



(12) **CORRECTED EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

published in accordance with Art. 158(3) EPC

Note: Bibliography reflects the latest situation

(15) Correction information:

Corrected version no 1 (W1 A1)
INID code(s) 71,72

(51) Int Cl.:

H01H 47/00 (1968.09)

(48) Corrigendum issued on:

15.03.2006 Bulletin 2006/11

(86) International application number:

PCT/JP2004/004410

(43) Date of publication:

28.12.2005 Bulletin 2005/52

(87) International publication number:

WO 2004/088696 (14.10.2004 Gazette 2004/42)

(21) Application number: **04724176.5**

(22) Date of filing: **29.03.2004**

(84) Designated Contracting States:

DE FR IT

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(30) Priority: **31.03.2003 JP 2003095045**

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(54) **RELAY CONTACT WELDING DETECTION METHOD AND APPARATUS**

(57) A method for detecting a welding of a relay contact in a circuit having a DC power supply; a load circuit; a first main relay and a second main relay respectively inserted in a pair of power supply lines disposed between the DC power supply and the load circuit; and a precharge relay which is provided in parallel to the contact of the first main relay has the step of carrying out a sequence control to each of the relays (11, 12, 13) while measuring voltage across both ends of the load circuit (16) when

shifting from a normal operation state in which a first main relay (11) and a second main relay (12) are controlled to be on and the precharge relay (13) is controlled to be off to a suspension state in which each of the relays (11, 12, 13) are controlled to be off. The welding of the relay contact of the first main relay (11) and the second main relay (12) is determined independently and separately from a correspondence between the proceeding of the sequence and the measured voltage.

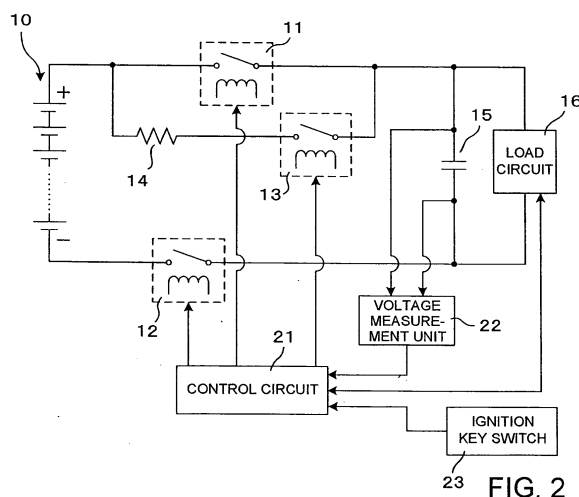


FIG. 2