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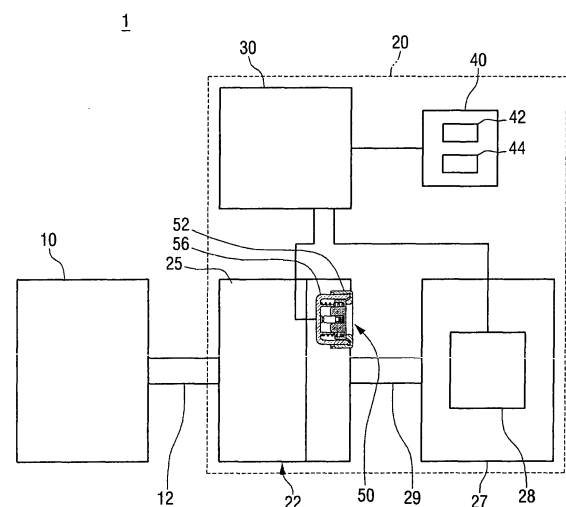
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(54) **A damper assembly for a vacuum cleaner**

(57) A damper assembly (50) for a vacuum cleaner, and a motor protection and dust emptying time-notification method using the damper assembly (50), which introduce air into a dust separating chamber (22) to increase a pressure in the dust separating chamber (22) when a sub-atmospheric pressure is increased above a certain level in the dust separating chamber (22) and which notifies a user of the exceedance of a limit, are disclosed. The damper assembly (50) includes a casing (52) having an air inflow port (54); a damper body coupled with the casing (52) and having an air outflow port (66); a piston (60) disposed in the damper body (56) to be movable between a first position and a second position, the piston (60) being movable towards the second position by a change in air pressure in the damper body (56); a resilient member (68,70,72) for resiliently pressing the piston (60) towards the first position; and a detection sensor (80) to generate a signal when the piston (60) is in the second position. The piston (60) blocks fluid communication between the air inflow port (54) and the air outflow port (66) when in the first position, and permits fluid communication between the air inflow port (54) and the air outflow port (66) when in the second position.

FIG. 1





EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 18 October 2010	Examiner Masset, Markus
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</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 & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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