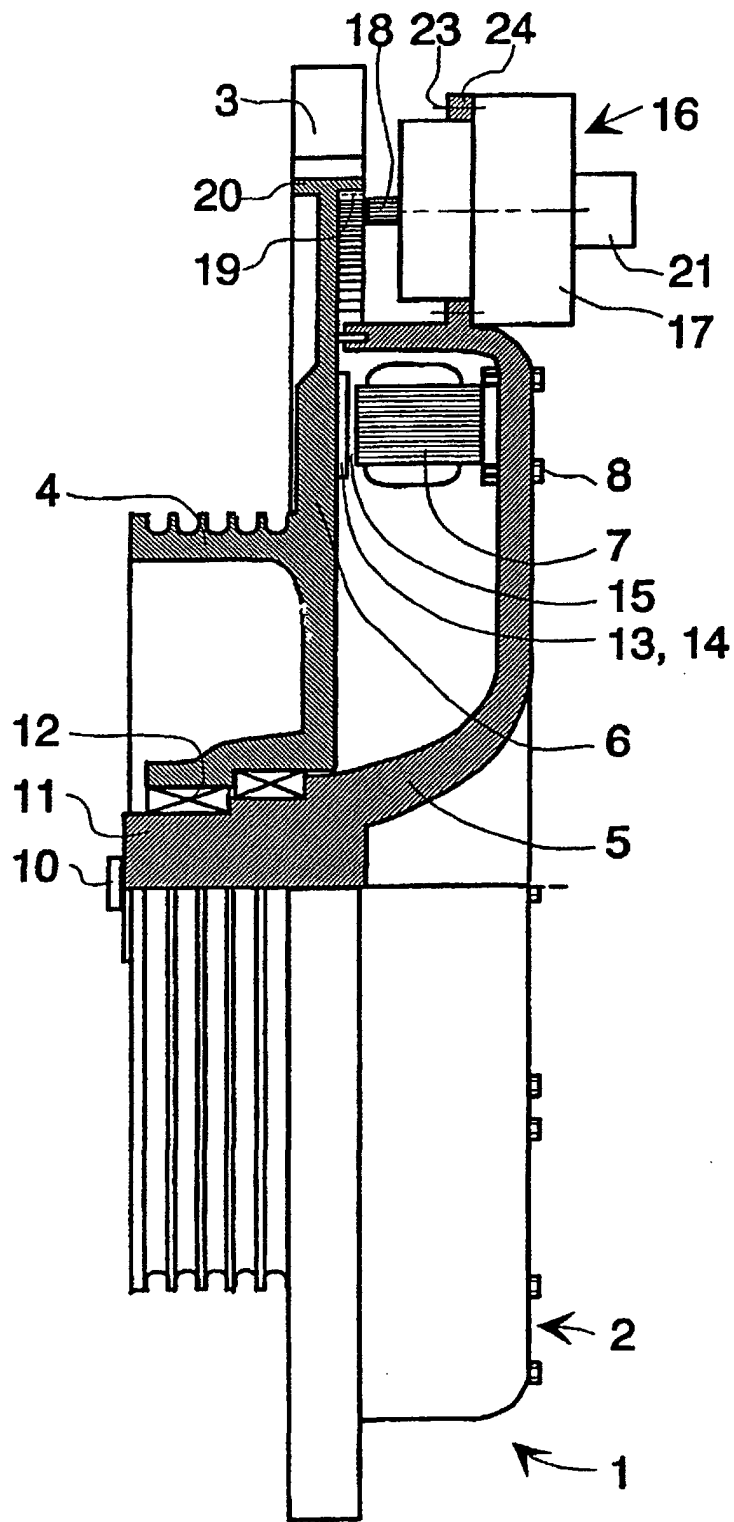


Fig. 1

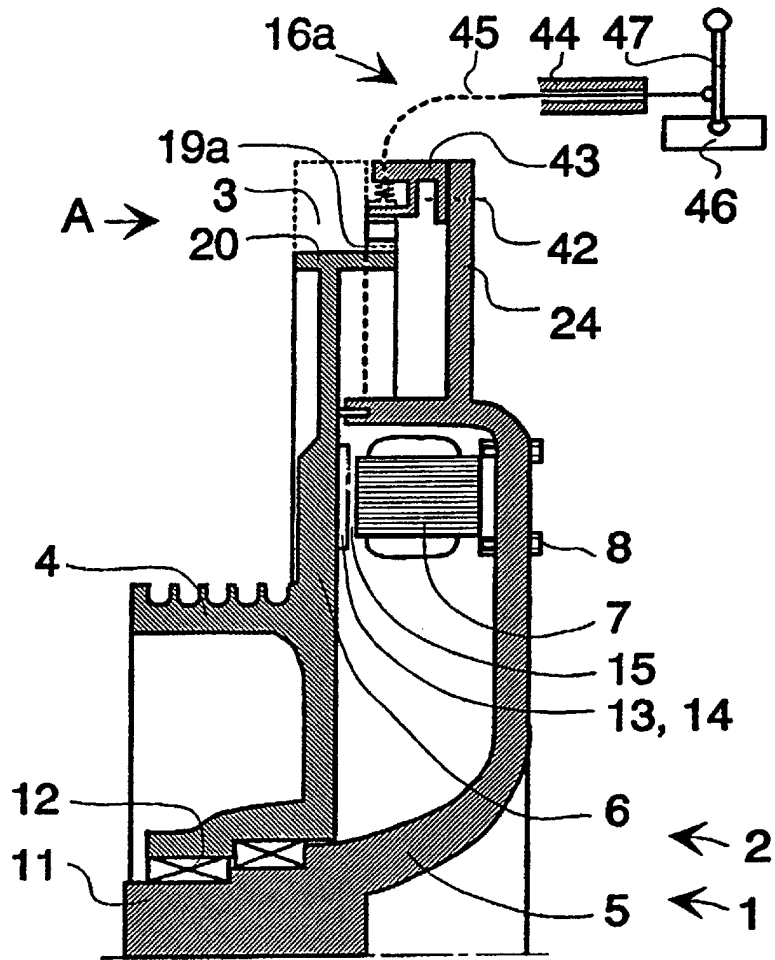


Fig. 2

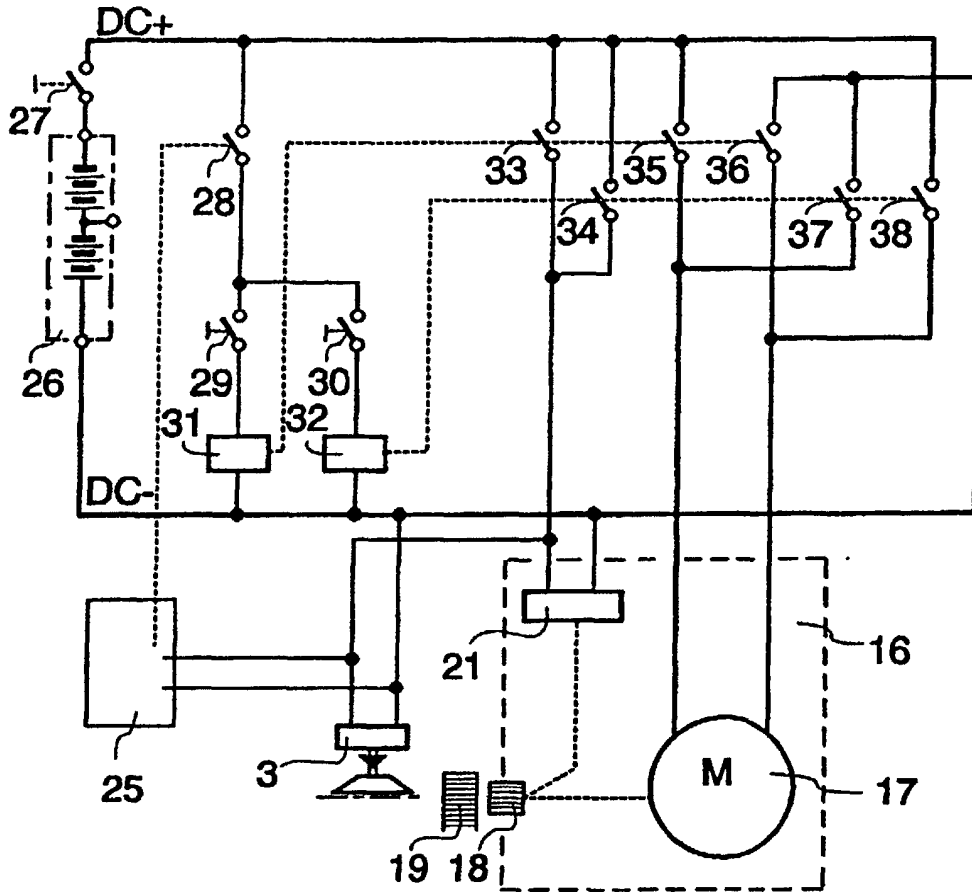


Fig. 3

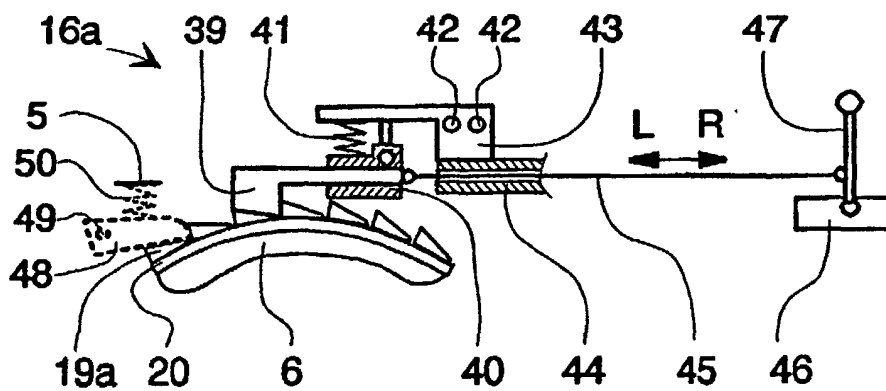


Fig. 4