

Title (en)

CIRCUIT FOR OPERATING ONE OR MORE LOW-PRESSURE DISCHARGE LAMPS

Title (de)

SCHALTUNGSAORDNUNG ZUM BETRIEB EINER ODER MEHRERER NIEDERDRUCKENTLADUNGSLAMPEN

Title (fr)

CIRCUIT POUR ACTIONNER UNE OU PLUSIEURS LAMPE(S) A DECHARGE A BASSE PRESSION

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Abstract (en)

[origin: WO9312631A1] The invention relates to a circuit for operating one or more low-pressure discharge lamps. For each lamp (LP) there is a heating circuit consisting of the electrodes (E1, E2) of the lamp (LP) and a relay contact (K). During the preheating stage, the switch (S), preferably taking the form of a threshold switch, detects the rectified, smoothed voltage of the electrode coils (E1, E2) and, if the electrodes (E1, E2) have preheated sufficiently, opens the relay contact (K) via the relay coil (RL). In another preferred embodiment, the relay is replaced by a field effect transistor which is switched off at the end of the preheating stage by an electronic switch which assesses the voltage drop across the electrode coil (E1). The circuit arrangement of the invention permits the best possible preheating of the lamp electrodes in an economical manner.

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