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(54) **Alarm system**

(57) A fire alarm system comprises control panel 13, first and second two-wire alarm circuits 17, 18 extending from the control panel 13 into respective zones, each alarm circuit comprising a plurality of combined detector and sounder devices 10 connected in parallel across the wires 11, 12 of the circuit. Upon detection of smoke or heat in one of the zones, the activated device 10 is arranged to draw a pulsed current from the control panel 13, which can be detected to trigger an alarm condition

in the control panel 13, whereupon the control panel 13 applies an alarm signal circuit to the alarm circuits 17, 18 of both zones, so as to energise the sounders of all devices 10. The pulsed current that is drawn by the devices 10 when they are activated by heat or smoke means that any further change in current that is caused when more devices 10 are activated as the fire spreads will be detected by the control panel 13, despite the heavy current being drawn by the energised sounders.

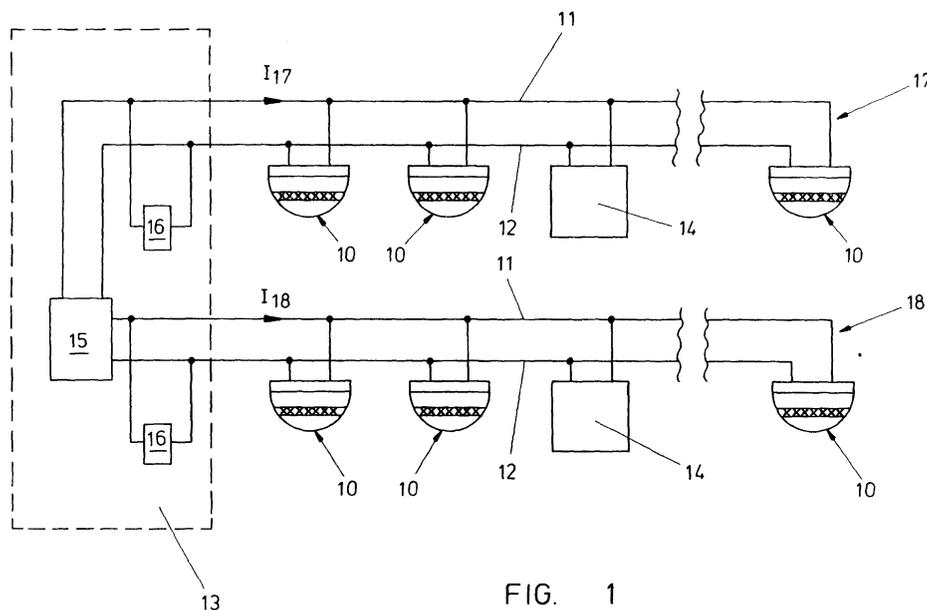


FIG. 1



European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 98 30 0392

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	EP 0 694 893 A (LEWINER JACQUES ;SMYCZ EUGENIUSZ (FR)) 31 January 1996 (1996-01-31) * the whole document *	1-9	G08B25/01
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			G08B
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
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CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		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	
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		& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 98 30 0392

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82