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EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

21 Application number: **88311069.4**

51 Int. Cl.⁵: **G08G 1/015**

22 Date of filing: **23.11.88**

30 Priority: **27.11.87 GB 8727824**

43 Date of publication of application:
31.05.89 Bulletin 89/22

84 Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH DE ES FR GB GR IT LI LU NL SE

88 Date of deferred publication of the search report:
04.07.90 Bulletin 90/27

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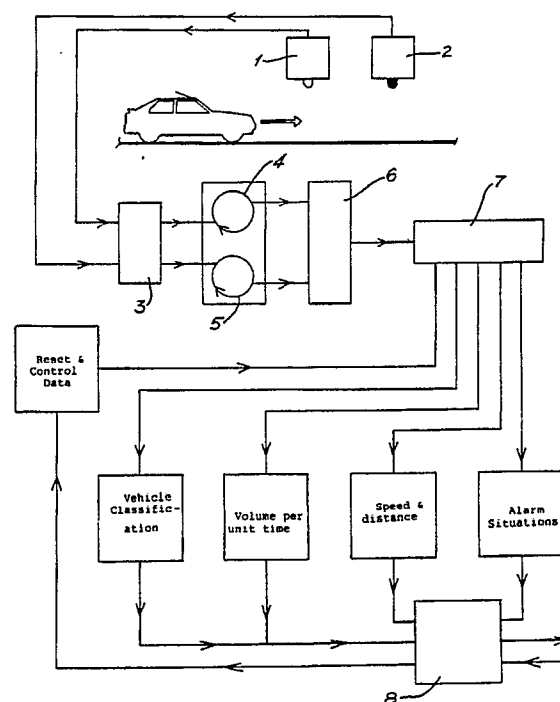
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54 **Monitoring means.**

57 The invention relates to monitoring means particularly for traffic using a road or motorway, the object being to provide information relating to traffic make-up, densities, speeds and the recognition of alarm situations. This objective is met by monitoring means characterised by at least two radiation detection means (1, 2) set in longitudinal spaced relationship in alignment with an intended direction of movement of objects passing below the radiation detection means, each detector being adapted to produce a signal pulse that is a function of the length and speed of an object passing below the detectors, and the at least two detectors being connected to processor means (7) adapted to store and compare the signal pulses generated by each detector. By providing two detectors the pulse outputs from which can be recognised as being from the same vehicle, and are a function of the length and speed of a vehicle, all manner of information can be provided by the data processor such as the categorising of vehicles by length, the volume of traffic per unit time, the speed and spacing of successive vehicles and the progressive slowing down of traffic on a particular stretch of road or motorway, to provide reliable information for analytical purposes and to activate appropriate warning signals positioned alongside in advance of and beyond the position of the detectors,

as may be appropriate.





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)
X	FR-A-2 523 341 (TECHNO) * Page 1, line 1 - page 4, line 26; page 12, line 27 - page 14, line 21; figure 1 * ---	1,3-5	G 08 G 1/04 G 08 G 1/015
X	DE-A-2 557 185 (MATRA) * Page 1, line 1 - page 2, line 25; page 16, line 21 - page 17, line 13; figure 6 * ---	1-4	
A	GB-A-2 154 388 (DEFENCE UK) * Abstract * ---	2	
A	EP-A-0 171 098 (PHILIPS) * Page 5, line 29 - page 6, line 10; figure 1 * -----	6-7	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
			G 08 G
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 12-04-1990	Examiner SGURA S.
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			