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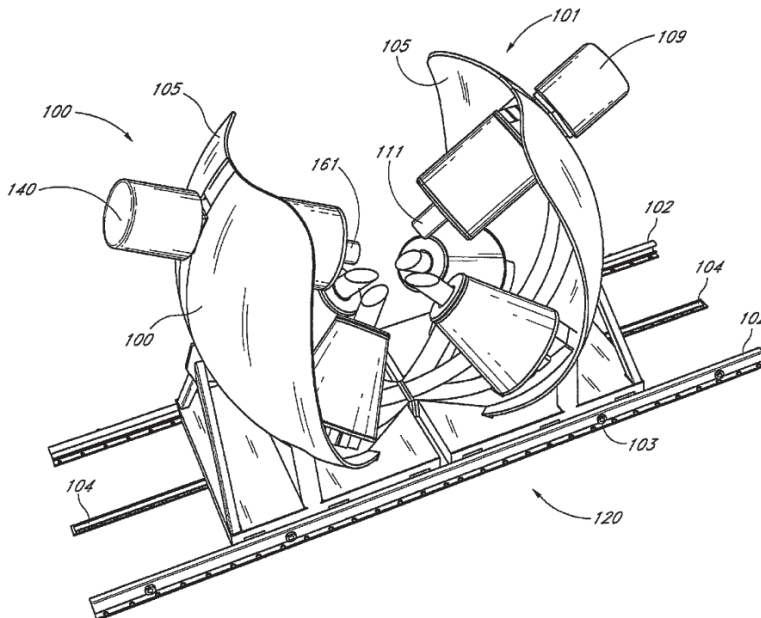
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(54) Titre : APPAREIL ET METHODE POUR COMMANDER UN CHAMP MAGNETIQUE A FORME SPECIFIQUE, POUR GUIDER, COMMANDER ET IMAGER UN CATHETER  
(54) Title: APPARATUS FOR SHAPED MAGNETIC FIELD CONTROL FOR CATHETER, GUIDANCE, CONTROL, AND IMAGING



(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

A variable magnet system (1500) for manipulating a magnetic catheter is described. The catheter guidance system can also be used in combination with an X-ray system (or other imaging systems) to provide additional imagery to the operator. The magnetic system used in the magnetic catheter guidance system can also be used to locate the catheter tip to provide location feedback to the operator and the control system. In one embodiment, a magnetic field source is used to create a magnetic field of sufficient strength and orientation to move a magnetically-responsive catheter tip in a desired direction by a desired amount.

