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Publication number:

**0 034 401
A3**

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

Application number: **81300106.2**

Int. Cl.³: **H 05 B 41/04**

Date of filing: **12.01.81**

Priority: **08.02.80 GB 8004226**

Date of publication of application:
26.08.81 Bulletin 81/34

Date of deferred publication of search report: **02.09.81**

Designated Contracting States:
AT CH DE GB IT LI NL

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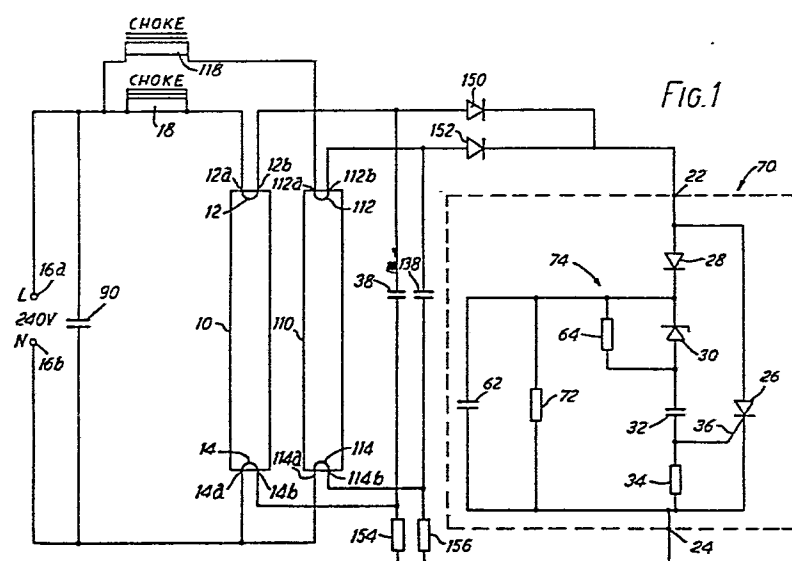
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Discharge lamp circuit.

Two (or more) gas discharge lamps (10, 110), each in series with a choke ballast (18, 118) across A.C. supply terminals (16a, 16b) are started by a single starter circuit (70), the lamps being connected to the starter circuit through respective rectifying diodes (150, 152). The starter circuit (70) operates with rectified half-cycles of the A.C. supply, and resistors (154, 156) balance the cathode heating currents between the two lamps. Preferably the starter circuit is rendered ineffective in a failed-lamp condition, and to this end (per DE-OS 28 16 415) it includes a thyristor (26) triggered by a control circuit which includes a capacitor (32) effective to increase the instantaneous applied voltage which is required to trigger the thyristor with successive cycles of the applied voltage after initial switch-on of the circuit. A Zener diode (30) is in series with the capacitor (32).

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

0034401

Application number

EP EP 81 30 0106

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
	US - A - 4 079 292 (KANEDA) * Column 6, lines 38-60; column 24, lines 41-48; figures 1,23 * -----	1-4	H 05 B 41/04
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.)
			H 05 B 41/04 41/14 41/16 41/18
			CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS
			X: particularly relevant A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: conflicting application D: document cited in the application L: citation for other reasons
			&: member of the same patent family, corresponding document
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
The Hague	09-06-1981	DUCHEYNE	