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(54) **Fluid dispenser having infrared user sensor**

(57) A dispenser (10) utilizes a controller (26) in conjunction with a photodetector (22) in order to provide automatic dispensing to a user when an object enters a target area. The controller (26) is programmed to pulse a light source (24) that is mounted proximate the photodetector (22). The controller (26) constantly monitors the voltage at the receiving signal of the photodetector (22), and evaluates the difference in voltage from the light pulsed on and off. The controller (26) sums the differences, and constantly updates the differences over a designated period to create an average difference value. The average difference value is summed with a target offset value and compared to a momentary voltage difference. When the momentary difference exceeds the sum of the target offset value and average difference, the controller (26) sends a signal via an actuating mechanism (20) to a dispense mechanism (18) which dispenses a fluid or other product on the object.

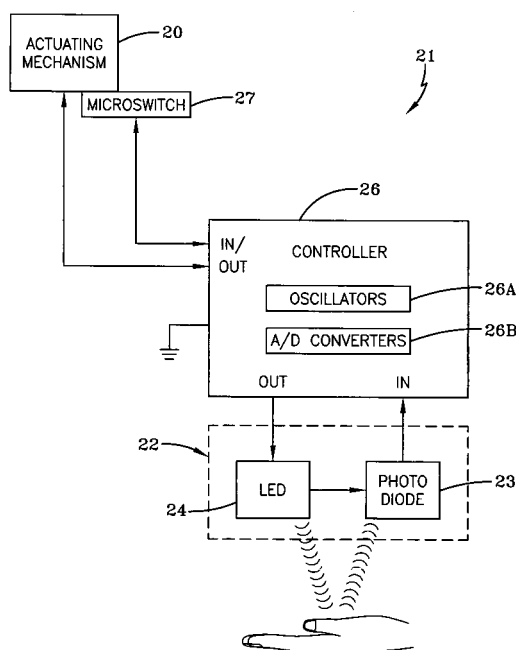


FIG-2