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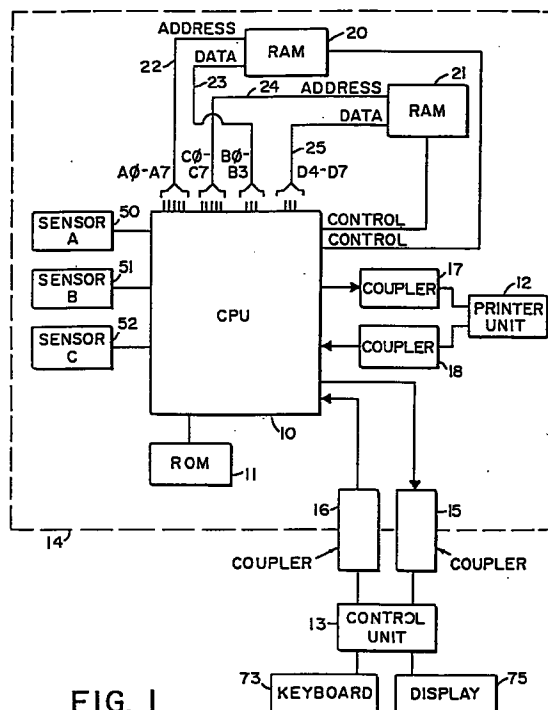
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(54) **Microprocessor systems for electronic postage arrangements**

(57) A microprocessor system suitable for an electronic postage arrangement comprises a microprocessor (10), register means (20, 21) coupled to said microprocessor for storing postage accounting data and a plurality of sensors (50, 51, 52) for detecting operation conditions in said postage meter. The microprocessor has a software routine stored in a permanent memory (11) to check said sensors periodically during operation and means responsive to the noncorrespondence of the outputs of said sensors and a unique code stored in said microprocessor permanent memory, upon a comparison performed in accordance with said software routine, for indicating an error condition.



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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 96 11 0413

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)
Y,D	EP-A-0 019 515 (FRIDEN CORP) 26 November 1980 * page 3, line 26 - page 5, column 27 * * page 10, line 10 - page 12, line 2 * * page 15, line 31 - page 16, line 9 * * page 18, line 12 - page 19, line 6 * * page 40, line 15 - page 42, line 21; claims; figures * ---	1-4,6-10	G07B17/02
Y	EP-A-0 017 406 (PITNEY BOWES) 15 October 1980 * page 3, line 10 - page 4, line 32 *	1-3	
A	* page 13, line 29 - page 14, line 22; figures * ---	8-10	
Y	US-A-3 544 777 (WINKLER TED) 1 December 1970 * claims; figures * ---	1,6,7	
Y,D	US-A-4 301 507 (SODERBERG JOHN H ET AL) 17 November 1981 * abstract; figures 3-9,14-16 * * column 1, line 26 - column 2, line 48 * * column 7, line 24 - column 8, line 61 * * column 14, line 55 - column 15, line 65 * ---	4	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6) G07B G06F
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 9 August 1996	Examiner Meyl, D
<p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></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 ----- &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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Application Number  
EP 96 11 0413

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)
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A	GB-A-2 079 223 (RONEO ALCATEL LTD) 20 January 1982 * abstract; claims 20-25; figures 10,11 *	1-3,6-8,10	
A	IBM TECHNICAL DISCLOSURE BULLETIN, vol. 20, no. 10, March 1978, NEW YORK, US, pages 4071-4072, XP002010547 ANONYMOUS: "Nonvolatile Totals Implementation. March 1978." * the whole document *	1,8,10	
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