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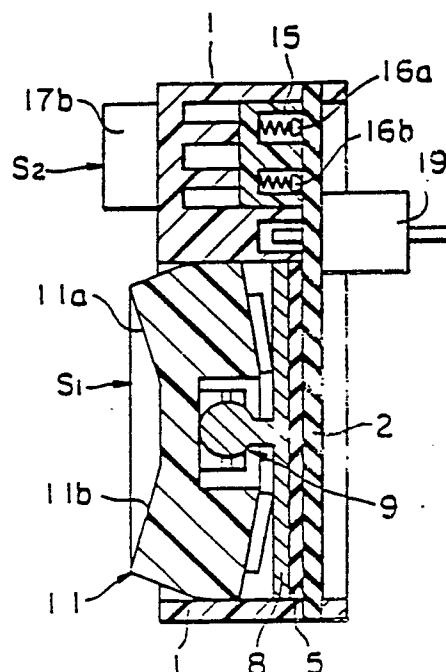
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(54) **Multi-position electrical switch.**

(57) The present invention relates to a multi-position electrical switch comprising a housing (1), an insulating board (2) provided with a pair of electrodes constituting fixed contacts, a pressure-sensitive electrically conductive rubber sheet (5) extending over said electrodes so as to form switch elements with the latter, a supporting plate (8) disposed on the rubber sheet and having a central ball-and-socket joint (9) and a plurality of openings, and an operating button (11) tiltably mounted on the ball of said joint.

The bottom face of the button (11) has four faces having raised pressing surfaces arranged for engagement with the portions of the rubber sheet corresponding to the switch elements when the button (11) is tilted. The ball of the joint (9) has pins whereas the socket has grooves for receiving respective ones of said pins when the button is tilted, the grooves being elastic and slightly narrower than the diameter of the pins in order to urge the button back from a tilted position to its untilted position.

F I G. 2





| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Category | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages | Relevant to claim | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4) |
| A | FR-A-2 368 790 (RENAULT) * Page 2, line 14 - page 5, line 12 * --- | 1 | H 01 H 25/04 H 01 H 13/72 |
| A,D | US-A-4 029 915 (OJIMA) * Column 3, line 27 - column 6, line 41 * | 1 | |
| A | US-A-4 249 086 (MOCHIZUKI) * Whole document * ----- | 1 | |
| | | | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4) |
| | | | H 01 H 25/00 H 01 H 13/00 B 60 R 1/00 |
| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims | | | |
| Place of search THE HAGUE | | Date of completion of the search 22-09-1988 | Examiner DESMET W.H.G. |
| CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document | | | |