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(54) **LIGHTING FEATURES FOR A LIFT GATE
OF A VEHICLE**

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(71) Applicant: **Rivian IP Holdings, LLC**, Irvine, CA
(US)

(72) Inventors: **Simon BAKER**, Basingstoke (GB);
Siobhan Marie CASEY, Newport
Beach, CA (US); **Timothy BEAVEN**,
Bicester (GB); **Micheal Richard**
CASTIGLIONE, Carlsbad, CA (US);
Shammika Ashan
WICKRAMASINGHE, Banbury (GB)

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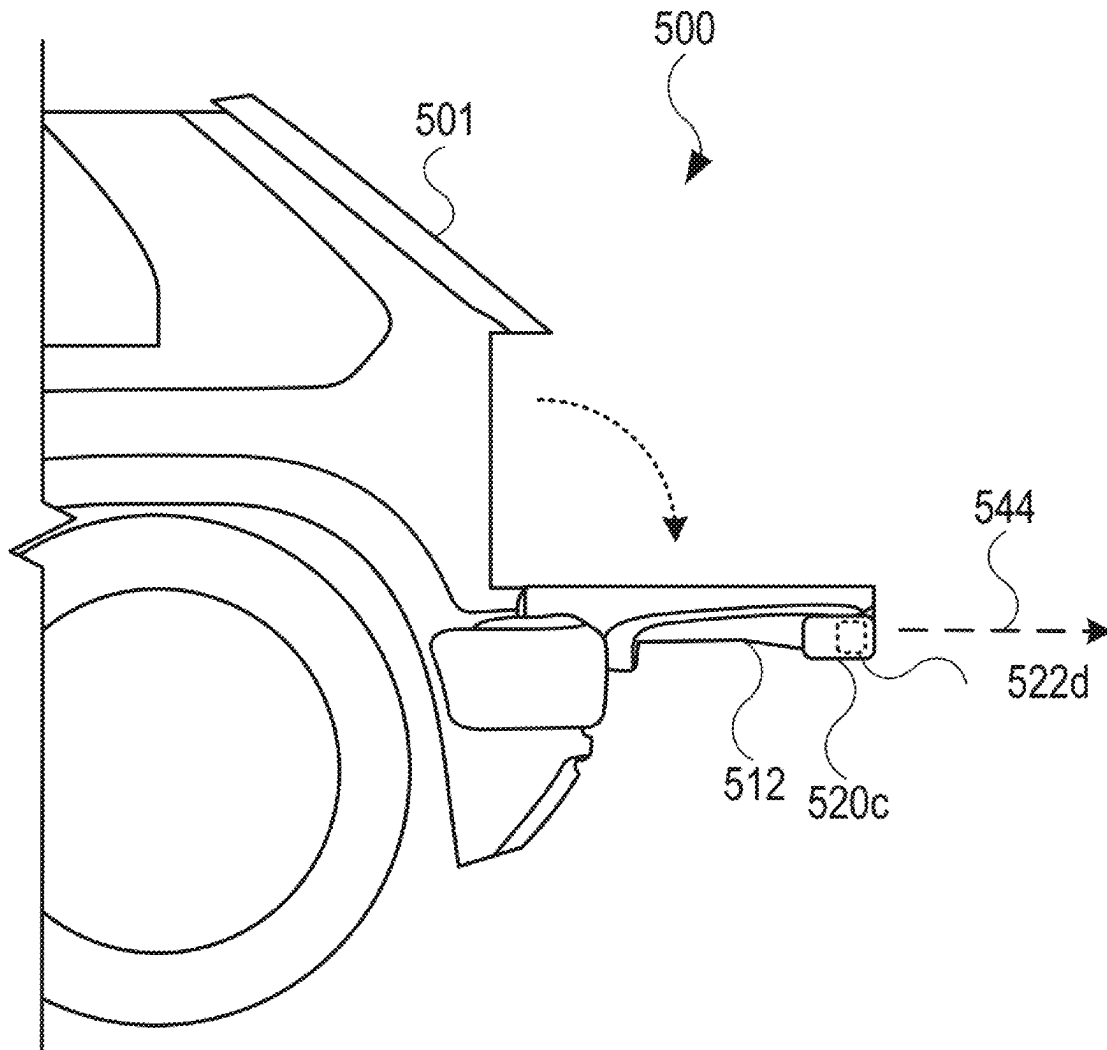
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(60) Provisional application No. 63/553,620, filed on Feb.
14, 2024.

(57)

ABSTRACT

Rear lighting systems of a vehicle may include lights sources that function as taillights, brake lights, turn lights, fog lights. Some lights sources may surround, or at least partially surround, other lights sources. Further, some light sources are mounted on a lift gate, and may be visible to other drivers and/or pedestrians behind the vehicle regardless of whether the lift gate is in an open or closed position.



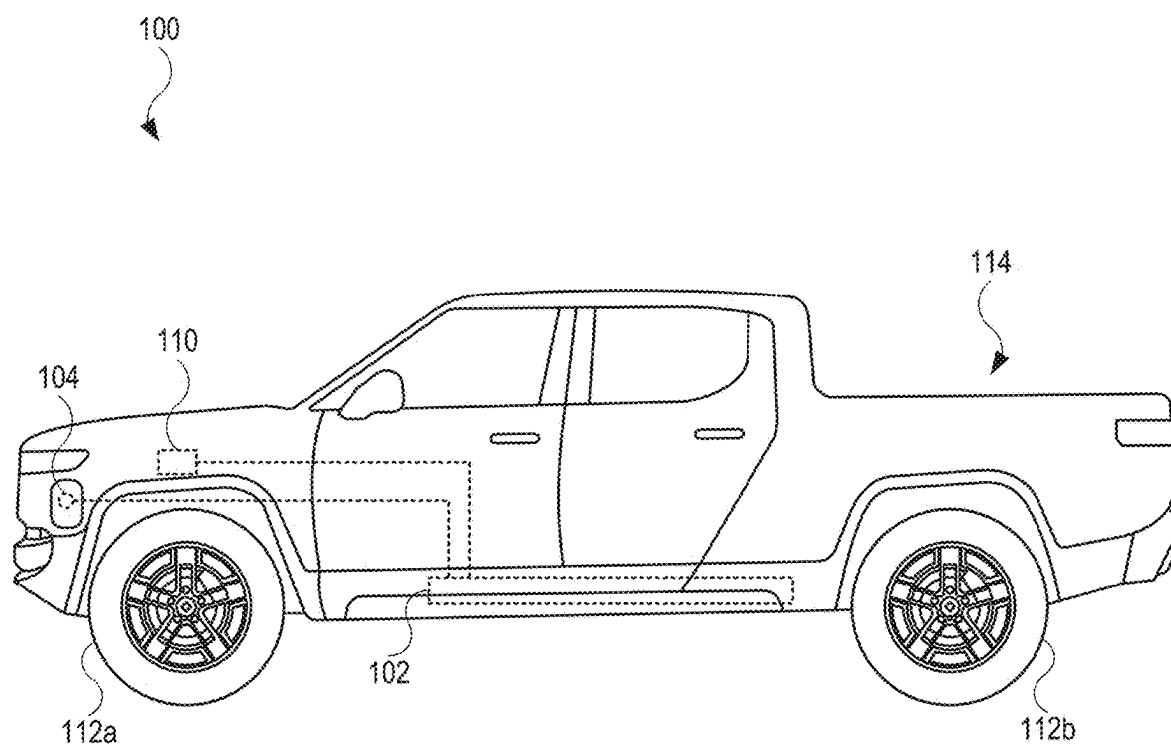


FIG. 1

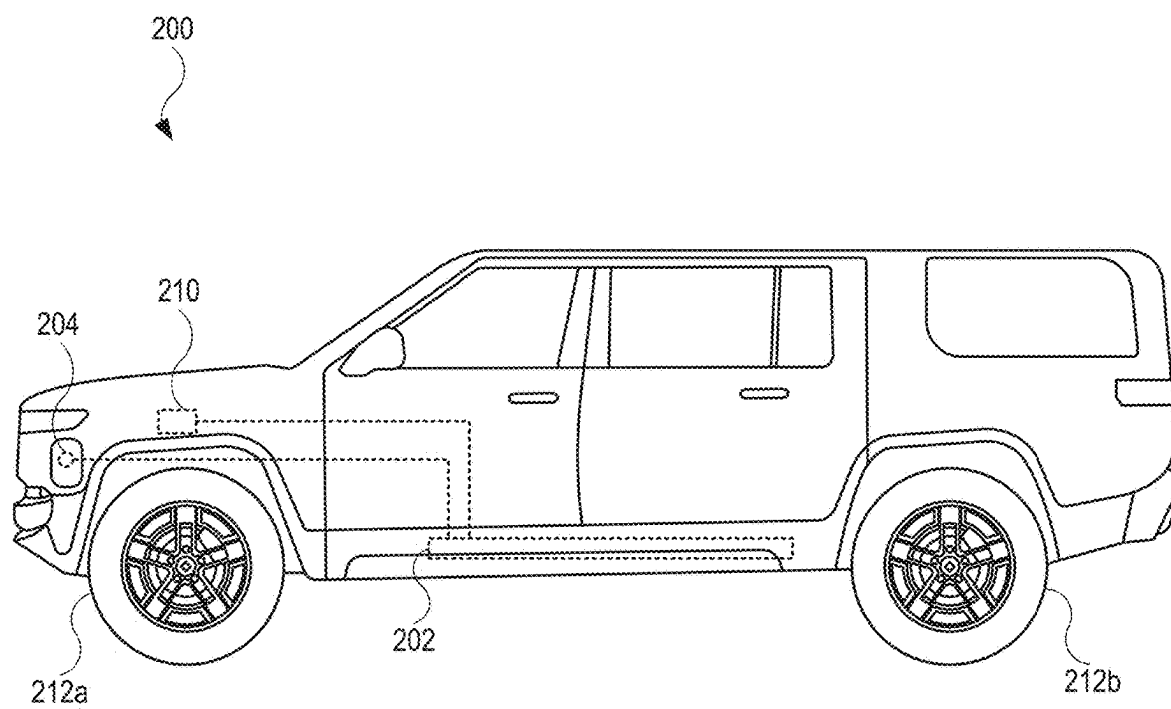


FIG. 2

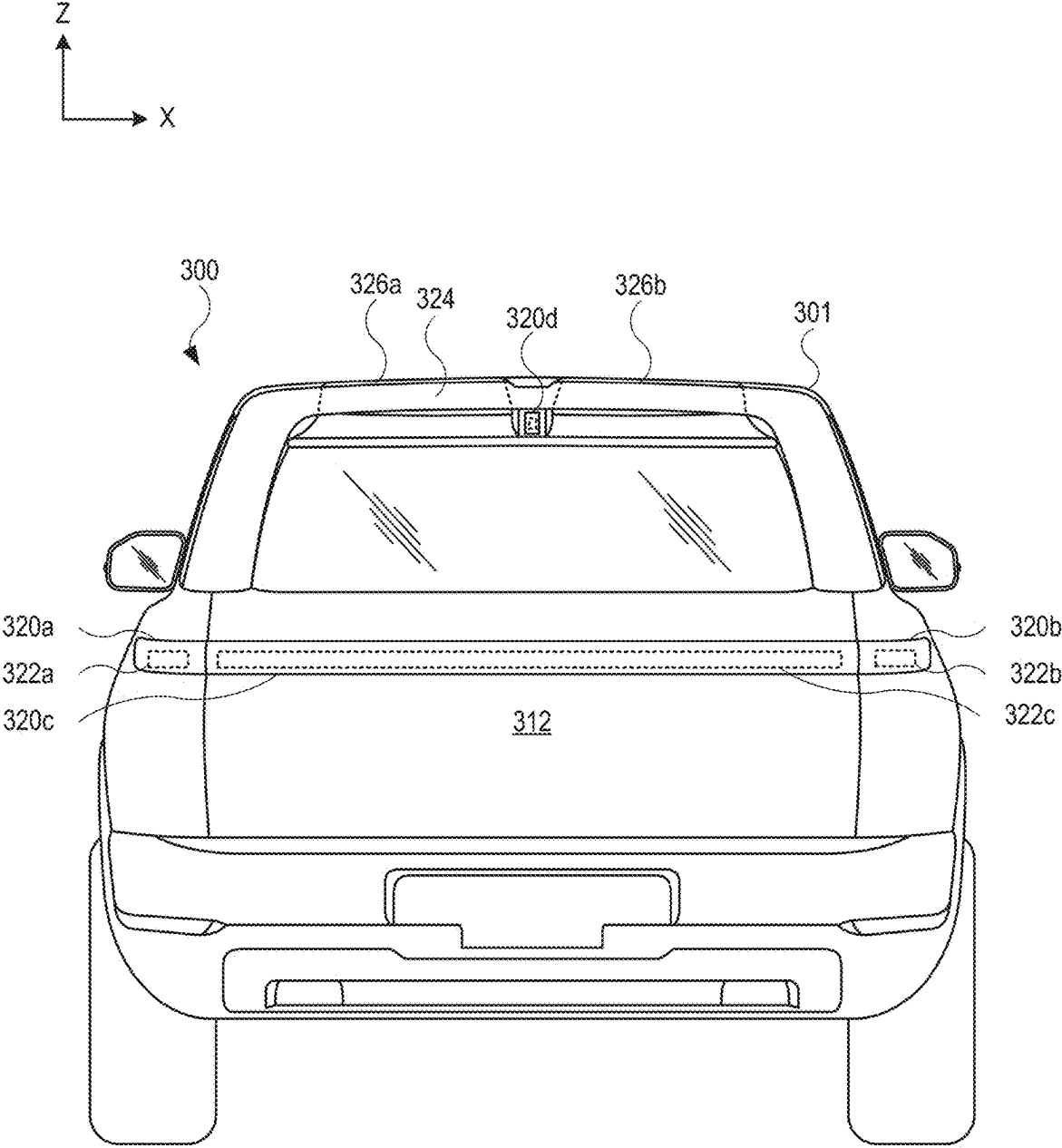


FIG. 3

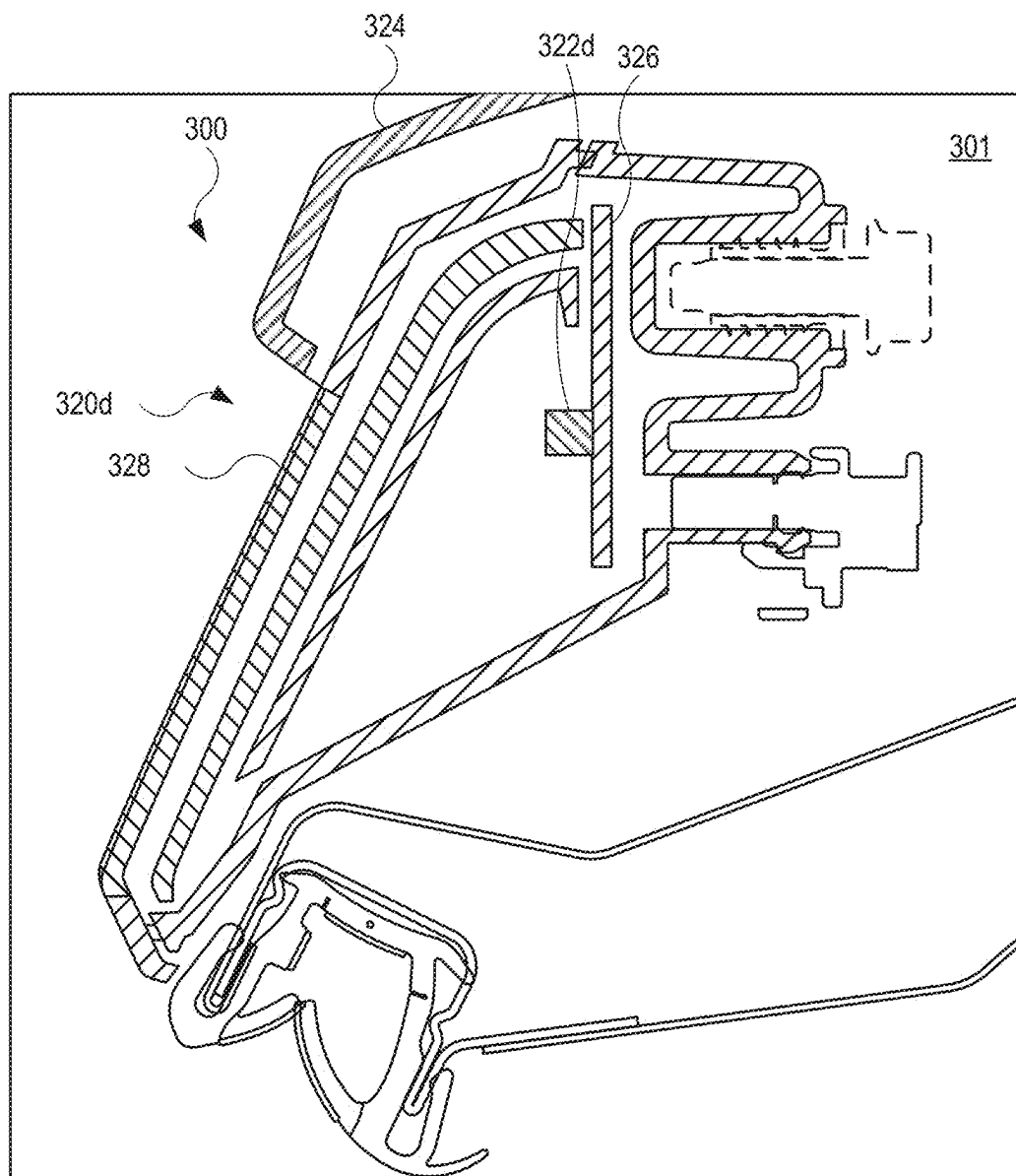


FIG. 4

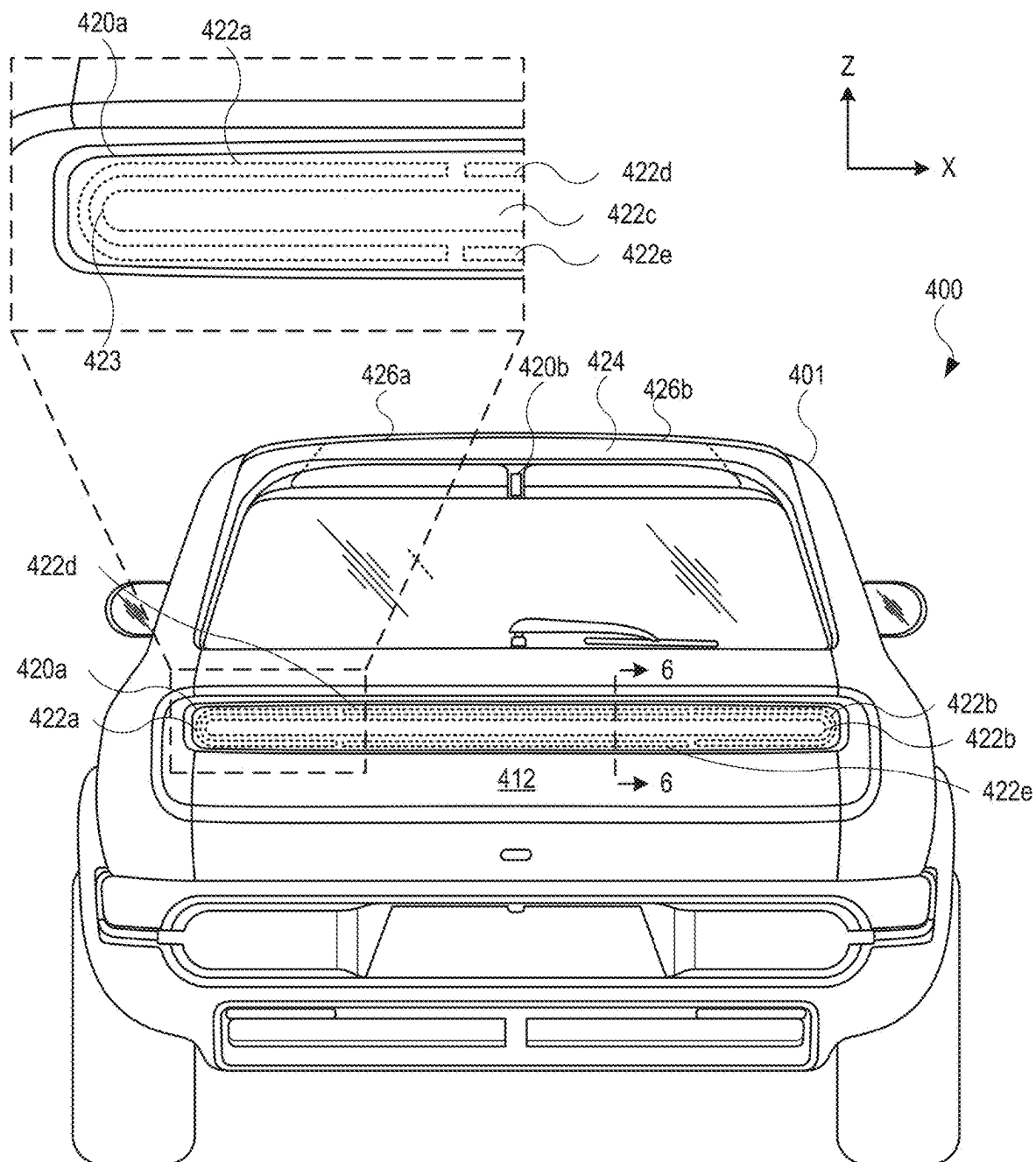


FIG. 5

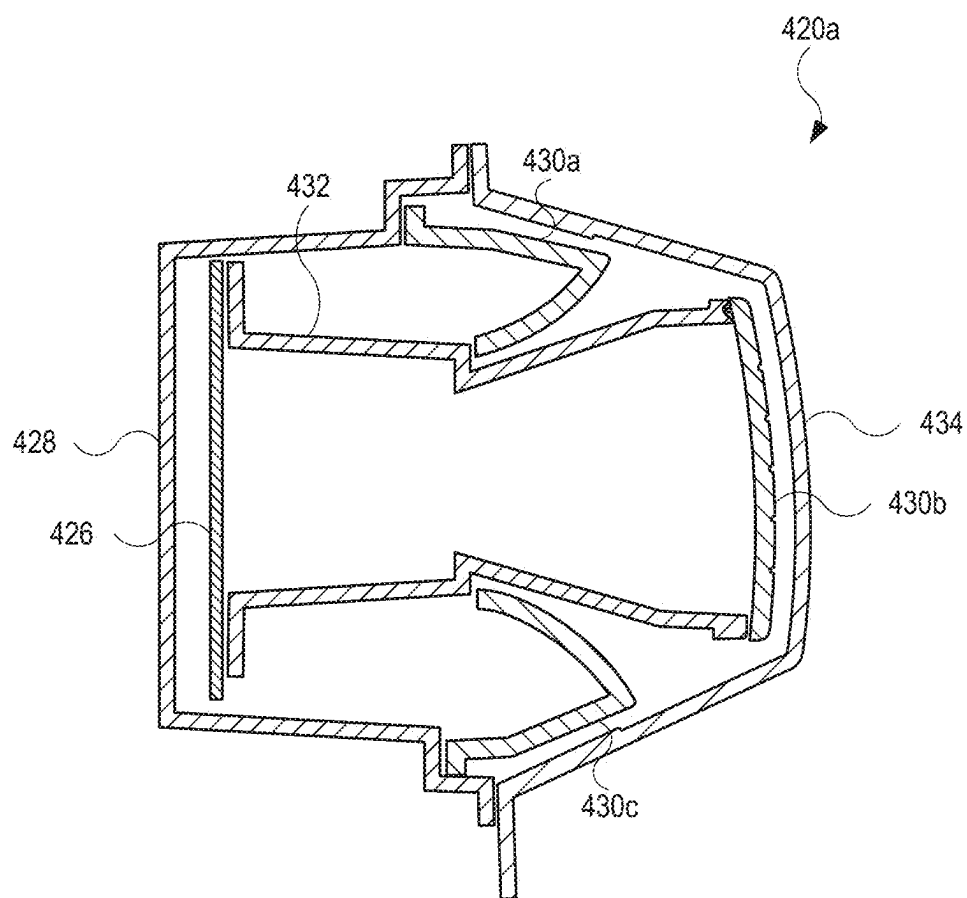


FIG. 6

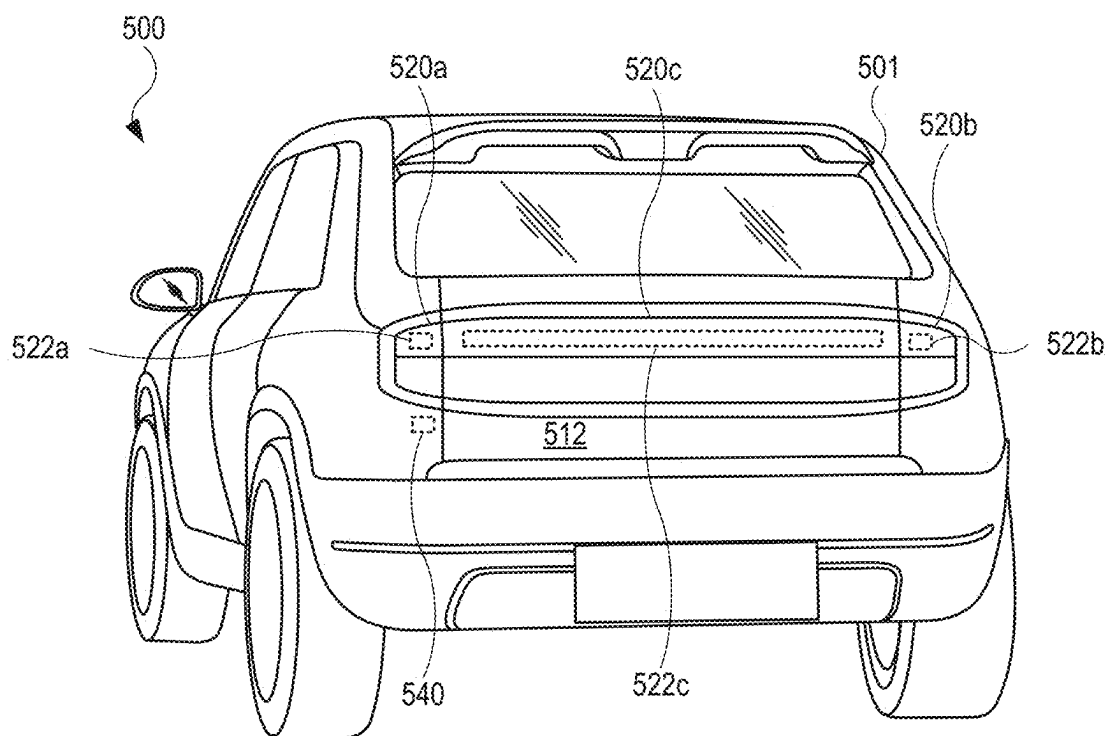


FIG. 7

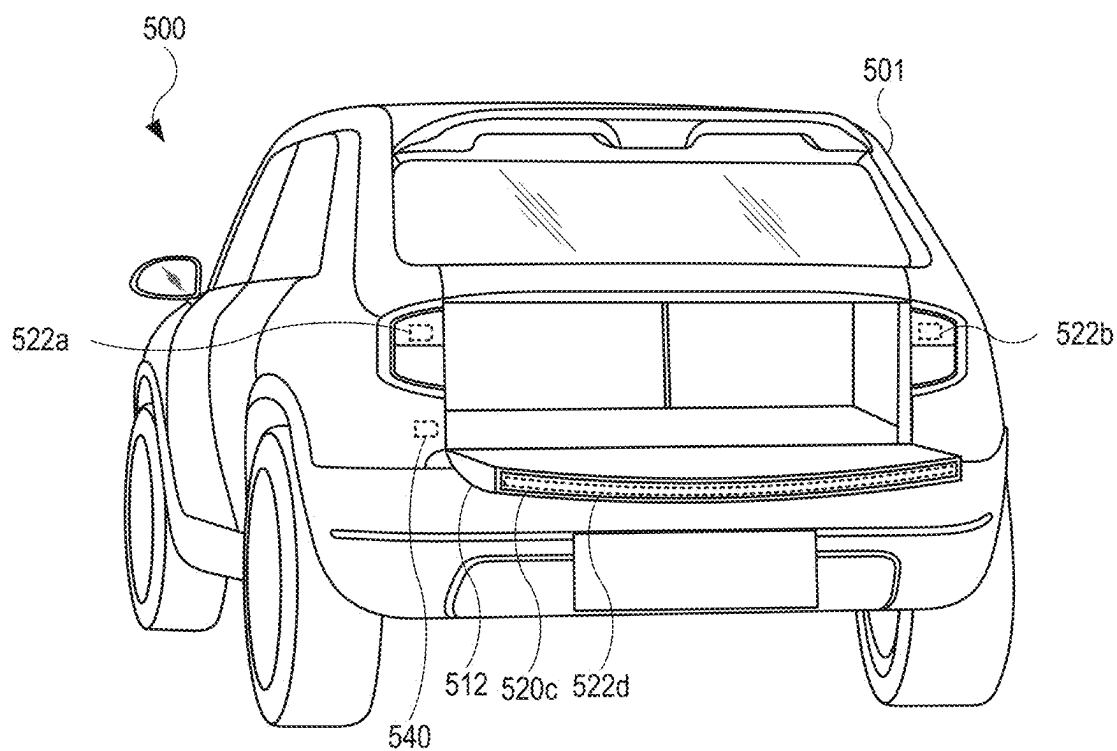


FIG. 8

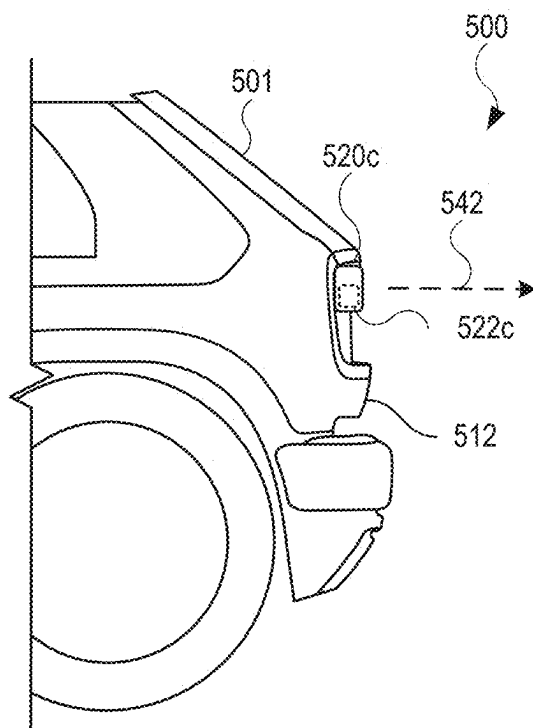


FIG. 9

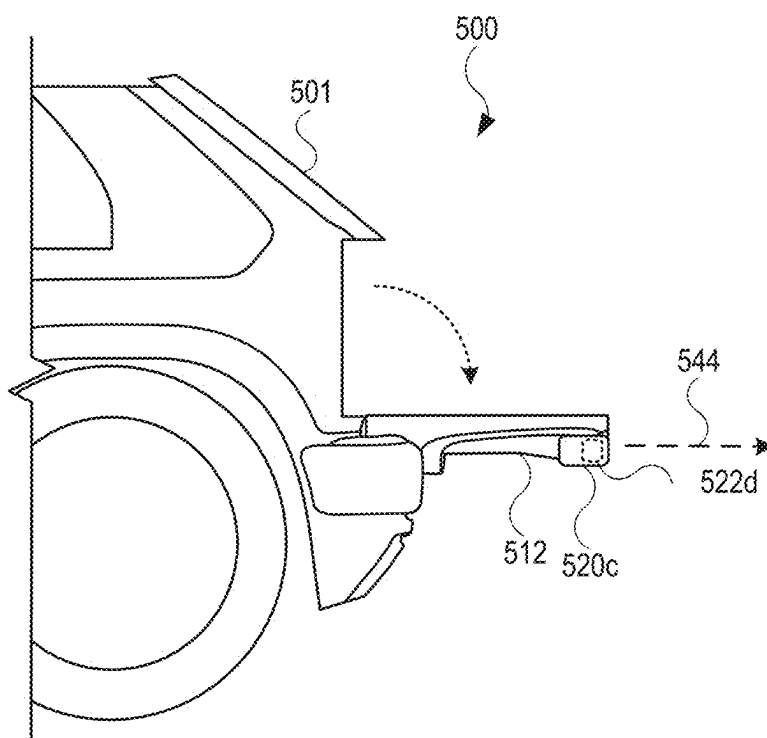


FIG. 10

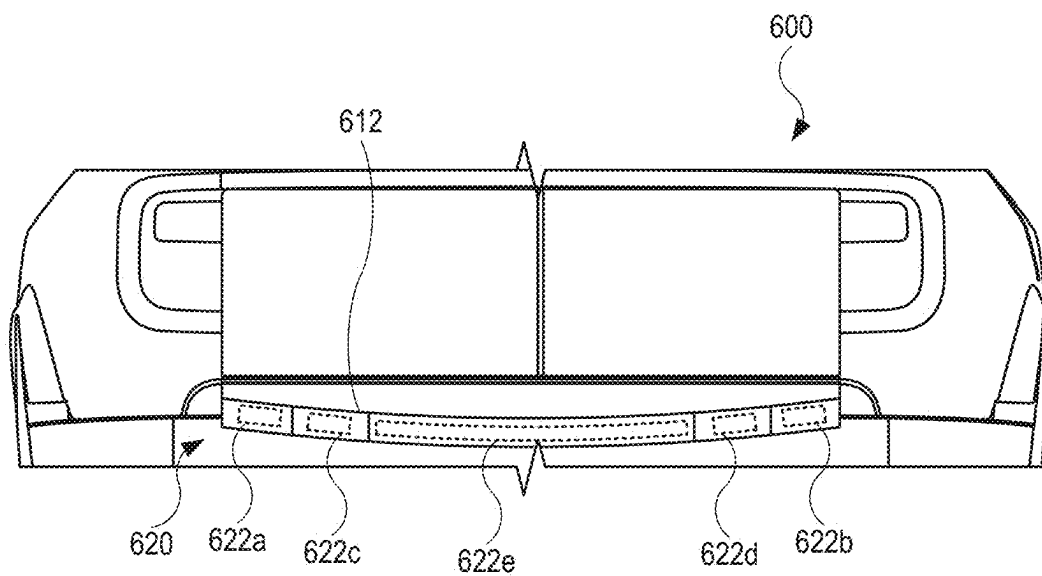


FIG. 11

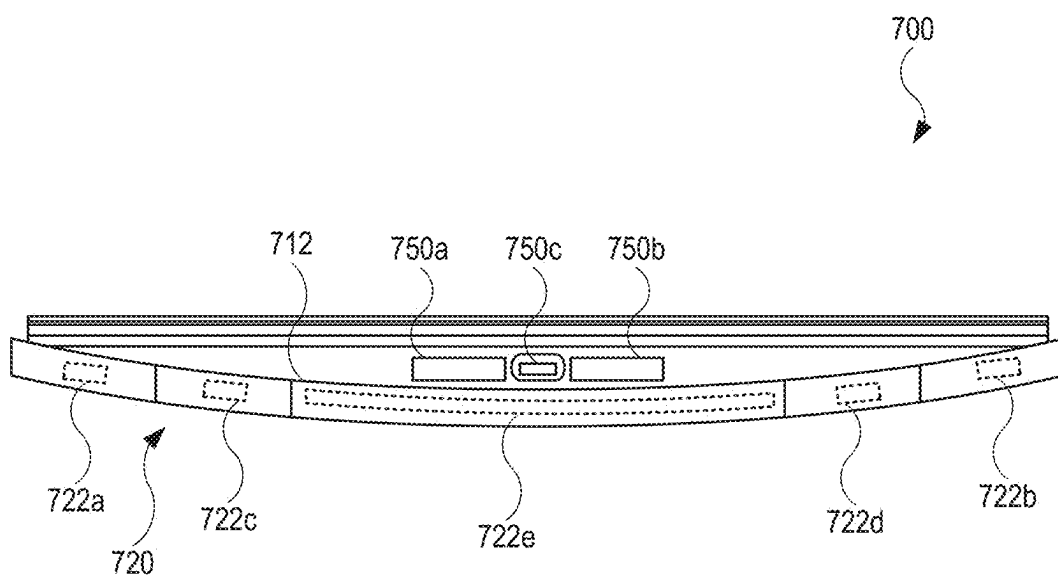


FIG. 12

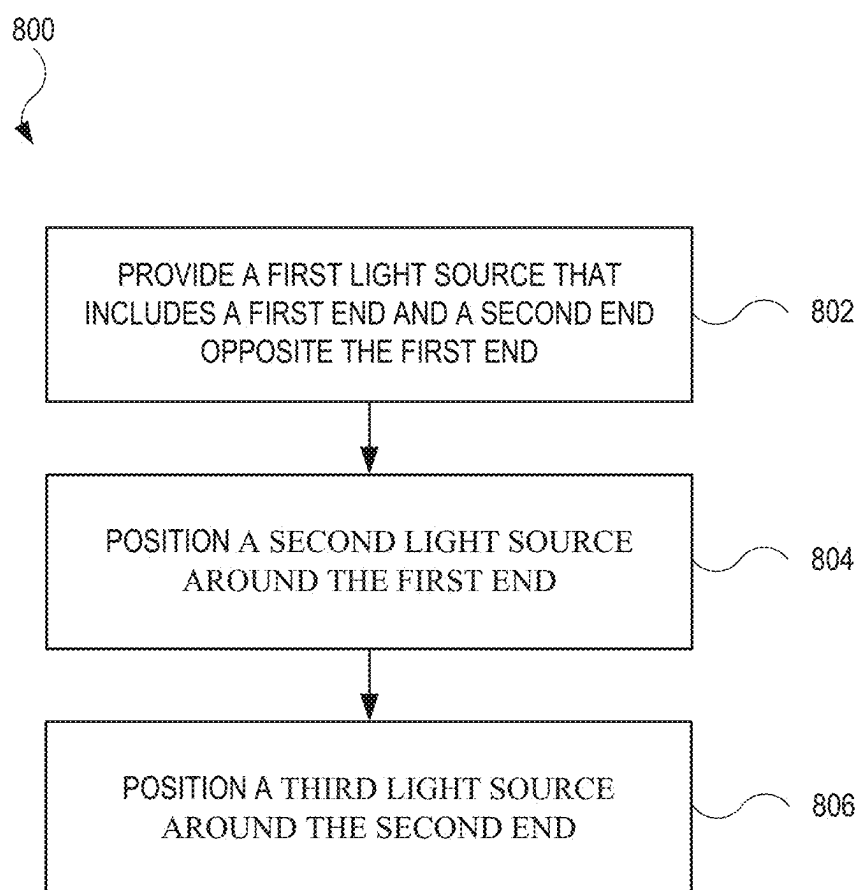


FIG. 13

LIGHTING FEATURES FOR A LIFT GATE OF A VEHICLE

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)

[0001] This application claims the benefit of priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 63/553,620, filed Feb. 14, 2024, titled "LIGHTING FEATURES FOR A TAILGATE OF A VEHICLE", the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

INTRODUCTION

[0002] The present disclosure is directed to vehicles, and more particularly, to various lighting features at a rear portion of vehicles, including a liftgate of vehicles.

SUMMARY

[0003] Vehicles may include several light sources in a rear portion of the vehicle, some of which provide different indications for different drive events (e.g., braking, turning, reverse). When the vehicle includes a lift gate, one or more lights sources are positioned on and carried by the lift gate. Some vehicles may include a lift gate that carries light sources for both side turn indication and braking. Alternatively, some may include a lift gate that carries light sources for side turn indication, while the light sources for braking are carried by the vehicle's body.

[0004] In one or more aspects of the present disclosure, an apparatus is described. The apparatus may include a first light source including a first end and a second end opposite the first end. The apparatus may further include a second light source that surrounds the first end. The apparatus may further include a third light source that surrounds the second end. The second light source and the third light source may be configured to illuminate to provide a vehicle indicator of a vehicle. The first light source, the second light source, and the third light source are configured to couple with a lift gate of the vehicle. The second light source and the third light source are configured to provide the vehicle indicator in a first position of the lift gate and in a second position of the lift gate.

[0005] The first light source may include a taillight. Each of the second light source and the third light source may include a U-shape. The first light source may be positioned between the second light source and the third light source. The vehicle indicator may include a turn event for the vehicle. The vehicle indicator may include a braking event for the vehicle.

[0006] In one or more aspects of the present disclosure, a lift gate is described. The lift gate may include a lift gate body configured to transition from a first position to a second position different from the first position. The lift gate may further include a first light source carried by the lift gate body. The first light source configured to provide a first light beam in accordance with a first indication. The lift gate may further include a second light source configured to provide a second light beam in accordance with a second indication different from the first indication. The first light source may be further configured to direct the first light beam away from the vehicle in the first position or the second position.

[0007] The first position may include a closed position, and in response to the lift gate body in the closed position, the first light beam may be perpendicular with respect to the

lift gate body. The second position may include an open position, and in response to the lift gate body in the open position, the first light beam may be parallel with respect to the lift gate body.

[0008] The lift gate may further include a lens carried by the lift gate body that covers the first light source and the second light source. The lens may define an edge of the lift gate body.

[0009] The second light source may be carried by the lift gate, and the second light source may be further configured to direct the second light beam away from the vehicle in the first position or the second position. The first light source may include a taillight, and the second light source may include a brake light. The second light source may at least partially surround the first light source. The first light source may be movable with respect to the second light source based the lift gate moving from the first position to the second position.

[0010] In one or more aspects of the present disclosure, a vehicle is described. The vehicle may include a vehicle body. The vehicle may further include a first apparatus coupled with the vehicle body. The first apparatus may include a first light source and a lens that covers the first light source and the lens. The vehicle may further include a spoiler coupled with the body, the spoiler at least partially covering the lens. The spoiler may define a space between the vehicle body, and the lens at least partially protrudes from the spoiler.

[0011] The vehicle may further include a lift gate coupled with, and rotatable with respect to, the vehicle body. The vehicle may further include a second apparatus carried by the lift gate. The second apparatus may include a first light source comprising a first end and a second end opposite the first end. The second apparatus may further include a second light source that surrounds the first end. The second apparatus may further include a third light source that surrounds the second end. The second light source and the third light source may be configured to simultaneously illuminate to provide an indication. The fog light may be below the lift gate in a closed position of the lift gate, and the fog light may be above by the lift gate in an open position of the lift gate,

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0012] Certain features of the subject technology are set forth in the appended claims. However, for purpose of explanation, several embodiments of the subject technology are set forth in the following figures.

[0013] FIG. 1 illustrates a side view of an example of a vehicle, in accordance with one or more aspects of the present disclosure.

[0014] FIG. 2 illustrates a side view of an alternate embodiment of a vehicle, in accordance with one or more aspects of the present disclosure.

[0015] FIG. 3 illustrates a rear view of an embodiment of a vehicle, showing various light sources of the vehicle, in accordance with one or more aspects of the present disclosure.

[0016] FIG. 4 illustrates a cross-sectional view of the vehicle shown in FIG. 3, showing the apparatus and the spoiler, in accordance with one or more aspects of the present disclosure.

[0017] FIG. 5 illustrates a rear view of an alternate embodiment of a vehicle, showing various light sources of the vehicle, in accordance with one or more aspects of the present disclosure.

[0018] FIG. 6 illustrates a cross-sectional view of the apparatus shown in FIG. 5, taken along line 6-6, showing additional features of the apparatus, in accordance with one or more aspects of the present disclosure.

[0019] FIG. 7 and FIG. 8 illustrate rear views of an alternate example of a vehicle, showing an apparatus that moves with a lift gate, in accordance with one or more aspects of the present disclosure.

[0020] FIG. 9 and FIG. 10 illustrate alternate rear views of the vehicle shown in FIG. 7 and FIG. 8, showing the apparatus moving with the lift gate, in accordance with one or more aspects of the present disclosure.

[0021] FIG. 11 and FIG. 12 illustrate rear views of alternate examples of a vehicle, showing an apparatus that moves with a lift gate, in accordance with one or more aspects of the present disclosure.

[0022] FIG. 13 illustrates a flow chart showing a process that may be performed for forming lighting features for a rear portion of a vehicle, in accordance with one or more implementations of the present disclosure.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0023] The detailed description set forth below is intended as a description of various configurations of the subject technology and is not intended to represent the only configurations in which the subject technology can be practiced. The appended drawings are incorporated herein and constitute a part of the detailed description. The detailed description includes specific details for the purpose of providing a thorough understanding of the subject technology. However, the subject technology is not limited to the specific details set forth herein and can be practiced using one or more other implementations. In one or more implementations, structures and components are shown in block diagram form in order to avoid obscuring the concepts of the subject technology.

[0024] The present disclosure is directed to lighting systems for vehicles. Various configurations and form factors of lighting system are shown and/or described herein, and may enhance the overall appearance of the vehicle. Some of the lighting systems may include one or more light sources located on and carried by a lift gate and thus movable with respect to the body of the vehicle. The light sources on the lift gate are generally viewable by pedestrians and/or passengers in other vehicles when the lift gate is closed. However, some light sources on the lift gate are viewable by pedestrians and/or passengers in other vehicles, even when the lift gate is opened. Additionally, light sources described herein may include a center high-mounted stop lamp (CHMSL) for added visibility for events (e.g., stop event) of the vehicle.

[0025] FIG. 1 illustrates an example of a vehicle 100, in accordance with aspects of the present disclosure. In the example shown in FIG. 1, the vehicle 100 takes the form of a truck. Generally, the vehicle 100 may take the form of any motorized vehicle, including motorized vehicles with an internal combustion engine and/or one or more electric motors. Accordingly, at least some implementations of the

vehicle 100 may include land-based vehicles, such as a car (e.g., sedan, hatchback), a van, or a commercial truck, as non-limiting examples.

[0026] The vehicle 100 may include a battery pack 102. The battery pack 102 may be coupled (e.g., electrically coupled) to one or more electrical systems of the vehicle 100 to provide power to the one or more electrical systems. The vehicle 100 may further include a port 104 (e.g., charge port) designed to receive a cable connector (not shown in FIG. 1) used to transmit power (e.g., alternating current (AC) power) that is converted to direct current (DC) power to charge the battery pack 102. The battery pack 102 may couple to a drive unit 110, representative of one or more drive units of the vehicle 100. While the drive unit 110 is shown as generally being in the front of the vehicle 100, the drive unit 110 may be located in the rear of the vehicle 100. Further, when multiple drive units are used, at least one drive unit may be in the front of the vehicle 100 to drive the front wheels (e.g., wheel 112a), and at least one drive unit may be in the rear of the vehicle 100 to drive the rear wheels (e.g., wheel 112b). The drive unit 110 may include, for example, a motor, an inverter, a gear box, and a differential. In the example shown in FIG. 1, the drive unit 110 takes the form of an electric motor. In this regard, the drive unit 110 may use energy (e.g., electrical energy) stored in the battery pack 102 for propulsion in order to drive (e.g., rotationally drive) wheels of the vehicle 100. The vehicle 100 may further include a bed 114 that may be used as a storage area for the vehicle 100.

[0027] FIG. 2 illustrates a side view of an alternate example of a vehicle 200, in accordance with one or more aspects of the present disclosure. As shown, the vehicle 200 takes the form of a sport utility vehicle (SUV). The vehicle 200 may include several features shown and/or described for the vehicle 100 (shown in FIG. 1). For example, the vehicle 200 may include a battery pack 202, a port 204 (e.g., charge port), a drive unit 210 (representative of one or more additional drive units), a wheel 212a (representative of an additional front wheel), and a wheel 212b (representative of an additional rear wheel).

[0028] FIG. 3 illustrates a rear view of an alternate embodiment of a vehicle 300, showing various light sources of the vehicle 300, in accordance with aspect, in accordance with one or more aspects of the present disclosure. The vehicle 300 may include a body 301 and a closure 312 rotationally coupled with the body 301. Accordingly, the closure 312 is rotatable with respect to the body 301. The closure 312 may take the form of a liftgate. Both the body 301 and the closure 312 may include one or more light sources. For example, the body 301 may include an apparatus 320a, an apparatus 320b, and an apparatus 320c that include and carry a light source 322a, a light source 322b, and a light source 322c, respectively. Each of the light sources 322a, 322b, and 322c may represent one or more lights sources and may perform different functions. For example, the light source 322a, when illuminated in accordance with a frequency (e.g., flashing, blinking), provides an indication of the vehicle 300, such as a vehicle indicator that the vehicle 300 is performing a turn event (e.g., a left turn). Similarly, the light source 322b, when illuminated in accordance with a frequency, provides an indication of the vehicle 300, such as another vehicle indicator that the vehicle 300 is performing an alternate turn event is performing a turn event (e.g., a right turn). The light source 322c, when illuminated, may provide another indication of the vehicle 300, such as

a vehicle indicator that the vehicle **300** is performing a braking/stopping event. As shown, the closure **312** is in a closed position. However, the closure **312** may rotate away from the body **301** generally in the direction of the Z-axis (of Cartesian coordinates). Accordingly, the apparatus **320c** is movable relative to the apparatus **320a** and the apparatus **320b**.

[0029] Additionally, the vehicle **300** may include an apparatus **320d** that includes a light source (shown, not labeled). The vehicle **300** may further include a spoiler **324** coupled with and carried by the body **301**. The spoiler **324** may cover and surround, or at least partially cover and surround, the apparatus **320d**. While the spoiler **324** is attached to the body **301**, several spaces or voids may be present. For example, a space **326a** and a space **326b** may be present between the spoiler **324** and the body. The spaces **326a** and **326b** represent locations through which air may pass while the vehicle **300** is in motion. In this regard, the vehicle **300** may provide enhanced aerodynamics while being driven.

[0030] FIG. 4 illustrates a cross-sectional view of the vehicle **300** shown in FIG. 3, showing the apparatus **320d** and the spoiler **324**, in accordance with aspect, in accordance with one or more aspects of the present disclosure. The apparatus **320d** may couple with the body **301** of the vehicle **300**. As shown, the apparatus **320d** includes a circuit board **326** that carries a light source **322d**. As shown, the spoiler **324** at least partially covers the apparatus **320d**, including at least partially covering the light source **322d** and the lens **328**. However, the apparatus **320d** may at least partially protrude from the spoiler **324**. For example, the apparatus **320d** may include a lens **328** that covers the light source **322d** and at least partially protrudes from the spoiler **324**.

[0031] FIG. 5 illustrates a rear view of an alternate embodiment of a vehicle **400**, showing various light sources of the vehicle **400**, in accordance with aspect, in accordance with one or more aspects of the present disclosure. The vehicle **400** may include a body **401** and a closure **412** rotationally coupled with the body **401**. The closure **412** may take the form of a liftgate. Both the body **401** and the closure **412** may include one or more light sources. For example, the body **401** may include an apparatus **420a**. The apparatus **420a** may include several light sources. For example, the apparatus **420a** may include a light source **422a**, a light source **422b**, a light source **422c**, a light source **422d**, and a light source **422e**. Each of the light sources **422a**, **422b**, **422c**, **422d**, and **422e** may collectively or alternatively perform various functions. For example, the light source **422a**, when illuminated in accordance with a frequency (e.g., flashing, blinking), provides an indication (e.g., vehicle indicator, vehicle turn indicator) that the vehicle **400** is performing a turn event (e.g., a left turn). Similarly, the light source **422b**, when illuminated in accordance with a frequency, provides an indication (e.g., vehicle indicator, vehicle turn indicator) that the vehicle **400** is performing another turn event (e.g., a right turn). The light source **422c**, when illuminated, may provide an indication (e.g., vehicle indicator) that the vehicle **400** is performing a braking/stopping event. In one or more implementations, the light sources **422d** and **422e** simultaneously illuminate to provide an indication (e.g., vehicle indicator) that the vehicle is performing a braking/stopping event. Further, the light sources **422d** and **422e** may simultaneously illuminate to

provide indication of the presence of the vehicle **400** (e.g., visibility in the form of a taillight).

[0032] As shown in the enlarged view, some light sources may surround other light sources. For example, as shown in the enlarged view, the light source **422c** includes an end **423** (e.g., a first end) that is representative of a second end opposite the end **423**, and the light source **422a** (representative of the light source **422b**) surrounds the light source **422c**. Similarly, the light source **422b** surrounds the second end of the light source **422c**. In this regard, each of the light sources **422a** and **422b** take the form of a C-shaped light source, with the light source **422b** taking the form of a backward C-shape. Also, the light sources **422d** and **422e** surround the light source **422c**.

[0033] Additionally, the vehicle **400** may include an apparatus **420b** that includes a light source (shown, not labeled). The vehicle **400** may further include a spoiler **424** coupled with and carried by the body **401**. The spoiler **424** may cover and surround, or at least partially cover and surround, the apparatus **420b**. In one or more implementations, the spoiler **424** covers, including fully covers or shades, the apparatus **420b**. While the spoiler **424** is attached to the body **401**, several spaces or voids may be present. For example, a space **426a** and a space **426b** may be present between the spoiler **424** and the body. The spaces **426a** and **426b** represent locations through which air may pass while the vehicle **400** is in motion. In this regard, the vehicle **400** may provide enhanced aerodynamics while being driven.

[0034] As shown, the closure **412** is in a closed position. However, the closure **412** may rotate away from the body **401** generally in the direction of the Z-axis (of Cartesian coordinates). Accordingly, the apparatus **420a** is movable relative to the apparatus **420b**.

[0035] FIG. 6 illustrates a cross-sectional view of the apparatus **420a** shown in FIG. 5, taken along line 6-6, showing additional features of the apparatus **420a**, in accordance with one or more aspects of the present disclosure. The apparatus **420a** may include a circuit board **426** that carries and electrically couples with light sources (e.g., light sources **422a**, **422b**, **422c**, **422d**, and **422e** shown in FIG. 5). The apparatus **420a** may further include a housing **428** that carries the circuit board **426**. The apparatus **420a** may further include a lens **430a**, a lens **430b**, and a lens **430c**. The apparatus **420a** may further include a bezel **432** that carries the lenses **430a**, **430b**, and **430c**. The apparatus **420a** may further include a lens **434** that covers the lenses **430a**, **430b**, and **430c**, as well as the aforementioned light sources. The lens **434** may include a particular appearance (e.g., color) such that light transmitted through the lens **434** may take on the appearance.

[0036] FIG. 7 and FIG. 8 illustrate rear views of an alternate example of a vehicle **500**, showing an apparatus that moves with a lift gate **512**, in accordance with one or more aspects of the present disclosure. The vehicle **500** includes a body **501** and the lift gate **512** (representative of other lift gates shown and/or described herein) may take the form of a body (e.g., lift gate body) that is movable relative to the body **501**, thus allowing users to insert objects into or remove objects from the vehicle **500**. In this regard, the lift gate **512** may transition from a closed position (FIG. 7) to an open position (FIG. 8), or vice versa. The vehicle **500** may include an apparatus **520a**, an apparatus **520b**, and an apparatus **520c**, with the apparatus **520a**, the apparatus **520b**, and the apparatus **520c** having a light source **522a**, a

light source **522b**, and a light source **522c**, respectively. The apparatus **520a** and the apparatus **520b**, along with their respective light sources, are positioned on the body **501**. The apparatus **520c** and the light source **522c** are positioned on the lift gate **512**. FIG. 7 shows the lift gate **512** in a closed position and each of the light sources **522a**, **522b**, and **522c** visible when illuminated to drivers, passengers and/or pedestrians behind the vehicle **500**. In order to determine the position of the lift gate **512**, the vehicle **500** may include a sensor **540**. As a non-limiting example, the sensor **540** may take the form of a proximity sensor designed to detect the presence of the lift gate **512** and provide an indication of the closed position. Alternatively, the sensor **540** may be positioned on the lift gate **512** and may take the form of an orientation sensor (e.g., accelerometer, gyroscope) that provides an indication of the closed or open position of the lift gate **512**.

[0037] FIG. 8 shows the lift gate **512** in an open position. The apparatus **520c** may further include a light source **522d**. Based on the orientation of the lift gate **512**, the light source **522d** is visible, when illuminated, to drivers, passengers and/or pedestrians behind the vehicle **500**. Accordingly, the light source **522d** (shown as being movable with respect to the light sources **522a** and **522b**) may direct light beam in different directions. This may occur by way of the light source **522d** being orientated in a different direction as that of the light source **522c** shown in FIG. 7. The sensor **540** may provide an indication of the open position, thus triggering the light source **522d** to become active and the light source **522c** (shown in FIG. 7) to become inactive. Conversely, the sensor **540** may provide an indication of the closed position (shown in FIG. 7), thus triggering the light source **522c** to become active and the light source **522d** to become inactive. Beneficially, the vehicle **500** can haul loads while the lift gate **512** is in the open position and still safety-based indications. Alternatively, the apparatus **520c** may be covered by a transparent, or semi-transparent, lens that includes multiple surfaces (e.g., perpendicular surfaces) such that a light source is visible through the lens regardless of the open or closed position of the lift gate **512**. Also, in one or more implementations, each of the light sources **522a** and **522b** are positioned on the lift gate **512** and thus movable with the lift. In this regard, additional light sources similar to the light sources **522a** and **522b** may be activate or inactive based on the position of the lift gate **512**. Also, while the vehicle **500** is shown as an SUV, the vehicle **500** may alternatively take the form of a truck (e.g., vehicle **100** shown in FIG. 1).

[0038] FIG. 9 and FIG. 10 illustrate alternate rear views of the vehicle **500** shown in FIG. 7 and FIG. 8, showing the apparatus **520c** moving with the lift gate **512**, in accordance with one or more aspects of the present disclosure. Referring to FIG. 9, the lift gate **512** is in closed position and the light source **522c**, when illuminated, provides a light beam **542** away from the vehicle **500** (e.g., body **501**) and in a direction perpendicular, or at least substantially perpendicular, with respect to the lift gate **512**. Conversely, in FIG. 10, the lift gate **512** is in an open position and the light source **522d** of the apparatus **520c**, when illuminated, provides a light beam **544** away from the vehicle **500** (e.g., body **501**) and in a direction parallel, or at least substantially parallel, with respect to the lift gate **512**.

[0039] FIG. 11 and FIG. 12 illustrate rear views of alternate examples of a vehicle, showing an apparatus that moves

with a lift gate, in accordance with one or more aspects of the present disclosure. In FIGS. 11 and 12, the respective lift gates are in the open position. Referring to FIG. 11, a vehicle **600** includes a lift gate **612** carrying an apparatus **620** with light sources. For example, a light source **622a** and a light source **622b** may function as a left turns side indicator and a right turn side indicator, respectively. Also, a light source **622c** and a light source **622d** may each function as a stop/braking indicator. Also, a light source **622e** may function as a taillight. The light sources **622a**, **622b**, **622c**, **622d**, and **622e** are at an edge, defined in part by an upper end (representing an uppermost portion), of the lift gate **612**. As a result, when the lift gate **612** is in the open position, the light sources **622a**, **622b**, **622c**, **622d**, and **622e** are still visible.

[0040] Referring to FIG. 12, a vehicle **700** includes a lift gate **712** carrying an apparatus (not labeled) with light sources. For example, a light source **722a** and a light source **722b** may function as a left turns side indicator and a right turn side indicator, respectively. Also, a light source **722c** and a light source **722d** may each function as a stop/braking indicator. Also, a light source **722e** may function as a taillight. The apparatus **720** is at an upper end (representing an uppermost portion) of the lift gate **712**. As a result, when the lift gate **712** is in the open position, the light sources **722a**, **722b**, **722c**, **722d**, and **722e** are still visible. Additionally, a light source **750a**, a light source **750b**, and a light source **750c** are shown. The light sources **750a** and **750b** may each function as fog light, and the light source **750c** may function as a reverse light. The light sources **750a**, **750b**, and **750c** are separate from the lift gate **712**. As shown, light sources **750a**, **750b**, and **750c** are above the lift gate **712** in the open position. However, in a closed position (not shown in FIG. 15) of the lift gate **712**, the light sources **750a**, **750b**, and **750c** are below the lift gate **712**.

[0041] FIG. 13 illustrates a flow chart showing a process **800** that may be performed for forming lighting features for a rear portion of a vehicle, in accordance with one or more implementations of the present disclosure. For explanatory purposes, the process **800** is primarily described herein with reference to the light sources of FIGS. 3-12. However, the process **800** is not limited to the light sources of FIGS. 3-12, and one or more blocks (or operations) of the process **800** may be performed by one or more other components of other suitable moveable apparatuses, devices, or systems. Further for explanatory purposes, some of the blocks of the process **800** are described herein as occurring in serial, or linearly. However, multiple blocks of the process **800** may occur in parallel. In addition, the blocks of the process **800** need not be performed in the order shown and/or one or more blocks of the process **800** need not be performed and/or can be replaced by other operations.

[0042] At block **802**, a first light source is provided. The first light source may include a first end and a second end opposite the first end. In one or more implementations, the first light source (e.g., light source **422c** shown in FIG. 5) takes the form of a brake light.

[0043] At block **804**, a second light source is positioned around the first end. In one or more implementations, the second light source (e.g., light source **422a** shown in FIG. 5) takes the form of a turn signal light or side turn indicator.

[0044] At block **806**, a third light source is positioned around the second end. In one or more implementations, the third light source (e.g., light source **422b** shown in FIG. 5)

takes the form of a turn signal light or side turn indicator. Accordingly, the second light source and the third light source are configured to illuminate to provide an indication of a vehicle, which may include an indication that the vehicle is turning.

[0045] As used herein, the phrase “at least one of” preceding a series of items, with the term “and” or “or” to separate any of the items, modifies the list as a whole, rather than each member of the list (i.e., each item). The phrase “at least one of” does not require selection of at least one of each item listed; rather, the phrase allows a meaning that includes at least one of any one of the items, and/or at least one of any combination of the items, and/or at least one of each of the items. By way of example, the phrases “at least one of A, B, and C” or “at least one of A, B, or C” each refer to only A, only B, or only C; any combination of A, B, and C; and/or at least one of each of A, B, and C.

[0046] When an element is referred to herein as being “connected” or “coupled” to another element, it is to be understood that the elements can be directly connected to the other element, or have intervening elements present between the elements. In contrast, when an element is referred to as being “directly connected” or “directly coupled” to another element, it should be understood that no intervening elements are present in the “direct” connection between the elements. However, the existence of a direct connection does not exclude other connections, in which intervening elements may be present.

[0047] The predicate words “configured to”, “operable to”, and “programmed to” do not imply any particular tangible or intangible modification of a subject, but, rather, are intended to be used interchangeably. In one or more implementations, a processor configured to monitor and control an operation or a component may also mean the processor being programmed to monitor and control the operation or the processor being operable to monitor and control the operation. Likewise, a processor configured to execute code can be construed as a processor programmed to execute code or operable to execute code.

[0048] Phrases such as an aspect, the aspect, another aspect, some aspects, one or more aspects, an implementation, the implementation, another implementation, some implementations, one or more implementations, an embodiment, the embodiment, another embodiment, some embodiments, one or more embodiments, a configuration, the configuration, another configuration, some configurations, one or more configurations, the subject technology, the disclosure, the present disclosure, other variations thereof and alike are for convenience and do not imply that a disclosure relating to such phrase(s) is essential to the subject technology or that such disclosure applies to all configurations of the subject technology. A disclosure relating to such phrase(s) may apply to all configurations, or one or more configurations. A disclosure relating to such phrase(s) may provide one or more examples. A phrase such as an aspect or some aspects may refer to one or more aspects and vice versa, and this applies similarly to other foregoing phrases.

[0049] The word “exemplary” is used herein to mean “serving as an example, instance, or illustration”. Any embodiment described herein as “exemplary” or as an “example” is not necessarily to be construed as preferred or advantageous over other embodiments. Furthermore, to the extent that the term “include”, “have”, or the like is used in

the description or the claims, such term is intended to be inclusive in a manner similar to the term “comprise” as “comprise” is interpreted when employed as a transitional word in a claim.

[0050] All structural and functional equivalents to the elements of the various aspects described throughout this disclosure that are known or later come to be known to those of ordinary skill in the art are expressly incorporated herein by reference and are intended to be encompassed by the claims. Moreover, nothing disclosed herein is intended to be dedicated to the public regardless of whether such disclosure is explicitly recited in the claims. No claim element is to be construed under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 112, sixth paragraph, unless the element is expressly recited using the phrase “means for” or, in the case of a method claim, the element is recited using the phrase “step for”.

[0051] The previous description is provided to enable any person skilled in the art to practice the various aspects described herein. Various modifications to these aspects will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art, and the generic principles defined herein may be applied to other aspects. Thus, the claims are not intended to be limited to the aspects shown herein, but are to be accorded the full scope consistent with the language claims, wherein reference to an element in the singular is not intended to mean “one and only one” unless specifically so stated, but rather “one or more”. Unless specifically stated otherwise, the term “some” refers to one or more. Pronouns in the masculine (e.g., his) include the feminine and neuter gender (e.g., her and its) and vice versa. Headings and subheadings, if any, are used for convenience only and do not limit the subject disclosure.

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus, comprising:

a first light source comprising a first end and a second end opposite the first end; and

a second light source that surrounds the first end; and

a third light source that surrounds the second end, wherein the second light source and the third light source are configured to illuminate to provide a vehicle indicator of a vehicle.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first light source, the second light source, and the third light source are configured to couple with a lift gate of the vehicle.

3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the second light source and the third light source are configured to provide the vehicle indicator in a first position of the lift gate and in a second position of the lift gate.

4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first light source comprises a taillight.

5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein each of the second light source and the third light source comprise a U-shape.

6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first light source is positioned between the second light source and the third light source.

7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the vehicle indicator comprises a turn event for the vehicle.

8. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the vehicle indicator comprises a braking event for the vehicle.

9. A lift gate for a vehicle, the lift gate comprising:

a lift gate body configured to transition from a first position to a second position different from the first position;

- a first light source carried by the lift gate body, the first light source configured to provide a first light beam in accordance with a first indication; and
- a second light source configured to provide a second light beam in accordance with a second indication different from the first indication, wherein the first light source is further configured to direct the first light beam away from the vehicle in the first position or the second position.
- 10.** The lift gate of claim **9**, wherein:
the first position comprises a closed position, and
in response to the lift gate body in the closed position, the first light beam is perpendicular with respect to the lift gate body.
- 11.** The lift gate of claim **9**, wherein:
the second position comprises an open position, and
in response to the lift gate body in the open position, the first light beam is parallel with respect to the lift gate body.
- 12.** The lift gate of claim **9**, further comprising a lens carried by the lift gate body that covers the first light source and the second light source, wherein the lens defines an edge of the lift gate body.
- 13.** The lift gate of claim **9**, wherein:
the second light source is carried by the lift gate, and
the second light source is further configured to direct the second light beam away from the vehicle in the first position or the second position.
- 14.** The lift gate of claim **9**, wherein:
the first light source comprises a taillight, and
the second light source comprises a brake light.
- 15.** The lift gate of claim **14**, wherein the second light source at least partially surrounds the first light source.

16. The lift gate of claim **9**, wherein the first light source is movable with respect to the second light source based on the lift gate moving from the first position to the second position.

17. A vehicle, comprising:

- a vehicle body;
- a first apparatus coupled with the vehicle body, the first apparatus comprising a first light source and a lens that covers the first light source and the lens; and
- a spoiler coupled with the vehicle body, the spoiler at least partially covering the lens.

18. The vehicle of claim **17**, wherein:

the spoiler defines a space between the vehicle body, and the lens at least partially protrudes from the spoiler.

19. The vehicle of claim **17**, further comprising:

- a lift gate coupled with, and rotatable with respect to, the vehicle body;
- a second apparatus carried by the lift gate, the second apparatus comprising:
 - a first light source comprising a first end and a second end opposite the first end;
 - a second light source that surrounds the first end; and
 - a third light source that surrounds the second end, wherein the second light source and the third light source are configured to simultaneously illuminate to provide an indication.

20. The vehicle of claim **19**, further comprising a fog light, wherein:

- the fog light is below the lift gate in a closed position of the lift gate, and
- the fog light is above by the lift gate in an open position of the lift gate.

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