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United States Patent [19]

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Koen

[45] **Date of Patent:** **Apr. 2, 1996**

[54] **VERTICALLY MOUNTED ACCELEROMETER CHIP**

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63-90774 4/1988 Japan .
WO91/11722 8/1991 WIPO .

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[73] Assignee: **IC Sensors, Inc.**, Milpitas, Calif.

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[21] Appl. No.: **189,948**

"NEC's Automotive Electronic Control Modules", *NEC*, sales brochure, date unknown.

[22] Filed: **Feb. 1, 1994**

"Airbags Boom When IC Accelerometer Sees 50 G", by Frank Goodenough, *Electronic Design*, Aug. 8, 1991.

[51] **Int. Cl.⁶** **G01P 1/02**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **73/493**

[58] **Field of Search** 73/493, 431, 777, 73/756, 866.5, 204.22, 856; 174/260

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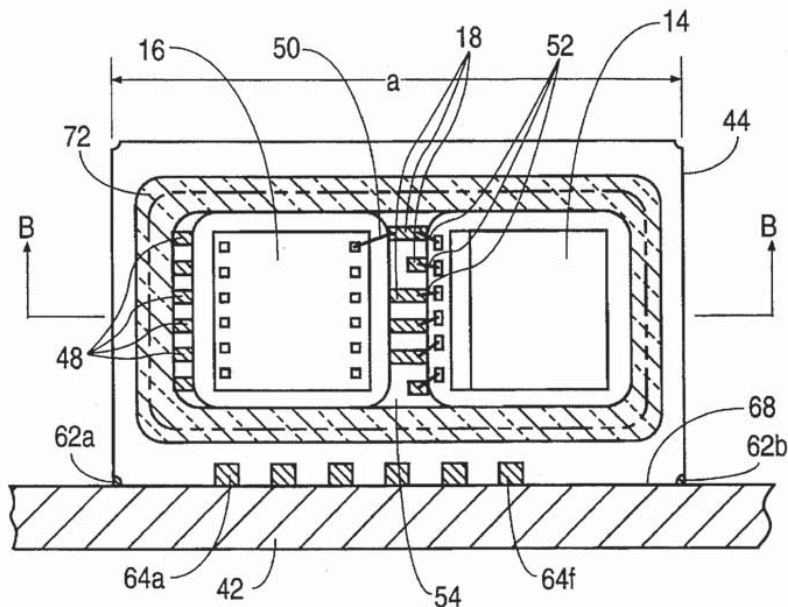
[57] **ABSTRACT**

Micro-machined accelerometer chips have a sensitive axis perpendicular to the principle surface of the device. In an application where the desired sensing direction is in the plane of a supporting printed circuit board, the accelerometer cannot be mounted directly on the printed circuit board and instead is mounted on a wall perpendicular to the printed circuit board. This requirement to wall-mount the sensor is eliminated by using an accelerometer chip packaged with a signal conditioning circuit in a multi layer ceramic chip carrier. Electrical connections are contained within the layers of the ceramic and terminate at a side surface of the chip carrier. Thus the accelerometer chip sits perpendicular to the printed circuit board and the ceramic chip carrier is attached directly thereto.

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18 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets



Apple Inc.
APL1039

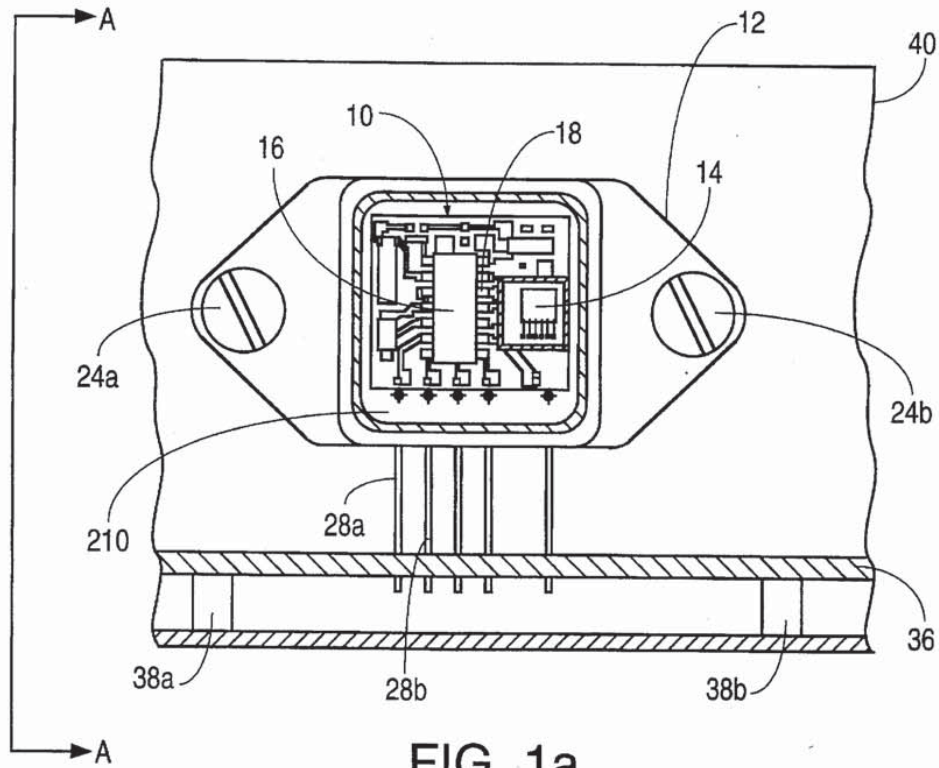


FIG. 1a
(Prior Art)

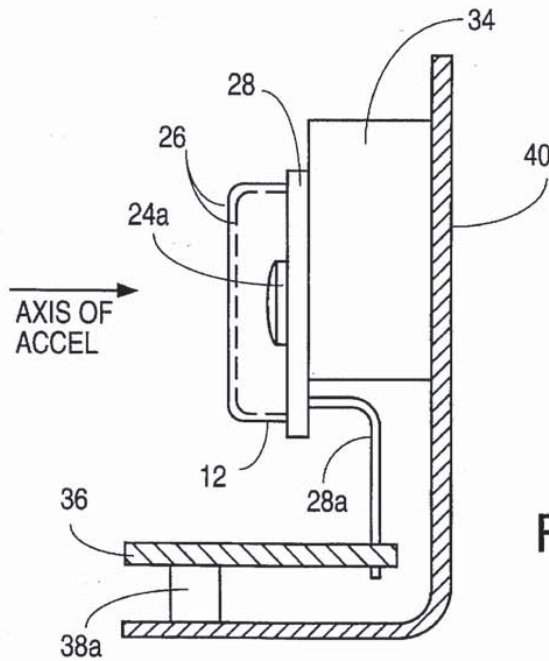


FIG. 1b
(Prior Art)

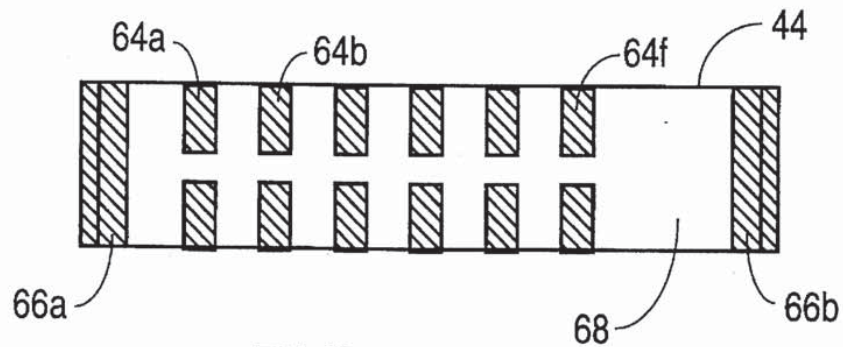


FIG. 2c

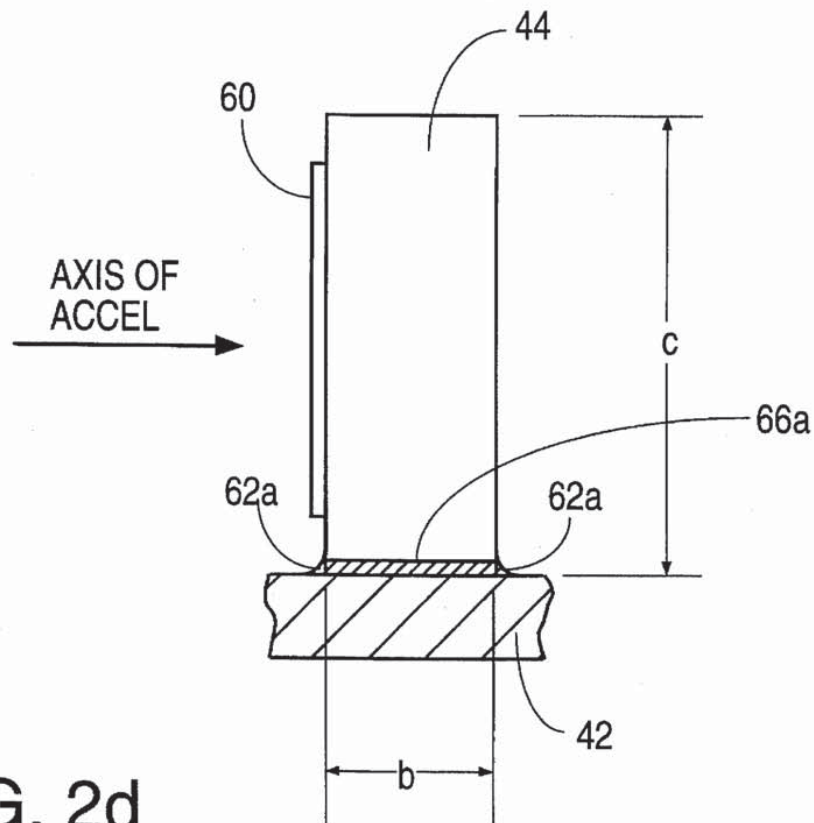


FIG. 2d

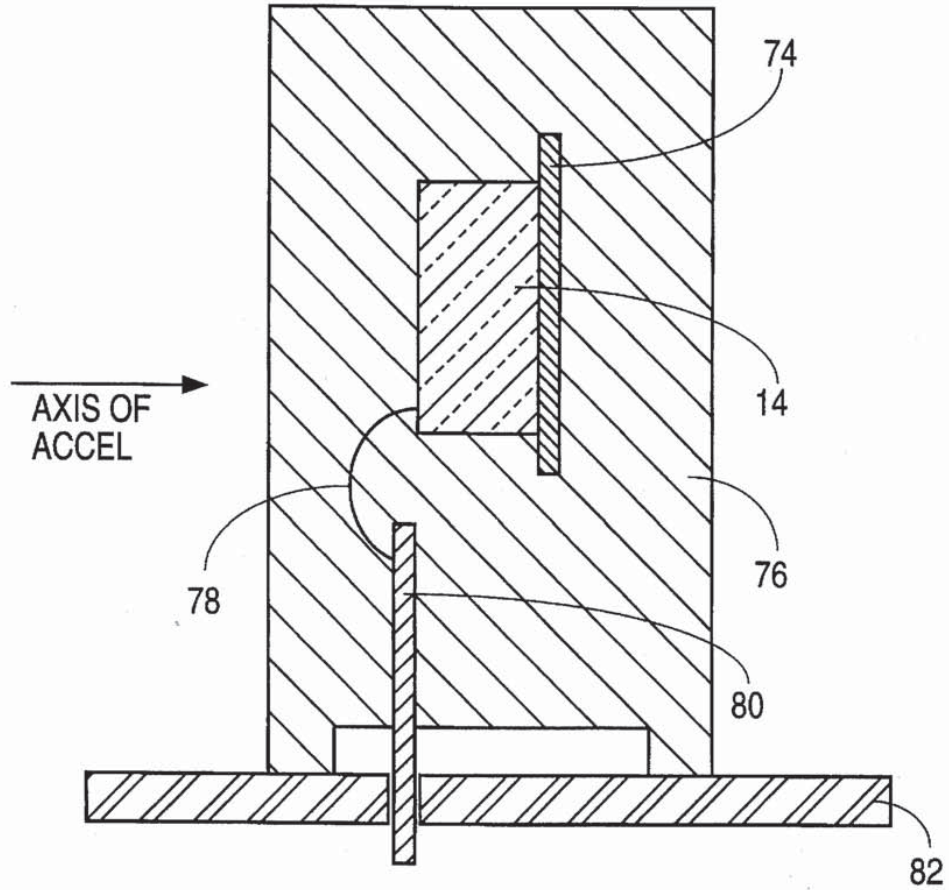


FIG. 3

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