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(54) TRANSISTOR-PTC CIRCUIT PROTECTION DEVICES

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1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C.

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154(a)(2).

Under 35 U.S.C. 154(b), the term of this patent shall be extended for 0 days.

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98, 27; 338/20, 22 R

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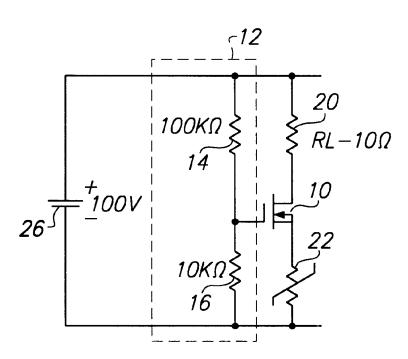
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(57) ABSTRACT

A circuit protection device for protecting an electrical load includes a three-terminal switch element such as a bipolar, or junction or metal-oxide-semiconductor field effect, transistor and a positive temperature compensation (PTC) resistor. In several embodiments the PTC resistor is in series with the current-carrying electrodes of the transistor. In other embodiments the PTC resistor, or a second PTC resistor, is connected to a control element of the transistor. Both DC and AC load-protection circuits are described.

34 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets



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