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(72) Inventors:  
• **Rosenblatt, Mike M.**  
**Manhattan Beach, California 90266 (US)**  
• **Ratliff, Robert G.**  
**Buena Park, California 90620 (US)**

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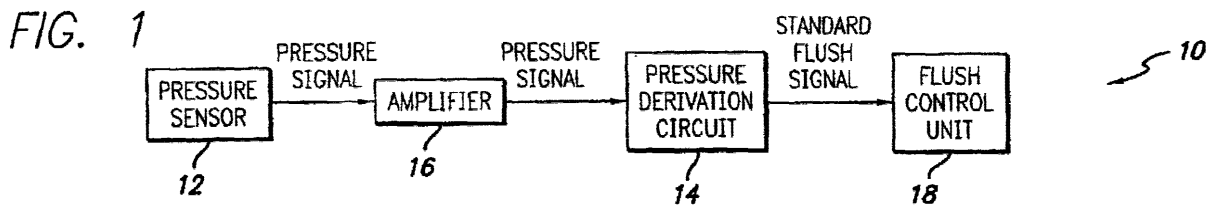
(74) Representative: **Enskat, Michael Antony Frank  
Saunders & Dolleymore,  
9, Rickmansworth Road  
Watford, Hertfordshire WD18 0JU (GB)**

(71) Applicant: **MAG AEROSPACE INDUSTRIES, INC.**  
**Compton, CA 90224 (US)**

(54) **System and method for a reduced water consumption vacuum toilet**

(57) A system and method for reducing water consumption in a vacuum toilet on an aircraft. The system and method includes a weight sensing device (12) that is mounted to an aircraft toilet and is responsive to a weight applied to the seat (24) of the toilet. The weight sensing device (12) detects that a toilet user is seated upon the toilet seat (24) when it measures a weight applied to the toilet seat. On the other hand, the weight sensing device detects that a toilet user is standing when the weight sensing device (12) does not measure a weight applied to the toilet seat (24). A flush control

unit (18) is connected to the weight sensing device and controls the amount of water utilized in the flushing of the toilet. When the toilet is flushed and the weight sensing device (12) has detected that a toilet user has sat upon the toilet seat (24), the flush control (18) unit commands that a standard amount of water be used to remove the solid waste of the toilet user. On the other hand, when the toilet is flushed and the weight sensing device (12) has detected that the toilet user has stood, the flush control unit (18) commands that a small amount of water be used thereby saving water.





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 00 30 4694

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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			E03D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 12 February 2003	Examiner Isailovski, M
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
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