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(54) **Fluorescent lamp energizing circuit**

(57) An improved energizing circuit for starting and regulating a gaseous discharge lamp. The circuit is 100% solid state and does not require the use of any inductive components or any filaments for its proper operation. The circuit is made up of several subcircuits including a rectifying/voltage-doubling circuit, a second multiplying circuit, a low power oscillating circuit and a

high voltage amplifier circuit. A high frequency AC signal is used to ionize the gas and ignite the lamp, while a DC signal is generated by the circuit to keep the lamp illuminated once it is ignited. The size and weight of the integrated circuit ballast are such that it could be incorporated into the fluorescent lamp package itself.

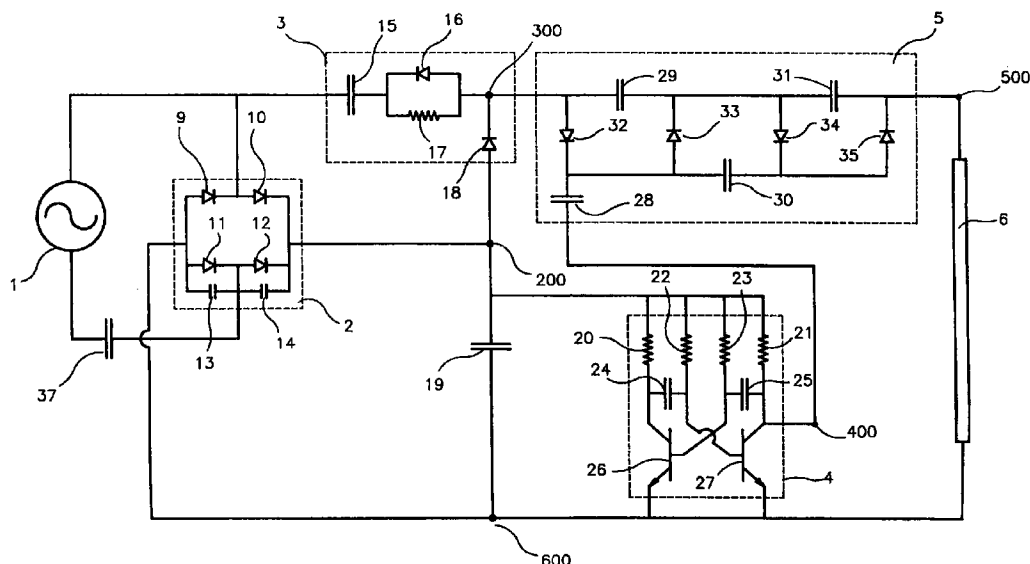


FIG.5

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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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.6)
X A	FR-A-2 645 393 (FERRERO) * page 3, line 29 - page 5, line 4; figure 1 * -----	1-3 5,10	H05B41/16 H05B41/232
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			H05B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 22 January 1996	Examiner Speiser, P
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p>			

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