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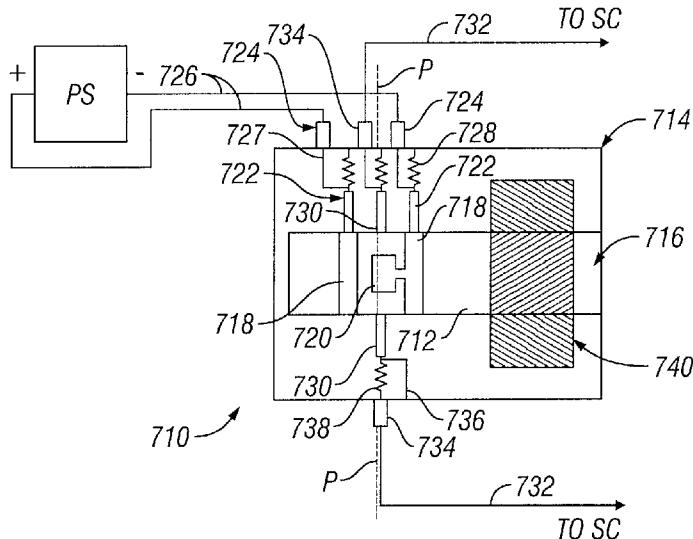
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## (54) Title: BRUSHLESS MOTOR COMMUTATION AND CONTROL



**(57) Abstract:** A commutation apparatus drives a brushless motor having a stator equipped with a plurality of coils and a rotor. The commutation apparatus comprises a rotatable commutator shaft, two or more conducting rings carried discretely about the shaft, and two or more conducting segments carried discretely about the shaft at staggered positions along or near a plane perpendicularly intersecting the shaft. Each conducting segment is electrically connected to one of the conducting rings. Two or more electrical source contacts are provided for rotatably connecting a power supply across pairs of the conducting rings. A plurality of electrical load contacts is further provided for sequentially, rotatably connecting the conducting segments to discrete coils of the brushless motor. In particular embodiments of the commutation apparatus, a magnetic coupling is employed for rotatably coupling the commutator shaft to the rotor of the brushless motor, and a pressure-bearing container is provided for rotatably supporting the commutator shaft and the coupling therein.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
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## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
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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

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A		

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