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United States Patent [19][11] **Patent Number:** **5,154,246****DiGiulio et al.**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Oct. 13, 1992****[54] SENSOR PROCESSOR FOR HIGH-SPEED MAIL-HANDLING MACHINE**

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[58] Field of Search **177/25.15; 364/464.03**

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[57] ABSTRACT

A sensor processor for cooperating with a drive controller in a high-speed mail-handling machine. The sensor processor access periodically a plurality of sensors distributed throughout the machine, and then writes the sensor data to an NVM-RAM shared with the drive controller. Time-critical sensors are accessed more frequently than non-time-critical sensors.

2 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets