

SET-UP FOR ELECTROSTATIC DISCHARGE TRIGGER AND ASSOCIATED USAGE

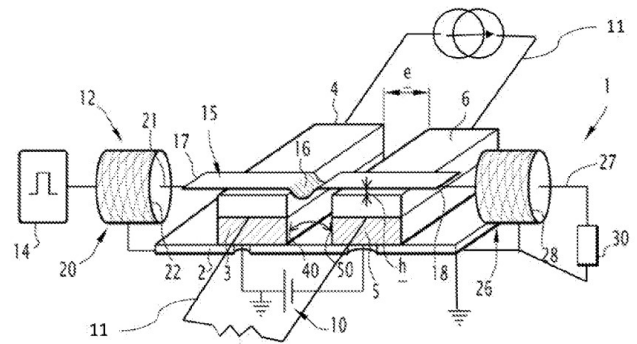
Technological advantages

Improved electronic qualification and components characterization

- Set-up well suited for the spectral analysis emitted from the discharge
- Improved measurement accuracy
- Synchronization between the electrostatic discharge and a time resolved spectral analyzer

Invention synthesis

The invention deals with a set-up for the trigger of an electrostatic discharge to create a controlled discharged between two elements by creating a potential difference. The potential difference alone is not sufficient to create a discharge. An electric impulse generator, between 100 and 4000V and for a 1 to 50ns duration, guarantees the proper discharge onset. A micro-strip electrode, with a curvature to create a spike effect, is located between the two elements. A supply and a return line (for example a coaxial cable) calibrated to the electrode impedance avoids impulse rebounds.



Invention schematic representation

- 1) set-up for a controlled electrostatic discharge
- 2) horizontal carriers
- 3) 5) solar cells
- 4) 6) protective glass layer
- 10) tension generator
- 11) current generator
- 14) impulse generator
- 15) micro-strip electrode
- 16) electrode curvature for spike effect
- 20) supply line
- 26) return line

Commercial benefits

- Protection of electric components and satellite electronic components. Protection of solar panels.
- Prevents uncontrolled electrostatic discharges, enhances a satellite lifespan.

Potential applications

- Satellites :
 - electronic parts
 - solar panels

Patented invention - under license.