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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
16/807,146	03/02/2020	Ted Thomas	NPL-20-03-01	1058
143866	7590	09/29/2021	EXAMINER	
Nelson Patent Law 2283 Lalique Cir. Colton, CA 92324			DIGNAN, MICHAEL L	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1723	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			09/29/2021	ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

dwayne@inlandip.com



**DETAILED ACTION**

***Notice to Applicant***

1. Claims 1-4 are pending and are examined herein. This is the first action on the merits.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a)(1) the claimed invention was patented, described in a printed publication, or in public use, on sale, or otherwise available to the public before the effective filing date of the claimed invention.

3. **Claims \*\*\* are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a)(1) as being anticipated by Harris (US 2018/0358667 to Harris et al.).**

Regarding Claim 1, Harris teaches:

- a stackable battery system with at least two bussing housings **210** (Fig. 10, paras 0046-0048)
- each housing having a top electrical connector **460M** and a bottom electrical connector **460F** designed to mate with the top connector of another housing (Fig. 10A, para 0047)
- a top mechanical connector **810M** and a bottom mechanical connector **810F** operable to hold said bussing housing motionless in at least one dimension relative to another bussing housing when in close proximity (see Fig 10A showing mechanical interference fit for the two ports **820**, and para 0048)
- at least one battery cell connected to each bussing housing (claim 1, para 0043, etc.)
- wherein said bussing housing together form a stacked batter module (Fig. 10A)

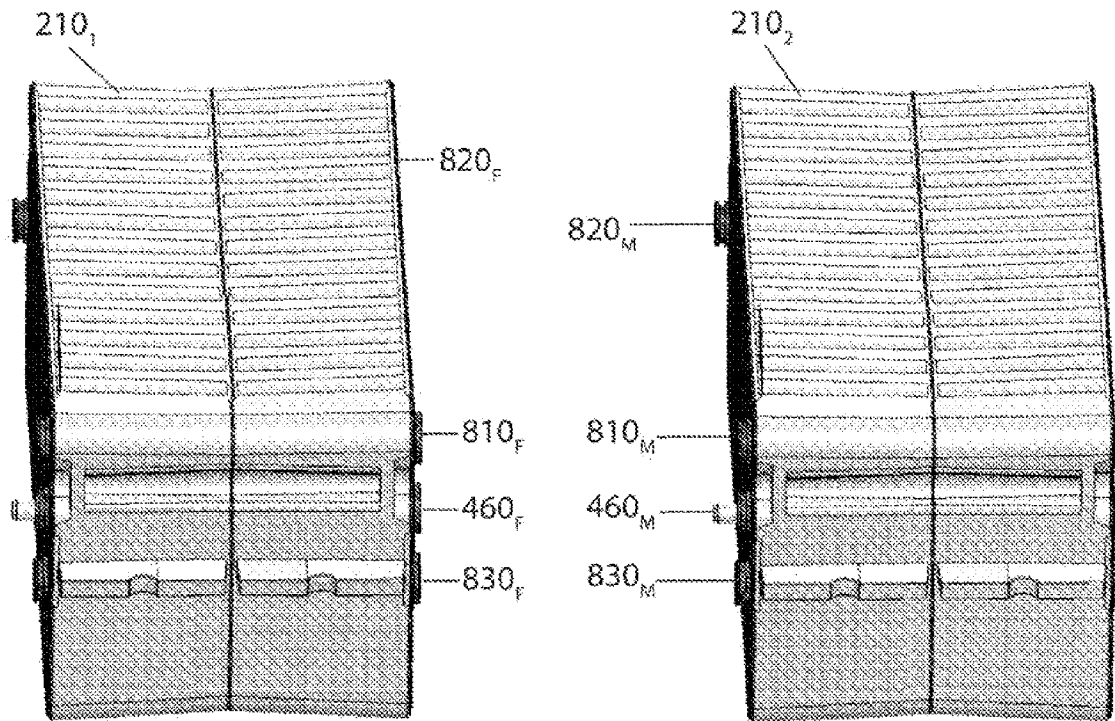


FIG. 10A

Regarding Claim 2, Harris teaches:

- copper buses (para 0038)

Regarding Claim 3, Harris teaches:

- wherein the bussing housing comprises an intumescent material (para 0045)

Regarding Claim 4, Harris teaches:

- sensors for monitoring and controlling (paras 0036 and 0044)

### ***Conclusion***

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- US Patent No. 8,980,465
- US 2007/0207377

- US 2013/0045401
- US 2013/0052515
- US 2019/0348727
- US 2020/0313128

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Dignan, whose telephone number is (571) 272-6425. The examiner can normally be reached from Monday to Friday between 10 AM and 6:30 PM. If any attempt to reach the examiner by telephone is unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Milton Cano, can be reached at (313)446-4937. Another resource that is available to applicants is the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR). Information regarding the status of an application can be obtained from the (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAX. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, please feel free to contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). Applicants are invited to contact the Office to schedule an in-person interview to discuss and resolve the issues set forth in this Office Action. Although an interview is not required, the Office believes that an interview can be of use to resolve any issues related to a patent application in an efficient and prompt manner.

/MICHAEL L DIGNAN/  
Examiner, Art Unit 1723