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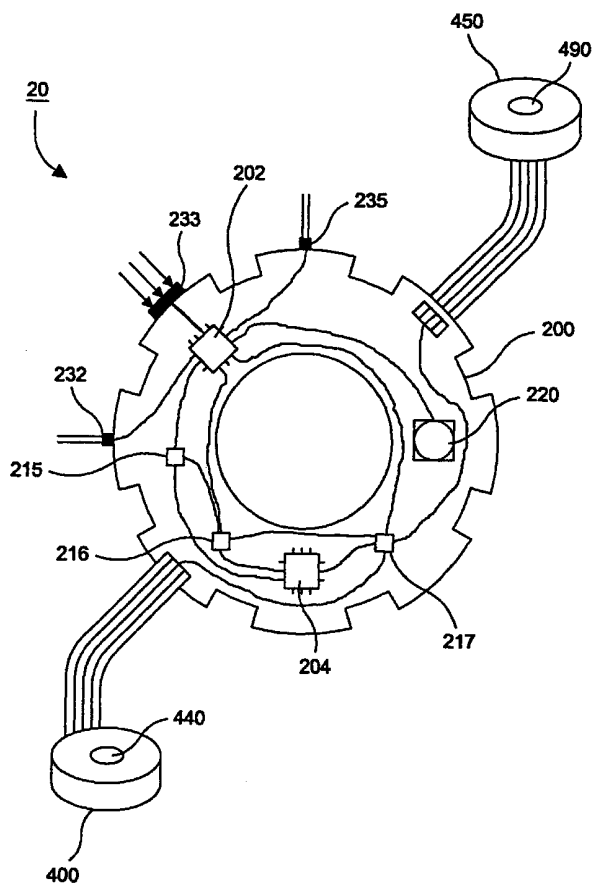
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(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): KANE, James, P., III
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: ELECTRONIC SAFE ARM AND FIRE DEVICE



(57) Abstract: An electronic safe arm and fire (ESAF) device has a common module (200) and a pair of programmable devices (400, 450) that are readily configurable to different missile types. The ESAF device has a first static arming switch that is controlled by the first programmable device and a second static arming switch that is controlled by the second programmable device. The ESAF device has a firing module (400) that has an exploding foil initiator. The common module and the firing module can be configured as a standalone module in close proximity to a warhead or can be integrated into a warhead. The common module has some inputs that are used by all the missiles in a group for the same signals; some inputs that are used by all the missiles, but for different signals; and, some inputs that are used by some of the missiles, but not by all of the missiles. The common module has an input port for a separation signal, a communications port for a fuze data signal, and an input port for a signal that can be used to determine safe separation. The first programmable device is a microcontroller. The second programmable device can be a microcontroller or a programmable logic device. The first programmable device and the second programmable device perform a built-in test by checking the other device against a hardwired value. The ESAF device has a dynamic switch that is turned on by one of the programmable devices and controlled by the other programmable device.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 F42C15/40 F42C11/06		
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 F42C		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 433 697 A (HUGHES AIRCRAFT CO) 26 June 1991 (1991-06-26) abstract; claim 4; figures column 1, line 41 -column 5, line 50 ---	1-16, 18, 19, 21, 22, 25-29
A	US 5 245 926 A (HUNTER DONALD W) 21 September 1993 (1993-09-21) claim 1; figure 1 column 1, line 54 -column 2, line 44 column 3, line 38 - line 50 -----	
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.		
° Special categories of cited documents :		
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		
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Date of the actual completion of the international search <p style="text-align: center;">24 October 2000</p>	Date of mailing of the international search report <p style="text-align: center;">31/10/2000</p>	
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer <p style="text-align: center;">Schwingel, D</p>	

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Information on patent family members

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