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(71) Applicant: **Yamaha Hatsudoki Kabushiki Kaisha**
Shizuoka-ken Shizuoka 438-8501 (JP)

(72) Inventor: **Mizutani, Makoto**
c/o Yamaha Marine Kabushiki Kaisha
Hamamatsu-shi
Shizuoka-ken (JP)

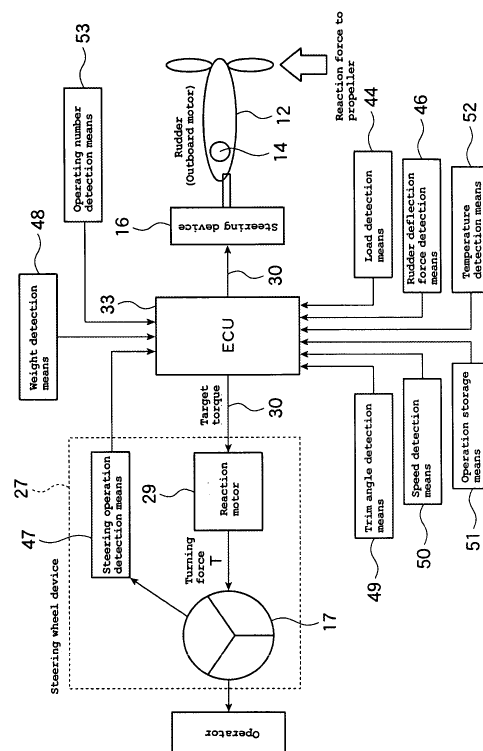
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(74) Representative: **Grünecker, Kinkeldey,**
Stockmair & Schwanhäusser
Anwaltssozietät
Leopoldstrasse 4
80802 München (DE)

(54) **Steering system for a watercraft**

(57) The present invention relates to a steering system for a watercraft, comprising: a rudder, in particular an outboard motor (12); a steering device (16) including an actuator, in particular an electric motor (20) configured to change a direction in which the watercraft travels; a steering amount input means, such as a steering wheel (17), operable by an operator, electrically connected to the actuator (20) to provide an actuation signal corresponding to the amount of a steering operation to the actuator (20); and control means (33) for controlling a limit of a rudder deflection angle, the control means (33) including at least one of operation status detection means (38) for detecting an operation status corresponding to the steering operation, running status detection means (39) for detecting a running status of the watercraft, watercraft propulsion unit status recognition means (40) for recognizing a status of a watercraft propulsion unit, such as an outboard motor (12), such as the installation number thereof, and actuator status detection means (41) for detecting a status of the actuator (20); and rudder deflection angle control means (42) for controlling a limit rudder deflection angle based on the detection value from the at least one of the detection and recognition means.

[FIG. 3]





EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 07 02 2329

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Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 20 April 2011	Examiner Gardel, Antony
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			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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