**Claim rejection under 35 USC 112**

**The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112(a):**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains,or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same,and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor or joint inventor of carrying out the invention.

**The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 112(b):**

(b) CONCLUSION.—The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly   
claiming the subject matter which the inventor or a joint inventor regards as the invention.  
The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 112 (pre-AIA), second paragraph:The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112(b) or 35 U.S.C. 112 (pre-AIA),second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the inventor or a joint inventor,

**Regarding claim 1**.-4. (canceled)   
   
**Regarding claim 2**. A motor control device configured to perform drive control of a stepping motor by performing a pre-excitation of excitation for a first time period at a current lower than that used during driving before starting or when starting driving of the stepping motor, and post-excitation of excitation for a second time period at a current lower than that used during driving when stopping or after stopping the driving of the stepping motor, wherein, when performing the post-excitation during a previous stopping of driving of the stepping motor and the pre-excitation during a subsequent starting of driving of the stepping motor without transitioning via a non-excited state, the motor control device is configured to perform the post-excitation and the pre-excitation consecutively for a time that is shorter than a sum of the first time period and the second time period.   
   
**Regarding claim 3**. The motor control device according to claim 5, wherein  
drive control of the stepping motor is performed based on a drive instruction from a drive instruction device, and when a next drive instruction is received before the post-excitation during the previous stopping of driving is completed, the post-excitation and the pre-excitation are performed consecutively.   
   
**Regarding claim 4**. The motor control device according to claim 5, wherein,  
when the post-excitation and the pre-excitation are consecutively performed, the post-excitation is performed for the second time period and the pre-excitation is performed for a time shorter than the first time period.   
   
**Regarding claim 5**. A feeder comprising:  
a motor control device according to claim 5; and a feeder mechanism including a stepping motor driven and controlled by the motor control device, wherein a component is fed by driving of the stepping motor.