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(72) Inventors:
• **Skarby, Per**
CH-5436 Würenlos (CH)
• **Steiger, Ueli**
8038 Zürich (CH)

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(74) Representative: **ABB Patent Attorneys**
C/o ABB Schweiz AG
Intellectual Property (CH-LC/IP)
Brown Boveri Strasse 6
5400 Baden (CH)

(71) Applicant: **ABB Technology AG**
8050 Zürich (CH)

(54) **Contact elements for medium to high voltage switches**

(57) A medium or high voltage switch has a first set of contact elements (13a, 13b, 13c) and a second set of contact elements (14a, 14b, 14c). Each contact element consists of an insulating carrier (15) carrying conducting elements (16). In the closed state of the switch, the conducting elements (16) align to form one or more current paths between terminals (8, 9) of the switch along an

axial direction (A). For opening the switch, the contact elements are mutually displaced by means of two drives (18, 19) along a direction (D) perpendicular to the axial direction (A) with the conducting elements (16) mounted onto the contact elements by means of springloaded pins (161, 162).

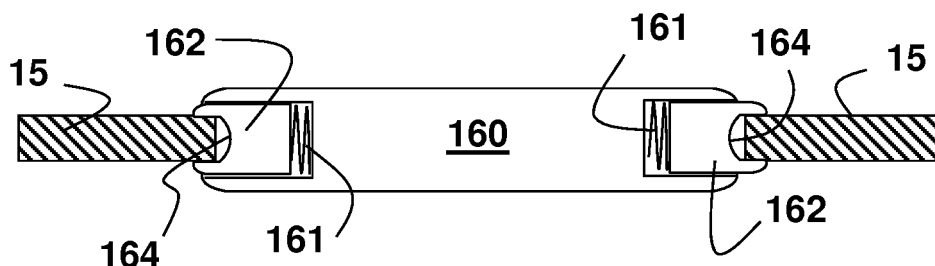


FIG. 3C



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 14 18 9463

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
Y,D	US 2012/256711 A1 (LILJESTRAND LARS [SE] ET AL) 11 October 2012 (2012-10-11) * figures 1,2 *	1	INV. H01H1/50 H01H33/64
Y	US 3 310 640 A (ALEXANDER BLEIBTREU) 21 March 1967 (1967-03-21) * column 3, line 1 - line 5 *	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			H01H
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 26 March 2015	Examiner Socher, Günther
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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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):

☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.

☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:

☒ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

1-9

☐ The present supplementary European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims (Rule 164 (1) EPC).

**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number

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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-9

High or medium voltage switch comprising contact elements having a carrier with spring-loaded conducting elements.

2. claims: 10, 11

A DC switch having at least a carrier part made of aramid fiber reinforced epoxy resin for mounting conducting elements.

3. claim: 12

A current breaker comprising a switch according to the first or second invention comprising solid state breakers.

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

EP 14 18 9463

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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26-03-2015

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